



THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA NAME IS NOT CHANGING, AND OTHER FACTS TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Dear Volunteer Leaders, Parents and Supporters:

Scouting is in the news! And we want to make sure that you have the correct information as the BSA prepares to better serve families across America and here in the Wiregrass region.

The Boy Scouts of America organization name will continue to be Boy Scouts of America. **It is not changing.**

Reports are circulating concerning the update to the Boy Scout *program* name. That program currently serves boys ages 11 through 17. Beginning **February 2019**, the Boy Scout program name will change to “**Scouts BSA**” and will begin serving girls, as well as boys.

Scouts BSA Troops Will Be Single-gender

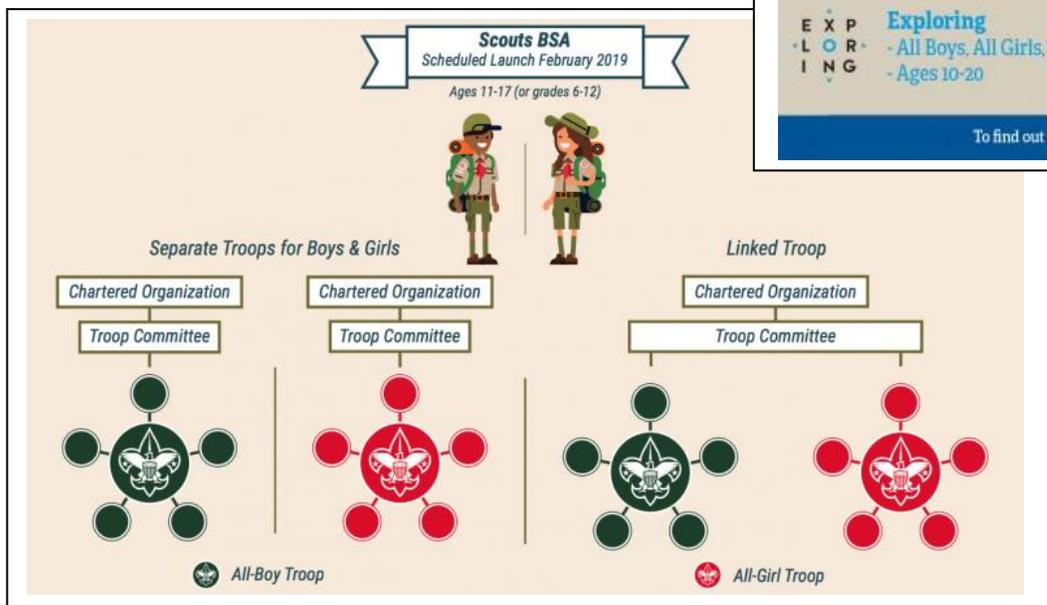
Troop structure will remain single gender, meaning a Scouts BSA troop will be made up of all boys **or** it will be made up of all girls. **There will be no co-ed or mixed troops.** Boys and girls will not be in troops together. Boys will be in troops with only boys, and girls will be in troops with only girls.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The organization name is **NOT** changing.
 The Boy Scouts of America will continue to provide leadership and character development programs for boys and girls ages 5-20.

