

AQUATICS ADVENTURE EXPEDITION

Aloha, Adventurers! A Tropical Splash at ZBASE

2026 Leaders Camp Guide Aloha, Adventurers!

ZBASE — Zink Ranch, Skiatook, Oklahoma



Open To: Webelos (4th Grade) and Arrow of Light (5th Grade) Cub Scouts and
Parents/Guardians

Adventures: Aquanaut • Paddle Onward • Catch the Big One • Swimming • Paddle Craft •
Fishing • Let's Camp

Welcome to the Aquatics Adventure Expedition

Attention Scouts, Leaders, and Parents!

Welcome to the Aquatics Adventure Expedition at ZBASE! Now entering its eighth year and going tropical for 2026, this program has established itself as a premier Cub Scout summer aquatics experience — and this year we're bringing the aloha spirit! Embark on an adventure where you and your Scouts will enjoy swimming at the Helmrich Pool Complex and engage in fishing and paddling adventures on the stunning Skiatook Lake — all while working toward multiple Webelos and Arrow of Light elective adventures.

This guide will serve as your compass, ensuring your successful navigation through the weekend. Planning and preparation are crucial for everything you will undertake. This year we are running a single session (July 17–19), so space is limited to 60 total participants and timely registration is essential. No matter which adventures your Scouts pursue, we guarantee an unforgettable experience.

We are thrilled to welcome you and eagerly await an exciting summer of 2026.

Venture Onward!

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⊕ Compass Point: Look for these green boxes throughout the guide for helpful tips and additional information to point you in the right direction.

ZBASE MISSION STATEMENT: *To prepare future leaders and equip them to handle life's challenges by practicing and improving their skills in unique outdoor adventures.*

2026 Program Schedule and Fees

Program	Dates	Age Req.	Cost	Max	Register By
Aquatics Adventure Expedition	July 17–19, 2026	Entering 4th or 5th grade, Fall 2026	\$125/youth \$125/adult	60 Total	July 12, 2026

⊕ Compass Point: Programs fill quickly! Register early to secure your spot. Reservations are first come, first served — do not wait until the last minute.

Adventure Descriptions & Requirements

Aquatics Adventure Expedition

Type: Resident adventure (all meals provided; overnight accommodations in platform tents with cots provided)

Open to: Webelos and Arrow of Light Cub Scouts and Parents/Guardians

Age requirement: Must be a Webelos or Arrow of Light Scout entering 4th or 5th grade in the fall of 2026

Max attendance: 60 total (Scouts + Adults) per session

About: Spend a long weekend poolside and lakeside! The Aquatics Adventure Expedition is geared toward Webelos and Arrow of Light Cub Scouts looking for an aquatics-focused summer adventure. Pack your swim trunks and plenty of sunscreen — you’re going to need them! The minimum leadership requirement is 1 adult for every 5 Scouts. Adults participate alongside their Scouts. Get ready to get splashed and have fun!

Adventures Available

Adventure	Rank	Focus
Aquanaut	Webelos	Water safety, swim strokes, swim test attempt, order of rescue, hypothermia, free swim
Paddle Onward	Webelos	Swimmer test, Safety Afloat, life jackets, canoeing skills, 30 min paddle time
Catch the Big One	Webelos	Fishing planning, SAFE checklist, environment, tackle, knots, fishing time
Swimming	Arrow of Light	Safe Swim Defense review, swim test attempt, order of rescue, free swim
Paddle Craft	Arrow of Light	Swimmer test, Safety Afloat, life jackets, canoeing strokes, 30 min paddle time
Fishing	Arrow of Light	Fishing planning, SAFE checklist, environment, tackle selection, knots, fishing time

⊕ Compass Point: Scouts do NOT need to pass the swimmer test to attend or enjoy the weekend. The word in the requirements is “attempt.” Every Scout will be classified (Swimmer, Beginner, or Non-swimmer) and will participate in all activities at their appropriate level. Only Paddle Onward and

Paddle Craft require a passing swimmer classification. With only one session this year, register by July 12 to secure your spot!

