

SHIP 1942 MERIT BADGES AFLOAT BOARDING MANUAL

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Overview

Ship 1942's Merit Badge Afloat weekend is an opportunity for Scouts BSA scouts to earn three merit badges (Small-Boat Sailing, Weather, and Oceanography), be introduced to Sea Scouts, and learn more about the activities of Sea Scout Ship 1942. This event is open to any registered Scouts BSA First Class Scout who is at least 13 years old. Those attending the entire event will earn the Merit Badges of Small-Boat Sailing, Weather, and Oceanography. Scouts who register must attend for the full duration of the event on Saturday and Sunday in order to earn the three merit badges. Some merit badges have prerequisites that must be completed prior to the event.

Each participant will spend a great deal of time on-the-water, in one of Ship 1942's five 19' Flying Scot sailboats that weekend. There will be very experienced Sea Scout sailors on every boat as their Sailing Instructors, but the Scouts attending the Merit Badges Afloat event will be allowed, and eventually expected, to handle their assigned boat.

The adult leaders in charge of the MBA weekend have hundreds of hours of combined sailing experience. They are certified Boys Scouts of America National Camping School Aquatics Instructors and American Red Cross Waterfront & Pool Lifeguard and Wilderness First Aid Instructors. Also, many of the older Sea Scouts are sailing instructors for youth camps, are certified Lifeguards, and have CPR/AED qualifications.

Registration and Contact Information

Visit Sea Scout Ship 1942, Dragonlady, website at <https://www.seascoutship1942.org/> to register. Space is limited to 25 Scouts, first come, first served once registration is open.

All Troop leaders should contact the Merit Badge Afloat Weekend Coordinator with any questions:

Matthew Hardy
Mate, Ship 1942
mhh2424@gmail.com

In the event that Mr. Hardy cannot address your concern, you may also contact the National Capital Area Council Advancement point of contact, Mr. David Christiansen at dychrist4@yahoo.com and complete BSA form 512-800, [Reporting Merit Badge Counseling Concerns](#).

The MBA Weekend and all Ship 1942 activities are overseen by Skipper Mark Carmel:

Mark Carmel
Skipper, Ship 1942
mrkcarmel84@gmail.com

Location

The Ship 1942 Merit Badge Afloat takes place at Washington Sailing Marina, 1 Marina Drive, Alexandria, VA 22314. The marina is located directly off of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, just south of the Ronald Regan National Airport. See Figure 1 below.

Registration will occur near a large tent set up near the Dangerfield Island Sailing Club located in Figure 2 below. There is plenty of free parking located at the marina near the main building. Also, there is access to the Mount Vernon Trail which runs parallel to the parkway.

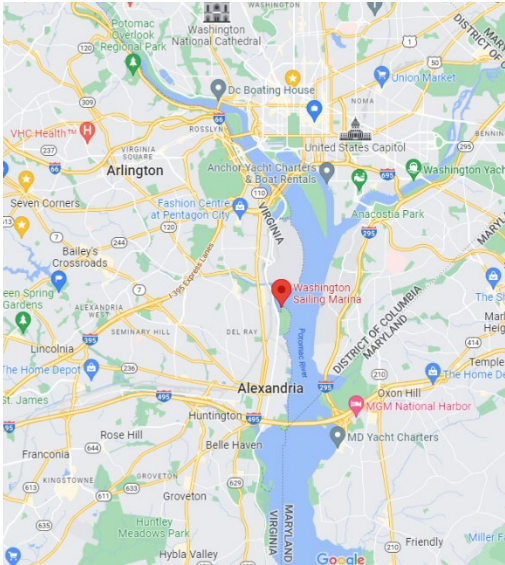


Figure 1: Location of WSM



Figure 2: Detailed View of WSM

All sailing activities will occur in the small bay/cove area bordered by the runway approach to Ronald Regan National Airport to the East; Four Mile Run to the North; the Parkway to the West and the Marina to the South. In general all boats will remain in the bay/cove area. On certain occasions and conditions, boats may sail in the Potomac River beyond the runway approach.

