

Den Chief

Time Available

10 minutes.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Explain what a Den Chief is.
- Understand the Den Leader's responsibility to the Den Chief.
- Understand the Den Chief's responsibilities to the Den and Pack.

Suggested Presenter(s)

Have one or more of the following people present this topic:

- A Scout leader with experience with Den Chiefs
- A Den Chief.
- Additionally, presenters could be from the partner troop and/or be parents of Den Chiefs, all sharing their experiences.

Presentation Method

The adult presenters could use multi-media resources and demonstrate with a current youth Den Chief their objectives for the Cub Scout den and pack.

BSA Reference Materials

- [Den Chief Responsibilities](#)
- [Den Chief Training](#)
- The Den Chief Handbook from [Scoutstuff](#) or as an [Ebook](#) from Amazon
- The [Denner](#) responsibilities

Presentation Content

What is a Den Chief?

- A Den Chief is the best secret for a successful, fun den program, and a valuable resource!
- A Den Chief is a registered Scouts BSA, Venturer, or Sea Scout, selected by the Scoutmaster, Crew Advisor, or Skipper to help serve a Cub Scout den.
- The Den Chief is a leadership position that can be used for the requirement for leadership for Star, Life or Eagle Scout ranks. Scout BSA members can serve for 4 months (Star Rank), 6 months for Life and Eagle or unlimited amounts of time.
- Cubmasters and den leaders can request a Den Chief

from the partner troop or another troop.

- Scoutmasters, Advisors, and Skippers should be seeking opportunities to place Den Chiefs in nearby packs
- The Den Chief is a model of good Scouting. It is recommended the Den Chief have some experience in Scouting. Younger Den Chiefs can work with younger dens and older Den Chiefs can work with the Webelos.
- Having a Den Chief is a wonderful experience!

The Den Leader's responsibilities to the Den Chief:

- Provide opportunities for your Den Chief to serve and help the Cub Scouts. The Den Chief is the activities assistant in the den.
- Help the Den Chief to get trained. Be specific about their responsibilities for each activity. Give your Den Chief the Den Chief Handbook and look through it together. Inform your Den Chief of available training. If no training is available, the Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Skipper, or Advisor may conduct the training.
- The Den Leader helps the Den Chief know the purposes of Cub Scouting.
- Help your Den Chief learn the characteristics of Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts and their different abilities and needs. Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts need recognition, understanding and need to feel being a part of a group.
- Have meaningful jobs and assignments for your Den Chief, who is your activities assistant. Do not have the Den Chief do the job that should be done by the denner.
- Create your den meeting agenda with your Den Chief. Communicate with your Den Chief clearly and weekly.
- Sign your Den Chief's Handbook in the Service Record sections when the specific requirements have been completed. The Service Record is at the back of the Den Chief's Handbook.
- Have open communication with your Den Chief's advisor in their home unit (Troop, Crew, or Ship).
- Make sure the parents of your Den Chief have your den and pack schedule and information about events.
- Obtain a copy of your Den Chief's BSA health and medical forms to take on field trips with your den and your Den Chief. [Medical Form parts A and B]
- Take the time to mentor your Den Chief before and after meetings.
- Take your Den Chief with you to Cub Scout camps!
- Have your Den Chief repeat the Den Chief Pledge (in the Den Chief Handbook) in your den so the den will

recognize the importance of your Den Chief.

- The Scoutmaster, Advisor, or Skipper is supposed to give your Den Chief his Den Chief's patch as his badge of office from the troop to wear on the uniform on the left shoulder. The Cubmaster or the Den Leader gives the Den Chief the Den Chief's leadership shoulder cord. The cord is a blue and gold striped leadership cord for a Tiger, Wolf or Bear Den Chief and a red, yellow and blue leadership cord for a Webelos Den Chief. It is worn on the left shoulder (The denner cord is two strands of yellow cord and the assistant denner cord is one strand of yellow cord.)
- Read through the Den Chief Handbook to be familiar with the activities your Den Chief can share with your Cubs.
- Encourage your Den Chief to complete the Den Chief Service Award. The requirements are in the Den Chief Handbook. The Den Chief serves for one year and completes assignments including demonstrations of games, songs, etc. The award is a certificate and a red, white and blue striped leadership cord. Only a Den Chief can wear this award.
- The Den Leader gives the Den Chief opportunities for leadership practice, organizational and communication skills, responsibility, and helps the Den Chief advance in rank in the troop.

The Den Chief's responsibility.

- A Den Chief models good Scouting.
- The Den Chief is the activities assistant in the den meetings.
- A Den Chief wears a Scouts BSA uniform to den and pack meetings.
- A Den Chief is trained. Provide your Den Chief with the Den Chief Handbook (either a hard copy or electronic copy).
- A Den Chief models the Scout Oath and Law and shows scout spirit.
- A Den Chief shows leadership.
- A Den Chief meets with the den and pack leaders for planning activities.
- A Den Chief helps the denner and give the denner an opportunity for leadership.
- A Den Chief helps the Cub Scouts with advancement. The Den Chief can use the EDGE method to help with Scout skills such as knot tying, flag ceremonies, leading games, first aid, participating in discussions, leading songs and skits, etc. Share your knowledge with the Cub Scouts.
- A Den Chief can help during the pack meetings with displays, gathering activity, organizing the Cubs and get them seated, help with skits, ceremonies, yells, cheers and demonstrations, helps the Cubs set up A Den Chief encourages Cub Scouts to become Webelos Scouts. He encourages Webelos Scouts to make the transition to Scouts BSA. He makes it easier because

the Cubs know they have a friend in the troop. Your Den Chief can share stories of what happens in the troop.

- A Den Chief knows the purposes of Cub Scouting and helps the Cubs achieve those purposes.
- A Den Chief is a friend to the Cubs in the den.
- A Den Chief assists the den at the monthly pack program. Cub Scouting is a family program and the Den Chief will meet the families of the den members.

Special Note: A Den Chief is NOT another Cub Scout.

- A Den Chief is NOT a denner.
- A Den Chief is NOT a babysitter.
- A Den Chief is NOT an adult.
- A Den chief is NOT the assistant leader.
- A Den Chief is NOT the disciplinarian.