Pack Meeting Schedule

Sample

Monday: 6:30pm-7:30pm

Greeters:	Den #5/Webelos 2 (Hand Pack flyers to Parents as they enter. Flyer should have a general Pack meeting format for the evening plus details on upcoming activities and more.
Opening Ceremony:	Den #2/Wolf
Announcement:	(5 minute) Cubmaster Intro. While the Den for the next activity set up
Pack or Den Activity:	(5 to 10 minutes) (Lead the pack in a game, song, or activity) Den 5/Webelos 2
Song or Activity:	(10 minutes)
Announcements:	(5 minute) - Always have the committee person for a particular announcement speak
Guest Speaker or Other Pack:	(10 to 15 minutes) (depends on the speaker)
Announcements:	(5 minutes) - Committee person (Have den leaders lineup to the side in order of advancements)
Advancement:	Advancement Chair steps up quickly and calls first Den, the next den gets ready for quick turn, then next.
Pack or Den Activity:	(5 minutes) Webelos Patrol Presentation or Den presentation
Announcements:	(5 minute or so) - Closing Den prepare for closing during announcements. (also announce Pack assignments for next meeting)
Any Special Activity:	Perhaps a Ceremony or Crossover. Ceremonies have a great impact on the boys and parents. Typical special Ceremonies each year are: Bobcat Induction (all new scouts, primarily Tigers). The Blue & Gold pack meeting is traditionally a banquet style where most of the scouts will receive there Rank badges (always push leaders to complete rank by the end of January). Feb or March: Webelos to Boy Scouts Ceremony. This is the big one that awes the boys. Sometimes, a group of Boy Scouts will perform this ceremony. April: Tiger graduation ceremony (similar to a cross-over). May: Cub Scout Ceremony (bridging type). Lots of Ceremony styles online to choice.
Closing Ceremony:	Den #2/Wolf
Clean up:	Den #1/Tiger Cubs

Notes:

The trick to keeping a Pack Meeting interesting is to have the next person or group waiting to start the next activity. Dead-time between activities can kill interest in a meeting. Some announcements will be longer, like say, popcorn presentations etc. Try to incorporate something special or unusual into these longer announcements. Maybe a video or a ceremony. This makes it more interesting.

Also, the Cubmaster's goal is to manage the meeting. A cub master must engage the boys and parents at the meeting. This keeps them interested. The more people you get up front during a meeting, the better. Otherwise, people will set in their seat and never participate. Sometimes you have to come up with some interesting ways to get people involved. Once you succeed, the Pack leadership will grow significantly.

Most of the announcements should be given by the person who is assignment to that activity's committee. The Cubmaster can have fun doing an activity or so. Always have a short little run-on skit or song ready just in case there is down time.

Program Helps - Even the old issues that have monthly Themes can be used. There are years of themes on Baloo's Bugle web site. Pick and match activities for the Pack Meetings. I always gave the Den Leaders and Committee a copy of the monthly themes I wanted to do at the first of each year.

POW WOW - TONS of reference material collected by the US Scouting Service Project.

http://www.scoutingthenet.com/Training/Pow-Wow/

http://usscouts.org/cubmaster/powwow.asp

Baloo''s Bugle - TONS of reference material plus Program Helps

http://usscouts.org/usscouts/bbugle2001-2002.asp

http://usscouts.org/usscouts/bbugle.asp

http://rt492.org/cm/packmtg.html

http://kismif.org/2008/01/06/cub-scout-monthly-themes-2010-2011/

How Stuff Works - Find out how stuff in the world around us works. Great for Webelos Activity badges!

http://www.howstuffworks.com/

National Geographic For Kids - http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngexplorer/0201/index.html

Welcome to Switcheroo Zoo! - http://www.switcheroozoo.com/

Paper Airplanes! - http://www.paperplane.org/

Making Friends through Scout Crafts - Crafts for both boy and girl scouts. Many with traditional scout themes like this Native American

