

Webelos Bridge Ceremony

Cub Master (CM)/ Akela:

I am Akela, the leader of the our pack whose lair we are gathered in. Welcome to our ceremony where the Webelos Cub Scouts become Boy Scouts.

The moon is full, just as it was long ago on that night in the jungle when Mowgli first joined our wolf pack. It has been many years since Mowgli returned from living with the wolves. After he returned, he taught us many of the lessons he learned while in the jungle. The most important was that the strength of the wolf is the pack, and the strength of the pack is the wolf. That is why we are here tonight in this council ring. But just as Mowgli had to leave the pack, tonight we also have some man cubs among us who have grown strong and tall. The time has now come when they too must leave the pack to find their place in the world of men. They have learned many lessons as they have walked the trails of the bobcat, wolf, and bear. But tonight, because these cubs are ready to begin their next adventure on their way to manhood, we will not look to the way of the jungle for guidance.

Instead, we will read from a book that men use when they seek wisdom.

Asst Cubmaster (ACM): To everything there is a season,
A time for every purpose under heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die;
A time to plant, and a time to pluck what is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
A time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
A time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones;
A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to gain, and a time to lose

Webelos Bridge Ceremony

(CM): We have now come to the time and season when we must let go. Our pack has formed a strong bond with these man cubs.

So let us begin.

The bridge before you is a symbol of your crossing from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouting. The bridge is a structure carrying a pathway or roadway over a depression. It is a means of connection or transition from one side to another...as this bridge represents how our Pack is connected to our fellow boy Scout Troops.

(CM): *(With emphasis, in the manner of a ship captain hailing another ship in the mist)*

Greetings, to our boy scout brothers across the bridge and it's waters

Scoutmaster: Greetings Akela, it has been many moons while since our last meeting. Is everything going well in your lodge?

(CM): Yes, thank you fine sir. The year has been one filled with learning, good cheer and many happy moments.

Scoutmaster: Akela, What do you desire?

(CM): Fine Sir, We have several Webelos who have prepared themselves for entrance into your Troop. Their leader is here to send greetings to their fellow scouts.

Webelos Leader: Greetings to our brother Scouts. Our man cubs desire to continue the adventure of scouting by joining your Troop. We will miss them and their families as they move along the trail to Eagle.

Webelos Bridge Ceremony

Scoutmaster: How many worthy ones will join our council fire tonight?

Webelos Leader: We have _____ worthy and true boys to cross over to your council fire tonight.

Scoutmaster: Bring them and their parents forward to the bridge that joins our Pack and Troop. I will send one of my Scouts over to escort the boys and their parents over the bridge.

Now the Troop's Senior Patrol Leader SPL , who has been standing in the middle of a bridge, calls across to the Webelos Scouts and their parents

As the Webelos reach the middle of the span the SPL and his assistant stop him to remove the boy's blue shoulder flashes and replace them with red ones his patent offers up behind the boy's back. After the red flashes are in place, the SPL then places the Troop's neckerchief OVER the boy's Webelos version, removes the boy's slide, puts it on the Troop neckerchief, and then slides away the old neckerchief. Handing it and the blue flashings off to a parent.

Assistant Cubmaster (*As the SPL removes the FIRST neckerchief*):

Notice that we removed the Webelos neckerchief after we've placed the Boy Scout neckerchief on the Scout. We do this to be sure that there is no break in a boy's Scouting career.

As the new Boy Scout exits the bridge, his new Troop's Scoutmaster welcomes him and is joined by as many other boy leaders as the Troop can muster that evening. The parents are likewise greeted. The scoutmasters then perform a short welcoming ceremony.

Webelos Bridge Ceremony

AFTER THE ENTIRE GROUP HAS BEEN WELCOMED BY THE SCOUTMASTERS

(Closing)

(CM): Fine Sir, That is the last man cub for this year. I have enjoyed seeing you again and hope that your council fire will burn brightly and warmly. Farewell until we meet again.

Scoutmaster: Thank You Akela, these young men and their families will be a valuable part of our Troop.

Until the next time our council fires meet, Good health to you and your tribe.
We will now continue to guide these young men on their path to Eagle.

(ACM): Although these boys are no longer with our pack, we still call on the Great Akela of all Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts to always guide their way. We ask that the Great Akela watch over them as they learn to soar with the Eagles. And, in the fullness of time, after the great wheel of life has turned full circle, when the season again comes to the time to gather in, and the moon is full, we pray that these boys will return, tall and proud and strong, and present their own man cubs to be accepted into the pack.

(CM) This brings our ceremony to an end. Our Pack is smaller but we are confident that our youth will enjoy their journey along the road to eagle scout.

Thank you and goodnight