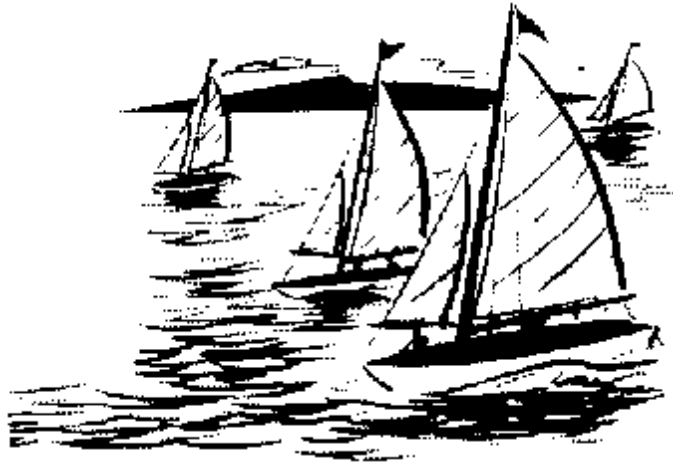


BSA Safety Afloat



The 9 Points of Safety Afloat

Review Them Before Each Outing!

1. *Qualified Supervision*
2. *Physical Fitness*
3. *Swimming Ability*
4. *PFD*
5. *Buddy System*
6. *Skill Proficiency*
7. *Planning*
8. *Equipment*
9. *Discipline*

Mnemonic -

SSS-PPP-BED - 3 Sheets, 3 Pillows & a BED



1. Qualified Supervision

No Small Commitment!

- ▲ *Mature adult (21 and up), who is:*
 - ▲ *Responsible*
 - ▲ *Qualified in the watercraft skill and rescue trained*
 - ▲ *Trained/committed to*
 - ▲ *BSA Safety Afloat,*
 - ▲ *Safe Swim Defense and*
 - ▲ *(at least one adult) certified in CPR*
 - ▲ *Ratios: BSA 1 adults to 10 youth / Cub Scout 1 to 5*
 - ▲ *(Minimum 2 adults)*

Note: It is strongly recommended that all units have at least one adult or older youth member currently certified as a BSA Lifeguard to assist in the planning and conduct of all swimming activity.



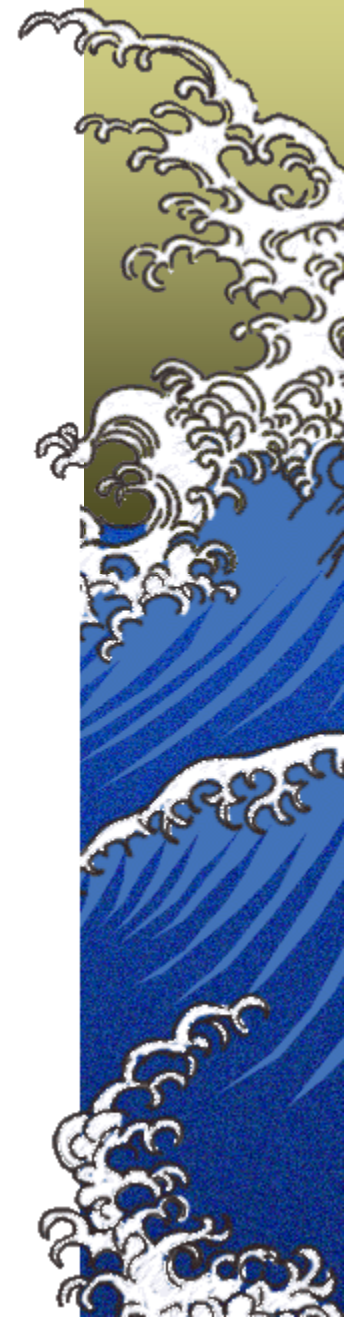


2. Physical Fitness

Keep a Health History of Your Den, Pack or Troop!

- ★ *Require evidence of fitness*
 - ★ *Proper Medical Form*
 - ★ *Adjust to anticipate any potential health risks*
 - ★ *Proof for significant health conditions*

Note: Those with physical disabilities can enjoy and benefit from aquatics if the handicaps are known and necessary precautions are taken.



3. Swimming Ability

Key to Personal Safety

▲ *Ability*

- ▲ *Those NOT a "swimmer" can ride as a passenger in*
 - ▲ *A rowboat or motorboat with an adult "swimmer"*
 - ▲ *A canoe, raft, or sailboat with an adult certified as a lifeguard or a lifesaver by a recognized agency*
 - ▲ *Note: In all other circumstances, the person must be a swimmer to participate in an activity afloat.*
- ▲ *Swimmers - passed the swimmer's test*
 - ▲ *100 yards: 75 forward, 25 resting, no stopping, then float*

Note: These classification tests should be renewed annually, preferably at the beginning of the season.





4. Personal Floatation Devices

Everyone Must Wear One!