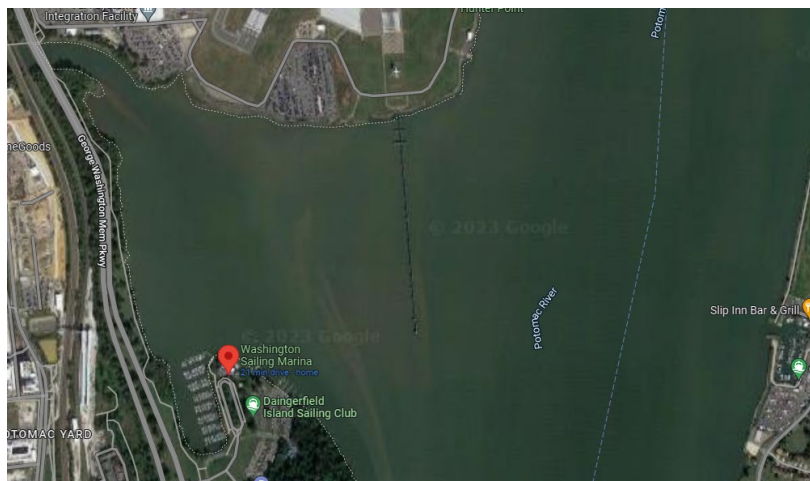


Figure 3: Sailing Activity Area

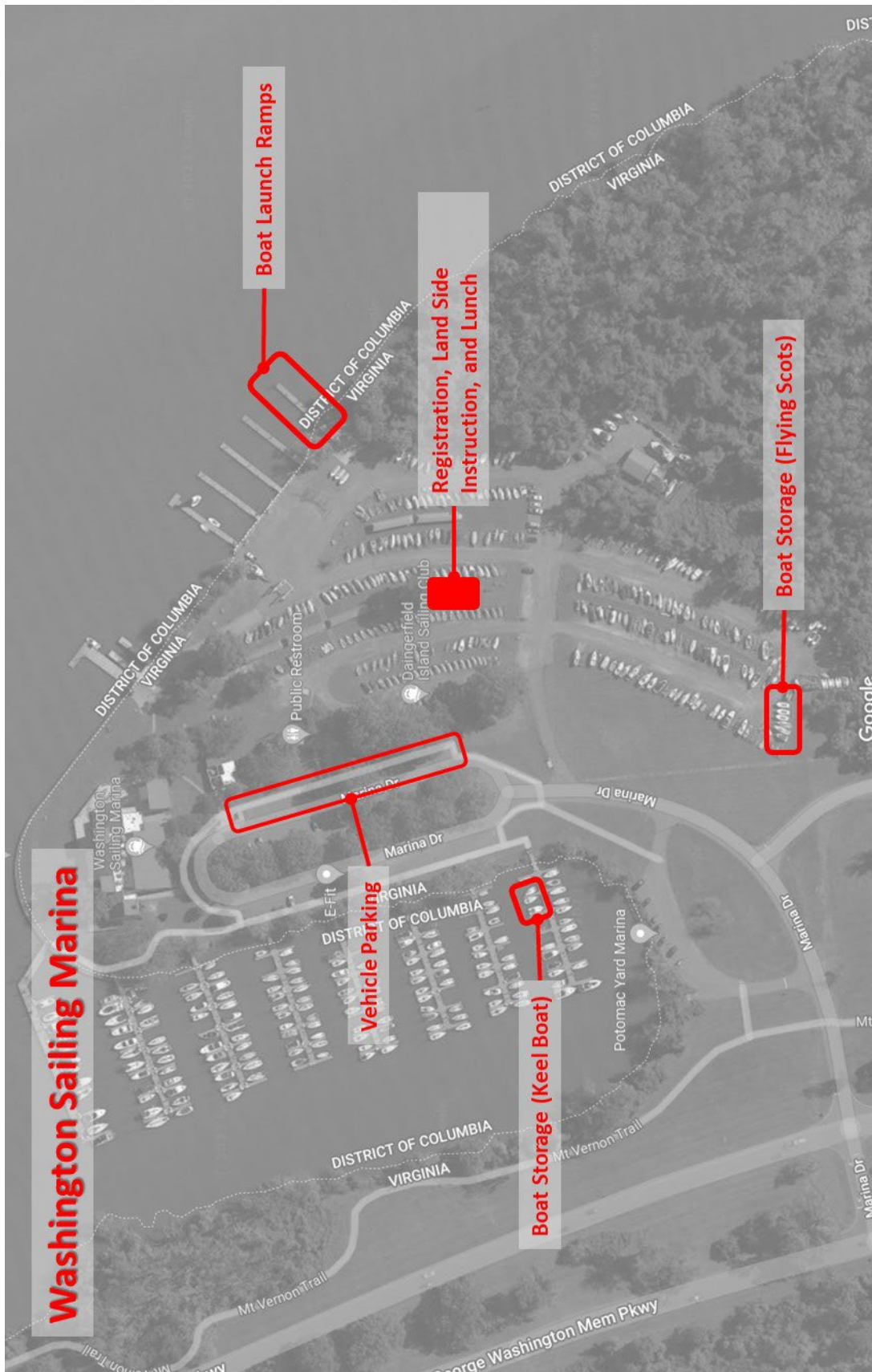


Figure 4: Washington Sailing Marina Map

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

All activities related to drop-off and pick-up will be conducted in the area marked “Registration, Land Side Instruction, and Lunch” on the map in Figure 4.

