



Pack Bylaws

Cub Scout Pack 53

Union District, Central North Carolina Council
Chartered by: Waxhaw United Methodist Church
Waxhaw, NC 28173

www.WaxhawPack53.Org

Revision Date: July 16, 2011

Revision History:

July 2011:

1. The following sections have been updated for the 2011-2012 Scout Year:
 - a. Section II Part D: Items iv and vi have been modified. Item vii has been added
 - b. Section II Part F: Item I has been updated to clarify scout uniform requirements.
 - c. Section II Part G: Item iii has been updated.
 - d. Section II Part I: Item iii has been updated.
 - e. Section III Part B: Parental Involvement has been updated to clarify parental responsibilities.
 - f. Section III Part D: Updated to clarify Pack Committees
 - g. Section IV: Part F: updated to clarify the rules regarding receipts for reimbursement.
 - h. Section IV: Part I: added to clarify treasurer transition and end of scout year procedures.

Table of Contents

I. General Statement of Purpose

II. Pack Administration

- Chartering Organization
- Pack & Den Structure
- Membership Eligibility
- Meetings
- Registration and Chartering
- Uniforms
- Attendance
- Dues & Fees
- Handbooks
- Advancement & Awards
- Scout Year
- Discipline & Behavior
- Communication
- Reverence & Religion

III. Leadership

- Leadership Committee
- Committees
- Pack Leadership

IV. Finances

- Budgets
- Treasurer Duties
- Financial Reports

V. Activities & Events

- Pack Camping Trips
- Pack Events (non-camping)
- BSA District/Council Events

VI. Other

- Family Participation
- Youth Protection
- Tobacco & Alcohol Use
- Adoption of By-Laws
- Bylaw Amendments
- Bylaw Acknowledgement
- Bylaws Parental Signature Page

I. General Statement of Purpose

North Carolina Cub Scout Pack 53 is a chartered organization made up of parents and families who believe the Cub Scout program helps develop the boys of today into the leaders of tomorrow.

The bylaws within, shall govern Pack 53, except where Boy Scouts of America (BSA) policies shall supercede them.

The Pack will attempt to help each boy grow mentally and physically as well as to become a better citizen by employing and executing the program of Cub Scouting as outlined by BSA. This includes teaching responsibility and good moral character to our scouts. In all things we will strive to fulfill the Cub Scout Promise, "... to do my best, to do my duty to God and my country, to help other people and to obey the law of the Pack".

We believe Cub Scouting is a family activity and that parental involvement is an integral part of a strong, organized Pack. It is the responsibility of the parents and leaders to ensure that the Pack grows and prospers for the benefit of its current and future members. The ten purposes of Cub Scouting are:

- 1. Character Development**
- 2. Spiritual Growth**
- 3. Good Citizenship**
- 4. Sportsmanship and Fitness**
- 5. Family Understanding**
- 6. Respectful Relationships**
- 7. Personal Achievement**
- 8. Friendly Service**
- 9. Fun and Adventure**
- 10. Preparation for Boy Scouts**

II. Pack Administration

A. Chartering Organization

- i. Pack 53 is chartered by Waxhaw United Methodist Church in Waxhaw, NC.
- ii. Pack 53 exists at the sole discretion of our chartering organization.
- iii. Although chartered by Waxhaw United Methodist Church, members of Pack 53 are not required to be members of their church.

B. Pack & Den Structure

- i. The Pack is the combined group of all cub scouts within the chartered organization. The Pack is broken up into Dens by age/grade. Packs are led by the Cubmaster and the Asst. Cubmaster(s), who are ultimately responsible for the Cub Scouting program of the pack. The Pack Committee Chairman oversees administrative requirements of the Pack, such as various sub-committees and event planning.
- ii. Dens are broken up by age/grade in school, usually into groups of approximately 8-10 boys when possible. Multiple dens make up the Pack. There may be more than one den within a given age group. Each den will have one Den Leader and may also consist of one or more Asst. Den Leaders, as needed.
 1. Tiger: Boys age 6 or having been promoted to first grade. The Tiger den requires shared leadership with parents and at least one parent/adult partner must participate in all meetings and activities with each boy. Meetings generally include a pack meeting, 2 den meetings and a, "go see it" (a.k.a., field trip) each month.
 2. Wolf: Boys age 7 or promoted to 2nd grade
 3. Bear: Boys age 8 or promoted to 3rd grade

4. Webelos:

- a. Webelos I: Boys 9 yrs old or promoted to 4th grade.
- b. Webelos II: Boys 10 years old or promoted to 5th grade
- c. A Boy is eligible to transfer to Boy Scouts under the following conditions:
 1. Must have completed the fifth grade AND be at least 10 years old
 2. OR be of age 11
 3. OR have earned the Arrow of Light Award AND be at least 10 years old.
- d. ALL Cub Scouts, regardless of age, must earn their Bobcat badge before they can advance to any other rank.

