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Local councils have more options than you might think.

5. Get on the list for the newsletter.

We've had many requests to be added to the list. Here's the link...

The National Aquatics Subcommittee meets at least twice a year and has multiple on-going projects aimed at helping you in support of your local aquatics programs.

This eNewsletter is one effort to keep you informed of what's going on in BSA aquatics.

Direct information or inquiries regarding this newsletter or the Aquatics Subcommittee to Steve at: terrells@indy.rr.com

Covid 19 Coronavirus

We on the National Aquatics Subcommittee hope you are all staying safe and healthy during this Coronavirus pandemic.

Decisions regarding the Scouting program are being made at all levels.

We are already aware of ways that units are keeping Cubs and Scouts engaged via electronic means – Facebook, Skype, Zoom, etc. This is especially important during this time of confinement and uncertainty.

Councils all over are making decisions locally regarding spring and summer programs and summer camps.

Nationally one big impact is on NATIONAL CAMPING SCHOOLS that were scheduled for April and May. Visit the following site for up-to-date information

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/national-camping-school/national-camping-school-covid-19-update/>

The National High Adventure Bases – Philmont, Northern Tier, Seabase and the Summit – all continue planning summer programs, including planning for contingencies. Check each of their sites for updated information.

We're all in this together. You hear this all the time, but it is not a cliché. Every aspect of all our lives has changed. Scouting is no different.

As we get information we will share. Meanwhile check your local council website for local and up-to-date information.



BSA National Aquatics Conference
September 30 - October 4, 2020
The Summit Bechtel Reserve



Registration is Now Open!
<https://reservations.scouting.org/profile/129885>

September 30 – October 4, 2020

2020 BSA National Aquatics Conference

The Summit Bechtel Reserve - 2550 Jack Furst Dr. - Glen Jean, WV 25846

Come to share ideas, best practices and fellowship. Grow your council Aquatic Leadership. See the newest ideas in aquatics program and equipment. The conference is especially well-suited for council program directors, council aquatic committee members, camp aquatic directors and National Camping School staff members.

The BSA National Aquatics Conference begins with dinner on Wednesday, Sept. 30, and concludes after breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 4.

Some of the topics to be covered include: the Model Aquatic Health Code updates and its impact on BSA aquatics, Cub Scout aquatics, American Canoe Association and American Red Cross updates, Maximizing your council aquatic facilities, build your council aquatics leadership, drowning recognition, where to find new financial resources and grants, regional breakouts, and whitewater rafting policies and resources.

Several certification opportunities during the workshop are in early planning. Agenda, session details and any added costs for specific certifications or recreational opportunities will be sent out in early 2020.

The conference fee is \$275 and includes meals, dormitory housing, and course materials.

There will be vendors with information and demonstrations of high-interest aquatics products and services.

A half-day of Whitewater rafting, Ziplining or Canopy tours is included in the conference fee.

Yeager Airport in Charleston WV is the closest airport serving major airlines. It is an hour northwest of SBR. The Charlotte NC airport is a 3.5-hour drive to the SE...all freeway. You are on your own for arranging transportation to the Summit. Shuttle services are not available, but a list of participants will be provided for carpooling.

This is a first-come, first-served event with participation limited to the first 150 registrants.

Register at: <https://reservations.scouting.org/profile/129885>

The deadline to register is August 31, 2020.

2021 National Scout Jamboree

The 2021 National Scout Jamboree Service Team (Staff) application is now online and ready for you!

Are you a trained lifeguard? Did you work in Scuba or on Kayaking at a past Jamboree? Or did you serve with the Standup Paddleboarding Team, Water Reality Staff or Team SUP group? Or do you have a special interest in Aquatics? If so, then we want you! These program locations and activities fall under the new Summit Adventure Pillar, and we welcome you to apply online to join our staff.



The 2021 staff application can be accessed from <https://jamboree.scouting.org>. The online application has a new look, with an improved interface. Once you fill-in your contact information, select your three job preferences, pay the \$150.00 deposit, and accept all of the legal disclaimers, your application will be forwarded to your local council for initial review. Start the process today to be one of the first to help prepare the Jamboree for 2021's Scouts.



Planning for the five Aquatics Program Areas is already in full swing. Scouts can choose from Kayaking, Standup Paddleboarding, Scuba, Team SUP and Water Reality. We encourage anyone interested in Aquatics to serve on the Aquatics Team. Expertise is not necessary to thrill the Scouts in 2021 - just a great attitude.

We are excited to **Face the Challenge** of this new Jamboree, deliver a new and life-changing event for our participants, and to have the return of so many of our great staff members. Mark your calendars for July 17 to 31, 2021!



Swim Classification Test Options



A basic foundation of the BSA Aquatics program is the swim classification test. This annual test represents the minimum skill level for Scouts to be self-sufficient in the water.

Traditionally, the swim test is administered on the first day of summer camp; however, it is permissible for councils or even units to administer swim tests at the local level.

The **local council** chooses from among three options for swim test administration:

- A. Conducted at camp by camp aquatics personnel.
- B. Council-conducted by council-approved, trained personnel at approved sites.
- C. Conducted at the unit level using council-approved, trained personnel.

The unit records the results of swim tests on the *Unit Swim Classification Record* form (#19-122) available at: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/aquatics/forms/>

Guidance for conducting pre-camp swim checks at the local level can be found on the back of the form.

Detailed instructions for administering the Swimmers and Beginners tests are covered in *Aquatics Supervision* (#34346) and are an integral part of the **Swimming and Water Rescue** training.

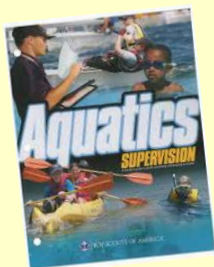
Regardless of where or when the swim test is given certain procedures apply.

- The test is given one-on-one. The test administrator walks alongside the swimmer and is his/her buddy during the administration of the test.
- Each component of the test is important. The test must not be changed either to assist the scout or to expedite the process.
- The test must be completed without aid or support, such as lifejackets, wetsuits, fins, etc. Swim goggles may be used to avoid eye irritation.
- The camp aquatics director reserves the right to retest any participant to ensure that standards have been maintained.

Prepared units plan aquatics activities year-round and will use these options in administering swim-tests.

“Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat guidelines tailor activities to swimming ability. Therefore, the unit leader needs to provide opportunities for swim classification before aquatics outings. Swim tests conducted by council personnel during or just before summer camp give the unit one way to determine swimming ability. However, not all unit members attend camp, new members may join the unit at any time, and some units plan aquatics activities in lieu of summer camp. Therefore, the unit should be able to safely conduct its own swim tests.”

Aquatics Supervision -- a leaders guide to youth swimming and boating activities (#34346)



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<http://t.email.scouting.org/lp/subscribeoutdoorprograms>