

TIGER CUBS - HOW DOES IT WORK?



HERE'S THE SCOOP!

Your Tiger Cub will be a member of a *den*. Most dens have five to nine boy-adult partner *teams*, meet twice a month in a den meeting, and have one outing a month, called a *Go See It*. The den also takes part in the monthly pack meetings. During den meetings, Go See It outings, and pack meetings, boys learn new things and have fun.

Each den meeting and den activity is led by a *den leader* and an *adult partner* of one of the Tiger Cubs. An adult partner can be a parent, relative, or friend who is at least 18 years old and who cares about the boy. Each adult partner takes a turn working with the den leader to plan and lead a den meeting and/or activity. (You'll read more about this [shared leadership](#) later.)

Your Tiger Cub is also a member of a Cub Scout *pack*. Most packs are made up of several dens that gather monthly at a *pack meeting*. Pack meetings usually follow a suggested theme and are a time for boys to be recognized for their accomplishments during the month, to perform skits and songs they have learned in den meetings, and to have fun with the entire family.

Packs are led by a *Cubmaster* and *pack committee*. Like the den leaders, the Cubmaster and assistants are volunteer leaders and are usually family members of boys in the pack. The pack committee makes plans for pack meetings and activities and takes care of the "business" items that are necessary for a pack to operate smoothly.

Most pack committees consist of family members and members of the pack's *chartered organization*. The chartered organization is the community organization that is granted a charter by the Boy Scouts of America to use the Scouting program. This chartered organization might be a school, service club, religious group, or other group interested in youth. The chartered organization approves the leadership of the pack, provides a meeting place, and operates the pack within the guidelines and policies of that organization and the BSA.

THE "SHARED LEADERSHIP" CONCEPT



WHAT IS SHARED LEADERSHIP?

The Tiger Cub Adult Partner

The success of a Tiger Cub den depends on active, enthusiastic families and a knowledgeable, well-trained den leader. The den leader plans and carries out a year - round program of activities for the Tiger Cub den and gives continuity to the program. Each month, however, the den leader also works with a different boy-adult partner team to plan the two monthly den meetings, the Go See It, and the den's part in the pack meeting. (Some teams may serve more than one month, depending on how big the den is.) This is called shared leadership.

Shared leadership is a key part of Tiger Cubs because the direct involvement of you and other adults is important for boys at this age. Shared leadership also gives each boy and adult partner a chance to lead, often resulting in an interesting variety of activities as each boy - adult partner team shares its knowledge and resources.

The Tiger Cub Den Leader

The Tiger Cub den leader is a registered volunteer position within the BSA. Each Tiger Den **MUST** include a person in this role. The responsibilities of the Tiger Cub den leader can be summarized as:

1. Work directly with other den and pack leaders to ensure that their den is an active and successful part of the pack.
2. Coordinate shared leadership among the Tiger Cub adult partners, ensuring that den meetings and outings are planned, prepared for, and conducted by all adult partners on a rotating basis, and that the den activities provide advancement opportunities for the boys in the den.
3. Attend pack leaders' meetings.
4. Lead the den at the monthly meeting and pack activities.
5. Ensure the transition of boys in the Tiger Cub den into a Wolf den at the end of the year. See the Cub Scout Leader Book for additional information concerning the responsibilities of this position.

TIGER CUB MEETINGS



- A MEETING PRIMER -

When Do Tiger Cubs Meet?

To experience the fun, excitement, and other benefits of Cub Scouting, you and your Tiger Cub will do the following things each month:

- **Go to two one-hour den meetings at the host adult partner's home or other location.** Leaders will try to hold the meetings at a time that is convenient for all adult partners and is appropriate for boys of Tiger Cub age. Some dens meet at a school, a place of worship, or the location of their chartered organization. But meetings can be held almost anywhere-in a basement, recreation room, backyard, or park - as long as the meeting location is safe for boys and their families.
- **Take a field trip, or Go See It, with the entire den.** The Go See It is a planned field trip to a place that is interesting to boys. It may be associated with the monthly theme
- **Attend the Cub Scout pack meeting.**

Planning the Tiger Cub Den Meeting

With shared leadership, each month a different boy-adult partner works with the Tiger Cub den leader to plan the two monthly den meetings and the Go See It. Together, they also organize the participation of the den at the monthly pack meeting. It is important that each boy-adult partner team has a turn at planning and conducting the den activities.

The Tiger Cub Den Meeting Program form, found in the Cub Scout Leader Book, helps leaders and boy - adult partner teams plan weekly Tiger Cub meetings.

