



Cub Scout Meetings - Best Practices

Please follow all Youth Protection and Social Media Guidelines

1. Meet. Your Den misses you. Get started on a virtual meeting.
2. Meet. Your Cub Scouts miss seeing each other! Get started on a virtual meeting.
3. Meet. Scouting continues. Get started on a virtual meeting. Scout On!
4. Understand how to run a virtual meeting. And be sure to review with your parents and scouts Etiquette for online meetings.
 - a. Use your real name when entering meeting
 - b. Raise your hand to speak or use raise hand key
 - c. In large groups, mute yourself when not speaking
 - d. And other key components you want your scouts to follow
5. Understand running a video meeting is not the same as an in person meeting. Meetings should be tighter and shorter; 10 to 15 minutes is a good time limit. Be sure parents know they need to be there with their cub scout, not just in the room.
 - a. Start on time. Don't wait for Johnny to show up other wise you will all be staring at each other. And you know what happens when a cub scout has free time, they get silly and make silly sounds.
6. Encourage your Cub Scouts to still wear their uniforms to the virtual meetings. It encourages better behavior and helps the experience feel familiar.
7. Keep your Opening and Closing like your in-person meetings. They need to know the meeting has started and when it ends.
 - a. Be sure to do the opening ceremony, just like your in-person meeting. See if someone has an American Flag they can have posted. Or you can Zoom in a picture of an American Flag.
 - b. Include the Scout Oath and Law. And be sure everyone is standing up!
 - c. Be sure to mute all but the person leading the opening or closing.
8. Check with each parent and Scout to see what they need to succeed. This could be done during the week.
9. Do not have death by PowerPoint. It is the best way to lose your cub scouts
10. Be sure to have an interactive component of your virtual meeting. Your scouts will want to be up and doing something. The parents will appreciate it too. It could be as simple as having them stand up to jump, turn around and sit back down. Most of the Scouts do get silly **and that's ok. In fact, it's encouraged!**
11. Send out the activity plan before the meeting and ask them to have stuff like rope, pen/paper, etc. available during the meeting.
12. Council and district events continue: Virtual FOS, Virtual Camp card sales, and the Virtual CamporALL!
13. Cub Scouts that are missing in action are usually not doing Scouting. If you have not seen a Scout for three weeks, it is time for to make a call. These are challenging times and we need to be there to support the Scout and their family.
14. Instant recognition is an important part of the Advancement program; do not wait to recognize Scouts "until things get back to normal."
15. Don't try to go it alone; reach out to other parents and leaders in the unit and find success together!
16. Perseverance: #BeCalmScoutOn
17. Keep up to date with Council information at: <http://www.mountbakerbsa.org/scouton>
18. Keep up to date with information from National BSA at: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutingathome>