National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Aquatics Committee Meeting Minutes
September 19 2012
Marriott Scout Service Center (MSSC), Bethesda Maryland

1. **Opening:**

Introductions – Mike Meenehan, Committee Lead, welcomed attendees to the September meeting. Attendees introduced themselves:
In person at the MSSC: Gary Carroll, Bill Hurst, Rush Kester, Tom Warner
Via teleconference: Dave Condon, Alan Deter, Mike Fijalka, Chuck Frizzelle, Lee Hutchins, Rachel Johnson
Minutes of the June 19 2012 meeting were approved.

2. **NCAC Committee Liaison Reports:**
    a. Sea Scouting – No report.
    b. High Adventure – Lee Hutchins reported that NCAC is sponsoring a Florida Sea Base Provisional Coral Reef Sailing Contingent leaving NCAC on July 17 and returning on July 23 2013.
    c. Leadership Training – No report.
    d. Venturing – Carol Cass provided the following items:
        i. Area 6 Youth Leadership conference October 13-14 Camp Ware, Peach Bottom, PA.
        ii. Area 6 Venturing Phenomenon 2013 Camp Sinoquipe, Fort Littleton, PA April 26-28, 2013
        iii. NCAC 2013 PowderHorn. One weekend each in Aug and Sept. Dates TBD Course Director: Steve Wolf
        iv. NCAC-VOA Event June 2013
        v. Submit items to Carol for the Venturing E-news
    e. Advancement and Recognition – Alan Deter mentioned there is a revision underway for the 2011 BSA Guide to Advancement. Districts are looking for qualified counselors for the new Kayaking merit badge. It was suggested that they contact local American Canoe Association members. See www.americancanoe.org for a list.
    f. Enterprise Risk Management – no report.

3. **Aquatics Web Page –** The web page needs to be updated with current activity information. Mike Meenehan will get information to Carol Cass. NCAC has extended the Doubleknot web site contract for another year.

4. **Reports on Recent events:**
    a. Goshen Scout Reservation (GSR) – We are fortunate to have Gary Carroll, Director, GSR as our Aquatics Committee advisor. Tom Warner, 2012 Camp Bowman Aquatics Director was also in attendance. From an aquatics perspective the summer went well at GSR.
        i. It was remarked that Gary Carroll did an outstanding job in his first summer as GSR Director.
        ii. The major aquatics issue this summer was the two ski boats being out of commission for most of the summer. That was a significant impact. The two ski boats are old (1980's vintage) and suffer from maintenance problems. To address that, Dave Condon (GSR Boating Volunteer - davecondon@mindspring.com) is leading the effort to look at options for renting or buying replacement boats. He will document options for Gary in the

next few weeks. Dave will also look at producing written maintenance guidelines to ensure the boats are properly maintained during the summer.

iii. Lifejackets had not been being replaced when needed. Gary now has a plan for replacing a certain number each year.

iv. Tom Warner asked about the availability of Paddle Craft Safety (PCS) completion cards. He has a list of leaders to whom he owes the cards. It was noted that each camp should have a supply of PCS cards each summer for presentation. Tom will furnish his list and NCAC will mail out the completion cards.

v. Nine new rowboats/dinghies were purchased this year. They have oarlock issues.

vi. Kayaking merit badge was offered for the first time this summer. It was offered as part of the older youth program. Each Boy Scout camp has about 12 kayaks. Gary questioned the need for the Lenhoksin kayak outpost camp.

vii. Julia Levin ran the Goshen Labor Day Family Camp waterfront that was held at Camp Snyder due to spillway construction at Lake Merriweather.

b. Camp William B. Snyder – Anna Nielsen was the Snyder Aquatics Director this summer.

i. The camp was heavily used by BSA-related groups (e.g, LDS, Vietnamese scouts). Managing waterfront activities for these groups appeared to be challenging.

ii. The rowboat oarlocks need some work. Dave Condon volunteered to look at them.

iii. Tom Warner and other GSR staffers provided aquatics support at Snyder for the Labor Day family camp. He remarked on the leaky swimming pool slides.

c. Camp Airy – Camp Airy BSA is a one week resident camp run by NCAC volunteers in Frederick County Maryland. The camp is located in Thurmont, MD.

i. Mike Meenehan reviewed the aquatics plans with Mike Yankaskas and Jeremy Galvan to support the camp visitation inspections.

d. Swimming and Water Rescue (SWR) – July 28 at Camp Snyder. Mike Meenehan led the class. He then drove to NOAC and worked on the scuba activity staff for the week.

e. PCS – Jun 30 at Camp Snyder. Harry Nagel taught the session.

f. Scuba Certification and Scuba Diving Merit Badge – Aug 18-19, 25-26 at Camp Snyder. 4 participants. 6 more for the merit badge counseling session.

g. Scuba Jam 2012 – Aug 31 – Sept 3 - at Lake Rawlings VA. The third annual Scuba Jam had 90+ participants. This is a scout-only dive event sponsored by numerous Virginia Dive Shops. Several thousands of dollars of prizes were awarded. The next one will be Labor Day weekend 2013. The sponsor list (along with Aquatics Committee dive shop members) is a good list of "scout friendly" dive shops. There is a ScubaJam brochure available for promotion.