The den meetings will be based on the theme of the month (see "Using the Monthly Theme in the Den Meeting" below) or on one of the den activity parts of an achievement. (You'll read more about the three parts of achievements below.)

The Tiger Cub den leader and the host adult partner can also use the resources of other families in the den for den activities. Let the boys give their ideas, too. See "Tiger Cub Den Resources" on page 17 for creative program ideas. *Remember:* A well-planned den meeting will hold the boys' interest, and they will be excited to return.

Using the Monthly Theme In the Den Meeting

Each year, *Cub Scout Program Helps* (No. 34304) suggests 12 monthly themes suitable for Tiger Cubs and Cub Scouts. This annual publication includes songs, skits, games, crafts, and ideas for Go See It activities that complement the theme. *Boys' Life* magazine also features ideas and articles each month on the recommended theme, and the monthly adult leader roundtable meetings provide program ideas and instruction for these same themes. (You'll read more about roundtable below.)

Packs aren't required to use the recommended theme each month, but they are chosen and planned to appeal to boys and to offer opportunities for them, and you, to achieve the purposes of Cub Scouting (see page 24 for more about the purposes of Cub Scouting). By following the themes, den leaders and the Cubmaster have a lot of support material available to them.

Tiger Cub den leaders and host adult partners introduce the theme at the first den meeting of the month. The activities for the second den meeting and the pack meeting also use the monthly theme. Therefore, the theme provides continuity among the two den meetings, the Go See It, and the pack meeting. The theme is different each month, which helps provide variety and hold the boys' interest.

Possible Monthly Themes

All Aboard: All about trains

Blast Off: Rocket ships, space program

Circus Fun: Three-ring circus with animals and acts

Exciting Explorers: Famous adventurers and their accomplishments

Hometown Heroes: Recognize people who make a difference in your community

Land Before Time: Dinosaurs

Magic: Secrets of the magicians' art, amazing feats

Rodeo: A look at the Wild West

Treasure Chest: Pirates

Visiting Other Lands: Cultures from around the world

Parts of a Tiger Cub Den Meeting

The focus of every den meeting plan should be based on the **Tiger Cub motto: *Search, Discover, Share***. The Tiger Cub den meeting plan in *Cub Scout Program Helps* divides the meeting into eight parts. Each part has a purpose, so the den meeting will be better for the boys if you follow this pattern. It will make planning and running the den meetings easier.

Parts of a Tiger Cub Den Meeting

Before the Meeting

Gathering

Opening

Share

Discover

Search

Closing

Before the meeting. The purpose of this part of the meeting is to give the den leader and the host adult partner time to make preparations, gather supplies, set out the U.S. flag, and take care of any last-minute details before the boys and their adult partners arrive.

The Gathering is an activity or game that keeps the boys interested and busy while everybody else arrives. Planning activities for when Tiger Cubs arrive will help avoid some of the behavior problems that can happen when boys don't have enough to do. The gathering time also gives the den leader time to take attendance, collect dues, and keep track of the achievements each boy has completed while the host adult partner is with the boys.

The Opening is the official start of the den meeting. Whereas the gathering time is an informal time, the opening is an organized activity that signals the beginning of the meeting. Here are some ideas:

Most den meetings begin with a flag ceremony. At this time, the boys can practice saying the Tiger Cub motto and the Cub Scout Promise. (See <http://www.geocities.com/~pack215/cs-promise.html> for the Cub Scout Promise.)

1. A brief prayer may be included, but always be sensitive to the diverse religious beliefs that may be represented in the den.
2. The opening may also include boisterous action or a song.
3. A roll call isn't necessary, but boys like to hear their names being said. If the meeting relates to a monthly theme, such as jungle animals, each boy could respond with the name of a jungle animal.

The Share part of the den meeting gives each boy an opportunity to share something that he has done since the last meeting. This activity gives boys time to share family experiences.

For the Discover time, the den leader may introduce the monthly theme and talk about what the den will be doing for the pack meeting. Then, the boys will play games, work on craft projects and puzzles, take part in outdoor activities, or work on advancement requirements. The den leader can initial requirements in each boy's handbook as the boy completes them. (You, the adult partner, also sign in the handbook; see more about advancement. [<http://www.geocities.com/~pack215/tc-advancement.html>])

Den activities that boys and their adult partners can do together are the best. They are a team, so they should participate and have fun as a team.