C. Membership Eligibility – Membership in Pack 53 is open to all boys ages 6 through 10 (or 1st through 5th grades) who abide by these Bylaws and the policies of BSA.

D. Meetings

- i. **Pack meetings are to be held monthly during the scout year.** This is a family activity where boys are presented advancement awards, participate in skits, and enjoy special presentations. General announcements and discussions of upcoming events will also be included for scouts and parents.
- ii. Den meetings take place weekly. This is where the boys will work on various awards, learn new things and get the most out of cub scouting. Although we encourage Dens to meet on the same night as other dens, they may schedule their meetings to best suit the schedules of their members.
- iii. The Pack 53 scout year is **September** through June.
- iv. Leadership Committee meetings take place mid-month for any adult interested in participating in the planning activities of the Pack. These generally occur two weeks before the Pack meeting.
- v. Other committees will meet to plan and discuss events and activities specific to their function on a schedule determined by the committee's chairperson. It is expected that each den will be represented at the monthly leader/committee meetings.
- vi. Pack 53 leaders are encouraged to attend monthly district roundtable meetings, generally on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The leadership may elect to attend these meetings on a rotating basis so only a few leaders attend each month and report back to the group at the monthly Pack Leadership meeting. If a leader cannot attend when scheduled, it is his/her responsibility to find a replacement.
- vii. Leaders are required to attend two Leadership Committee meetings per scout year and attend 3 out of the 5 annual camp outs in order to qualify for Leadership Knot. Exceptions will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

E. Registration and Chartering

- i. Registration - Each boy is required to register with BSA **annually**. This includes filing the appropriate form(s) and paying any fees dictated by BSA and the local council. These forms and fees will be included as part of the annual re-chartering package and are separate from the monthly dues paid to the Pack.
- ii. Re-chartering – The Pack is required to apply for a renewal of its charter each year. The Pack is, “owned” by the chartering organization (in our case, Pack 53 is chartered by Waxhaw United Methodist Church). All current members (Cub Scouts and adult leaders) of Pack 53 must be documented and registered with BSA through this process.

F. Uniforms

- i. Cub Scouts and Pack 53 is a uniformed organization. As such we encourage our scouts to wear the complete uniform. The minimum acceptable uniform includes: Tigers, Wolves, Bears and Webelos must wear the appropriate hat, dress shirt, neckerchief with clasp and approved belt with buckle for each rank. Base patches (den number, etc.) and any other awards received are required to be affixed to the uniform shirt per BSA guidelines. A full uniform will include approved pants and socks as well.

Scouts wearing the blue scout shirt are required to wear clean blue pants, blue shorts or blue jeans.

Scouts wearing the tan shirt are required to wear olive colored pants, preferably the official scout uniform pants.

Scouts who are not wearing proper "below the belt" attire will not pass a Uniform Inspection.

- ii. The minimum uniform is required during camping activities to participate in Saturday evening activities, dinner through lights-out.
- iii. Pack 53 will endeavor to keep a, "uniform closet" where uniforms can be passed down to other cub scouts as they move up through the ranks of Scouting. If the purchase of the minimum uniform is a financial burden, the affected parent should discuss the matter with their boy's Den Leader or Cubmaster to determine options available to allow the boy to meet his minimum uniform requirements without causing undue hardship to the family.
- iv. The uniform closet inventory is maintained by the Quartermaster. Donations to the uniform closet are strongly encouraged. Donated apparel must be freshly cleaned and in good condition to be accepted into the inventory.
- v. Any scout is eligible to buy uniforms from the uniform closet, but priority will be based on financial need.
- vi. All leaders are required to wear the full uniform appropriate for their position.
- vii. Cub Scouts and leaders are required to wear their uniform when traveling to, or participating in, any organized scout function, unless it is of a nature where the uniform could become soiled or damaged or is otherwise deemed unnecessary. In such cases the den leader will dictate the appropriate attire. When in doubt, wear your uniform.
- viii. Recognition badges should be affixed to the uniform according to BSA uniform guidelines within 2 weeks of receipt in order to maintain the required uniform standards.
- ix. Den leaders are expected to inspect each of his den scouts' uniforms at each meeting and provide feedback where appropriate to ensure consistent uniform presentation.

