

Pack Ceremonies

What is Grand Howl?

Grand Howl is that thing we do every week at pack meetings, but why?

Grand Howl can be fun once the Cubs know what it is that they are doing and saying and why they are doing it. Grand Howl is a way of saying "Hello" to Akela. Each time we do Grand Howl we should all be reminded of the Cub Scout Promise. Before Cub Scouts make their promise they stand outside the circle and watch to see what's happening and as soon as they make their promise they can join in.

Grand Howl varies slightly everywhere you go, but follows the same basis. Akela shouts "Pack, Pack, Pack" and all the Cubs come running up to the flagpole shouting "Pack!". Then Akela says "Pack Alert!" and everyone stands at attention, then Akela raises and lowers his or her hands. The pack squat and say "Akela, we'll do our best!", then they jump to their feet and the Duty Sixer will say "Cubs! Do your best!". With a smart salute the Cubs call back "We WILL do our best!".

We currently have 5 versions of this ceremony:

- ♣ loud
- ♣ quiet
- ♣ The Queen
- ♣ A Nun
- ♣ Zombie

What is a Flag Ceremony?

Usually straight after Grand Howl, the Duty Sixer will go forward to the flag and pull down the string to let the flag open up. We call this "breaking the flag". Everyone in Uniform salutes the flag as a sign of respect and showing loyalty to the Queen and their Country. At the end of the meeting the same procedure takes place as the flag is lowered, but the Pack do not salute the flag, nor does the flag go low enough to touch the floor. If the flag touches the floor it is seen as a sign of disrespect.