

**National Capital Area Council, B.S.A.
Aquatics Committee**

**MEETING AGENDA
20 September 2018
American Legion Post 177, Fairfax VA**

The September NCAC Aquatics Committee meeting was held at the Fairfax American Legion Post because of lack of available meeting space at the Marriott Scout Service Center in Bethesda. Attendees included: Mike Meenehan, Jenna Kwon, Charles Hochstein, Myles Gallagher, Tom Ryan, Tom Ballew, Doug Allen, Lee Ackiss and Stephen Park.

Mike Meenehan notified every one of the tragic passing of Michael Snowden, NCAC Aquatics Committee staff advisor and Camp William B. Snyder Director. Michael will be greatly missed. A memorial service for Michael will be held at Camp Snyder on 23 September. The newest member of the NCAC Aquatics Committee, Skipper Doug Allen, Sea Scout Ship 100 was introduced. Meeting minutes from the 17 June 2018 Aquatics Committee meeting were approved.

NCAC Committee Liaison reports:

Sea Scouts (Myles Gallagher) – NCAC Sea Scouts recently conducted a Safety at Sea event with the Coast Guard. BSA has recently signed a national agreement with the US Coast Guard. NCAC Sea Scouts will be conducting their winter training event and a Merit Badge Afloat session next year.

We reviewed recent aquatics events since our last meeting:

On 3 July the Vietnamese Jamboree was held at Camp Snyder. Pool and lake aquatics activities were conducted, led by Robert Brandel. A try scuba activity was also conducted for about 60 scouts.

The Sea Scouts held their annual Lifeguard Camp at Solomon's Island the week of 4 August.

On 11 August Jenna Kwon conducted a Swimming and Water Rescue training class for 4 leaders at Camp Snyder.

On 18-19 and 25-26 August Carl Stout and Mike Meenehan ran an Open Water Diver scuba certification at Camp Snyder and the Fredericksburg quarry for 16 youth and adults.

On 26 August Carl Stout conducted a Scuba Diving merit badge session for 12 youth in the Scuba course.

Also on 25-26 August the NCAC Powderhorn course was held at Camp St. Marys in Maryland. A variety of aquatics activities were presented at part of the course.

From 31 August to 3 September the annual Scubajam Virginia was held at Lake Phoenix Virginia. Numerous NCAC scouts and leaders attended. Carl Stout's granddaughter, Sara Daniels, won the grand prize of a free liveaboard dive trip from Blackbeard's in the Bahamas.

On 15 September Mike Meenehan conducted the blended learning version of the American Red Cross CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid courses for 3 participants at Camp Snyder.

We talked about upcoming aquatics events:

The biennial BSA National Aquatics Workshop will be held at the Florida Sea Base on 26-30 September. Jenna Kwon, Julia Farr and Mike Meenehan will attend.

On 29 September Tom Ryan and Stephen Park will conduct a PCS Basic course for 16 participants at Camp Snyder.

On 30 September Mark Wray will hold a PCS river course on the Potomac. (The course was cancelled due to high water – it will be rescheduled for next spring)

On 27 October Charles Hochstein will teach Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat Training courses at the NCAC Pow Wow at Annandale High School. Mike Meenehan will staff the aquatics display in the midway (The 2018 Pow Wow was cancelled due to lack of registrations)

Camp Snyder aquatics – Michael Snowden's passing will have a big impact on Camp Snyder operations in the near future. The current plan is for NOVA Pools to repair the leak this fall. Skipper Doug Allen talked about the memorandum of understanding that his Sea Scout Ship had with CWBS. In exchange for conducting ongoing service activities at CWBS the Ship is allowed to hold their monthly meetings there.

Goshen Scout Reservation aquatics – A Webelos camp experienced their 4th leader heart attack after a swim test in 4 years despite the additional screening. Additional measures are being taken to lessen the strain on leaders while still conducting regular swim classification tests. Doug Allen volunteered to analyze GSR aquatics advancement records like Jason Wesbrock has done in the past.

Camp Wall aquatics – The Florida Sea Base is renting Camp Wall for 4 months each year to conduct their new Sea Base St. Croix programs.

We discussed development of the 2019 NCAC aquatics activity program.

Promotional opportunities include the OA lodge banquet, University of Scouting, Pow Wow, Commissioner College, District Roundtables. Training courses (Safety Afloat/Safe Swim Defense) can be done at UoS, Pow Wow and District Roundtables. Swimming and Water Rescue can be conducted in the spring/early summer and during the late summer at CWBS. Paddle Craft Safety training is very popular and will be conducted the first week of May and in late September. Stephen Park will schedule Canoe clinic dates. Other training courses to be held include Lifeguarding (BSA & Red Cross), Red Cross CPR/AED and First Aid (for lifeguarding), and Scuba certification (with the merit badge). Activities to be offered include pre-camp swim classification tests, Scuba BSA, Pool Work Day (for opening and closing the CWBS pool), and pre-camp aquatics inspections. Non-BSA aquatics activities that we should promote include the Scout Canoe Race (ACA) and Scuba Jam VA. Our quarterly Aquatics Committee meetings will be held on Thursday during the first week of the month (the Council week of the calendar). We will also conduct a pre-camp meeting with the Camp Aquatics Directors (both GSR and CWBS). BSA aquatics award resources will be listed: Mile swim (Chuck Frizzelle), Boardsailing BSA (Bob Brandel), Snorkeling BSA (Mike Meenehan), Scuba BSA (Mike Meenehan), Kayaking BSA & Standup Paddleboard BSA (Lee Ackiss & Myles Gallagher). Stephen Park would like to provide additional canoeing skills training to GSR waterfront staff next summer. Potential activities to add include a Lifeguard recertification course and a Red Cross to BSA Lifeguard bridge class. Carl Stout suggesting adding additional Scuba certification courses due to their popularity. It was suggested that we budget to buy an additional canoe every year. It was asked if

the CWBS pool is available on weekends during the summer. Charles Hochstein has information on using the Fairfax County Spring Hill REC center for swim checks (\$3.50 per person). Mike Meenehan will have a draft 2019 activities schedule for the next meeting.

Aquatics related inquires handled this quarter include: A lone scout requested information on Scuba Diving and Sailing merit badge counselors. He was put in touch with the NCAC Merit Badge Counselor Dean. Information was reviewed on a proposal to turn the Silver Lake quarry (near CWBS) into a scuba diving attraction. The request was looking for financial investors so they were told NCAC wasn't interested.

BSA National aquatics developments included the new BSA White Water Rafting award brochure and the recently published Summer Aquatics eNewsletter. Copies of both were available for review.

Policy related issues included: the new BSA YPT training must be completed by 1 October. Anyone who is primarily registered as a Council Committee member (Kwon, Brandel, Laythe), your 2019 registration fee is now due to Phil Barbash.

The next NCAC Aquatics Committee meeting will be Thursday, December 6 at the MSSC in Bethesda. This will be our traditional holiday party. Food will be available starting at 7pm with the business portion starting at 7:30pm.