- Drop-Off
 - All scouts must have a parent, guardian, or group leader present at the time scouts are dropped off on Saturday and Sunday morning.
DO NOT DROP OFF A SCOUT WITHOUT CONFIRMING WITH A SHIP 1942 ADULT WEARING A SEA SCOUT UNIFORM.
 - When dropping off a scout(s), indicate who will be picking them up later in the day.
 - The parent, guardian, or group leader dropping off a scout must leave a phone number of someone who is accessible that day in case there is an emergency, weather impacts the schedule, or other needs.
 - Please be patient on Saturday morning as the Ship 1942 adult’s check-in all scouts and confirm all paperwork is in order.
- Pick-Up
 - A parent, guardian, or group leader must come to the registration area to pick-up and take home their scout(s).
 - Parents, guardians, and group leaders are not allowed to wait in their vehicles in the parking area and have a scout walk to their vehicles.
 - All scouts must identify to a Ship 1942 adult who is picking them up prior to leaving.

Schedule

The schedules listed here for Saturday and Sunday are all subject to change based upon weather and sailing conditions. Participants need to be flexible and patient with the Ship 1942 leadership to make decisions that will deliver the best training and sailing opportunities for all those attending.

SATURDAY

Start	End	Activity
0730	0830	Scout Arrival and Check-In
0830	0900	Introduction to Merit Badge Afloat, Ship 1942, and Safety Briefing
0900	0930	Small Boat Sailing Group Lesson #1
0930	1100	Group A: Sailing Lesson
		Group B: Land Lesson
1100	1230	Group A: Land Lesson
		Group B: Sailing Lesson
1230	1330	Lunch
1330	1400	Small Boat Sailing Group Lesson #2
1400	1530	Group A: Sailing Lesson
		Group B: Land Lesson
1530	1700	Group A: Land Lesson
		Group B: Sailing Lesson
1700	1730	De-Rigging/Pull Boats
1730	1800	Small Boat Sailing Group Lesson #3
1800	1830	Review Saturday and Plan for Sunday

SUNDAY

Start	End	Activity
0730	0800	Scout Arrival
0800	0815	Overview of the Day and Safety Briefing
0815	0900	Small Boat Sailing Land Lesson #4
0900	1030	Group A: Sailing Lesson
		Group B: Oceanography
1030	1200	Group A: Oceanography
		Group B: Sailing
1200	1300	Lunch: Ship 1942
1300	1430	Group A: Sailing Lesson
		Group B: Weather
1430	1630	Group A: Weather
		Group B: Sailing
1630	1715	De-Rigging/Pull Boats
1715	1730	Closing Session/Scout Departure

Merit Badge Completion and Prerequisite Requirements

Ship 1942 prefers that each scout arrive with a completed blue card that the Merit Badge Coordinator can sign off at the weekend of the weekend. If the scout/troop does not use blue cards and only has access to the Scoutbook, please acknowledge that at the time of registration so that we can make arrangements to connect the merit badge counselor with the scout in Scoutbook. It is the responsibility of each participant to provide the prerequisite requirements and follow-up information as appropriate. Contact information will be provided to each participant at the end of the weekend on how to follow up with each counselor.

- **Small Boat Sailing**—The Small Boat Sailing Merit Badge has the following prerequisites. Please note that no previous sailing experience is required to complete these prerequisites:
 - *1b*: All scouts should review prevention, symptoms, and first-aid treatment for the following injuries or illnesses that can occur while sailing: blisters, cold-water shock and hypothermia, dehydration and heat-related illnesses, sunburn, sprains, and strains.
 - *2*: All scouts must show evidence of completing the BSA Swimmer Test.
 - *7a*: Participants are encouraged to review the six knots discussed in requirement 7a: square knot, clove hitch, two half hitches, bowline, cleat hitch, and figure-eight knot. Please visit <https://www.animatedknots.com/> for examples and visual aids.
- **Weather**—The Weather Merit Badge has the following prerequisites:
 - *9a or 9b*: Most Scouts complete item 9a. Each Scout must make one of the following instruments: wind vane, anemometer, rain gauge, or hygrometer and bring this instrument to the first day of MBA. Directions on how to construct the instruments are available in the merit badge book or online. Also, each Scout must make weather observations over a period of 7 consecutive days using the weather instrument they made along with other weather data. They can get this data from the daily newspaper, weather channel or internet. The needed observation form is available on the MBA Weekend registration website. The completed weather observation form, weather instrument, and photographs of the weather instrument being used are due at “check-in” the first day.
 - *10*: Provide evidence (e.g., a note from a Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or teacher) that you have completed this requirement. Information about BSA safety rules related to lightning, flash floods, and tornados is available in the Weather merit badge book and the BSA Hazardous Weather Training. An approved outline is available of the MBA Weekend registration website. Bring a copy of the outline notes or presentation material you used and which group you gave the talk to.
 - *11*: Bring a summary of the weather-related career field you researched and what you learned about the training and education required as well as responsibilities required.
- **Oceanography**—The Oceanography Merit Badge has the following prerequisites:
 - *4*: Bring a copy of a drawing that addresses this requirement.
 - *7*: The plan is for participants to complete 7a by making a plankton net. However, conditions may not make this possible. Participants are welcome to show evidence of completing requirements 7b through 7f as an alternative in order to complete the Oceanography merit badge.
 - Provide evidence having completed 8a, 8b, or 8c.
 - *8a*: Bring a copy of the 500 word report along with a copy of the book. In general, any grade level-appropriate book that deals broadly with the topic of oceanography is acceptable. These should be non-fiction books.

