

ELK RIVER DISTRICT

FALL Cub-O-Ree 2026

“Back to Boo-sics”

Mastering the basics — with a boo!

LEADERS & PARENT GUIDE

October 16–18, 2026

Camp Arrowhead

440 Franklin County Park Rd, Estill Springs, TN 37330

A Family Camping Weekend for Lion – Arrow of Light Cub Scouts

Parents/guardians attend and camp with their Scout

Welcome to Back to Boo-sics!

The leaves are turning, the pumpkins are out, and it's time to get “back to boo-sics”! This October, Camp Arrowhead becomes home base for a weekend of classic Scouting skills — knots, marksmanship, nature, and teamwork — wrapped in a family-friendly Halloween theme. Think skill stations with a pumpkin twist, not a haunted house: this is still a real Scouting weekend, just with costumes, candy, and a little extra fun mixed in.

This is a family camping event — every Scout attends with a parent or guardian, and the whole family camps together all weekend. Lion through Arrow of Light dens are all welcome.

This guide covers everything a Den Leader, Pack Leader, or parent needs to register, prepare, and have a great weekend.

Event Details

Item	Details
Theme	Back to Boo-sics — core Scouting skills with a Halloween twist
Dates	Friday, October 16 – Sunday, October 18, 2026
Location	Camp Arrowhead, 440 Franklin County Park Rd, Estill Springs, TN 37330
Who	Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Arrow of Light Cub Scouts
Format	Family camping — each Scout attends with a parent/guardian
Meals	Self-provided by packs/families for all meals (camp does not provide meals)
Water	Primitive site — no running water. Bring enough water for your entire stay.
Sanitation	Porta-potties available on site

⚠️ Lion Scouts: BSA requires a parent/guardian to camp with a Lion Scout overnight. Because this is a family-camping event, Lions are welcome for the full weekend.

Registration & Fees

Fees

Item	Cost
Scout	\$20
Parent/Adult/Guardian	\$5
Sibling	\$5
Extra Event Patch (optional)	\$5

How to Register

- Registration opens via Black Pug — link to be distributed at the August District meeting and posted to the district calendar.
- Registration deadline: October, 12 2026 at 11:59 pm CT.

Check-In Process

Check-in opens Friday, October 16, at 6:30 PM at Cub-O-Ree HQ.

Unit/pack leaders check in for their group — individual family check-in is not required. Please have the following ready:

- Completed BSA Annual Health & Medical Record (Parts A & B) for every attendee.
- Payment for any balance due — cash or check accepted.
- Your pack roster with total headcount of persons attending and Additional Patches
- Any on-site registrations — collect payment from families before approaching the check-in table.

At check-in, your pack will receive:

- Event schedule & station map
- Any additional event materials
- Trick-or-treat / Tent or Treat instructions

Weekend Schedule

Friday, October 16

Time	Activity
5:30 – 8:30 PM	Check-in, campsite setup
8:30 PM	Leader meeting — Cub-O-Ree HQ
Evening (self-provided)	Dinner
10:00 PM	Lights out

Saturday, October 17

Time	Activity
Morning (self-provided)	Breakfast — cook at your own pace before Opening
8:30 AM	Opening & flag ceremony
8:45 AM	Range Safety briefing
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Morning rotation — den-level groups (see Program & Activities)
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch (self-provided)
1:30 – 3:30 PM	Afternoon pack rotation — tent building, pack flag, skit work, parent seminars
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Group Dutch oven demo — popcorn (Saturday snack)
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Tent or Treat
5:00 – 7:30 PM	Dinner (self-provided)
7:45 PM	Costume Parade
8:00 PM	Campfire program — skits, songs, awards presentation
9:00 PM	Cracker barrel / free time
10:00 PM	Lights out

Sunday, October 18

Time	Activity
Wake up	Rise at your own pace
Morning (self-provided)	Breakfast
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Campsite pack-up
9:00 AM	Scout's Own service & closing flag ceremony
9:30 – 11:00 AM	Final pack-out & check-out

⚠ Quiet hours are in effect 10:30 PM – 6:00 AM nightly — please be respectful of neighboring campsites.

