

To: All Cub Scout Pack Institutional Heads (with copy to Unit Key 3s)

Thank you for your valuable partnership and commitment to bring Scouting to your community.

As you know, the National Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America recently made a unanimous decision to welcome girls to our iconic programs.

It is important to note that the BSA did not decide to make the Cub Scouting and Boy Scouting programs co-ed; instead, the organization has introduced a unique model that builds on the benefits of a single-gender program while also providing character and leadership opportunities for both boys and girls. Starting in 2018, we invite our chartered partner organizations to choose if they'd like to establish a new girl pack, establish a family pack that consists of girl dens **and** boy dens or remain an all-boy pack.

Although our programs will officially launch to welcome both boys and girls in Cub Scouting during the program year this September, we are offering a soft launch for early adopters based on overwhelming demand from communities that will allow eligible packs to officially register girls (K-4) into Cub Scouts as early as January 15. The requirements to participate in the early adopter program are:

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- 1) The unit must be in good standing and have the capacity to participate.
- 2) If opting in, the chartered organization and unit leaders must confirm interest and agree to use the family pack model, and that they will:
 - a. Register a **minimum** of four girls into a new **all-girl den** of an existing pack,
 - b. Use the current Cub Scouting program and resources,
 - c. Uphold membership policies,
 - d. Provide input and feedback about their activities and experiences to help improve the formal rollout; this information may also be used in marketing and earned media outreach.
- 3) The Pack must identify two new leaders for each new all girl den, both over the age of 21; one must be female; one must be the registered den leader.
- 4) The pack ensures that all leaders are trained in their positions before starting the program.
- 5) The pack agrees to develop and present **a written program plan to ensure that participants can accomplish all rank requirements not later than May 31, 2018.**

Please read over the above requirements carefully and talk with your Cubmaster, Committee Chair and Chartered Organization Representative about this program. We cannot grant waivers for any of the requirements. If you are interested in attempting to pursue this early adoption program, please email me the following information:

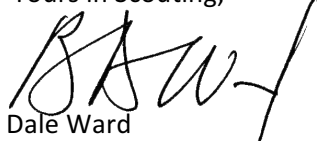
Name of the primary point of contact for your unit, email address, and phone number.

If you have questions while trying to decide, please contact me directly. I would love to set up a time to meet so I can walk you through the early adopter program and help answer any questions you may have. You can reach me at dale@daleward.com or 757-606-0604.

There will also be a video webinar available in January that we'll invite you to watch with your unit leaders to further walk through the opportunities and details about the early adopter program. I will be sharing that link with you as soon as it is available. The webinar will be recorded.

Thank you for your commitment to our movement and all you do for Scouting.

Yours in Scouting,


Dale Ward
Vice President, Program
Tidewater Council, BSA