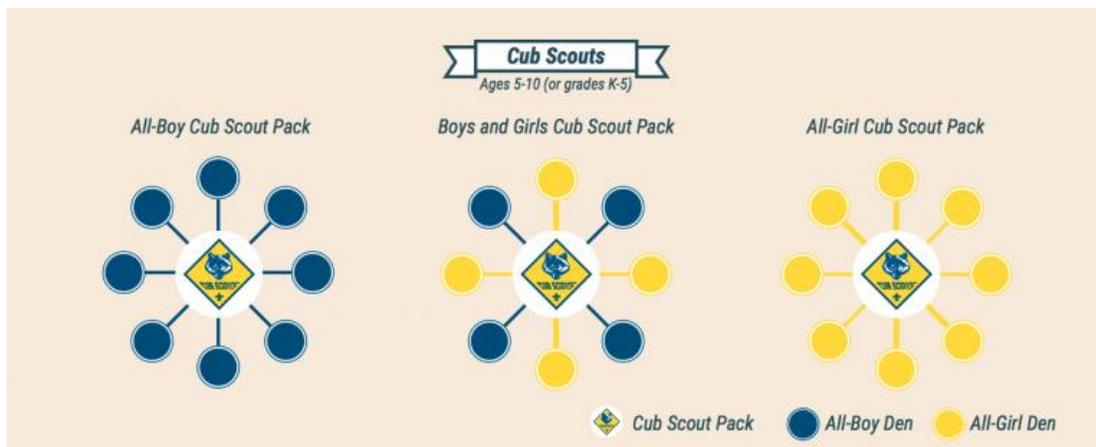
	CURRENT		NEW
 Cub Scouts - Boys Only - Ages 5-10		 Cub Scouts - Boys and Girls* (separate dens) - Ages 5-10 <i>Launch date June 2018</i>	
 Boy Scouts - Boys Only - Ages 11-17		 Scouts BSA - Boys and Girls* (separate troops) - Ages 11-17 <i>Launch date February 2019</i>	
 Venturing - All Boys, All Girls, or Co-Ed - Ages 14-20		No Change	
 Sea Scouts - All Boys, All Girls, or Co-Ed - Ages 14-20		No Change	
EXPLORING Exploring - All Boys, All Girls, or Co-Ed - Ages 10-20		No Change	

To find out more, visit Scouting.org/familyscouting



Cub Scout Pack Family Option, Dens Remain Single-gender

Beginning this fall, there will be three types of Cub Scout packs: all-boy packs, all-girl packs and packs that include a mix of girl dens and boy dens. Cub Scout dens will be single-gender: all boys or all girls. The charter partner (churches & civic organizations that operate packs), plus volunteer pack leadership determine which type of pack best meets their needs.



Why Family Scouting?

For years, parents have been asking the BSA to better serve families by including their daughters in the program. We understand that families today are busier and more diverse than ever.

- Most are dual-earners; *80% nationally*
- There are more single-parent households; *28% nationally, 40%-60% in some communities we serve*
- All families have less free time. More than one-third of parents feel they spend too little time with their kids, and millennial parents are desperate to increase family time
- Many Cub Scout Packs already invite all family members to participate in pack activities

What Parents & Kids Are Saying

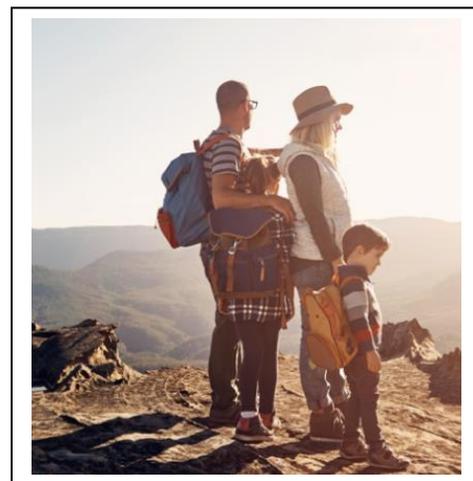
For Scott Milliken, Cubmaster in Farragut, TN, the appeal of Family Scouting is personal. His wife's work schedule makes her unable to attend most meetings, so he brings all their children with him. "A lot of other people are in that same scenario."

Dean Davis, 10, is quite pleased his 7-year-old sister, Grace, will join him in Pack 121. "We like to do things as a family," he said.

Tatum Weir is only 10 years old, but says she wants to make history with her twin brother as the first boy-girl twin pair to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.

Eagle Scout father Tom and new Cub Scout daughter Ruthie say they are excited to do Scouting as a family. Watch their video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQ5GCiFzu68>



We hope this helps to clarify these important changes as the BSA strives to maintain the integrity of the single-gender model, while meeting the needs of today's families. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Jerry Freyberg | Scout Executive

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Serving Alabama counties of: Barbour, Coffee, Covington, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Pike; Serving Florida counties of: Calhoun and Jackson.

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