

**National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Aquatics Committee Meeting Minutes
December 1 2016
American Legion Post 177, Fairfax VA**

1. Opening:

Introductions – Mike Meenehan, Aquatics Committee, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees included Carl Stout, Julia Farr, Tom Ballew, Myles Gallagher (new Sea Scout liaison), Bob Brandel, Lou Novak (Rowing subject matter expert), Charles Hochstein, Jack Regan and Steve Park. Aquatics committee patches were presented to new members.

The minutes of the September 13 2016 Aquatics Committee meeting were approved.

2. NCAC Committee Liaison Reports:

- a. Sea Scouts – Tom Ballew said he would get the dates for the 2017 Sea Scout Lifeguard camp so we can get it on the NCAC aquatics schedule.
- b. High Adventure – The HAC is meeting tonight. They are conducting Northern Tier canoeing and Florida Sea Base sailing trips next year.
- c. Enterprise Risk Management – A risk advisory has been developed for NCAC camps. ESCI now has a national agreement with BSA for CPR training.
- d. Leadership Training – Julia Farr volunteered to be the Aquatics Committee liaison to the NCAC Training Committee. .
- e. Venturing – Carl Stout volunteered to be the Aquatics Committee liaison to the NCAC Venturing Committee.
- f. Advancement and Recognition Committee – Recent changes have been made to the new Cub Scout advancement program. Aquatic Merit Badges are being updated on a rotating schedule. No update on the 2016 GSR aquatics advancement records by Jason Wesbrock.
- g. Camping – Meetings were held in September and November. Camp attendance was down this year. The Olmsted dining hall is being replaced.

Aquatics Web Page – Norman Laythe is finishing his divemaster training this weekend. September meeting minutes will be posted as will the 2017 aquatics activities schedule once it is finalized.

3. Recent Events – Aquatics events that happened since our last AC meeting were reviewed:

- a. 17 Sept – The OA Fellowship was held at Camp Snyder. Mike Meenehan manned an aquatics display
- b. 1 Oct PCS – Steve Park and Tom Ryan held a classroom and water Paddle Craft Safety course. Steve Park also conducted Canoeing Merit Badge Counselor training. 8 students in total. 2 did not receive MBC certification.
- c. 11-12 Nov - NER Outdoor Program Seminar at Camp Alpine, New Jersey. Mike Meenehan assisted with several aquatics breakout sessions led by Trey Shupert, including an aquatics committee best practice session.
- d. 15-19 Nov – Dive Equipment Manufacturers Association in Las Vegas NV. Mike Meenehan conducted Jamboree recruitment and Jamboree scuba equipment discussions with manufacturers.

- e. 19 Nov NCAC Pow Wow at Annandale HS. Tom Ryan conducted Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training for 6 adult leaders.

2017 Schedule Development – we continued work on the 2017 aquatics activities schedule. The committee was in favor of Thursday night committee meetings on “Council weeks”. Mike Meenehan will investigate holding a Swimming and Water Rescue class at Blu Water Scuba in Manassas. Steve Park will input date(s) for a PCS course in the spring and fall. Upcoming special activities include:

- 27-29 May Goshen 50th anniversary camporee. Bob Brandel is leading the aquatics activities there. He requested a copy of the NCAC Lifeguard list and the NCAC aquatics committee roster to recruit help. He needs help in staffing 4 camp waterfronts for the Camporee. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Bob at rbrandel@gmail.com.
- 29 June – 2 July is the Vietnamese Camporee at Camp Snyder. They are expecting at least 2,000 participants and will be looking for aquatics activity staff.
- 16-28 July is the BSA National Jamboree at the Summit in West Virginia. Mike Meenehan is leading the scuba activity team and is looking for more volunteer staff.

4. **Goshen Scout Reservation Aquatics** – Steve Park reiterated his offer to conduct canoe skills training for GSR aquatics staff. He was told to contact Phil Barbash.
5. **Camp Snyder Aquatics** – the status of staffing for next year is unknown at this time.
6. **Camp Airy Aquatics** - There was nothing to report on Camp Airy.
7. **Camp Wall** – Mike Meenehan visited the camp the week of 4 July. A dock is needed for the waterfront.
8. **National/Regional news** – the 2016 BSA Aquatics Workshop was held at the Florida Sea Base 28 Sept – 1 Oct. There was cross over training to bridge BSA Aquatics Instructors to American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructors. The aquatics merit badge update schedule was announced. The stern pry stroke is being added to the Canoeing merit badge in the upcoming revision.

On 6 Oct the Red Cross conducted an aquatics webinar where they announced the changes to their lifeguarding program that will be rolled out in January 2017. Lifeguard instructors will be required to recertify every 2 years by undergoing a review course. This is being driven, in part, by the new Model Aquatics Health Code.

The new Paddle Craft Safety moving water course is under development. The powerpoint slides are being modified for the flat water and moving water courses.

9. **Policy/Other items** – Rick Tackberry inquired about becoming a BSA lifeguard counselor. Mike Meenehan met with him and gave him information on options to do that.

Prince William County Parks department inquired about offering BSA programs at their pools. Bob Brandel offered to follow up with the PWCP POC. He also volunteered to be a resource for the Boardsailing BSA award. That information will be included in next year's aquatics flyer.

Rick Ferry offered to organize an NCAC Canoe/Paddle Craft Regatta for spring 2018.

John Blackwell inquired about the availability of aquatics speakers for district Roundtables. We have many knowledgeable aquatics specialists on the NCAC Aquatics Committee that could help. Gary Lewis, NCAC Council Commissioner, will be contacted to pass this info along to his Roundtable Commissioners.

10. Professional's Minute - Don Durbin is out of the country on a trip to South Africa. The next NCAC Aquatics Committee meeting will be on Thursday, March 16 2017 at the Marriot Scout Service Center in Bethesda MD.