CUB SCOUT PACK 75 - WESTON, CT
Nobody knows what a boy is worth, We'll have to wait and see. But every man in a noble place, A boy once used to be. (author unknown)

Dear Cub Scout Family,

As you probably know, Weston Pack 75 implemented our website, www.westonpack75.org, over a year ago. By a number of measures, the website has been a big success. Among other things, it has given us a vehicle to streamline communication, publicize our programs, and centralize our calendar.

We have received inquires from all over the country from other Cub Scout packs wanting to use our site as a model. (The lion's share of the credit goes to our Cubmaster. Ms. Spencer has put countless hours into creating and improving the site's content.)

At the October 21, 2007 Pack Committee meeting, the committee agreed to try to leverage the site even more. For example, in the near future, we will be accepting secure credit card payments for registration and other events so that you'll no longer have to write a check and put it in the mail. We've recently reorganized the site to make it easier for parents and guardians to find key information and to help the leaders manage their Dens. We've given each Den Leader and member of the Pack Committee the ability to add and edit content for his or her Den or particular area of responsibility (e.g., outdoors, fundraising, advancement, membership). And there's a lot more to come!

So this seemed like a good time to remind you about our privacy policy and the choices you saw during the most recent annual registration:

- First and foremost, with the exception of Adult leaders, we do not expose *any* private information about any adult or scout to the public. Roster information, which may include name, phone numbers, email addresses and home address is only available on the *Roster* menu off of the Den-specific *Den Pages*. Only members of the Den, the Den Leader, and certain members of the Pack Committee may access the Roster for a given Den. The Roster for each Den is secured by a Den-specific password provided to each Den Leader and the Den Leader in turn provides to you. That is, with this password, you can see the Roster for your son's Den and nothing else. Even within this limited access, **you** decide what, *if any*, information the other members of your Den may see about you and your son (details in the next section).

- We frequently post pictures of Pack and Den activities to our Pictures page and individual Den Picture pages. In addition, we submit pictures of Pack and Den activities to local newspapers such as the Weston Forum. We believe this is a great way to share within the pack and to publicize the richness of our program. Den Leaders and most members of the Pack Committee have the ability to upload pictures to the website. We do not identify scouts by name when posting pictures on our website. In general, we only post group shots. In contrast, local newspapers, for example the Weston Forum, often require us to list the first and last name of each scout in any pictures submitted for publication. As required by our own policies and our web hosting service, we comply with the spirit and letter of The Federal Trade Commission's Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 (COPPA) (http://www.ftc.gov/ogc/coppa1.htm) by requiring parents and guardians to give us explicit permission to use their son's image on the website or submit his image to newspapers on an annual basis.

In short our policy is simple: You the parent decide how much or how little information you wish to share. In practical terms, you make these choices each year during registration; you can change them after registration as outlined below:

1. **Personally identifiable information (contact details):**
   You make these choices during the annual registration when completing the registration form for your son for a given program year. You can review or alter your choices at any time by going to http://www.westonpack75.org and choose the last link on the left-hand menu called *"Edit My Account"* (OR click here). There, you will be prompted for your email address and password. This is the email address and password you used when you first registered you son(s). Don't worry if you don't remember your password, enter your email address ONLY and the system will email you a new password (which you can change once you sign in). Once logged on, you will see a family list (typically this is the registered scout(s) and his parents or guardians). Each name will be a link. Click on the name of the individual whose profile you wish to change. Next to the address, home phone, cell phone, work phone, and email fields you'll notice a drop down menu with the following choices:

   a. *"Private"* means no one other than certain members of the Pack Committee can view the information.
   b. *"Roster"* indicates that this information will only be displayed on your son's Den's password protected Roster page.
   c. *"Public"* applies to Den Leaders and Adult Leaders only; they can choose to make their own information available to the general public on the Den home Rosters page and the "Team Contacts" page. For scouts and non-leader adults, there is no way to make this information available to the general public.

2. **Pictures:**
   You make these choices during the annual registration when completing the registration form for your son for a given program year. Each year, the registering parent or guardian must make an explicit decision as to whether or not his or her son's image may be: a.) published on our website and/or b.) submitted to a newspaper. (Two distinct questions.) These decisions are entered on the registration form and recorded in our registration database. The parent's decision is also communicated to the Cubmaster and the scout's Den Leader. To change your decision post-registration, send a request in writing to the "Cubmaster", "Membership – Registration", or "Webmaster & Publicity" contacts listed on the Contacts page (off of the Home page menu). Your change will be confirmed via email.

We want our website to be a safe, simple, and useful tool – **and** we want our membership to control how their information is displayed.

If you need technical assistance or have further questions, please email me.

Yours in Scouting,

Dan Klein
Webmaster