Program & Activities

The morning is organized by den level; the afternoon shifts to pack-level rotation. Stations are tiered by rank so the same core skill scales from Lion to Arrow of Light.

Morning Rotation (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

Three den-level groups — Lion/Tiger, Wolf/Bear, and Webelos/AOL — each spend 1 hour at the Target & Range block and 2 hours split across four 30-minute stations (two stations per hour), staggered so each group is at Range during a different hour:

Time	Lion/Tiger	Wolf/Bear	Webelos/AOL
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Range	Stations A + B	Stations C + D
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Stations A + B	Range	Stations C + D
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Stations C + D	Stations A + B	Range

Target & Range Block

Rank	Archery	Slingshot	BB Gun
Lion	Yes — with adult partner	Yes — with adult partner	Not approved
Tiger	Yes — with adult partner	Yes — with adult partner	Yes — with adult partner
Wolf – AOL	Yes	Yes	Yes

! All range activities are conducted exclusively under the direct supervision of a Scouting America Certified Range Safety Officer (Bruce Warpool). Every Lion/Tiger must be paired with their adult partner before shooting. Only equipment provided at the range may be used. All Persons on the range must wear closed toed-shoes (No Crocs with holes or Sandles).

Stations A–D

- Station A — Leave No Trace Activity: short discussion plus a hands-on game or trail-impact activity.
- Station B — Ghou! Race
- Station C — Knot Lesson: age-appropriate knots by rank (e.g., overhand for Lion/Tiger, square knot for Wolf/Bear, more advanced knots for Webelos/AOL). Hands-on, instructor stays with each Scout until they tie it successfully.
- Station D — Pumpkin Fun.

Afternoon Pack Rotation (1:30 – 3:30 PM)

Self-guided by pack, using provided instructions — packs rotate through at their own pace:

- Tent Building — hands-on practice, family/pack-assisted. Decorate your “tent” Material Provided
- Pack Camp Flag — design and build a flag for Camp Arrowhead and future outings.
- Skit Work — prepare a skit for the Saturday campfire program.
- Parent Seminars — scheduled mini-sessions parents can drop into based on interest (see below).

Parent Seminar Mini-Sessions

Run as short, scheduled sessions during the pack rotation block so parents can join whichever topics interest them:

- New to Scout Life
- Ways to Help
- What's Coming Up at the District Level
- Adult Training Options Available to Pack Leaders

Saturday Snack — Group Dutch Oven Demo (3:30–4:00 PM)

A group Dutch oven popcorn demonstration doubles as the Saturday afternoon snack.

Evening Program

- Costume Parade — by den, along the main camp road. Keep costumes free of realistic weapons or gore.
- Campfire Program — den skits, songs, and the awards presentation.
- Tent or Treat — families decorate their own tent/campsite for “spooky scout town,” then Scouts in costume rotate through in a trick-or-treat-style walk. **(Please Bring Candy for this Activity)**

⚠️ *Keep Halloween elements “fun spooky” (pumpkins, costumes, friendly ghost stories), not “scary spooky” (jump scares, gore, realistic weapons) — Lion and Tiger Scouts are in the audience.*

⚠️ *Families/packs should bring their own trick-or-treat candy, sized to their registered headcount. Nut-free and individually wrapped options are encouraged where possible. Bring it pre-packed — candy is set out at tents Saturday evening.*

Awards

All awards are presented at the Saturday night campfire program (6:30–7:45 PM).

