**EXAMPLE SCRIPT FOR ONLINE POWERPOINT JOIN NIGHT**

**Prior to Meeting Start**

1. Make sure you are visible and your microphone works. If you have never used Zoom before, ask us or another adult to help you try it out!
2. Go through the Powerpoint presentation, and be sure to fill out the unit-specific information highlighted in yellow. This is information specific to your unit that you should fill out.
3. If you can, do a “dry run” with a few other adults from your unit a day or two before. Just to get a feel for what it looks like, how it sounds, any changes you want to make, etc.
4. IMPORTANT: for Powerpoint, make sure that you click “yes” or “allow” as to any security notices for this presentation. There are two Youtube videos embedded in the presentation, and you want to make sure that they work when you are live!
5. Arrive about 10 minutes before your start time, and be visible with your microphone turned on. Try to make a point to welcome each person who joins (by name if they put it on their profile). I.e. “I see that Suzie Smith has joined us, welcome Suzie! We’ll get started in about 2 minutes.”

**Meeting**

*Be sure to start on time – as we say in Scouting, “don’t punish the punctual!”*

Greetings and welcome to our virtual join night for Cub Scout Pack \_\_\_\_\_\_. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am the adult leader for the Cub Scout pack, called the Cubmaster. Over the next ten minutes or so, I will describe to you what Cub Scouting is, and how we would love to welcome your son or daughter into our Cub Scout pack for our activities. Please hold on to your questions until the end, and I’ll be sure to answer any questions you have or that you put into the chat. So let’s get started!

*[Start at Slide One - Welcome]*

Here is a welcome slide. Welcome!

*[Go to Slide Two – First Video]*

So that you can get a good overview of Scouting and the opportunities available to your children and your family, we have a short video put together by the Boy Scouts to talk about Scouting.

*[Play Youtube Video]*

*[After video ends, go to Slide Three – What is Cub Scouting]*

Fun, family, honor, friends. That video gave you a quick example of some of the fun things that we do in Cub Scouts, from an annual race we do called the Pinewood Derby. Cub Scouts has been around for over 100 years, designed for boys and girls in kindergarten through fifth grade. The focus of Cub Scouting is to help build character, teach citizenship, teach leadership, and strengthen families while being tons of fun at the same time.

*[Go to Slide Four – Who We Are]*

* Be sure to fill out the highlighted information on the slide beforehand!!

Let me talk very quickly about who the members are in our Cub Scout pack. We draw most of our members from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary schools (or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ church, etc.). Our Cub Scout pack is led by volunteer parents, including me. We each dedicate a little bit of time planning and running the activities for the boys and girls. We receive training materials from the Boy Scouts that give us meeting plans, ideas, and skills to work on. We also receive online training. As well, we’re also supported by certain professionals here in the Denver office of the Boy Scouts. There are paid professionals who help us execute our program along with other Cub Scout packs in the Denver Area, as well as professional volunteers who act as our mentor for our unit. These volunteers have been involved for many many years in Scouting, and are a wealth of knowledge about the best ways to have fun in Scouting.

*[Go to Slide Five – How Does It Work]*

So how does Cub Scouts work? There are two different levels that you need to be aware of in joining our Cub Scout pack. As I mentioned, our Cub Scout pack is made up of boys and girls from kindergarten to fifth grade. This entire group is called the Cub Scout “pack.” The Pack meets once a month in order to have events, give out awards, have special speakers and presentations, and do other large group activities. The second level is called the “Den” level. Each “Den” is a group of 8-10 boys or girls grouped based upon grade level – so for example, all the 2nd grade girls will be in the same “den” at the Wolf rank level. Dens usually meet weekly or every two weeks, to work on their skills and achievements together. We try to have activities throughout the year for special events and special occasions, like pack hikes or campouts. We also are invited to Scouting events with other Cub Scout packs throughout the Denver area.

*[Go to Slide Six – Second Video]*

As I’ve mentioned before, Cub Scouts is now open to boys and girls. It used to be just for boys, but a couple of years ago Scouting recognized the value to the entire family (including girls), and made the decision to allow young girls to also participate in all of our programs. Here’s a video talking about that.

*[Play video]*

*[At end of video, go to Slide Seven – Building Young Leaders]*

One of the main focuses of Cub Scouts is to help build our children into the young leaders of tomorrow. The youth work on skills and achievements based upon their grade level in their dens. They are able to earn awards and various badges that reward them for the success of achieving that new Skill. As you saw in the video before, there are a lot of patches and badges that are awarded to Cub Scouts to help recognize their achievement and help them build their self-confidence. As an example, at each grade level the youth have to complete an adventure loop related to personal fitness. So in first grade, they learn how to play games and respect the rules of a new game; in second grade, they learn certain personal fitness activities and eating a balanced diet; in third grade, they go for a hike of at least 1 mile, and demonstrate other outdoor skills; and in fourth and fifth grade, they start learning about the importance of a personal exercise routines and tracking their progress in fitness.

*[Go to Slide Eight – What We Do]*

* Be sure to fill out the highlighted information on the slide beforehand!!