Dream Catcher. http://www.makingfriends.com/scout_crafts.htm

The Mac-Scouter - http://www.macscouter.com/

PACK MEETING PARTICIPATION CALENDAR

Duties	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
Greeters (Arrive 20 before Start)									
Opening Flag									
Closing Flag									
Song									
Program Skit or Stunt (Up to 3 Den Possible)									
Demonstration									
Other (Guest, special activities)									
Cleanup									

Den/Patrol List	Tiger Dens	Wolf Dens	Bear Dens	Webelos Patrol

All Den Leaders! Your Cubmaster is asking all Dens to be a part of our monthly Pack Meetings. We are requesting a minimum sign up of the following Pack Duties: Greeters, Flag Ceremony and Cleanup (That's only four duties per year). Tigers Dens can sign up for all duties except Opening Flag for the first half of the year. Please see the Participation guidelines.

Greeters
Arrive at Pack Meeting 20 minutes early. Help assemble chairs and assist Pack Leaders in set up. Greet scouts and parents has they enter the front door. Hand out flyers, show scouts and parents to their seats. Must be courteous and in uniform.

Opening Flag Ceremony
Arrive at Pack Meeting 15 minutes early to get the boys organized. The den leader should practice the Opening Flag ceremony in the Den meeting. The typical Flag Ceremony positions are Flag holders, Caller and Guards. Please click on Basic Flag Ceremony to view an easy and basic setup. More elaborate ceremonies are fun; but, typically require at least two practices (2 den meetings) before the Pack Meeting. Guards and Caller can be creative using the floor, memorizing statements, singing a song, leading the Cub Scout Law or Promise etc. Boys are required to wear uniform. At the start of the meeting, Flag men should be at the back or side of the room ready to be called. For more elaborate ceremonies, view the Program Helps booklet for the planned
monthly Theme or other links on the Flag Ceremony page.

Closing Flag Ceremony
A closing ceremony signifies a formal closure to the Pack meeting. Does not need to be as formal as the opening. This ceremony involves the retiring of the flags. Click Closing above for basic format.

Songs
There are lots of fun and simple songs in the How-to-Do book, Program Helps book or Cub Scout Song Book. Try to pick a song related to the monthly Theme, Holiday, or special Pack event like the Pinewood Derby. Anything will do. Most of the boys enjoy getting up in front, which is what this is all about. Even if it doesn't turn out that good. Click Songs above for a resourceful link to songs.
Another Songs Link

Program Skits
Five to Ten minutes usually. Make it simple, keep it fun. A lot of groups go the nine yards with props & decoration. That's Great! But, the boys will probably remember it just as well in simple form. Must practice in Den meetings the month(s) before. Lots of ideas in the “How To Do Book” or “Program Helps”. Making props is an elective in most Ranks. Always try to accomplish some electives/achievements in preparing or performing your skit. My Wolf Den boys talked about our first year skit for years. They thought it was great! I thought it was terrible!!!

Demonstration
Show Den projects that were made at home or at a Den Meeting. Or, cubs explain how something works; such as how a weather vane works. Anything made at home or in the Den meeting.

Cleanup
Designated Dens Parents & Boys) begin immediately after meeting ends, straightening up the tables, stacking chairs, picking up trash and sweeping if necessary.

Pack Leader
Encourage Den leaders to sign up ahead of time for songs and skits during the first two Leader's Meetings (LM). Obviously, September's Pack Meeting sign-ups are more important during the monthly Leader-Committee Meeting. Manually assign duties that have not been chosen after the first LM meeting such as the opening, closing, greeters and cleanup positions. Make a photocopy of the form and issue to leaders for planning. Remind Dens of upcoming duties or revisions!!!!

The Basic Pack Flag Opening Ceremony

(please print and distribute)

1. Make sure flag stands are in place prior to the ceremony (see picture 3 above)

2. Positions: A Caller, Flag Bearers, Guards -
The Caller may be a boy or parent. The Caller stands at the front of the Pack Meeting, near the speaker, awaiting a signal from the Pack leader to begin the ceremony. The other boys, flag bearers and guard, need to be prepared to begin the march to the front anticipating the Caller charge. If three flags are used, a triangle formation is appropriate with the U.S. flag at the front point. If two flags are used, the U.S. flag must be on the marching right.