G. Attendance

- i. Pack 53 believes that the best way for a boy to get the most out of scouting is to actively participate in pack and den meetings and events. This is not a, "Lone Scout" program and as such, attendance is expected and required.
- ii. One or more parent or adult partner is required at all Tiger functions.
- iii. Parents are required to stay for Wolf, Bear and Webelos den meetings and participate in all Pack meetings and Pack-sponsored events.
- iv. A Cub Scout must participate in 75% of meetings prior to a Pack or Den event in order to participate in that event.

H. Dues & Fees

- i. A financially secure pack is a strong pack. Dues are based on a 10 month program and will be set each year by the Cubmaster. Current dues will be:

1. New to Pack 53: \$20 for the first month (which covers the first month's dues of \$8, a mandatory Pack 53 t-shirt, and Pack registration fees). Monthly dues are then \$8 / month. Registration fees and monthly dues may be paid in advance at the beginning of the year (\$92.00). BSA Chartering fees paid directly to BSA are to be sent in with the BSA application.

2. Previously registered with Pack 53: \$20 for the first month then \$ 8 / month (or \$92 /year.) This includes any re-charter fees which are then paid en mass by Pack 53 to BSA.

- ii. Dues must be paid in full up to and including the month of an activity to participate in that activity or receive awards. Dues should be paid to the Den Leader who will keep appropriate records for his den and then will then turn all monies over to the Pack Treasurer.
- iii. In the case of a family who has scouts in more than one den, dues and fees are to be paid to the den leader of youngest scout.

- iv. If the payment of dues or fees becomes a financial burden to a family, the parent or guardian should discuss the matter privately with their den leader or the Cubmaster to determine what options might be available to keep the boy in Cub Scouts without causing undue hardship to the family.
- v. Some events may have an additional fee for each participant and must be paid by the time defined for that activity in order to participate.
- vi. Dues, re-chartering fees and activity fees are not refundable.

I. Handbooks

- i. Each scout is required to have a current copy of the official Cub Scout handbook designated for his den/rank and will bring it to each meeting.
- ii. Leaders are required to have appropriate, current handbooks and leadership material necessary to perform their leadership functions.
- iii. The Pack may supply a leader handbook to each leader. All materials supplied by the pack remain the property of the pack.

J. Advancement and Awards

- i. A central part of Cub Scouting is earning recognition through various badges and awards. These are age-specific and are earned by completing the various requirements outlined in den-appropriate handbooks or other BSA publications.
- ii. Each Cub Scout is encouraged to advance at his own rate. It is not a competition between boys to see who earns the most or earns them the fastest, but to learn and get the most out of each learning opportunity. A badge is recognition for what he is able to do, not just for what he has done.
- iii. Every effort should be made to have each boy earn his den's rank by the Blue & Gold Banquet, or by the end of the scout year. However, earning the den rank is not required to advance to the next rank during the next scout year. The exception to this rule is the Bobcat badge, which certifies the boy has learned the basic fundamentals of Cub Scouting. This rank must be achieved by a boy of any age before he can advance to any other rank.
- iv. Advancement and other awards are handed out to uniformed boys during Pack meetings.
- v. All dues payments must be current in order for a boy to receive his awards.
- vi. Leaders should notify the Advancement Coordinator two weeks in advance of each pack meeting of awards to be handed out in order for them to be ordered and received in time for the pack meeting.
- vii. All standard advancement awards are paid for by the pack (see Section IV - Finance).

K. Scout Year

- i. Pack 53 is active year-round. However, weekly meetings are held in general accordance with the Union County Public School year, generally **September** through June. A rule of thumb is, "no school, no cub scouts" but you should always check with their den leader or the Pack calendar for confirmation.
- ii. Summertime activities are planned to keep the boys interested and excited about scouting, and to keep the pack as a cohesive group, during the summer months. Participation during these months qualifies the boy for additional awards and is required for the Pack to earn the BSA Summertime Pack award.

