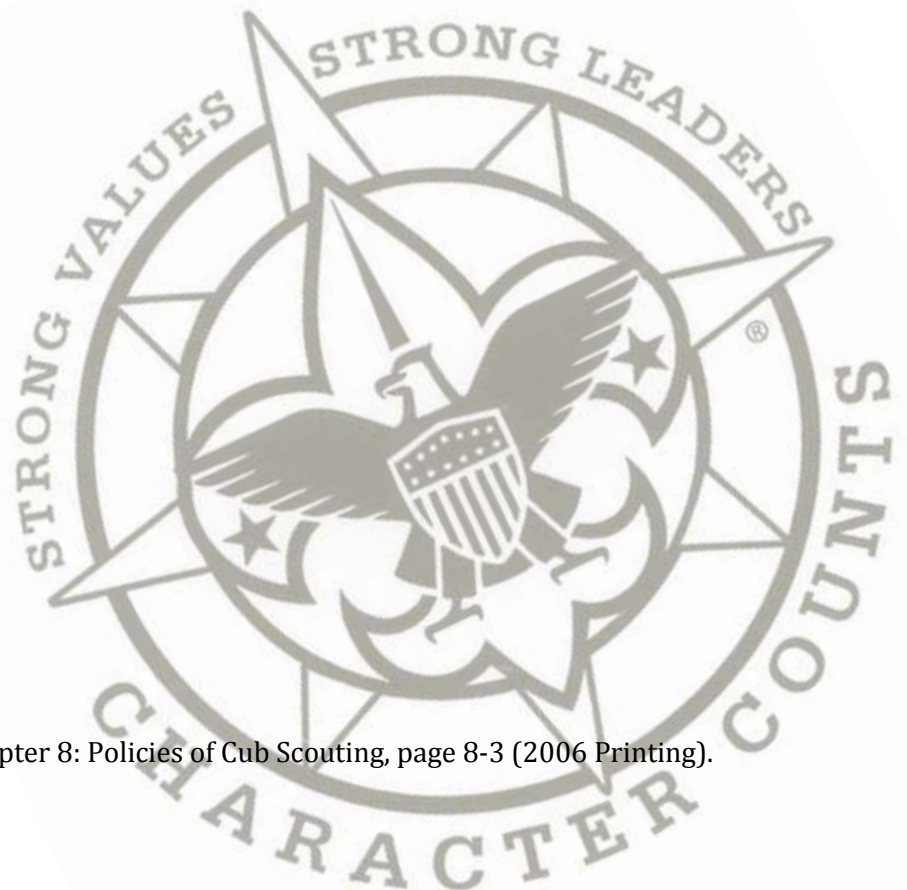


Declaration of Religious Principle

In its *Charter and Bylaws*, the BSA maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God. No matter what the religious faith of a member might be, this fundamental need of good citizenship must be kept before the member.

- The BSA does not define what constitutes a belief in God or the practice of religion.
- The BSA does not require membership in a religious organization or association in order to join Scouting but strongly encourages membership and participation in the religious program and activities of a church, synagogue, or other religious association.
- The BSA respects the convictions of those who exercise their constitutional freedom to practice religion as individuals without formal membership in religious organizations.
- When a Scouting unit is associated with a church or other distinctly religious organization, no members of other denominations or faith shall be required, because of membership in the unit, to take part in or observe a religious ceremony distinctly unique to that organization or church.
- Only people willing to subscribe to these declarations of principles shall be entitled to certificates of leadership in carrying out the Scouting program.



Source: Cub Scout Leader Book, Chapter 8: Policies of Cub Scouting, page 8-3 (2006 Printing).