5. 2013 Aquatics Activities

a. A draft 2012 aquatics activities schedule was distributed (see attachment). Highlights include monthly SWR and PCS courses (classroom sessions) being offered at Camp Snyder. The water sessions will be arranged on an ad hoc basis to meet the needs of the participants.

    b. SWR Sept 29 – Mike Meenehan will lead
        i. Classroom only session (no pool available)
    c. PCS Oct 27 – Tom Ryan will lead.
        i. Will include water portion of the course
        ii. Mike Meenehan will be conducting an ARC CPR for the Professional Rescuer and Standard First Aid course for Tom on a TBD date. Additional students are needed.
    d. SWR Dec 8 – need trainers for this and remaining courses.

6. **Outdoor Expo Day** Oct 20 Camp Snyder. Aquatics Committee displays will be set up in the dining hall. Staff for the display is needed. Chuck Frizzelle may be available.
7. **Pow Wow –** Nov 17 Annandale High School. We are offering two sessions of Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat training – 9am and 1pm. If you can help teach, please let Mike Meenehan know. We will also have our aquatics display in the midway.
8. **Crew 3000 Scuba trips**. Mike Engiles (mengiles@comcast.net 540-295-0158) is a leader with Venturing Crew 3000. They are sponsoring numerous scuba trips to nice locations in the next year. If you are interested in joining them, please contact Mike Engiles for more info.
9. **2012 Outdoor Program Seminar** – Sept 22 at Camp Tuckahoe, Dillsburg PA. This is a Northeast Region Areas 4,5,6 event. It will focus on camp program support.
10. **2012 National Aquatics Workshop** – Oct 31 – Nov 4 at Gus Blass Scout Reservation, Damascus Arkansas. This workshop happens every two years. Information and registration information is available on scouting.org
11. **2013 National Camp School (NCS)**. Starting in 2013 lifeguard certification will be a prerequisite for enrollment in the aquatics section. This is the only source for BSA Aquatics Instructor certification. NCS will no longer be held at Hawk Mountain Scout Camp. That NCS section is being moved to a New York camp.
12. **Mile Swim Program** – Chuck Frizzelle described how he is running the non-camp Mile Swim BSA program. He had 2 scouts complete the award this past year. The Mile Swim BSA award is one of the requirements for the National Outdoor Badge for Aquatics.
13. **Canoe Merit Badge Counselor Training** – we are still looking for an ACA-trained instructor who can lead this effort. Contact Mike Meenehan if you can help or know someone which might be interested.
14. **2012 PADI Dive to Adventure scholarship program** – the deadline for submission of forms is Dec 31. Many individuals and units in NCAC have received these scholarships in the past. The assistance is available for individuals, Boy Scout Troops and Venturing Crews. The forms are available on the NCAC web site (Forms and Documents page).
15. **Camp Aquatics Records** – Aquatics records from GSR apparently were submitted on grid sheets. Mike Meenehan will work with Gary to find the records for entry into the aquatics records database. Annette Donfor has been promoted out of the Program Office. She is no longer the destination for aquatics records. Gary will handle that function until Annette is replaced.
16. **Stand Up Paddleboards (SUP)** –SUPs are an emerging trend in aquatics. They are very popular at other BSA Council's camps. Gary is planning on buying two for each GSR Boy Scout camp. Dave Condon will research buying some.
17. **PCS/SWR classes** – it was suggested that during the "off season" when we are presenting the classroom only portion of these trainings that both PCS and SWR classroom sessions be offered on the same day. For example, PCS in the morning and SWR in the afternoon. Since

the monthly morning sessions are scheduled through the end of 2012 we will try to transition to the new structure starting in 2013.