L. Discipline and Behavior

- i. It is not the responsibility of the den leader to discipline your child. Each boy is expected to participate and behave appropriately for each meeting or event. Disruptive behavior, fighting and use of bad language are examples of behavior that will not be tolerated.
- ii. Minor infractions will be handled by the Den Leader as they occur. If the problem reoccurs or escalates, it is the parent's responsibility to take the boy aside and deal with it in a manner that ensures future cooperation.

- iii. Continued disruptions will be escalated up to the Cubmaster, who will meet with the boy and his parents to determine a resolution to the problem.
- iv. Parents are expected to lead by example. Cub Scouts is to be a safe haven for boys and thus parental conduct (temperament, tobacco usage, etc.) is expected to further that ideal, in accordance with BSA policy. Any actions or attitudes deviating from this, "safe haven, lead by example" policy, in the eyes of Pack leadership, will be dealt with by one or more Pack leaders when necessary.

M. Communication

- i. Our primary method of communication is through face-to-face contact at den and Pack meetings. Therefore, it is very important that parents attend meetings to be sure they stay up to date on information regarding den and pack activities.
- ii. We will make every effort to also publish a web site, www.WaxhawPack53.org, and keep it up to date with relevant information. If you cannot reach your den leader or need to find general pack and den information, use the web site.
- iii. We will send information via e-mail. We encourage parents and leaders to use the e-mail method to distribute information and documentation whenever possible - avoiding paper copies keeps our costs down and minimizes the impact on nature.
- iv. If you do not have access to the internet, it is your son's den leader's responsibility to keep you informed of any pertinent information.
- v. Pack e-mail distribution lists are meant for Pack purposes only. It is inappropriate and unacceptable to use this distribution list for non-cub scout purposes.

N. Reverence & Religion

- i. A scout is reverent and Cub Scouts encourages spiritual growth. As such, membership in BSA and Cub Scout Pack 53 requires a belief in God (or other supreme power), although how each family chooses to worship and practice their faith is a personal family matter. There will be religious components to various scout activities and each Cub Scout is encouraged to participate in them as his personal faith allows, and share his beliefs as he feels comfortable. Although Pack 53 is chartered by Waxhaw United Methodist Church (WUMC), in accordance with BSA policy membership in Pack 53 does not require membership in WUMC or any specific denomination or faith.
- ii. In accordance with BSA policy, an ecumenical, "Scouts Own" worship services may be included as part of camping or other events. Efforts should be made to be as inclusive of multiple faiths as possible without hindering a Scout's ability to be true to his own faith. Any activities that might be perceived as proselytizing (i.e. coercive alter calls) must be avoided.
- iii. In situations where a blessing or prayer is offered before a meal or during a ceremony or activity, the person leading the prayer is strongly encouraged to make an ecumenical prayer. However, in all cases each person must be made comfortable to pray as his or her faith dictates in accordance with BSA policy.
- iv. Cub Scouts are encouraged, but not required, to earn the religious emblem of their faith and wear it on their uniform.

III. Leadership

A. Pack Leadership

- i. Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster – These leaders are responsible for implementing and administering the overall scouting program for the Pack.
- ii. Pack Committee Chairman – Responsible for overseeing the various pack committees needed to support the Pack's programs and events. He also leads the monthly leadership committee meetings.
- iii. Den Leader & Asst. Den Leader(s) – Plan and coordinate den-level activities to help boys earn their age-appropriate recognition and advancement awards

B. Parental involvement

Each parent is required to attend and actively participate in den and pack activities. We encourage a family approach to scouting and we firmly believe that involved parents make for involved boys and ultimately a stronger, more closely knit Pack. The parent's role is vital to the recruitment and training of new leaders and to ensure the longevity of the Pack for future cub scouts in our community.

C. Pack Committee (PC) – This group is made up of all leaders and committee heads for the purpose of organizing pack activities, exchanging information, and setting policy. Pack 53 also encourages any parent to participate in PC meetings.

- i. The PC is led by the Committee Chairman who is ultimately responsible for coordinating all activities outside the den meetings in support of the overall Cub Scouting program directed by the Cubmaster.
- ii. PC minutes are kept and distributed by the Pack Committee Chairman. He/She must type up and distribute the minutes to all Pack leaders and committee heads as quickly as possible to ensure adequate time to address issues discussed in the meeting and to prepare for future meetings.