Boys love to play games, so each meeting should include at least one game. It can be indoors or outdoors, quiet or active. The host Tiger Cub could lead the game. Once again, adult partners should be included.

Sometimes, boys will do a craft project during a den meeting. For instance, around the holidays, boys could do holiday-related crafts or make something that is needed for the pack meeting. Some projects can be completed during one or two den meetings, but others might require that you and your Tiger Cub work together at home. The den leader and host adult partner can explain the project and help the boys do it. (You and other adult partners can be very helpful during craft time.)

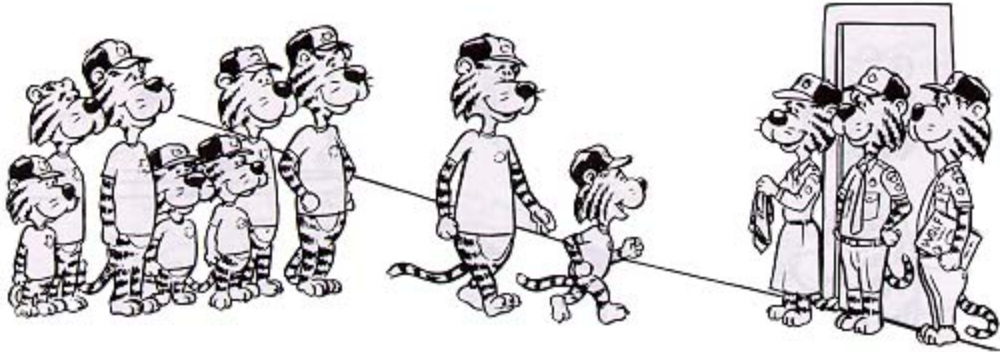
During the Search time of the meeting, the leaders will talk about plans for the Go See It. Boys love to get out and see new things. This activity could fulfill one of the achievement requirements or one of the elective requirements, and/or it could relate to the monthly theme.

The Closing period draws the meeting to an end and is usually more serious and quiet. Den leaders might present a thought for the day, have the boys say the Tiger Cub motto or the Cub Scout Promise together, and/or give everyone last-minute reminders about upcoming events. Leaders can also use this time to reinforce the 12 core values of Cub Scouting (you'll read about the 12 core values on page 26 in the Tiger Cub Handbook).

After the Meeting, the den leader and host adult partner review the events of the meeting and finalize plans for the next meeting and the upcoming pack meeting. If this is the second den meeting of the month, the den leader may meet with the host adult partner for the next month to plan and/or preview that month's den activities.

The Tiger Cub Den Meeting Program form helps the den leader and host adult partner plan a den meeting. A few days before the den meeting, they fill in the details for each portion of the den meeting, including the plan and the supplies and equipment needed.

THE TIGER CUB ADVANCEMENT PLAN



WORKING ON ACHIEVEMENTS AND ELECTIVES

In Scouting, advancement is the process by which a member meets certain requirements and earns recognition. Boys in Cub Scouting work on advancement with their families. The Tiger Cub advancement program is a blend of activities boys do in their home and activities they do in a den setting with their adult partner. This is unique to Tiger Cubs.

A Tiger Cub may earn the [Tiger Cub rank](#). This rank is for those boys who are in first grade or are 7 years old. All the Cub Scout ranks (Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos) are tailored for a grade and the corresponding age level. (A Tiger Cub must earn the Tiger Cub badge first and then the Bobcat badge [rank] before all other ranks.)

To advance, Tiger Cubs work on [achievements](#) and [electives](#), which are described in the Tiger Cub handbook. As a boy completes these, you, his adult partner, sign in this handbook where it says "Akela's OK." Akela means "good leader" and is an important part of Cub Scouting. Akela can be a den leader, a teacher, or other important adult. As your boy's adult partner, you are Akela.

As boys advance, they receive recognition items to mark their progress. These items will be given to them during a simple ceremony at a pack or den meeting. It is important for boys to be recognized for the good work they do. The Tiger Cub recognition items are the [Tiger Cub belt totem](#) and totem beads, the [Tiger Cub badge](#), and [Tiger Track beads](#). (Although participation with an adult partner is required for all Tiger Cub awards, adult partners don't earn these awards. Recognition items are for boys only.)

EARNING THE TIGER CUB BADGE

"HELPING YOUR BOY ALONG THE TIGER CUB TRAIL..."



