

# National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Aquatics Committee Meeting Minutes

June 24 2009

## Camp William B. Snyder Pool Pavilion

1. Opening:
  - a. Pre meeting – A barbeque on the Camp Snyder pool deck was enjoyed by all. Pool operations were reviewed and approved in preparation for the Camp Visitation Inspection team.
  - b. Introductions – Mike Meenehan, Committee Chairman, welcomed attendees and opened the NCAC Aquatic Committee meeting.  
Attending were:  
Eric Steele (NCAC Program Director/Committee Advisor), Mike Meenehan, Rush Williamson, Mike Fijalka, Joe Sciacca, Isabel Mack, Kirk Pierce
  - c. Joe Sciacca, Isabel Mack and Kirk Pierce were welcomed to their first Aquatics Committee meeting.
  - d. Minutes of the March 25, 2009 meeting were amended and approved.
2. NCAC Committee Liaison Reports:
  - a. No liaison reports were available.
3. NCAC Program Launch – The Aquatics Committee furnished lots of information for inclusion in the disc that was distributed to all NCAC units: What's Up in Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Aquatics, Aquatics Committee flyer, Aquatics Committee roster, Unit Swim Classification test guidelines, and the Aquatics Committee banner.
4. 2009 National Camp School – Committee member Tom Ballew attended the Aquatics Section of NCS as did all five Goshen Scout Reservation Aquatics Directors and the Camp Snyder Aquatics Director.
5. Promotion
  - a. An Aquatics Committee display was presented at several District Roundtables/Program Launches this spring: Chain Bridge, Old Dominion, Colonial, and George Mason. Display material is available for committee members to set up at other Roundtables.
  - b. A lively discussion of BSA/Professional Association of Dive Instructors (PADI) developments was held at the recent PADI member forum. The new scuba merit badge was a hot topic. Several Dive Shops asked to join the Aquatics Committee.
  - c. The Aquatics Committee ran an aquatics activity at the May 9<sup>th</sup> Camp Snyder Jamboree. Hundreds of youth participated in the activity.
  - d. Numerous calls and emails were fielded from units regarding Florida Sea Base trips and preparation. Several inquiries about Discover Scuba opportunities were forwarded to local dive shops.
6. Swim Classification Tests – the June 13<sup>th</sup> Swim Test Day at Camp Snyder had approximately 70 participants. Teer Hardy, his brother and Joe Sciacca conducted the testing. 50 of the participants were Latter Day Saints Church participants going canoeing on the James River, 10 Cub Scouts are attending Camp Snyder and 10 Scouts are headed to Camp Rock Enon. Swim classification tests were also done for Troop 199 (Fredericksburg) and Troop 895 (Vienna).
7. NCAC 2010 Centennial Camporee Aquatics Support – NCAC will host a Centennial Camporee during Memorial Day weekend next year. The goal is to have 10,000 participants. Aquatics activities will be a major program component. All Aquatics Committee members should plan on attending to provide aquatics support. Support will be needed for the Baden Powell Iron Man triathlon, free swim, free boating, Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat training sessions and Aquatics Supervision training sessions (Swimming and Water Rescue/Paddle Craft Safety). Kevin Jura is our representative to the Centennial Camporee Program Planning Committee.
8. Aquatics Supervision Training Courses – The cancellation of the Aquatics Patrol week at Camp Snyder (July 20-24) due to lack of signups gives us an opportunity to make use of the excellent Camp Snyder aquatics facilities to present the new Aquatics Supervision Training Courses: Swimming and Water Rescue and Paddle Craft Safety. These two courses are recommended in the revised Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat guidelines. The schedule would be:

- 20 July – swim tests, orientation
- 21-22 July - Swimming and Water Rescue
- 23-24 July – Paddle Craft Safety

Sessions will run 6:30 – 10 pm each evening. The course will be run as a train-the-trainer course. Everyone who successfully completes the sessions will receive instructor certification and will be able to teach future courses. Cost of the courses will be \$15. Each participant will have to obtain the required textbook, “Aquatics Supervision” prior to the course from the Scout Shop or from scoutstuff.org. Mike Fijalka will be the lead instructor for the Swimming and Water Rescue course, Rush Williamson will lead the Paddle Craft Safety Course. Course information will be distributed to the Aquatics Committee and to the NCAC Training Committee.

9. BSA Lifeguard Class – With the change in emphasis of BSA Lifeguard to being for Camp Staff aquatics personnel, the target audience for BSA Lifeguard is smaller than it used to be. The new Aquatics Supervision courses will be more useful to leaders than the BSA Lifeguard course. There are no plans for the Aquatics Committee to offer the BSA Lifeguard course at this time. Opportunities to attend course include Tom Ballew’s annual Lifeguard Camp (June 30 – July 3) and at NCAC Summer Camps. Several inquiries have come in about finishing off BSA Lifeguard “partials” from summer camp. I’m hoping that Aquatics Committee BSA Aquatics Instructors can work one-on-one with those individuals to complete the requirements. The BSA Lifeguard Frequently Asked Questions that was received from the BSA Aquatics Task Force was distributed.
10. Upcoming Events – There are several scheduled opportunities for Aquatics Committee participation:
  - a. Powder Horn – 29 July, Camp St. Marys, MD. We will be conducting the scuba activity.
  - b. Cub Scout Leader Pow Wow – 21 November. We’ve been asked to present one or more aquatics classes for Cub Scout leaders. Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat at a minimum.
  - c. Commission’s College – Spring. A great opportunity for promotion.
  - d. District Roundtable – Aquatics Committee display material is available for presentation at Roundtables.

Please contact Mike Meenehan ([mmmeenehan@cox.net](mailto:mmmeenehan@cox.net)) if you are available to help with any of these.

11. The next Aquatics Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, September 16, 7:30 pm at Marty Rayman’s Aquatics Adventures Scuba Academy; 7700-B Richmond Hwy; Alexandria VA 22306