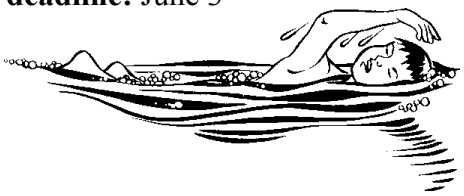
18. **BSA Aquatics Awards** – the aquatics activity awards include Kayaking BSA, Snorkeling BSA, Scuba BSA, Boardsailing BSA, and Mile Swim BSA. These awards are not part of BSA's advancement program. All these awards have specific experience criteria for the award counselors. NCAC is responsible for approving the award counselors and ensuring they have the proper program materials. The committee decided that Youth Protection Training would be required for all aquatics activity award counselors, in addition to the specific certifications required. Options were discussed for making approved counselor lists available. It was decided that the Advancement and Recognition Committee would distributed the approved counselor lists to District Advancement Committees similar to merit badge counselor lists. We are looking for an Aquatics Committee member who would be able to administer the approved counselor list. If you are interested, please contact Mike Meenehan.
19. **BSA Lifeguard Instructor Course** – there has been a request from an ASM at Ft. Belvoir VA for a BSA LGI course. The ASM is an asst. Aquatics Manager at a Fairfax County Recreation Center pool. We are looking for a BSA Aquatics Instructor who could conduct this training. Tom Warner mentioned that he might be available to help.
20. **Aquatics Committee meeting time** – the NCAC Aquatics Committee meeting night (third Wednesday in March, June, September and December) conflicts with the NCAC Camping Committee meeting (third Wednesday in January, March, May, September and November) twice a year in September and March. It was discussed if the Aquatics Committee meeting should be moved to a different day of the week. It was agreed that the Aquatics Committee meeting would be moved to Monday for the March and September meeting starting in March 2013.
21. **Wrap up**
    a. Rush Kester – is providing swim lessons and 1st/2nd Class aquatics requirements counseling at the Greenbelt Aquatics Center on Wednesday evenings at 8pm. Anyone wanting to use his services should contact him at rwkester@aol.com (703) 413-4769.
    b. Bill Hurst – National Health and Safety/Aquatics Task Forces member, mentioned some of the activities being worked at the national level. They are working on a whitewater policy to address the increased participation in whitewater activities. They will also be adding references to other training agencies in addition to American Red Cross.
    c. Rachel Johnson – will contact her local council, Stonewall Jackson, about registering as a Kayaking merit badge counselor.
    d. Dave Condon – can obtain West Marine parts/supplies at good prices. If you need something from West Marine, contact Dave.
    e. Mike Meenehan – if you would like a digital copy of BSA's Aquatics Supervision manual, send Mike a note at mmmeenehan@cox.net.
22. **Next Aquatics Committee meeting –** December 19, 2012. Probably in Fairfax VA. This will be our annual holiday celebration which will include FOOD.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

2013 Aquatics Programs

Pre camp swim classification tests

What: This is an opportunity for your unit to have your annual BSA swim classification check done under the supervision of NCAC-approved aquatics personnel.
Who: Any NCAC unit (Pack, Troops and Crews). Up to 20 tests per 30 minute session
Where: Camp Snyder pool
When: June 8. 30 min blocks starting at 1pm, last session starting at 4:30pm
Cost: $2 per participant
Registration deadline: June 3



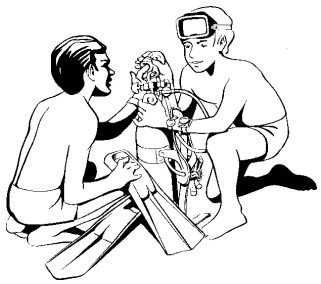
Aquatics Supervision Training: Swimming and Water Rescue (SWR) & Paddle Craft Safety (PCS)

What: This is the hands-on, in/on water training for supervisors of any scouting swimming or boating activity. It covers the skills needed to meet Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat policies applied at the unit level. This is the training referenced in BSA's Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat guidelines. The training consists of a classroom portion and water sessions. Safe Swim Defense training and Safety Afloat training are prerequisites for these courses.
Who: Older youth (min. 15 years old) and adult leaders.
Where: Classroom sessions are offered at Camp Snyder every month. Training is also offered at Goshen Scout Reservation waterfronts in 2013. Water sessions are arranged weather permitting, when enough participants have taken the classroom sessions. Classroom sessions run 9am-Noon and Noon-3pm. Water sessions run 1pm to 5pm.