THE TIGER CUB TRAIL

The Tiger Cub badge is for boys who have completed all 15 parts of the five achievements, that is, five family activities, five den activities, and five Go See It outings. During an impressive ceremony, the Tiger Cub badge is presented to the adult partner at a pack meeting, who in turn presents the badge to the boy. The badge is affixed to the [Tiger Cub belt totem](#) in the recessed area.

While your boy is working on advancement, you can help. Besides signing his handbook as Akela once he has done his best, let your den leader know of any completed parts of achievements at your next den meeting. The den leader will keep a record of your boy's individual progress on the Tiger Cub Den Advancement Chart. In addition, your boy, with your help, will keep track of his own advancement on the Tiger Trail chart found on page 152 of his handbook. This encourages him and helps him see his progress toward the Tiger Cub rank.

The advancement requirements are written in such a way as to give you room to customize activities for your boy and your den. There are no performance requirements for Tiger Cubs. Boys should never be "tested" or placed in a position where they will not be successful. Simply participating in the activities and doing his best constitutes completion.

The den activities and 'Go See It' outings are intended to be completed with the den. If a Tiger Cub is unable to participate in an activity because of illness or a conflict, however, you may work with him to complete these requirements. For your boy to receive the full benefit of the program, it is important for you, his adult partner, to make every effort to attend meetings regularly.

At the end of the school year, he will graduate into a Wolf Cub Scout den. Later, he will be in a Bear den, and then he'll become a Webelos Scout.

The following requirement items are prefaced with the letters "F," "C," or "G." These denote:

- F = A "FAMILY" oriented requirement
- D = A "DEN" oriented requirement
- G = A "GO SEE IT" oriented requirement (i.e. field trip)

THE TIGER CUB BELT TOTEM

AN INSTANT RECOGNITION TOOL



EARNING THE TIGER CUB BELT TOTEM

To begin his path towards the Tiger Cub rank, a boy must do three things. They are:

1. Learn the "Tiger Cub Motto" (The MOTTO is: "SEARCH, DISCOVER, SHARE ")
2. Learn the "[Cub Scout Sign](#)"
3. Learn the "[Cub Scout Salute](#)"

When he has done these, he is awarded the Tiger Cub belt totem at a pack meeting. This is a plastic recognition device that he wears on his belt. The front side of the totem is emblazoned with a tiger paw print, and the reverse includes a recessed space for your Tiger to mount his Tiger Cub badge (see above) when he earns it. The lower end of the totem includes space for four strands for totem beads. A boy earns totem beads by working on the five Tiger Cub achievements.

HOW TO USE TOTEM BEADS

There are five achievements in Tiger Cubs:

1. Making My Family Special
2. Where I Live
3. Keeping Myself Healthy and Safe
4. How I Tell It
5. Let's Go Outdoors

Each achievement has three parts: a family activity, a den activity, and a Go See It outing. A boy receives totem beads as he completes each part:

- He earns a white bead for each required 'family activity' part he completes.
- He earns an orange bead for each required 'den activity' part he completes.
- He earns a black bead for each required 'Go See It' part he completes.

These beads go on the first three strands of the Tiger Cub belt totem. (The fourth strand is for [Tiger Track beads](#) which signify completed electives.)

A boy can earn only one bead for each of the 15 achievement parts, regardless of how many times he may repeat a part.

As each bead is awarded and added to a boy's belt totem, he should be recognized with a simple ceremony at a den meeting. When a boy has earned all 15 beads, he is eligible to receive his [Tiger Cub badge](#), signifying that he has earned the Tiger Cub rank.

TIGER ELECTIVES AND TIGER TRACK BEADS

"ADDITIONAL RECOGNITIONS FOR THE TIGER CUB"



ELECTIVES AND TIGER TRACK BEADS

After your boy has earned the [Tiger Cub badge](#), he can earn Tiger Track beads - by completing elective activities in this handbook. Tiger Cubs strives to provide an opportunity for your boy to learn and grow while having fun along with you. The wide variety of electives allows your Tiger Cub to choose additional activities and receive recognition for his participation. The electives help broaden a boy's horizons and fulfill the Tiger Cub motto of Search, Discover, Share. Electives provide advancement opportunities and recognition for your boy until he is eligible to begin working on the Wolf rank.

A boy shouldn't feel, however, that he must do all of the electives. Some may not appeal to him, and some he may want to do more than once. If a boy completes an elective activity twice, it may be counted as two electives. But at the same time, try to avoid much repetition, as variety will keep Tiger Cubs more interesting for your boy.