General Program Schedule

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	—	Breakfast Lake Activities (Canoeing, Fishing, Pontoon Boat Rides)	Devotional / Chapel Breakfast Free Swim Checkout
Afternoon	—	Lunch Pool Activities (Swim Strokes & Games, Order of Rescue, Water Entry & Treading)	—
Evening	Check-in (4:00–6:00 PM) Orientation Swim Classification Round Robin Cracker Barrel	Dinner Luau Campfire Celebration Evening Program	—

Payments and Refund Policy

Payments

To ensure that your reservation is held, it is imperative that you reserve and make your payments on time. The 2026 program is a single session (July 17–19) at \$125 per youth and \$125 per adult. Programs have age and size limits; only those paid in full will have their reservation held. Reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis, so pay attention to deadlines and get your reservation in early to ensure your spot.

Refund Policy

Indian Nations Council, Scouting America Event, Camp & Activity Refund Policy: In all programs offered by the Indian Nations Council, a great deal of planning and purchasing takes place well in advance. The council will invest time and money getting all programs ready and uses your registration and prepayments to procure supplies, food, and staff. If a refund is requested, it should be reserved for emergency situations. All individual refunds must be requested in writing no later than one week after the end of the event.

Submit requests by mail to Indian Nations Council, Scouting America, 4295 South Garnett Road, Tulsa, OK 74146; by email to info@okscouts.org; or by fax to (918) 743-6049.

- A 10% processing fee per registration will be deducted from all refunds to cover bank fees and processing costs.

No refunds will be granted if:

- A participant is dismissed for disciplinary actions.
- A participant is dismissed for inattention to safe Scouting standards (including not adhering to staff instructions).
- A participant chooses to leave before the scheduled end time for non-emergency reasons.

The Indian Nations Council reserves the right to grant or decline all refund requests at the organization's discretion.

Required Health & Medication Forms

Physical Fitness and Outdoor Safety

Every participant needs to be physically fit for the program. In almost all sessions, you will be in or around the water participating in high-activity programming. In advance of your adventure, you should go swimming often, do light exercise, and take care of your body. You will also be in the hot and humid weather experienced at Zink Ranch with high UV exposure. Pack and prep with sunscreen, hats, water shirts, and water shoes.

Health & Medical Record

ZBASE requires all participants regardless of age to provide the Annual BSA Health & Medical Record Form upon arrival to Zink Ranch. You are required to complete Parts A & B.

The form can be downloaded as a writeable PDF from www.zbase.camp, www.okscouts.org, or www.scouting.org.

Part	Area	Required?
A	Informed Consent, Release Agreement, and Authorization	Required
B	General Information & Health History	Required
C	Pre-Participation Physical (Physician Signature required)	Not Required

⊕ Compass Point: All forms must be on the official BSA Health and Medical form (no school/sports physicals accepted).

⊕ Compass Point: Swim check is NOT required in advance. We will work on swimming skills throughout the weekend and help Scouts “attempt” the Swim Check during Friday evening’s classification session.

Medication

All prescription medications must be verified by camp medical personnel upon arrival. They must be in their original container and labeled. Medications must be under lock and key through either the base medical officer or the authorized adult leader responsible for administration/dispensing.

Exceptions: Inhalers, EpiPens, and other medicines that must be carried on the person at all times. In these cases, the participant’s physician should note this requirement on the medical form.

Adults in charge should bring a small lock box or keep medications in their locked car to prevent medications from getting lost or stolen. After verification, adults may secure medications in a lock box they provide. If not kept by the adult in charge, all medications must be checked in and dispensed by the on-site medical officer.

⊕ Compass Point: Before you arrive, make sure all medical forms are completed, signed, and include a copy of the insurance card. Alphabetize forms if coming as a crew to help staff locate them in an emergency.

⊕ **Compass Point:** Do not mail health forms in advance. Bring them to ZBASE on the first day. Forms will be returned after the adventure concludes. Any forms or medications left will be destroyed within 1 week.