3. Caller: When given a signal from the Pack Leader or Den Leader, Call begins the following:
   A. ALL PLEASE RISE (wait a few seconds for everyone to rise)
   B. COLOR GUARD ADVANCE (say it loud enough so the flag bearers and guards can here you)
   C. ABOUT FACE (say this when the boys have stopped in front of you, they should turn to the audience)
   D. HAND SALUTE (Caller and audience salute; bearers and guards do not salute but stay at attention)
   E. PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
   F. TO (say this right after the Pledge as to end salute. Signals everyone to stop saluting)
   G. COLOR GUARD, POST THE COLORS (U.S. flag bearer takes flag to the right flag stand. After the U.S. flag is posted, the other flags are posted.)
   H. Optional: One of the guard could lead the Pack in the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack or Song.
   I. COLOR GUARD DISMISSED

There are variations to the flag ceremonies. This format is easy and can be added upon by dens wishing to do something special. Always practice flag ceremonies in the Den meetings during the year.

The Basic Pack Flag Closing Ceremony

A. ALL PLEASE RISE
B. COLOR GUARD ADVANCE (as soon as the boys stop at the front, they salute the flag..and say)
C. HAND SALUTE (Caller says this as the flag bearers arrive up front)
D. COLOR GUARD, RETRIEVE THE COLORS (The U.S. flag first, then the State flag, then Pack flag. Each boy returns to his place up front as they get the flags, U.S. flag on the right. Once all flags are retrieved, the caller says..
E. COLOR GUARD, DISMISSED
G. TO (End salute; Signals everyone to stop saluting)
F. Everyone goes home

Flag Etiquette

1. Keep the flag ceremony simple.
2. Always handle the Flag with dignity and respect.
3. The flag of the U.S. is carried at the marching right (the flag own right) or if there are several flags, it may be carried in front of the center of that line.
4. Color Guard and Bearer participants should never join in the singing, speaking or saluting during the Flag Ceremony.
5. There is absolute silence from the time the procession starts from a given point.
6. The Salute:
    a. Always stand (unless physically challenged) and salute the flag as it passes by you.
    B. The salute begins again as the flag is either clipped to the flag pole, posted, or when the Pledge of Allegiance starts.
    C. The salute ends after the flag has passed you and/or as soon as the Pledge is completed (Two).

If at all possible, Never let any nation's flag touch the ground. If the flag touches the ground it needs to be dry cleaned ASAP. During the flag ceremony, no other flag is to be held higher or be larger in size than the U.S. flag.

Behavioral Issues:

A good meeting plan can help the den leader to avoid most behavior problems in the den meetings. Consider the following points:
Action is better than inactivity.
-Participation is better than watching.
-Outdoors is more fun than indoors.
-The unusual is more exciting than the usual.
-The surprising is more interesting than the expected.
-The mysterious is more appealing than the obvious.
-The real thing is more appealing than a substitute.

Behavior problems can often be prevented by having den rules: a code of conduct that the boys can help to formulate. I used a conduct candle one year. I lit the candle at the beginning of each meeting; then blew the candle out for 5 to 10 minutes if things got out of hand. The group was given a den party when the candle melted to the bottom.

Cub Scout den leaders should have three key people to help them: The assistant den leader, possibly a den chief, and a designated parent.
Behavior can be a problem. Some keys to preventing and solving are:
-Boys need a fast-moving program that channels their energy.
-Alternate noisy, energetic activities with quieter activities.
-Boys do better with hands-on learning than with lecturing.
-Boys want guidelines and they need to learn self-control.
-The boys will not all be the same, though they do develop in stages (remember "Ages and Stages" video in the New Den Leader Essentials program?). But they al need to be treated fairly and to have the opportunity to make choices.

Some boys will definitely push your limits no matter how hard you try. Attempt to form an alliance with the parent of the child in concern. Do this before a Big problem surfaces. It is recommended that den leaders conduct a den adults meeting at the start of each year and a couple or others during the year if necessary. It is also a good idea to communicate your difficulties with a child in the pack's leaders meeting. Chances are, many of the pack leaders have been through a similar situation and may be able to offer new ideas.