Award	Tied To
Best Decorated Tent	Tent or Treat rotation
Best Pack Flag	Afternoon pack rotation
Best Skit	Campfire program
Best Costume	Costume Parade
Spirit Award	Observed throughout the weekend

⚠️ *Judging method (staff panel vs. popular vote) still to be decided.*

What to Bring

- Tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad
- Class A and Class B uniforms
- Weather-appropriate clothing (October nights can be cold)
- Rain gear
- Refillable water bottle — plus your pack's full water supply for the weekend (no running water on site)
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Mess kit / plate, cup, utensils
- Costume for Saturday evening (comfortable, weather-layered, no realistic weapons)
- Trick-or-treat candy — nut-free and individually wrapped where possible, sized to your registered headcount
- Personal medications, clearly labeled
- Sunscreen / bug spray as needed
- Materials for your pack flag and tent decorations
- Closed-toed shoes required for range activities — no Crocs or sandals

Rules & Code of Conduct

This event is built on the foundation of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Every Scout, leader, and family member is expected to:

- Live the Scout Oath and Scout Law throughout the entire event
- Treat every Scout, leader, parent, and volunteer with kindness and respect
- Follow all instructions from Cub-O-Ree staff and station volunteers promptly
- Always look out for their fellow Scouts

Bullying and Behavior

- This event is a safe and welcoming space for every Scout regardless of age, rank, background, or experience level. Bullying, harassment, and unkind behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Any Scout or adult who witnesses bullying should report it to their unit leader or Cub-O-Ree staff immediately.
- Discipline is handled at the unit/pack level by the leader; Cub-O-Ree staff will support as needed.

Alcohol, Drug & Tobacco Policy

- Camp Arrowhead and all Cub-O-Ree activities are alcohol, drug, and tobacco-free zones, without exception, per BSA national policy and Middle Tennessee Council guidelines.
- No tobacco products, including vaping devices, are permitted in any area visible to youth. Adults 21+ only, away from Scouts always — no smoking in tents or campsites.

Firearms & Weapons Policy

- No personal firearms, ammunition, bows, knives beyond a standard pocketknife, or other weapons are permitted on camp property.
- All shooting sports activities are conducted exclusively at the designated range, under direct Range Safety Officer supervision, using only equipment provided at the station.
- Pocket knives are permitted only for Scouts who have earned the Whittling Chip (Bear and up) — no exceptions, and always under direct adult supervision.
- Any unauthorized weapon found on camp property will be confiscated and the unit leader notified immediately.

Rules & Code of Conduct Continued...

Fire & Knife Safety

- All fires must be built and maintained only in designated fire rings or areas and never left unattended.
- A bucket of water must be always kept at every campsite fire.
- Cub Scout fire activities are always supervised by adult leaders.
- Cub Scouts — Whittling Chip and Knife Safety rules apply (Bear, Webelos, AOL); no knife uses without direct adult supervision.

Leave No Trace

- Every pack is responsible for leaving their campsite and all activity areas cleaner than they found them.
- Stay on designated paths; pack out all trash; leave what you find; use established fire rings only.
- Be considerate of other campers, especially after 10:30 PM quiet hours.

Medical Forms & Medications

- A completed BSA Annual Health & Medical Record (Parts A & B) is required for every person attending.
- Forms must always be on file with the pack leader and available during the event.
- Medications must be stored securely by a parent or leader, not carried by Scouts.
- A designated first aid area will be available at Cub-O-Ree HQ throughout the event.

General Reminders

- No running in camp areas.
- No driving through fields once the Cub-O-Ree begins; no riding unrestrained in truck beds or trailers.
- Primitive camping — no running water; bring enough for your entire stay.
- No RVs or pop-up trailers.
- Chemical fuels, lanterns, and stoves are allowed outdoors with adult supervision only — never inside tents. No liquid fuels.
- Quiet hours: 10:30 PM – 6:00 AM nightly.
- All packs must check in AND check out with Cub-O-Ree HQ.