Suggested Packing List

When You Arrive

- Plan to arrive on time for your scheduled program. Early arrivals are not permitted.
- Please eat dinner before arriving Friday. A cracker barrel snack will be provided Friday evening following the swim classification session. Full meals begin with Saturday breakfast.
- Upon arrival, be prepared to turn over all required forms and validations.

What to Bring

- Complete BSA Health & Medical Form (Parts A & B)
- Copy of Medical Insurance Card (front & back)
- Swimsuit (females must have a one-piece)
- Water shirt / cover-up
- High-SPF sunscreen (50+ recommended)
- Hydrating lotion / Aloe Vera
- Sunglasses (polarized advised)
- Bug repellent
- Water / shower shoes
- Lightweight non-marking closed-toe shoes / sneakers
- Official BSA Uniform (for opening/closing ceremonies)
- Scout-appropriate t-shirts, socks, underwear
- Shorts for 2 days / 2 nights
- Light rain gear
- Hat (wide-brimmed suggested)
- Toothbrush / toothpaste
- Shampoo / body wash / soap
- Beach towel and bath towel
- Sleeping bag or sheet with blanket
- Pillow
- Personal lockbox or lockable bag
- Flashlight
- Extra spending money (cash preferred; credit/debit available at Trading Post)
- Dry bag or dry storage for electronics
- Reusable water bottle (with clip feature, essential for hydration)
- Fishing gear (optional, adults must have a valid Oklahoma Fishing License)

Do NOT Bring

- Fireworks
- Pets of any kind

- Bikes / skateboards
 - Expensive personal jewelry
 - Anything you don't want to lose or get damaged
 - Alcoholic beverages / illegal substances
 - Personal boats (private docks are not available for personal watercraft)
- ⊕ Compass Point: Participants stay in canvas platform tents with cots provided. Individual showers and restrooms are available.

General Rules & Regulations

Parking & Transportation

Vehicle parking is allowed in the main parking lot only. Carpooling is highly encouraged. Personal boats are not allowed. Once at ZBASE, you may unload gear near your tent, then immediately park in designated areas. No vehicle traffic is allowed in basecamp.

Hydration

Staying hydrated is crucial while participating in aquatics programming. Bring at least a 16 oz. water bottle with a clip feature. Even while immersed in water, you can become dehydrated. Zink Ranch can have high temperatures, humidity, and winds. Bring your water bottle to mealtimes and refill rather than using disposable cups.

Sun Protection

The Oklahoma sun and heat can be unforgiving, especially in and around water. Use 50+ SPF sunblock daily and reapply often. Hats, water shirts, long-sleeved sun shirts, sunglasses, and aloe are advised. Staff will remind families to apply sunscreen before every outdoor water session.

The Buddy System

ZBASE operates under the buddy system at all times. During aquatic activities, every Scout is paired with a buddy before entering the water. Buddy checks occur approximately every 10 minutes during swimming sessions. No exceptions, no solo swimmers.

General Camp Rules

- Zink Lodge is reserved for staff and, on occasion, adult leaders. No youth inside Zink Lodge.
- Water bottles must be on or near each participant at all times.
- No open-toe shoes around basecamp. Water/shower shoes are allowed at the pool and shower house only.
- No running, especially in and around the pool, pool house, and docks.
- No pets allowed.
- Areas off-limits: Private offices, staff quarters, maintenance/storage areas, first aid lodge (unless receiving treatment), rooms/bunks of other participants, and docks/lake banks (unless an organized program is occurring).
- All participants must notify base administration of an early departure.
- No flames or fire in tents, indoors, covered structures, or on boats (including smoking).
- ZBASE operates under the Guide to Safe Scouting — rules, policies, and procedures are always in effect.
- ZBASE operates under BSA Youth Protection Guidelines. Two-deep leadership is always in effect.
- Adult members are expected to be familiar with the Guide to Safe Scouting and BSA Youth Protection policies.

