

BLACK RIVER 2007 SPRING CUB FAMILY CAMPOREE
INFORMATION SHEET

The Black River District 2008 Spring Cub Family Camporee will be held

- Friday-Sunday, May 30 – June 1, 2008
- At Camp Somers, the "Boy Scout's side" of Camp Allamuchy.

REGISTRATION AND ORIENTATION MEETING

Deadline for registration is **Wednesday, April 30, 2008**. Registration form and payment in full are due on or before that date. Registration must be turned in to the Florham Park Office. **PLEASE register as early as possible to avoid disappointment, as this event usually sells out. Don't forget your Unit Roster and Tour Permit. They will be asked for when you arrive.**

There will be an optional meeting on May 11th at the Florham Park Office at 7 pm. Leaders and parents handbooks will be available at this meeting.

TWO NIGHT CAMPERS

Two nights are offered for the same price as one night, but we are only able to accommodate 300 people for check-in on Friday, May 30, (first-come first-served on paid registration). Packs coming on Friday will be assigned arrival times at 6:00 and 6:30; late arrivals will be accepted until 7:30. **PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR FAMILIES TO ARRIVE EARLY. REGARDLESS OF THE WEATHER, IT STILL GETS DARK AND MANY NEW FAMILIES FIND THIS EXPERIENCE CHALLENGING IN DAY LIGHT FORGET DARKNESS.** You will be asked for your preference on the payment form.

You need to have the whole Pack arrive on Friday night because you will start your activities early on Saturday. If someone in your Pack must arrive on Saturday instead of Friday, they may miss their chance to do activities like B.B. and Archery. Once they miss the scheduled time, they will not be able to "make up" the activity because they will interfere with the scheduled time for other Packs.

ONE NIGHT CAMPERS

Packs coming in for Saturday camping only, will be assigned arrival times between 7:45 am and 10:00 am. You will be asked for your preference on the payment form.

MEALS

No meals will be provided on Friday night. You are welcome to bring in your dinner, or cook at camp using propane, or charcoal in the grills at each campsite. **There are also several restaurants in the area.** **There will be breakfast available to you for \$5.00 on Saturday, from 7:00 am – 8:30 am, if you want, or you can cook your own breakfast. The breakfast must be preordered and must be paid for at the time of registration. You will be receiving a ticket for your breakfast. If you do not have a ticket at the door, you will not be allowed into the dining room.** To control the waste of food, the cook orders very close to the registered / paid participants. There will be a menu of lunch items available to be purchased at the Dining Hall on Saturday. Each Pack will have an assigned lunch time to minimize overcrowding of the Dining Hall. **SATURDAY DINNER IS INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION AND SUNDAY BREAKFAST IS AN OPTION AND AVAILABLE FOR \$5.00.**

Please contact Mary Ann Simonenko at ((973) 627-9520 or Mark Spaldo, Black River District Director, at (973) 765-9322 ext. 251 or mspaldo@bsaemail.org, with any questions or concerns.

Activities

The 2008 Black River Spring Family Camporee will have a lot of exciting activities for your Cub Scouts to participate in! Archery, BB gum shooting, Reptiles, Fishing, and a Campfire. Row boating will be available for an additional cost.

Over the past several Cub Family Camping events, the committee has received a number of complaints referring to parking and food service. The parking complaints appear to be driven by the belief that this event is that you can come and go as you want; drivers do not like to be locked in; or that have to get out this afternoon, later tonight or very early in the morning. As for the food service, no one likes to eat early, as is required to feed 700 participants.

The Cub Family Camporee committee with the approval of the district leadership will be implementing the following changes, beginning with Spring 2008. It is our hope that these changes will greatly reduce and hopefully eliminate the complaints. Thereby making it a fun event for all; families and staff.

- 1) Participation will be limited to the first 150 registered Cub Scouts. Allowing for at least 2 family members per Cub Scout, that would put attendance in the 500 person range.*
- 2) Beginning with the Spring 2008 Cub Family Camporee your unit can only sign up for either the spring or fall event. As participation is limited to 150 Cub Scouts, this should give all Cub Packs the chance to attend*
- 3) Registration for each event will be required 30 days prior to the event to allow other units the opportunity to fill any openings.*

I understand these may be seen as drastic steps, but they were they only way the committee could find to remedy the situation.

A BRIEF HISTORY

Before Spring 2003:

- 1) participation limited to 500*
- 2) units could attend only one, either the spring or the fall*
- 3) units could only camp one night*

After Spring 2003

- 1) participation shot up to 700*
- 2) units could spring, fall or both*
- 3) units could camp for two nights*
- 4) an ever growing number of parking issues*
- 5) needed to add a third seating for dinner to accommodate all*