



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®  
GREATER TAMPA BAY AREA COUNCIL

# AquaKnots 2018 Camporee

## Leader's Guide

September 14-16, 2018

Questions? Contact us!

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# AquaKnots Leaders Guide

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# AquaKnots Event Leader's Guide

This Leader's Guide contains the information your unit will need to have a successful and exciting time at the 2018 AquaKnots event. Be sure to read all the information before you register your unit for this event. This guide contains information, including schedules, pre-requirements and other details which are subject to change. This event depends on the support of volunteers, including adults from your unit. In addition to program support, we also expect all adults to maintain awareness of youth behavior and to maintain safety and discipline at all times.

## Location

Camp Soule, Clearwater, Florida

## When

September 14-16, 2017

Check-in begins at 6:00pm on Friday. Departure will be by 11:00am on Sunday.

## Fees

Registration fee is \$40 per youth merit badge participant in the program and \$35 per adults/leaders attending the weekend. (2XL or larger size t-shirt will be \$5 add'l)

No site fee for units attending the event. Merit badge classes have a size limit, so payment must be received before a scout can enroll in a merit badge.

\*Fee includes event shirt, patch and meals.

## Staff Information

Staff members pay a fee of \$20 each with includes all meals, staff shirt (2XL or larger size t-shirt will be \$5 add'l) and a patch. Staff members will camp together on site and will be expected to arrive Friday night and stay later than participants. Staff members are needed for all Merit Badges and the success of this event depends on everyone's help.

## Registration

Participant registration is BY UNIT and is only available ONLINE. Staff & merit badge counselor registration is also available online only.

\*Please make sure to note any special circumstances for special accommodations during the event in your registration notes.

\*\* *Please note that shirts sizes cannot be guaranteed if registration comes in after August 17<sup>th</sup>.*

Online Registration OPENS for participants/staff	Online Registration CLOSES for participants/staff
June 11, 2018	September 7, 2018

## Late/On-Site Registration

There will be no late unit registration. All participants must be registered in advance of the registration deadline. If you have a Scout who is registered but unable to attend, you can exchange their position with another Scout from your unit.

## **Great Tampa Bay Area Council Refund Policy**

All requests for activity refunds need to be in writing and received in the council service center at least ten (10) business days before the activity. A twenty percent (20%) service charge will be assessed unless the registration fees are being transferred to another activity in the same calendar year. Requests for refunds received after the ten (10) day deadline will be considered (if received within ten days following the completion of the activity), only for the following reasons:

\* Personal illness of registered participant

\* A family emergency preventing attendance the same service charges will apply.

## **Blue Cards / Merit Badge Packets**

We encourage all troops to bring blue cards with you if your troop uses them. We will have them signed by the merit badge counselor and provided them back to you in your packets. If you do not use blue cards, you will receive a page by scout of what they accomplished during their merit badge classes. Signed Blue Cards / Merit Badge Packets will be handing out on **Sunday morning at 9am**. If you choose to leave before Sunday at 9am, the packets will be transferred to the Tampa GTBAC office.

## **Event Patches**

One participant patch is included with your fee. Additional patches may be available on-site. All patches will be given at check-out after your unit's site has been cleaned, trash has been removed, and the site has been inspected by an authorized member of the event staff.

## **Event T-Shirts**

One participant t-shirt is included with your fee. Additional t-shirts may be available on-site. All t-shirts will be given out at check-in for those that are registered by the Registration close date.

## **Check-In**

On Friday night, units will park in the Camp Soule Parking area. **ONLY** the Scout Master, Senior Patrol Leader (SPL), and his buddy will meet with event staff at the Health Lodge for check-in. Unit will need to turn in the Unit Swim Classification Record at check in (page 10) and Unit Record Verification (page 11). The SPL will be given a packet with all materials for the weekend, including registered attendees T-Shirts.

## **Vehicle Use & Parking Policy**

On Friday night Troops may use a vehicle to move their Troop trailer to their campsite, but the vehicle must return to the parking lot after dropping off. No personal vehicles will be allowed to remain in any campsite.

## **Campsites**

Campsites will be allocated based on the preregistered numbers you submit. Units will be placed together in camp sites.