- No fireworks. Fires are only allowed in designated areas; burn bans are followed.
- Staff are the final authority on rules, regulations, and interpretations at ZBASE.

Tobacco, Alcohol & Substance Policy

Smoking/tobacco (including vaping and smokeless tobacco) is allowed in designated areas only. At ZBASE, the only designated area is behind the warehouse facing Skiatook Lake. No use of tobacco in sight of youth, in buildings, or in structures.

ZBASE prohibits alcoholic beverages and controlled substances on Zink Ranch property under a zero-tolerance policy. Violators will be removed and authorities notified if necessary. ZBASE reserves the right not to release any youth member into the custody of a parent or guardian under the influence.

Homesickness & Discipline

Homesickness is natural and usually resolves quickly. If disciplinary issues arise, the on-site parent/guardian will be consulted. If no adult is available, the emergency contact may be asked to pick up the participant. No refund will be given for disciplinary issues.

First Aid & Insurance

For on-site and minor issues, our Camp Health Officer (a Registered Nurse) will be available. For emergencies, 911 will be called and the participant transported if necessary. Participants are covered under Scouting America insurance as secondary, with personal/family insurance acting as primary. Complete medical forms must be on file to participate.

Emergency Procedures

Specific emergency procedures will be covered at Friday evening orientation. General procedures include:

Lightning/Thunder: Water activities will stop at the sight of lightning or sound of thunder. Activities will NOT resume until 30 minutes after the last sight of lightning or sound of thunder.

- During general rainstorms, water activities will stop and the program will resume under covered areas.
- During severe thunderstorms, activities will move inside the dining hall, pool house, and Zink Lodge.
- During tornado threat, participants will move inside the pool house (concrete block structure) until the threat passes.
- Wildfires: Participants will be gathered until the fire is located. Working with local authorities and Zink Ranch, participants will be evacuated to the front gate if necessary.

Phone Messages & Electronics

ZBASE will only deliver phone and email messages in case of emergency. Participants will be asked to put electronics/phones away during program times. Please do not contact participants during those times.

Check-Out Procedures

On your last day, inspect your personal area and leave ZBASE facilities in better condition than you found them. A review of Lost & Found items, return of medical forms and medications, and final evaluation survey are all part of checkout.

Evaluations

At the end of your program, you will receive a feedback survey. Your thoughts are important to us, and we encourage honest, constructive feedback. All comments are reviewed by staff and appropriate actions taken.

Contact Information

Contact	Details
Camp Director	Carey Neely (carey@neelycomms.org)
ZBASE Phone	918-392-1243
ZBASE Emergency	918-892-9132
ZBASE Address	8607 Zink Ranch Rd, Skiatook, OK 74070
ZBASE Website	www.zbase.camp
ZBASE Facebook	www.facebook.com/zbase
ZBASE Instagram	www.instagram.com/zbase_ok
Indian Nations Council	www.okscouts.org • 918-743-6125

Directions to ZBASE

From Tulsa and Broken Arrow

- From Downtown Tulsa on Highway 75 North or Highway 244 West, travel WEST on US-412 to Sand Springs.
- Take the 129th West exit. From the exit ramp, make a left and then an immediate right to go north on Highway 97T (a bypass that avoids residential streets).
- Highway 97T merges back into Highway 97 coming out of Sand Springs. Continue north on Highway 97 until it terminates at the front gate of the John Zink Ranch.
- Enter the front gate and go about 1/4 mile to the closed gate. Enter the code on the keypad (one car at a time).
- Go up the hill and at the big sign veer right to ZBASE / Red Castle Gun Club.
- Follow the signs to ZBASE until you enter basecamp (approximately 3 miles from the front gate).

You will need a gate code to enter Zink Ranch. Codes will be sent to registered participants before your assigned program. If you did not receive it, call 918-743-6125 (M–F, 9 AM – 5 PM). Do NOT call the Zink Ranch Manager. Do NOT go down drives marked “Private Drive” or follow roads to Babbitt Cub World or the Boy Scout Loop.