▶ *Personal Floatation Equipment*

▶ *Properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices (**PFDs**) **must be worn by all** persons engaged in activity on the open water*

▶ *rowing, canoeing, sailing, boardsailing, motor boating, water skiing, rafting, tubing, and kayaking*

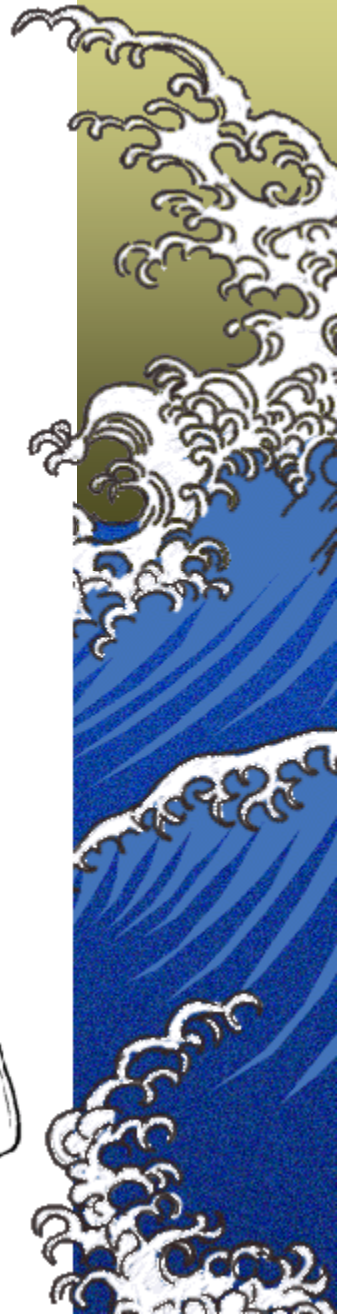
▶ *Type II and III PFDs are recommended.*



5. Buddy System

Similar to Safe Swim Defense

- ▶ *Buddy people*
- ▶ *Buddy boats*





6. Skill Proficiency

Know Your Mode & Safety Procedures

▲ *All persons must:*

- ▲ *Be **trained**/experienced in watercraft handling skills, safety, and emergency procedures*
 - ▲ *3 hours of training/supervised practice, or*
 - ▲ *meet requirements for "basic handling tests"*
- ▲ *Have special training for white water craft*
- ▲ *Have special training for powerboat operation*

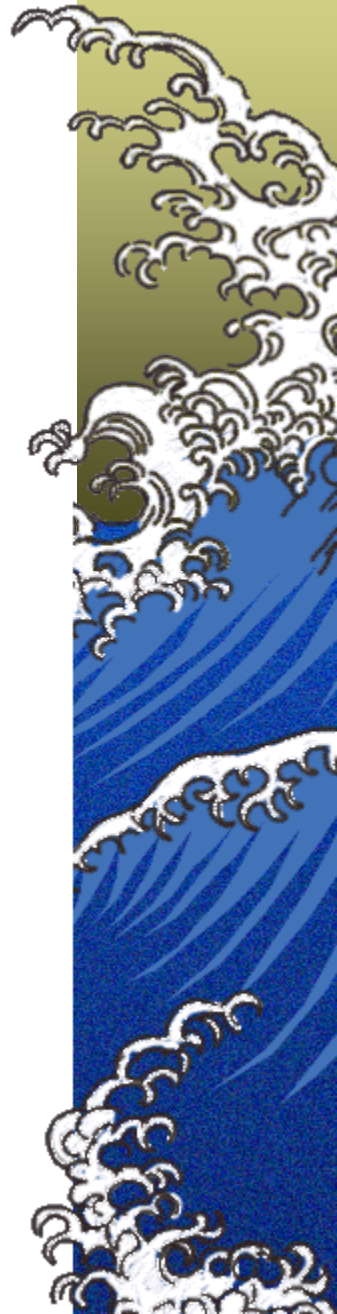


7. Planning

Planning Ahead for Every Contingency



- ▲ *Float Plan*
- ▲ *Local Rules*
- ▲ *Notification*
- ▲ *Weather*
- ▲ *Contingencies*



8. Equipment

Have What You Need & in Good Condition

- ▶ *All equipment must be suited to the:*
 - ▶ *craft*
 - ▶ *water conditions*
 - ▶ *individual*
- ▶ *And ...*
 - ▶ *Be in good repair (with spares)*
 - ▶ *Satisfy all state and U.S. Coast Guard requirements*
- ▶ *Have appropriate rescue equipment*



BE PREPARED





9. Discipline

Be Sure Everyone Understands the Rules and Follows Them!

- ▶ *Explain Rules **before** and **at** the outing*
- ▶ *Scouts are to respect/follow all directions and rules of the adult supervisor*
- ▶ ***Be strict and fair, showing no favoritism***

Note: When people know the reason for rules and procedures they are more likely to follow them. Rules keep the fun from being interrupted by tragedy!



