

National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Aquatics Committee Meeting Minutes
March 16 2017
American Legion Post 177, Fairfax VA

1. Opening:

Introductions – Mike Meenehan, Aquatics Committee, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees included Tom McKeever, Meredith Waters (Washington ACA Director), Lou Novak, Mark Wray, Steve Park, Myles Gallagher, Rush Kester, Charles Hochstein and Tom Ryan.

The minutes of the December 1 2016 Aquatics Committee meeting were approved.

2. NCAC Committee Liaison Reports:

- a. Sea Scouts – Myles Gallagher reported on the scheduled Merit Badge Afloat activity. It will be on April 23-24 2017
- b. High Adventure – No report
- c. Enterprise Risk Management – Tom McKeever reported on the new risk advisory that has been developed for NCAC camps. He also provided details on the new ARC/NCAC Authorized Provider Agreement that is required under the revised ARC/BSA national agreement. Tom will provide Myles Gallagher's ARC instructor information to Don Durbin for inclusion in the NCAC roster of ARC instructors.
- d. Leadership Training – No report. **Myles Gallagher will look into Asthma training for scouts/scouters.**
- e. Venturing – No report.
- f. Advancement and Recognition Committee – No report.
- g. Camping – No report.

Aquatics Web Page – the 2017 NCAC aquatics activities have been posted to the aquatics web page.

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

- a. 7 Jan – We had a display at the Lodge Order of the Arrow banquet.
- b. 11-12 Feb – Mike Meenehan attended a BSA Aquatics Task Force meeting in Irving, TX.
- c. 18 Feb – Tom Ryan taught Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat courses. Mike Meenehan manned the aquatics display in the midway.
- d. 9 Mar – Mike Meenehan made an aquatics presentation to the Chain Bridge Cub Scout Roundtable based on a contact made at the University of Scouting. He was invited to the 11 May CB Program Launch.
- e. 11 Mar – We had a midway display at the Commissioner College in Woodbridge.
- f. Charles Hochstein is looking into conducting swimming MB classes at Spring Hill Rec Center. He is also looking into conducting BSA swim tests there.
- g. We fielded a call from a Webelos Den Leader about swim tests for the upcoming Goshen Scout Reservation 50th anniversary camporee. The Den Leader had found the swim classification record form, found a pool on our list of aquatics resources and found the swim test guidance on our NCAC aquatics web page. The Den Leader appeared to understand what needed to be done but wanted confirmation.

4. Upcoming special aquatics events

- a. Bob Brandel is leading the aquatics activities at the 27 – 29 May Goshen 50th Camporee. Tom Ballew reported that this conflicts with the Sea Scout regatta.
- b. The Vietnamese Camporee is being held at Camp Snyder on 29 June – 2 July. No specific aquatics help has been requested.
- c. 16-28 July BSA National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in Mt. Hope WV. Jim Ashe has requested help in conducting BSA swim classification tests for his NCAC Jamboree contingent troop on June 11. Charles Hochstein, BSA Lifeguard, will assist.
- d. The Sea Scouts will conduct their annual Solomon's Island Lifeguard Camp on 5-11 August.

5. Upcoming NCAC aquatics activities – Information on all these activities is available on the NCAC Aquatics Committee webpage.

- a. 15 April – Swimming and Water Rescue course at Blu Water Scuba in Manassas VA. Mike Meenehan instructing.
- b. 20 May – Paddle Craft Safety Basic Course at Camp Snyder. Tom Ryan and Steve Park instructing. **Tom will develop budget and will provide to Don Durbin. Norman Laythe will develop the online registration.**
- c. 20 May – American Red Cross First Aid and CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer course in Fairfax. Mike Meenehan instructing. Will use the new ARC blended learning course which will be released on 30 April.
- d. 21 May – ARC Lifeguard course prerequisite swim at Blu Water Scuba in Manassas VA. Mike Meenehan instructing. The rest of the course will be conducted on June 10-11 and 17-18. The new ARC Lifeguarding blended learning format will be used.
- e. 11 June – BSA swim classification tests (in conjunction with the Lifeguarding course) in Manassas
- f. 30 July, 12/13 & 19/20 Aug – Scuba certification and merit badge class in Fairfax Station VA. Mike Meenehan and Carl Stout are instructing/assisting.
- g. 6 Aug – Swimming and Water Rescue course at Blu Water Scuba in Manassas VA. Mike Meenehan instructing.
- h. 16 Sept - American Red Cross First Aid and CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer course in Fairfax. Mike Meenehan instructing.

6. Goshen Scout Reservation Aquatics – The GSR precamp inspection is 1 April. Steve Park and Rush Kester will support as in previous years. Mike Meenehan needs to talk to Phil Barbash about a time to meet with Camp Aquatics Directors.

7. Camp Snyder Aquatics – Mike Snowdon has been hired by NCAC as the new CWBS Camp Director. The pre-camp inspection will be held on May 24. Mike Meenehan will be meeting with the Camp Aquatics Director at some time.

8. Camp Airy Aquatics – Camp session is Aug 14-19 2017.

9. New Business items

- a. NCAC 2017-2018 program launch information is due April 15 for activities from June 2017 to August 2018. Rick Ferry has volunteered to conduct an NCAC Canoe/Paddle Craft Regatta in the spring of 2018. Date is TBD.
- b. New BSA Paddle Craft Safety River course. Mark Wray volunteered to lead the implementation of the new PCS River course. He is an ACA Level 4 instructor and has all the needed equipment. We reviewed the instructor guide, instructional DVD, and discussed a course budget. We discussed possible locations for the training. The Violette's Lock/GW Canal run on the Potomac River was deemed to be an ideal training location. **Mark will organize a pilot training session** that will be open to experienced paddlers only. The ultimate goal is to schedule the training in conjunction with the PCS Basic course led by Tom Ryan and Steve Park. Meredith Waters volunteered to help Mark with the arrangements.
- c. Items from the recent BSA Aquatics Task Force meeting. Copies of the latest e-newsletter were distributed. The issue: identified the PCS River course introduction, Model Aquatics Health Code future impacts, recent changes to Safety Afloat to support Cub Scout advancement changes, highlighted ACA State Directors as an aquatics resource, recruited Jamboree aquatics staff, and mentioned the 2017 Camp Aquatics Staff guide availability. Technical Support Document for on water recreational boating skills. This is standard for what should be included in recreational boating training. BSA boating merit badges are being evaluated using the guide. Aquatic merit badge counselor qualifications are being harmonized/clarified across the Guide to Advancement and the merit badge pamphlets. A new Whitewater Rafting BSA aquatics award is being developed in time for the 2017 Jamboree. The Red Cross recently revamped their instructor's corner web site. They have released their 2017 version of Lifeguarding training. The BSA Lifeguard course is being updated to stay in sync with the ARC skills. The MAHC has been adopted by New Mexico. Colorado is close to adopting it. It has major impacts to Camp aquatics. National Camp School for aquatics now starts Friday at Noon.

10. Next Aquatics Committee Meeting

- a. Sunday evening, June 18 – Camp Snyder Pool Pavilion. Annual Aquatics Committee pool party/committee meeting.

11. Professional's Minute

- a. The Aquatics Committee Advisor was not present.