- *8b*: Bring a copy of the 500 word report and evidence of the location visited (e.g., photograph, contact name, ticket stub, etc.).
- *8c*: Bring a signed letter from your Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or other adult leader in charge that you gave a presentation to your troop that covered the requirements. Bring a copy of the speech and/or other visual aids used to give the speech.

Meals

Ship 1942 will provide breakfast sweets, morning and afternoon snacks, and lunch for all participants on Saturday and Sunday. Water and sports drinks will also be provided. Participants must bring their own water bottles. Allergies and dietary restrictions must be indicated at the time of registration.

Medical Forms

All participants must submit a complete and up-to-date BSA Medical Form (Parts A & B) for each Scout attending. Each scout must turn in a hard copy of the complete form to MBA Weekend Coordinator at the time of Scout Arrival and Check-In on Saturday. The forms will be returned to scouts at the scouts at departure time on Sunday upon request; otherwise, they will be destroyed. PLEASE DO NOT BRING AN ORIGINAL COPY. No Scout will be allowed to participate in the MBA without a complete and up-to-date medical form on file.

COVID-19 Protocols

State, local, and BSA COVID-19 protocols will be followed that are in-place at the time of the event. The BSA Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist, as posted on [scouting.org](https://www.scouting.org), requires the form be completed in advance of participation of the Merit Badge Afloat weekend. This form WILL NOT be collected by the MBA Weekend Coordinator and is for each participants' use in determining if they should attend the event.

Do not participate if a participant has any symptom listed on the CDC website in the past 24 hours. If you have a positive COVID-19 test, follow CDC guidance for isolation and your personal health care provider's treatment recommendations. Any individuals with symptoms, fever, or close contact with a COVID positive since five days before the MBA weekend must stay home. Any individual who has tested positive recently must be 14 days post negative test on arrival.

IMPORTANT: For safety reasons (in the event of capsize or man overboard) masks are not allowed to be worn while on the boats.

Swim Tests

All participants must have taken and passed the BSA Swimmer Test with the previous 12 months of attending the Merit Badge Afloat weekend. Sea Scout Ship 1942 does not provide an opportunity to complete the BSA Swimmer Test as part of the Merit Badge Afloat weekend. All participants must provide proof of successfully completing the BSA Swimmer Test from their local unit and submit it: 1) as part of the registration process; or 2) bring a photocopy with them to first day of the weekend.

Life Jackets

All boating activities offered by Ship 1942 require that all scouting participants wear a USCG approved Type II or Type III life jacket. Type V life jackets are not allowed to be worn. Ship 1942 will provide a Type II life jacket to participants. Participants may bring their own personal life jacket, such as a Type III, if they have one, although this is not required. All personal life jackets will be inspected prior to use to ensure they are in good working

order and fit properly. Participants must wear life jackets while on the docks and the boats. Failure to wear a life jacket is reason for immediate dismissal from the program. All decisions regarding life jacket use are made by the Skipper and are final.

Weather and Clothing

The event will be held rain or shine. If weather conditions are unsafe for sailing, other activities will be done on land until the weather conditions improve. All Guide to Safe Scouting requirements will be followed. In the unlikely event that the workshop is cancelled due to severe weather conditions, the payment will be refunded.

Rubber-soled shoes with closed toe and heel (NO flip flops or water sandals), rain jacket and/or sweatshirt, sunscreen, hat, water bottle, and sunglasses. A rain proof jacket is a must. Scouts must 'Be Prepared' as it could be hot or cool on the water depending on weather conditions. Please do not wear cotton clothing.