Special Issues

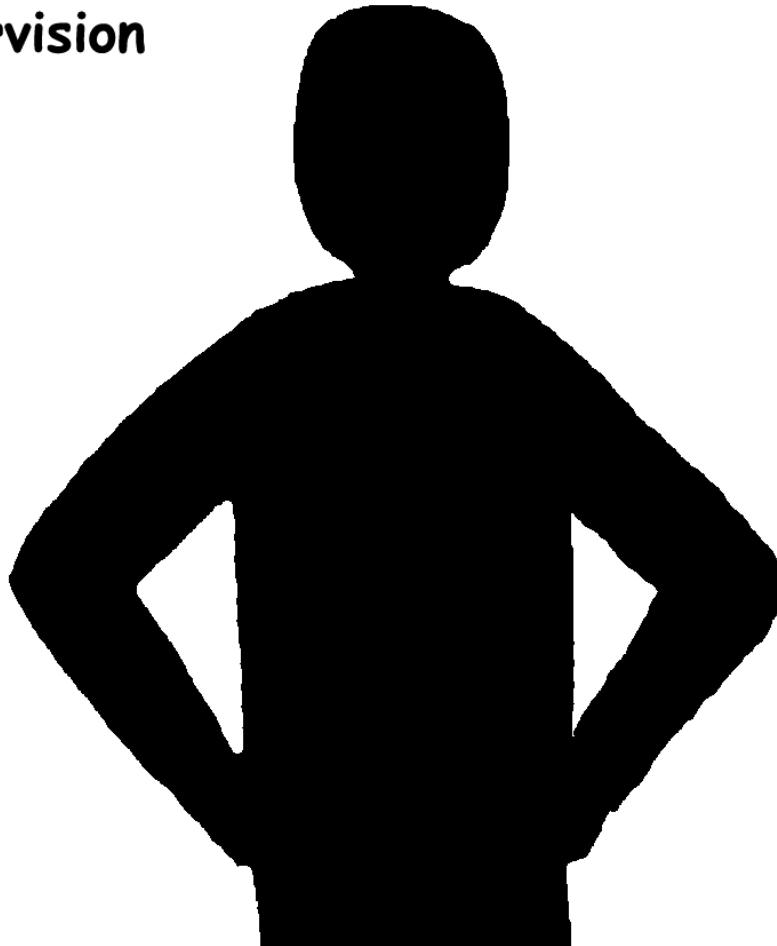
Refer to the Handout and Manual for More Information!

- ▶ *Safe Swim Defense* Rules apply to Safety Afloat
- ▶ See Manual/Handout for more information on
 - ▶ BSA Lifeguard White Water Safety Code
 - ▶ SCUBA Snorkeling
 - ▶ Water Skiing Board Sailing
- ▶ Cruising Vessels in National BSA High Adventures
 - ▶ May substitute Sea Scout Manual procedures for Safety Afloat



Go Through the Motions

**Qualified
Supervision**



**Hands
on
hips**



Go Through the Motions

Qualified Supervision



Hands on hips

Physical Fitness



body-builder pose

Ability Groups



three fingers

PFD



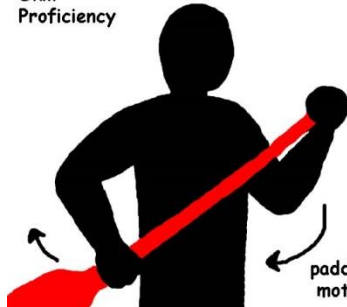
motion like snapping PFD

Buddy System



2 fingers

Skill Proficiency



paddling motion

Planning



open map or writing notes pose

Equipment

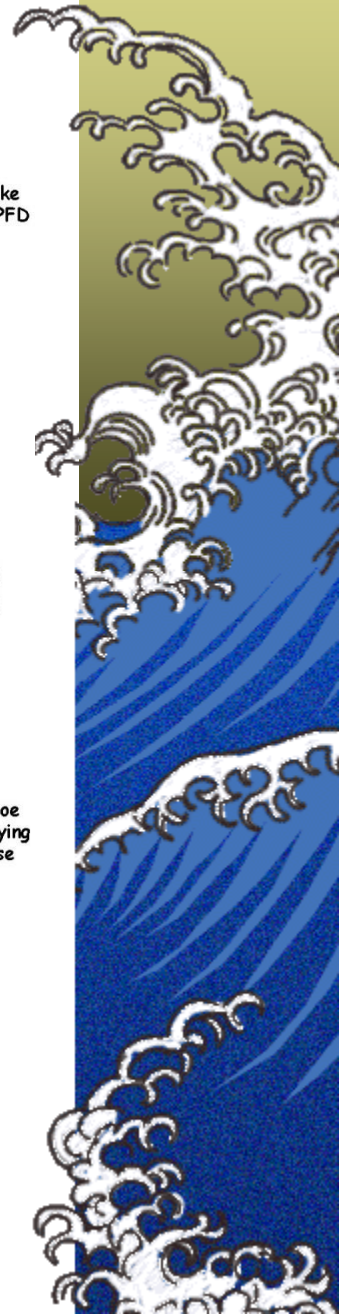


canoe carrying pose

Discipline



stern look
crossed-arms



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