Cradle of Liberty Council
Pre-Camp Swim Classification

The swim classification of individuals participating in a Boy Scouts of America activity is a key element in both Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. The swim classification tests must be renewed annually within the calendar year of attending summer camp. Traditionally, the swim classification test has only been conducted at a long-term summer camp. However, there is no restriction that this be the only place the test is conducted. It may be more useful to conduct the swim classification prior to a unit going to summer camp.

All persons participating in BSA aquatics are classified according to swimming ability. The Classification tests and test procedures have been developed and structured to demonstrate a skill level consistent with the circumstances in which the individual will be in the water. The swimmer's test demonstrates the minimum level of swimming ability for recreational and instructional activity in a confined body of water with a maximum 12-foot depth and with shallow water footing or a pool or pier edge always within 25 feet of the swimmer.

The various components of each test evaluate the several skills essential to the minimum level of swimming ability. **Each step of the test must be followed as listed below:**

SWIMMER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, and begin swimming. Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: side stroke, breast stroke, trudgen, ore crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting back stroke. The 100 yards must be swum continuously and include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

BEGINNER'S TEST:

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming as before, and return to starting place.

ADMINISTRATION OF CLASSIFICATION TEST

OPTION A (at camp):

The swim classification test is completed the first day of camp by camp Aquatics personnel.

OPTION B (At unit Level with approved aquatics resource people):

The swim classification test done at a unit level must be conducted by an individual with at least one of the following certifications: Aquatics Instructor, BSA; Aquatics Supervisor, BSA Lifeguard; certified lifeguard; swimming instructor; or swim coach. When the unit goes to a summer camp, each individual will be issued an official buddy tag under the direction of the Camp Aquatics Director for use at the camp.

SPECIAL NOTE:

When swim tests are conducted away from camp or at the point of activity, the aquatics director shall at all times reserve the authority to review or retest all participants to ensure that standards have been maintained. Unit must still participate in the camp aquatics orientation session on the first day of camp at the aquatics area. Use the unit swim classification record form found in the summer camp leaders guide.

UNIT SWIM CLASSIFICATION RECORD

(Must bring at least three copies of this form to camp: copies to aquatics, office, unit.)

This is the individual's swim classification as of this date. Any change in status after this date i.e., non-swimmer to beginner or beginner to swimmer, would require a reclassification test by the Camp Aquatics Director.

SPECIAL NOTE: When swim tests are conducted away from camp or at the point of activity, the Aquatics Director shall at all times reserve the authority to review or retest all participants to assure that standards have been maintained. Unit must still participate in the camp aquatics orientation session on the first day of camp at the aquatics area.

Unit Number _____

Date of Swim Test _____

Location of Swim Test_____

	FULL NAME (Please Print)	Swim Classification		
		Non-swimmer	Beginner	Swimmer
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

_____
Name of Troop Leader (Print)

_____
Signature

_____
Phone Number

_____
Signature – Camp Aquatics Director

_____
Name of Person Conducting Test

_____
Signature

_____
Print Address

_____
Phone Number

_____
Type of Certification Held - Expiration