So let’s talk a little bit about what kind of activities we do in our Cub Scout pack. As I mentioned before, the Dens are the grade level groups of 8 to 10 boys or 8 to 10 girls that meet either weekly or every other week to work on skills and activities. Those meetings are run by the parents, with materials that the parents receive in trainings. Our entire Cub Scout pack meets about once a month during the school year. At those pack meetings we give out the adventure loops and awards, other achievements, and usually have special speakers come in. We also arrange off-site activities, like visiting a fire station or a police station or going to a city Council meeting. Other past activities include taking a trip to the zoo together or to the art museum. We try and do at least two camp outs per year as an entire pack, where will spend the night at Cherry Creek State Park or some other location that everyone can get to fairly easily. Even during the Covid lockdown, we have still been meeting via Zoom, and did three backyard campouts for those families who wanted to participate. [Be sure to personalize this part of the speech based on what your Pack does]

*[Go to Slide Nine – What Does It Cost]*

* Be sure to fill out the highlighted information on the slide beforehand!!
* Note that the dues amount should include **both** your annual Council recharter cost of $66 per person, *plus* any additional amount you charge per person each year.

Now that you have an understanding of the types of activities that we do in Cub Scouts, I’m sure you’re asking how much it costs to join. There is a one-time $25 new member fee for each new new youth that joins the organization, that gets paid to the national office. Second, we charge dues of $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ amount per year. A portion of that money gets paid to the national office, and the rest of it stays with our pack to help fund all of the visits, speakers, activities, and materials that we need for our den meetings and our pack meetings. Your child can also subscribe to receive a special magazine designed just for them called Boys Life magazine for an extra $15 per year. This is filled with a bunch of additional activities, stories of scouts in action, comics, and other great materials. Our Pack participates in a couple of fundraisers each year in order to help raise funds for our pack to do all of these activities (and to keep our dues down), and also to raise funds for the Boy Scout council here in the Denver area.

*[Go to Slide Ten – Uniforms]*

Your child will also be required to buy a uniform to participate. There are two separate categories here. Each year, you will buy a new handbook (that is $17) and a new neckerchief and slide ($16 together). This handbook, neckerchief, and slide are based on your grade level den. As well, you will buy a blue uniform shirt if you are in kindergarten through third grade, or a tan uniform shirt if you are in fourth or fifth grade. You can wear the shirt multiple years. The cost of the shirt is about $40 with all the necessary patches. , and then you will also buy one uniform shirt that you wear for 2-4 years depending on your level. The uniform shirt and associated patches are about $50. Total cost the first year for this is about $85, but then is only about $35 each year after that until you have to get a new shirt. You should also know that there are uniform scholarships for those who need assistance with this cost.

*[Go to Slide Eleven – Training and Safety]*

Let me talk briefly about the importance of safety in Cub Scouts. The Boy Scouts of America is a large, hundred-year-old organization, and has invested substantial time, energy, and resources into providing the best training and safety for our youth and adult leaders. We provide safety training and have strong protections for everyone in the program, at all levels. So for example, every single adult in the program is required to take an online training called “Youth Protection Training,” and they have to renew that training every two years. This is mandatory, and trains those adults how to maximize safety around the youth. In addition, we have basic leader training for all adult volunteers that can be done online. This trains new leaders about Scouting, about their volunteer position and role, and how they can best help to run the program. Because scouting is a volunteer lead effort, we want to make sure to give as much training and resources to our leaders as possible. And it is not just the adults who do training -- the youth also take an age-appropriate safety seminar online as well, each year. This youth training talks about safety around adults, safety around strangers, and safety online. For the leaders, there are tons of online resources, as well as monthly meetings of Cub Scout leaders to discuss best practices at a meeting called the roundtable. You can learn new ideas, talk about new activities, and share items so that everyone has a fantastic experience.

*[Go to Slide Twelve – How to Join]*

* When you get to this slide, have another adult leader post the Child Application in the chat so it can be downloaded
* Also be sure to post in the chat a link to your BeAScout pin where they can register online
* Be sure to fill out the highlighted information on the slide beforehand!!

Now to talk about how to join! In the chat, we’ve posted a link to our BeAScout pin where you can register online immediately, and pay your initial registration fee with a credit card. If you’d rather fill out the application in paper, we have posted that Application in the chat as well that you can download, fill out, and send back to me with a check made out to “Cub Scout Pack \_\_\_\_\_\_\_”. You should make the check out for the amount of $\_\_\_\_\_\_, which will cover your dues through the end of the year and your one-time new member fee. I would also ask you as a new parent to consider how you might be able to help us in our Cub Scout pack. All of our parents participate at some level, and there are many opportunities for you to help. We will have a more in-depth session before our next pack meeting just for parents, to talk about other opportunities for you to get involved, and a deeper explanation of exactly how our pack operates.

*[Go to Slide Twelve – Pack Info]*

* Be sure to fill out the highlighted information beforehand!!

So you have it while you’re filling out your application, here is a slide with our pack’s website, and the contact information for us. You’ll see my name and phone number here, as well as my email. Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions you might have. As well, there is another parent who is our New Member Coordinator. This person’s role is to interact with new parents like you and help you learn the ropes of our meetings and how Scouting operates so that you feel welcome and have all your questions answered. Please feel free to also to reach out to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as well. Our next pack meeting is going to be held on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [day and date] at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [time]. Because of Covid, we’re going to [do the meeting online, or meet in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ park or at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ location]. We would love for you and your child to join us at the Pack meeting, please be sure to pick up your uniform if you can before that meeting.

I’ll stay online if you have more questions or if you want to chat afterwards. Thank you for coming, and welcome to Cub Scouts and Pack \_\_\_\_\_!

*[Answer any questions from the Chat, or that people ask verbally]*