D. Committees – Pack 53 supports a variety of committees. Parents are expected to participate in one or more committees to ensure effective event planning, to help build a cohesive Pack and to share the workload associated with providing your son a quality scouting experience. The Committee Chairman is responsible for coordinating the efforts of all committees. Possible Committees are as follows and will be formed as needed:

- i. Camping - We try to camp at least once a month during warm weather months. The camping committee will determine locations, plan menus, buy groceries, reserve locations as needed, plan camping activities and be responsible for the overall success of camping events. They will also inventory camping supplies and notify the Quartermaster of any items that need restocked.
- ii. Worship – Coordinate non-denominational worship services for camping events, open meetings and special events with prayer and assist dens and Cub Scouts in the achievement of various religion-based awards. This committee will also coordinate the Pack's inclusion in Scout Sunday.
- iii. Banquets & Special Events - We generally have three banquets per year - a Christmas dinner, pinewood derby, the Blue-Gold Banquet (to celebrate the anniversary of Scouting) and the end-of-year, "bridging" or graduation ceremony. This committee will plan the agenda, meals and activities for each event.
- iv. Community Service - We want to teach our boys that they are an integral part of their community and this means giving their time and talents to make it a better place to work, play and live. The community service committee coordinates 2-3 community service projects during the year. In the past these have included planting shrubs and flowers around Waxhaw city limit signs, singing Christmas carols to nursing home residents and helping elderly residents in and out of cars at a senior citizen dinner at the American Legion.
- v. Fund Raising - Cub Scout events are seldom free - camping, community service projects, awards, etc. all cost money beyond our weekly donations. Fund raising allows us to use Pack resources to earn money for activities. The fund raising committee plans 2-4 activities per year to earn funds for pack-related activities. Past fundraisers have included BSA popcorn sales and selling water and sodas at the Waxhaw parade.
- vi. Communications - Coordinate the pack-wide communications for events, activities and special announcements as well as providing information about the Pack to the Church and community. This includes such items as recruitment flyers, monthly contributions to the Church newsletter, radio and newspaper advertisements and announcements, web site maintenance, photography for events and activities, and any other communication needs designated by the Committee Chairman.
- vii. Parades - We regularly participate in two parades each year – The Waxhaw Christmas parade and the Waxhaw 4th of July parade. This committee organizes parade registration coordinates float construction and any candy or flyers we might hand out during the parade.

IV. Finances

- A. The Pack Committee shall approve an annual budget. The budget shall be based on the anticipated revenues, expenditures from the previous year and expected pack population and planned events.
- i. The committee must grant prior approval for any large expenditure that is out of scope for “normal” operations. Large expenditures might include: the purchase of pack camping equipment, etc.
 - ii. The committee must grant prior approval for special event recognition items (such as tee shirts, event patches, medals, certificates, etc.)
 - iii. Fees paid in advance in accordance with venue RSVP requirements may not be eligible for a refund to the Pack. Accordingly, non-recoverable funds are not refundable to members for activities and events where fees must be paid in advance by expected attendees.
 - iv. Normal expenses that do not require Committee approval include: rank patches, beads, sports & academic belt loops & pins, arrow points, or any other program-specific recognition item.
 - v. Den and Pack leaders should endeavor to obtain rank advancement or other items available from the Council office when ever possible, especially when available at no cost. This lowers the Pack’s overall operating cost and provides the Council with updated advancement records for each boy.
- B. The Pack Treasurer will be responsible for keeping an accurate accounting of all income and expenses. Primary duties of this role include:
- i. Collecting dues from each Den Leader on a weekly basis.
 - ii. Keeping a record of dues paid by each member, as reported by the Den Leader.
 - iii. Depositing funds collected into the Pack checking account.
 - iv. Issuing required checks from the Pack.
 - v. Reconciling the monthly bank statement
 - vi. Scheduling an annual review by a responsible party acceptable to the Cubmaster and Committee Chairman
 - vii. Participating in the annual budget meeting. Annual budget runs for 12 months – September through August.
- C. A financial report from the Treasurer shall be presented at each monthly Leadership Committee meeting. Treasurer will make those records available for review by Pack members upon request.
- D. When ever cash in excess of \$250 is collected, two people must count the funds together and a count sheet listing the date and amount must be provided to the Pack Treasurer signed by both parties involved in the counting.
- E. Checks written from Pack account should never be made out to Cash in excess of \$50.
- F. Only expenses with dated receipts (payment receipt, invoice, etc.) will be reimbursed. Receipts for reimbursement must be turned in to the Pack within 30 days of purchase. Any lost receipts for reimbursement must be approved by Pack Committee Chair, Cubmaster, and Treasurer prior to payment. If at all possible, the individual requesting reimbursement for a lost receipt should try to provide other documentation of the purchase prior to payment. Other documentation can include a bank statement or credit card statement with a record of the purchase. Receipts received after 30 days of purchase must be approved by Pack Committee Chair, Cubmaster and Treasurer prior to payment.
- G. Checks should never be made out to and signed by oneself, without the express agreement of two of the following: Pack Treasurer, Pack Committee Chairman or Cubmaster.
- H. Ownership of the pack account will be in the hands of the appointed Pack Treasurer and the Pack Committee Chairman.

