







# III. Camping

AGE-APPROPRIATE GUIDELINES FOR CAMPING	 LIONS (With Adult Partner)	 TIGERS (With Adult Partner)	 WOLF/BEAR SCOUTS	 WEBELOS SCOUTS	 SCOUTS BSA	 OLDER SCOUTS BSA, SEA SCOUTS, VENTURERS <small>("Older Scouts BSA" are age 13 and have completed eighth grade or 14 years old and up.)</small>
National High Adventure						✓
Council High Adventure						✓
Wilderness and Backcountry						✓
Jamboree					12-year-olds	✓
Weekend Campouts					✓	✓
Camporees				Day Visit Only	✓	✓
Cold-Weather Camping	Council-Designated Locations Only (verify with local council)				✓	✓
Den Overnights				✓		
Council-Organized Family Camp	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Day Camp	Not Summer	✓	✓	✓		
Pack Overnights	Council-Designated Locations Only					
Family Camping	Council-Designated Locations Only (verify with local council)				✓	✓
Resident Camp	Not Summer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lock-ins <small>(museums, sports facilities, etc.)</small>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Age Guidelines

The Boy Scouts of America has established the following guidelines for its members' participation in camping activities:

- Overnight camping by Lion, Tiger, Wolf, or Bear Cub Scouts as dens is prohibited. Webelos dens may participate in overnight camping.
- Lions, with their adult partner, may participate in child-parent excursions, pack overnights, and council-organized family camping.
- Tigers, with their adult partner, may participate in child-parent excursions, day camps, pack overnights, council-organized family camping, or resident camping.
- Tiger, Wolf, and Bear Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts may participate in a resident overnight camping program operating under BSA National Camping School-trained leadership and managed by the council.
- Den leaders, pack leaders, and parents are expected to accompany the youth on approved trips.
- All youth registered in troops are eligible to participate in troop or patrol overnight campouts, camporees, and resident camps.

- Youth ages 12 through 17 are eligible to participate in national jamborees. Youth ages 13 through 17 may be eligible to participate in world jamborees and high-adventure programs. (See below.)
- All youth registered in Venturing are eligible to participate in crew, district, council, and national Venturing activities as well as national high-adventure programs and national and world jamborees.
- All youth registered in Sea Scouts are eligible to participate in ship, district, council, area/flotilla, region, and national Sea Scouting activities as well as national high-adventure programs and national and world jamborees.

If a well-meaning leader brings along a child who does not meet these age guidelines, disservice is done to the unit because of distractions often caused by younger children. A disservice is also done to the child, who is not trained to participate in such an activity and who, as a nonmember of the group, may be ignored by the older campers or be at risk from activities that are not age appropriate.

## **Family Camping**

Family camping is an outdoor experience, other than resident camping, that involves Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Sea Scouting, or Venturing program elements in overnight settings with two or more family members, including at least one BSA member of that family. Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children, and Youth Protection policies apply.

### ***Recreational Family Camping***

Recreational family camping occurs when Scouting families camp as a family unit outside of an organized program. It is a nonstructured camping experience, but is conducted within a Scouting framework on local council-owned or -managed property. Local councils may have family camping grounds available for rent. Other resources may include equipment, information, and training.

Reference: *Cub Scout Outdoor Program Guidelines*, No. 510-631

## **Cub Scout Overnight Opportunities**

Cub Scouts may experience overnight activities in venues other than accredited resident camping. There are two categories of Cub Scout overnights.

### ***Council-Organized Family Camp***

Council-organized family camps are overnight events involving more than one pack. The local council provides all of the elements of the outdoor experience, such as staffing, food service, housing, and program. These are often referred to as parent/pal or adventure weekends. Council-organized family camps should be