## Leadership

Two-deep leadership is required for each unit. Coordinate with other units in your district if you need additional leadership to meet this requirement. One possible solution is to camp with another unit. Senior Patrol Leaders are responsible for their respective troops.

## Swim Tests

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. All persons participating in BSA Aquatics activities are classified according to swimming ability. The classification 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.

In order to provide a more streamlined event, we are asking each unit to perform swim tests in advance, using the attached **Unit Swim Classification Record**. These tests must be administered in accordance with Safe Swim Defense and a copy turned in at check in by each unit.

\*In the event that you have a Scout who has not completed a swim test prior to arrival, we will do our best to administer a swim test (starting at 6:30pm Friday night at the pool at Camp Soule) to that Scout. However, if scheduling does not permit this, we may need to move that Scout into a land-based merit badge class. **No refunds will be offered if this occurs.**

\*All **Lifesaving** participants need to be at Camp Soule Friday night to (starting at 6:30pm) do pre-requisite 1b – 400-yard swim – in order to participate in the merit badge class on Saturday.

## Environmental

No digging of any kind will be allowed in the camping area. Guy ropes and small stakes are acceptable.

## Behavior

Scouts and adults are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Scout Oath and Scout Law at all times and to follow all policies of the Boy Scouts of America, including the Guide to Safe Scouting.

## Security

Please ensure all vehicles are locked and secured. All valuables should be stored in a locked and secured container, preferably inside a vehicle. Greater Tampa Bay Area Council and event staff will not be liable for stolen or missing items.

## Medical & Photo Release Forms

All participants must have [Part A and B](#) of the BSA Annual Health and Medical form. This form can be located on the Council website:

[boyscouting.com/forms/AnnualHealthForm.pdf](http://boyscouting.com/forms/AnnualHealthForm.pdf) Troops must have a BSA Medical form for each participant Parts A and B. Troops will need to present a Health Verification Form at check in along with on-site phone numbers for the weekend (page 11). Scout Master will keep records on-hand with them at their campsite.

## Trash

All units should follow Leave No Trace principles, including the proper removal of all trash at the end of the event. All trash is to be properly bagged and placed in trash receptacles or hauled out. Please bring your own garbage bags if you have them available.

## Campfire Program

Troops are encouraged to participate in the Camporee campfire program on Saturday evening at 8pm. Leaders are encouraged to have their troop come up with a skit or song to show off at the Campfire, the more participation the merrier!

## Scouts Own

A Scout is Reverent. All Scouts and leaders are encouraged to conduct a Troop Scout's Own service on Sunday morning. Please wear your field uniform.

## Uniform

There are two uniforms for this event.

### Field Uniform



The BSA Field uniform consists of a BSA uniform shirt, BSA Pants/Shorts, BSA belt, BSA socks, and closed-toe shoes. It should be worn:

- While in transit to and from event
- At the Scout's Own Service

### Activity Uniform (Aquatics Style!)



The Activity uniform for this event consists of a Scouting t-shirt, swim trunks, and closed toe shoes. It should be worn at all times when the Field Uniform is not required. It is highly recommended that a full brim hat, sunglasses, and **sunblock** also be worn during the day.

**Closed toe shoes are a requirement any time Scouts are moving from one program area to another.**

**\*\* BRING A WATERBOTTLE!!!! We do not have cups to spare, you must bring your own! Please do NOT forget!!**

# Event Schedule

This schedule is subject to change without notice.

## Friday

Start	End	Program	Location
6:00pm	8:30pm	Participants Arrive, Camp setup	Parking Lot
9:00pm	9:30pm	SPL Meeting	Dining Hall
9:30 pm	10:00pm	Staff Meeting	Dining Hall

## Saturday

Start	End	Program	Location
7am	8am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8am	Noon	Merit Badges	Various
Noon	1pm	Lunch	Dining Hall
1pm	5pm	Merit Badges	Various
6pm	7pm	Dinner	Dining Hall
7pm	10pm	Troop Time	Camp Site
8pm	9:30pm	Camporee Campfire program	Council Ring

## Sunday

Start	End	Program	Location
7am	8am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8am	8:30am	Scouts Own	Camp Site
9am	10am	Campsite Check-out	Campsites

# Merit Badge Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change without notice. Class size limited to the numbers below.