As with the achievements, you, the adult partner, approve your boy's completion of electives by signing the handbook in the space provided for "Akela's OK." Then let your den leader know about completed electives. The den leader will fill in the Tiger Cub Den Advancement Report, found in the Cub Scout Leader Book, to show Tiger Track beads earned and give the report to the pack committee at the monthly pack leaders' meeting. In addition, your boy, with your help, will keep track of his own elective advancement on the Tiger Track Trail found on page 154 of his handbook.

Here's how earning Tiger Track beads works: A boy earns one Tiger Track bead for every 10 electives he completes. The Tiger Track bead is presented to you, the adult partner, at a pack meeting, and you in turn present it to your boy. The Tiger Track beads are suspended from one of the lace strands on the [Tiger Cub Totem](#).

A boy may work concurrently on both achievement and elective projects; however, he can't receive Tiger Track beads until he has earned the Tiger Cub badge.

The Tiger Cub Handbook documents all of the Tiger Cub Electives with ideas and tips for the Tiger Cub and his Adult partner. The following list enumerates the 50 Tiger Cub electives by elective number and name.

1. How Do You Celebrate?
2. Making Decorations
3. Fun and Games
4. Display a Picture
5. Family Mobile
6. Song Time
7. Play Along
8. Your Religious Leaders
9. A New Friend
10. Helping Hands
11. Helping the Needy
12. A Friendly Greeting
13. Making Change
14. Reading Fun
15. Our Colorful World
16. Collecting and Other Hobbies
17. Make a Model
18. Sew a Button
19. Magic Fun
20. Get the Word Out
21. The Show Must Go On
22. Picnic Fun
23. What Kind of Milk?
24. Help in the Kitchen
25. Snack Time
26. Phone Manners
27. Emergency!
28. Smoke Detectors
29. Safety in the Sun
30. Plant a Seed
31. Learn About Animals
32. Feed the Birds
33. Cleanup Treasure Hunt
34. Conservation
35. Fun Outdoors
36. See a Performance
37. Take a Bicycle Ride
38. Bicycle Repair
39. Go to Work
40. Fun in the Water
41. Transportation
42. Fun at the Zoo
43. Pet Care
44. Dairy Products
45. Fresh Baking
46. Healthy Teeth and Gums
47. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
48. Go for a Ride
49. Your Government
50. Banking

TIGER CUB HISTORY

THE TIGER CUB PROGRAM COMES OF AGE



Robert Untch
National Cub Scouting Director, 1971 - 1982
The Father of Tiger Cubs - BSA

- 1978 to 2001 -

In 1978, BSA's fifth National Cub Scouting Director, Robert Untch, recognized a need for keeping the Cub Scouting programs up to date with the needs of American youth. Scouting undertook a research plan that was initiated by sending out 19,000 questionnaires of which 10,500 were returned. From these and 200 one-on-one interviews, 50 prospective program ideas were suggested. This list of 50 was narrowed down by 344 Scouters in 43 councils in the North Central Region to 14 must-do ideas. This research and the resulting ideas became known as the "Foundations For Growth" study. Focus groups of parents, professionals, and youth were formed.



One of the findings of the earlier study was that because the boys of the time had greater educational opportunities at an earlier age, the entry age of Cub Scouts should be re-evaluated. Beginning with a conference at Philmont's volunteer training center in 1980, a team was formed to write the program. Instruction booklets were sent for field testing by councils in the North Central Region in 1981. In early 1982, it was determined that the program was successful and ready for rollout. This was announced at the national meeting in the February, 1982. Tiger Cubs, BSA was formally introduced just before the fall program of 1982.

By the end of 1982, over 48,000 Tigers were registered. The Tiger Cub population had grown steadily, reaching 285,908 in the year 2000. Over the ensuing years, parts of the program's structure have evolved, but the basic elements had remained the same:

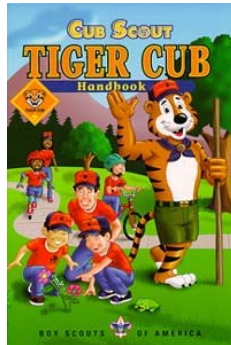
- A simple and fun program for first-grade boys and their families.
- A program "separate" from Cub Scouting
- No advancement plan
- No Den Leaders
- Tigers do not have to attend Pack Meetings (It is the at the Pack decision).
- Tigers are formally inducted (bridged) into Cub Scouts