Paddle Craft Safety		Swimming and Water Rescue	
Class Date	Registration Deadline	Class Date	Registration Deadline
27 Oct 12	22 Oct	29 Sep 12	24 Sep
5 Jan 13	31 Dec	8 Dec 12	3 Dec
23 Feb 13	18 Feb	5 Jan 13	31 Dec
30 Mar 13	25 Mar	23 Feb 13	18 Feb
1 Jun 13	28 May	30 Mar 13	25 Mar
29 Jun 13	24 Jun	27 Apr 13	22 Apr
7 Sept 13	22 Jul	27Jul 13	22 Jul
5 Oct 13	30 Sept	5 Oct 13	30 Sept
30 Nov 13	25 Nov	30 Nov 13	25 Nov

Scuba certification and Scuba Diving merit badge

What: PADI open water scuba certification and the BSA Scuba Diving merit badge.
Who: For any scout-aged youth or adult leader.
Where: Camp Snyder (orientation, classroom, pool session) local quarry (open water training dives)
When: Orientation – Jul 28 1-3pm; class/pool sessions – Aug 10 & 11 9am-5pm, open water training dives – Aug 17 & 18 10am-1pm; Scuba Diving merit badge counseling session - Aug 18, 4-6pm
Cost: Scuba certification class and merit badge session - $450 (includes all equipment);
Scuba diving merit badge session only - $5
Registration deadline: July 22



Scuba BSA

What: This is an introductory/try-it scuba experience that does not result in scuba certification. It covers the requirements of the Scuba BSA award. It is not the Scuba Diving merit badge.
Who: Any Boy Scout-aged youth or adult. Maximum 8 participants per session
Where: Camp Snyder pool
When: June 9. 1.5 hour sessions at 1, 2:30, 4, 5:30pm
Cost: $25 (includes all equipment)
Registration deadline: Jun 3

Mile Swim BSA

To work on this award outside of summer camp, contact
Chuck Frizzelle
frizzelle04@yahoo.com
(703) 439-0514

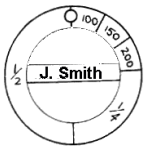
Register for any of these programs at www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics

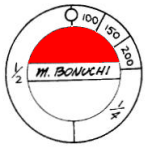
Want to help with aquatics in our Concil?
Consider joining our NCAC Aquatics Committee

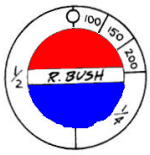
We meet 4 times per year:
Dec 19 2012 Fairfax VA
Mar 18 2013 Bethesda MD
Jun 19 2013 Haymarket VA
Sep 16 2013 Bethesda MD
Dec 18 2012 Fairfax VA

Safe Swim Defense (SSD) and Safety Afloat (SA) Training

What: BSA Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training is required for any BSA unit conducting swimming or boating activities.
Who: Adult leaders supervising a swimming/boating activity must have completed Safe Swim Defense/ Safety Afloat training within the previous two years.
Where: SSD and SA training is available online at scouting.org. NCAC also offers this training at Pow Wow and University of Scouting. This training must be presented by qualified trainers.
When: Pow Wow – Nov 17, 2012
University of Scouting – Feb 23, 2013





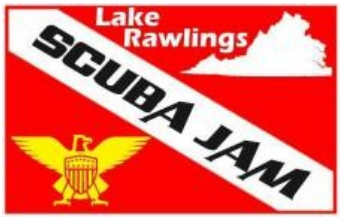


BSA & American Red Cross Lifeguard

What: BSA Lifeguard is professional level training that meets the requirements of government agencies for professional lifeguards at regulated swimming activities. The course will include American Red Cross Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED Certification in addition to BSA Lifeguard training.
Who: The program is open to all registered adults and older youth (minimum age 15). It is a recommended adjunct to the Aquatics Supervision awards for unit leaders who wish to expand their water safety. Youth who wish to work on the aquatics staffs at BSA camps need this training. Participants must attend all scheduled sessions.
Where: Manassas & Haymarket VA
When: May 19 3-6 pm - prerequisites & orientation, Manassas VA
June 1-2, 8-9, 15 9am—5pm Haymarket VA
Cost: $120
Registration deadline: May 13

Scuba Jam

What: ScubaJam Virginia program was created to provide a great safe SCUBA diving experience for BSA registered youths, boys and girls, ages 12-20. The event has been created by interested divers representing Virginia dive shops, scuba training operations, and various BSA Troops and Venturing Crews. This event allows Scout Troops and Venturing Crews to participate in diving events conducted according to BSA scuba policy at the premier Scuba diving facility on the East coast.
Where: Lake Rawlings, VA
When: Labor Day Weekend Aug 30—Sept 2 2013
Cost and Registration: details at www.scubajam-va.org



Note—ScubaJam is not an NCAC sponsored event

To be scheduled:
- **Canoeing merit badge counselor training**
- **CPR/AED/FA update training for Lifeguarding**
- **BSA Lifeguard Instructor Training**

Register for these programs at www.boyscouts-ncac.org/aquatics

For more information contact Mike Meenehan (703) 400-2176 mmmeenehan@cox.net