I. Pack Finances will be audited at the end of each scout year to ensure completeness. The results of this audit will be presented at the summer Leader Retreat. Additionally, an audit will be conducted as a part of any transition from one treasurer to another.

V. Activities and Events

A. The Pack leadership will provide a calendar of events at the beginning of each Scout year,

B. Pack Camping Trips

- i. Camping is an integral part of the Scouting program and is not considered optional. Boys who do not attend campouts will miss out on some of the best learning opportunities during the program year. Lessons of self-reliance, responsibility & leadership take hold quickly, away from the distractions of every day life. Boys develop a sense of camaraderie and build memories that will last a lifetime.
- ii. As stated previously, the Pack tries to hold several campouts during the warmer months (September, October, November, March, April, May & June).
- iii. A parent or guardian must accompany Cub Scouts during every campout. Family participation is encouraged.
- iv. Nearly every camping event will include advancement opportunities or training in basic Scout skills, which may count toward rank advancement and other awards.
- v. Our camping program will include activities & events that are appropriate for 1st through 5th grade boys. These may include, but are not limited to: day-hikes; bicycling; field games; cooking with parents; compass courses; campfire programs & skits; songs, etc. Backpacking, mountain climbing, rappelling, whitewater rafting, etc. are not age appropriate events as defined by BSA guidelines. There will be plenty of time for high adventure activities once the boys graduate to the Boy Scout program.
- vi. It is nearly impossible to schedule pack events where they do not conflict with soccer, baseball, basketball, karate, piano recitals, etc. The Pack Committee will attempt to pick weekends that are most appropriate based on school, district and council calendars. If a boy has a scheduling conflict for part of a "local event" weekend, he should plan on attending as much of the event as possible once the conflicting event is complete. (In other words, a 2-hour game should not keep a boy out of an entire 2-day long campout.)
- vii. The pack will consider camping at any facility that complies with BSA policies and the BSA publication "Guide to Safe Scouting". This means that we will use private land, private campgrounds, and public parks in addition to BSA-owned property to fulfill our outdoor program objectives. At times, amenities such as showers and hot running water may be unobtainable
- viii. Electronic entertainment equipment (EEE) will not be allowed by anyone on camping trips (IPods, Radios, TV's, Gameboys, laser pointers, etc.) The boys and parents have plenty of time for these gadgets at home. They need to forget about these distractions and focus on having fun & learning outdoors
- ix. Electronics that serve a specific utility purpose are permitted (weather radios, cell phones, medical equipment, 2-way radios, GPS units, etc.)
- x. Equipment requirements & suggested packing lists may be obtained from the pack leaders. Specific safety regulations will be addressed in a separate document (Pack 53 Camping Guidelines).
- xi. Any new, non-established camping facility must be visited, inspected and approved by two or more representatives of the pack before an event can use that facility to ensure it is safe, clean and appropriate.

VI. Other

A. Family Participation

- i. Family participation is critical in the success of your son in this program.
- ii. Cub Scouting is not a 1-hour per week childcare service.

