

# HEALTH AND SAFETY

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## HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Boy Scouts of America has an outstanding record in providing for the physical well-being of its members. You, as a Cub Scout leader, are responsible for the boys in your care, and your boys' health and safety are of primary importance. When you take this responsibility seriously, problems rarely occur. You should set a good example of staying healthy yourself and following all safety rules. You are also encouraged to know basic first aid.

The information in this chapter will help you maintain high standards of health and safety in the den and pack.

Information on conducting safe Cub Scouting activities can be found in the *Guide to Safe Scouting* (No. 34416), which is also available on the BSA's official Web site (<http://www.scouting.org/pubs/gss>). Every leader should have a current edition of this publication.

## Teaching Health and Fitness

You must be aware of any complication that can occur in any boy because of a temporary or permanent medical condition. Learn which boys are subject to (1) convulsions; (2) allergies to insect stings, certain foods, plants, animals, or medications; (3) diabetes; (4) bleeding disorders; or (5) any other condition that requires any form of regular medication or discipline. If boys do have a problem, you can get help more quickly if you are informed.

1. When a boy registers, ask the parent or guardian to fill out a health history. Health histories should be kept current, either by annual updating or by completion of a Class 1 and Class 2 Personal Health and Medical Record each year (No. 34414, see page 34-51).
2. During your first visit with his family, discuss the boy's general health. Discuss topics such as regular medications and potential health problems. Show that you are interested in the boy as an individual; the family will appreciate your concern. Become familiar with what kind of medical and hospital insurance the family carries.