Program	8 AM-Noon	1 PM-5 PM
Canoeing	40	
Kayaking	20	
Lifesaving	16	
Swimming	12	
Rowing	10	
Small Boat Sailing (**not full merit badge)	8	
Pioneering	16	
Auto Maintenance	10	
Animation	15	
Trail to First Class (includes Nature + First Aid)	25	
Indian Lore	20	
Wilderness Survival	10	
Stand Up Paddle Boarding Award	16 total slots – broken into two groups of 8. Will receive both awards.	
Snorkeling BSA		



# Unit Swim Classification Record

This is the individual's swim classification as of this date. Any change in status after this date would require a reclassification test by the camp Aquatics Director. Swim tests should be done every year at the beginning of the swim season. Refer to the Guide to Safe Scouting for test administration.

Special Note: When swim tests are conducted away from camp or at the point of activity, the Aquatics Director shall at all time reserve the authority to review or retest all participants to assure that standards have been maintained. (Please copy and bring completed form to camp.)

Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Swim Test \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name (Please Print)	Classification		
	Non-Swimmer	Beginner	Swimmer
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

Swim Test Administered By:

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Certification \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

If swim test was done at summer camp this year, list camps name for certification and Signature of unit leader attending can be used.

## Unit Record Verification

This form should contain emergency contact information for those adults who will be on-site for the weekend.

Unit Number \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name (Please Print)	Cell Phone
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

## Health Form Verification

As the Scoutmaster of this unit, I attest that I am in possession of a current BSA Health Form Parts A and B for each youth and adult attending AquaKnots.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Merit Badge Pre-requisites**

This section details what requirements must be completed in advance in order for the Scout to earn the listed merit badge. For all merit badges, any basic first aid, CPR, Safe Swim Defense, and Safety Afloat requirements must be completed before arriving.

We encourage Troops to bring their own blue card with the pre-requisites signed off by the merit badge counselor from the unit. Blue cards / MB passports will be signed off by the merit badge counselor and returned to the troop at check out.

\*\*\* It is highly recommended that you print/review a merit badge workbook for classes that you will be taking and even write in the answers for pre-requisites listed.

### **Canoeing**

Requirements 1, 2, and 7. Scouts must arrive prepared to tie the knots in requirements 7c.

### **Kayaking**

Requirements 1 and 2. Scouts must arrive prepared to tie the knots in requirements 4d

### **Lifesaving**

- The Scout must meet complete Requirement 1a - Second-Class rank requirements 5a through 5d and First-Class rank requirements 6a, 6b and 6e.
- And requirement 1b - Able to swim continuously for 400 yards. This 400-yard swim test will happen Friday evening after troop check in. *If a scout cannot pass he will be moved into another merit badge class.*
- Scouts must arrive prepared to show that they can do requirements 13 and 15.

### **Swimming**

- The Scout must pass the swimmer test. *If a scout cannot pass he will be moved into another merit badge class.*
- Requirement 1 and 8.

### **Rowing**

Requirement 1, 2 (swim test), and 3.

### **Pioneering**

Requirements 1a-b, 2a. Scouts must arrive prepared to tie the knots in requirements 2b and 2c.

### **Auto Maintenance**

Requirements 1, 11 (do two and show proof), & 12.

### **Animation**

Requirements 1 and 5.

## **Trail to First Class**

Bring Scoutbook with you, we'll be working on requirements to get you to First Class Rank – including different activities from Tenderfoot, Second Class ranks.

\*This all-day class will include two merit badges:

- **Nature** - Be prepared to discuss Requirements 1, 2 and 3.
- **First Aid** - Requirement 1 and 2. Bring with you: requirement 5 – personal first aid kit.

## **Indian Lore**

Be prepared to discuss requirement 1 and 2.

## **Wilderness Survival**

Requirement 2 and requirement 5 needs to be brought to class.

## **Snorkeling BSA**

Requirement 1. Scout must be familiar with the BSA Snorkeling Safety Pamphlet. **Scout must bring their own mask, snorkel and fins.**

## **BSA Stand Up Paddleboard Award**

Requirement 2 and requirement 3 (swim test).