

1st Merrickville Pack Opening

v2

Cub leading the grand howl, and Cubs for flag break are chosen from the duty six by the sixer, before the ceremony. A leader must check the flag ahead of time to ensure it will break correctly. A single leader should lead the entire ceremony for consistency, but all leaders should take turns once in a while for the times when the Akela is not present. Canadian flag must be to the left of the pack flag.

- Cubs:** Waiting quietly in their lairs.
- Leader:** Stand in front of the flags and call out, "Pack!".
- Cubs:** Freeze in their lairs.
- Leader:** Call out, "Pack, Pack Pack!".
- Cubs:** Respond by shouting a long drawn-out "P-a-a-a-a-ck!" as they run to form a circle standing shoulder-to-shoulder.
- Leader:** Nod head to signal to Cubs to form the horseshoe.
- Cubs:** Take three steps back to form a circle and stand at alert.
- Cub (leading):** Brings wolf head totem to centre of circle and returns to their place.
- Leader:** Face the duty six. Pause for a moment to give the Cub a chance to get ready, then nod your head.
- Cub (leading):** The Cub raises hands above their head and drops to a squat position with knees wide apart. At the same time the Cub lowers their hands to touch the floor with the first two fingers of each hand, fingers closed.
- Cubs:** The other Cubs follow the lead and go into the same squat, **without** first raising their hands above their heads over their heads. All Cubs raise their heads and look upwards, as though ready to howl like wolves.
- Cubs:** With the sixer leading the chorus, the Cubs howl, "Ah-Kay-Lah, W-e-e-e'll D-o-o-o, O-u-u-u-r BES!" (Draw out all words except the last, putting equal stress on each syllable. "BEST" is a short, sharp bark). At the word "BEST", the Cubs jump up to stand at alert, saluting with both hands
- Cub (leading):** While the pack stands in this position, the lead Cub challenges them to Do You Best by calling a loud, drawn-out "D-Y-Y-Y-B, D-Y-Y-Y-B, D-Y-Y-Y-B, D-Y-Y-Y-B!".
- Leader:** After the fourth D-Y-Y-Y-B, make the Cub salute.
- Cubs:** Drop their left hands, keep the Cub salute with their right hand. and call out "W-e-e-e'll DOB, DOB, DOB, DOB!" (Do Our Best. The DOBS are four short, sharp barks).
- Cubs:** Drop their right hands.
- Leader:** Thank the pack for their greeting. "Colour party to the flag".
- Cub (flag):** Moves to flag pole
- Leader:** "Pack, face the flag. <Name of Cub>, report halyards".
- Cub (flag):** Places right hand on loose halyard and says "Halyards all clear".
- Leader:** "Break the flag".
- Cub (flag):** Cub pulls halyard to break the flag and steps back two paces.
- Leader:** "Pack, salute!" Pause briefly.
- Leader:** Lead O Canada.
- Leader:** "Steady. Face in".
- Cub (flag):** Returns to their place.
- Leader:** Tell the Cubs where to go next and what to do when they get there.