Emergency Contact Information

! Arnold AFB Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance: 931-454-5648. If dialing 911 from a cell phone, your call may be routed to Franklin or Coffee County dispatch instead of Arnold AFB — ask to be routed to the Arnold AFB Emergency 911 Dispatcher.

A designated first aid station will be available at Cub-O-Ree HQ throughout the weekend.

Contact

Questions about this event? Contact:

William Bransford — Camp Director / Cub-O-Ree Chair, Elk River District

wbrans74@gmail.com | 615.586.2330

Camp Etiquette & Important Guidelines

Safety & Conduct

- No running in camp areas.
- Closed-toed shoes required for the range (no Crocs).
- No driving through fields once Camporee begins.
- Primitive camping: no running water—bring enough water for your stay.
- Check campsites for hazards before setting up.
- No RVs or pop-up trailers are allowed.
- No riding unrestrained in truck beds or trailers.

Medical & Forms

- All attendees (Scouts, adults, siblings) must provide completed medical forms (Parts A, B1, & B2).
- Keep forms with the pack leader or parent if attending as a family.

Prohibited Items & Rules

- Tobacco: Under 21 not allowed. Adults must use away from Scouts; no smoking in tents or campsites.
- Chemical fuels: Gas lanterns/stoves allowed outdoors with adult supervision. Not to be used inside of tents. No liquid fuels.
- Alcohol & drugs: Strictly prohibited on Scouting property or activities.
- Weapons & chainsaws: No weapons of any kind. Only archery, slingshots, and BB guns are allowed on the Range under Range Safety Officer supervision.

Quiet Hours

- Campsites quiet from 10:30 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. Lights out; respect neighbors.

Leave No Trace

- Plan ahead: bring proper clothing, sunscreen, hats, first aid, water, and identification. Use the buddy system.
- Stick to trails: avoid shortcuts to protect soil and vegetation.
- Leave what you find: don't pick flowers, vandalize, or graffiti.
- Respect others, be courteous to other visitors, control noise, and obey boundaries.
- Trash your trash: pack out all garbage to protect wildlife and campgrounds.

Resources

Full Leave No Trace Guidelines: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/leave-no-trace/>

Porta Potty Etiquette: Dos & Don'ts

Using a porta potty might not be glamorous, but good etiquette keeps things clean and pleasant for everyone. Follow these simple guidelines to ensure a smooth experience!

Dos

- ✓ **Lock the Door** — Always lock the door after entering to prevent awkward encounters.
- ✓ **Use the Facilities Properly** — Porta-potties are for human waste only. Don't throw trash, wipes, or other items inside.
- ✓ **Dispose of Toilet Paper Correctly** — Use the provided toilet paper and place it in the toilet, not on the floor. If supplies run out, report it to event staff.
- ✓ **Close the Lid** — This helps contain odors and makes the unit more pleasant for the next person.
- ✓ **Wash or Sanitize Your Hands** — Use hand sanitizer or a washing station to prevent the spread of germs.

Don'ts

- ✗ **Don't Overcrowd** — Porta-potties are for one person at a time.
- ✗ **Don't Use Too Much Toilet Paper** — Using excessive amounts can cause clogs.
- ✗ **Don't Leave Personal Items Behind** — Take all belongings with you when you leave.
- ✗ **Don't Vandalize** — Respect the unit—no graffiti or damage.
- ✗ **Don't Rush Others** — Be patient if there's a line; everyone deserves their privacy.
- ✗ **Don't Forget to Check for Supplies** — Make sure there's enough toilet paper and sanitizer before you start.

By following these simple dos and don'ts, you can help keep porta potties clean, functional, and as pleasant as possible for everyone. 



Arnold AFB Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance:
931-454-5648

Cell Phone 911: ASK TO BE ROUTED TO
Arnold AFB Emergency 911 Dispatcher

Please be aware that if you dial 911 from your cell phone, your call will be routed to either FRANKLIN OR COFFEE LOCAL 911 Dispatch Center, *not* Arnold AFB's emergency responders.