- iii. 1st through 5th grade boys cannot be expected to remember all the important information that is given out at each meeting.
- iv. Parents will not understand how to help their boys if they are not involved in the program. Much of the program material must be completed at home, versus during meetings.
- v. Parents are needed to assist the Den Leaders on occasion.
- vi. Parents make up all of our key leader and committee positions.
- vii. Parents are required to attend campouts.
- viii. Parents are expected to intervene when matters of discipline (beyond the Den Leader's control) require their immediate attention.
- ix. Parents are the primary resource from which future leaders will be recruited.
- x. Parents are required to help in one way or another with the pack. We need a group of "program producers", not just "program consumers".

B. Youth Protection

- i. Scouting is considered to be a "safe haven" for everyone...adults & youth alike.
- ii. The pack (& the BSA) has a zero-tolerance policy for anyone who places a child in an unsafe or compromising situation.
- iii. All registered leaders must complete BSA Youth Protection Training. This training must be renewed annually per BSA policy.
- iv. The pack will strictly adhere to information provided in the Youth Protection Training program.
- v. No adult will be alone with any child (unless the child is his/her son or daughter).
- vi. Children will only be allowed to sleep in tents with their parents.
- vii. Pack leaders must report suspected child abuse to the proper authorities immediately per BSA policy.

C. Tobacco & Alcohol Use

- i. BSA policy prohibits the use of tobacco products in the presence of its youth members.
- ii. This prohibition includes all forms of tobacco products: cigarettes; snuff; cigars; chewing tobacco, etc.
- iii. Tobacco use is forbidden on BSA property
- iv. If adults must use tobacco products, they should do so in a place that is unobservable by the Scouts.
- v. Alcohol is never permitted on any Cub Scout activity or on BSA property

D. Adoption of Bylaws

- i. The original publication of these bylaws for BSA Pack 53 were reviewed and unanimously adopted by the Leadership Committee on 1/19/04.
- ii. These bylaws are intended to be a "living document". Changes can be made, subject to the terms and conditions described below, as the needs of the pack change.

E. Bylaw Amendment Procedures

- i. Suggestions for amendments, additions or deletions can be made by any of the following individuals:
 - 1. Any parent of a registered Cub Scout in Pack 53.
 - 2. Any registered leader in Pack 53.
 - 3. The chartered organization leader.
 - 4. The chartered organization's Scouting Coordinator.
 - 5. Our assigned District Executive or other professional Scouter.
 - 6. Our Unit or District Commissioner.
- ii. Suggestions for amendments, additions or deletions must be submitted in writing a member of the Pack leadership and must be signed and dated by the requestor.
- iii. The Leadership will review the request at their next monthly meeting and vote on adoption of the change (unless there is a question about compliance with BSA policy or regulations. In this case, research will be conducted and the vote will be tabled until the next monthly meeting. If it is

determined that the request violates BSA policy, a member of the committee will notify the requestor and no vote will take place).

iv. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present will be required to adopt the change.

v. After a change is made, parents in the pack will be notified verbally at the next pack meeting or by e-mail.

vi. Bylaws will only be distributed once per year, unless major changes take place.

F. Bylaw Acknowledgement

i. Parents must sign an acknowledgement form. Copies of the bylaws may be obtained in writing from a leader or downloaded from the Pack web site. This acknowledgement provides record to the pack leaders that a given parent is aware of these bylaws and will commit to read and abide by the contents therein.

ii. Participation in Pack events is not permitted by a Cub Scout until this acknowledgement, signed and dated, is received.

Bylaws Parental Signature Page

I understand that many Cub Scout activities and events, including but not limited to camping, parade floats, hikes, bike rodeos, meetings, field trips, etc., may involve a certain degree of risk. I have carefully considered the risks and have given members of my family, as well as any others entrusted to my care, permission to participate in those activities.

I agree to hold harmless leaders and members of Pack 53, Waxhaw United Methodist Church, Boy Scouts of America, landowners and operators of any facilities used during such activities for any accident or injury that may occur. I acknowledge that I am ultimately responsible for the well-being of my family members and my guests during such activities.

I will allow Scouting activity photographs of my family members to be used for Pack newsletters, recruiting posters, newspaper articles, web sites, or other scouting-related publications and displays. I have the right to ask any images to be removed from such use and will allow for a reasonable period of time to have my request fulfilled.

I hereby certify that I have received a copy of the NC Pack 53 bylaws. I understand that conformance to these bylaws and the liability terms specified above are required to participate as a member of Pack 53.

Parent or **Legal Guardian** - Name / Date

Parent's or **Legal Guardian's** Signature

Cub Scout Name(s):