During the first 18 years of the Tiger Cubs program the BSA received ample feedback regarding the successes and shortcomings of "Tiger Cubs - BSA." Then, in May of 2001 the BSA announced vast changes to the Tiger Cubs - BSA program. Highlights of the new Tiger Cub program include:

- "Tiger Cub" is now a Cub Scout rank.
- Tiger Cubs can complete the Bobcat requirements before leaving first grade.
- The role of "Tiger Cub Coach" has been eliminated.
- The Tiger Cub Promise has been eliminated
- The role of "Tiger Cub Den Leader" has been announced. This individual coordinates shared leadership among adult partners in the den.
- A Tiger Cub den leader is required if a pack registers Tiger Cubs.
- The Tiger Cub den leaders are members of the pack leadership team and receive support and coaching from the pack committee, which includes the pack trainer and Cubmaster or assistant Cubmaster.
- The 17 "Big Ideas" (while good ideas) are not a formal part of the program.
- Iron-on "Paw Prints" are no longer used.
- The old "Leather Belt Totem" is no longer used.
- Tiger Cubs and adult partners now formally participate in den and pack activities (including Family Camping) together.
- Tiger Cubs wear the traditional orange uniform T-shirt, No. 83391-96, along with an optional, newly designed blue and orange cap, No. 83892.
- The Tiger Cub badge, No. 80369, is earned after completing five achievements grouped in three areas: den activity, family activity, and a Go See It. After completing the rank of Tiger Cub, boys may earn one Tiger Track bead when he completes 10 (of 50) electives. There is no limit to the number of Tiger Track beads a boy can earn.
- Tiger Cub badges should now be presented in meaningful pack meeting ceremonies.
- The new Tiger Cub badge replaces the Webelos badge in the 4-badge "diamond" on the blue Cub Scout uniform.
- Advancement is displayed on a new Tiger Cub totem, which is worn on the Tiger Cub belt.
- The recommended monthly meeting pattern consists of den, family, Go See It activities, and participation in the monthly pack meeting. Suggested den meeting plans are now included in Cub Scout Program Helps, No. 34304D.
- Tiger Cubs and adult partners work out of the Tiger Cub Handbook, No. 34713, to complete achievements and electives, and plan activities. A complete description of the Tiger Cub program can be found in the "Tiger Cub Program" chapter of the Cub Scout Leader Book, No. 33221A.
- Each pack should have one or more Tiger Cub dens, each consisting of five to nine boys and adult partners.

TIGER CUB ACHIEVEMENT TRACKER

"KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR DEN'S PROGRESS"



FEATURES OF THE TIGER CUB SPREADSHEET

- The spreadsheet supports the new 2001 Tiger Cub Handbook requirements!
- It allows you to individually log activity for your Tigers (up to 12 Cubs per sheet);
- Automatically tracks progress on the belt totem, achievements, and Tiger Cub & Bobcat ranks
- Tracks Tiger Tracks Electives completion;
- Allows you to customize the spreadsheet with your Cub Scouts' names (and then automatically copies the names to each of the worksheets as needed;
- A 'Summary' worksheet is provided which provides a single view of Totem Status, Achievements, Rank Status, & Tiger Tracks Electives;
- A 'Detail' worksheet is also provided where each of the Scouts Achievements and Electives are lined up side-by-side for Den activity planning purposes.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

ZIP decompression tool. Versions of all four spreadsheets are ZIP COMPRESSED to facilitate quicker downloads. After downloading, the resultant file needs to be de-compressed on your workstation.

Microsoft Excel 5.0 or later required. The spreadsheets have been tested on both Macintosh (OS 7.5 and later) and on Windows 95/98/2000 operating systems with versions of Excel from 5.0 up to Excel 97/98/2000.

More specific information on using and customizing the spreadsheet is contained in the spreadsheet's 'Notes' worksheet. Please read this page before you begin using the spreadsheets!

DISCLAIMER The BSA does not endorse, support, or in any way acknowledge these trackers. Please email [Scott Gerlach](mailto:%20sgerlach@netscape.net) (mailto:%20sgerlach@netscape.net) with any questions, comments, problems you have with the spreadsheets. Let us know if you find them helpful also!

GO FOR IT!

TIGER CUB ACHIEVEMENT TRACKER

(Requirements per the © 2001, Tiger Cub Handbook, 2001 Printing - BSA 34713)

DOWNLOAD "ZIPPED" VERSION AT

File = "tiger_den_v2.zip" (30k)
(Last Modified: 22AUG01)

<http://www.geocities.com/~pack215/tc-tracker.html>