



National Aquatics Subcommittee

National Outdoor Programs Department

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2018 Aquatics Workshop

Over 60 Scouters from all four regions the US descended on Islamorada, Florida for the Biennial BSA Aquatics Workshop. This four day, hands-on, workshop was held September 26 – 30 at BSA's Florida High Adventure Sea Base.

The aim of these meetings is to bring the BSA aquatics community up to date with changes and current activities associated with the BSA aquatics program as well as receiving input from the scouting community to the BSA National Aquatics Sub-committee for consideration and future action.

In addition to many informative and interactive sessions, representatives from three local councils gave very engaging presentations, illustrating some of the council's best practices in BSA Aquatics under the theme of "The Future is Already Here: Camp and Council Aquatics Presentations":

NCAC Aquatics Committee and Year Around Aquatics Program –
Julia Farr
North Florida Council Aquatics Camps – Jane Kilby
MTC Boxwell Aquatics Camp – Jason Flannery



Keynote speaker, Al Lambert, Assistant Chief Scout Executive and Director of Outdoor Adventures (the self-proclaimed director of fun) was on hand to share part of his vision of where council's facilities and programs need to head to appeal to family scouting. He encouraged councils to design facilities and programs for family scouting to include "a little bit of the national parks, a little bit of KOA's and a little bit of Disney".

Dr. David Vaughn, Senior Scientist & Program Manager of the Coral Restoration Program from Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium gave a very engaging presentation on his research in coral reef restoration and the partnership with the BSA. His pioneering work in micro fragmentation and fusion methods of corals has rapidly accelerated the pace in which coral reefs can be restored.



This collaboration, combining Mote's leadership in coral reef research and restoration with BSA's Marine STEM Adventure program, will enhance Mote's existing partnership with BSA while benefiting coral reefs and encouraging young people to excel as ocean stewards. Florida Sea Base's Brinton Center will begin construction on coral reef tanks to grow new corals and within a year will be growing coral under Mote Marine Laboratory's guidance. Scouts will then support the "out planting" of the coral to restore the Florida Barrier Reef.

Over the course of the workshop, opportunities for a number of on-the-water skill instruction sessions were provided to attendees. These ranged from Advanced Stand Up Paddleboarding, Discover Scuba, Power Squadron Boating Simulator, PADI's Virtual Reality Scuba Diving Simulator, Rowing, Kayaking, Sailing, and Snorkeling.





Event sponsors were on hand to demonstrate and try new and innovative products:

Bellyak - hand powered, lay on kayak;
 Corcl's - round durable boat for 8-15 age kids,
 Wgwag – a stand on, self-propelled boat with side to side motion;
 Key Log Rolling – lightweight synthetic log with training paddles for log rolling; Rave sports – inflatable aquatic play structures.



Everyone reported having a wonderful time 'testing and researching' this new equipment, braving the warm weather, blue skies, and tepid waters.

Even some Manatees were curious about the innovative equipment and came in for a closer look.

At the end of the four days of fun, fellowship and sharing of ideas all left Sea Base stating they had a great experience at the workshop, brimming with ideas to take back to their councils and already looking forward to the next workshop in two years.



Please follow this [link](#) for a feedback survey on the 2018 Aquatics Workshop.

If your council was unable to have someone attend this year check out all the presentations at the Aquatics Program webpage:

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/aquatics/>

1. PowerPoint update of Aquatics Activity Awards and Aquatics Supervision
2. North Florida Council Aquatics Camp
3. Red Cross Aquatics Updates
4. National Capital Area Council Aquatics Programs flyer
5. Sea Scouts Today presentation
- 6 24th World Scout Jamboree Aquatics Update
7. American Canoe Association Paddlesports Statistics and Updates



There are also some still relevant sessions from the 2016 Aquatics Workshop at the same link.



Rowboat Review at the Aquatics Workshop

Measured by the number earned, Swimming merit badge was the second most popular merit badge in both 2011 and 2017. Over that same period, Canoeing merit badge slipped in popularity from number 19 to number 22. However, Rowing merit badge dropped in ranking from 42nd to 61st.

Rowing has long been a lost art with respect to practical transportation, and there are likely multiple reasons the merit badge has dropped in popularity. Nevertheless, Scout age youth suitably introduced to the sport enjoy it and gain coordination and boat sense useful in other endeavors. The decline in popularity is perhaps tied more to opportunity and promotion rather than interest.

Many Rowing merit badges are earned at Scout BSA resident camps, but quality rowing programs at BSA camps are in decline. Canoeing merit badge is currently offered at approximately 98% of camps, whereas rowing is offered at 78%. Even though over three quarters of camps still offer the merit badge, many do so with clunky boats in poor repair. That in turn is not as much a maintenance issue as a lack of affordable, suitable boats to replace fleets that are often decades old.

Prior to the recent Aquatics Workshop, members of the BSA Aquatics Subcommittee conducted an online review of several boats that might be suitable for BSA camps. Criteria include price, durability, ease of maintenance, capacity, rowing positions, and expected handling characteristics. Early on, sliding seat models, including rigs for canoes and SUPs, were moved down the list due to price and maintenance. Nine fixed seat craft were reviewed in detail. The two most promising were purchased and tested during the workshop.

The chosen craft are marketed as square stern canoes but are actually designed for use with small outboards. They are more streamlined than traditional camp rowboats but are very similar in design to high-end rowing wherries. They both handle well and have sufficient beam to accommodate single and tandem rowing positions without outriggers. The fiberglass boat retails for ~ \$800. The aluminum boat retails for ~ \$1500. Additional details will be provided in a forthcoming communication.



Fiberglass
Length: 15' 10"
Beam: 43"
Weight: 87 lbs.
Capacity: 775 lbs.



Aluminum
Length: 17'
Beam: 44"
Weight: 113 lbs.
Capacity: 1000 lbs.





FROM THE SUMMIT. . .



SBR NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2019 SEASONAL STAFF!!

The Summit Bechtel Reserve (SBR) is currently seeking seasonal staff to operate and support its 2019 summer programs. Positions are varied and include overall camp support in addition to specializations within each of our three main operational areas:

The Paul R. Christen National High Adventure Base:

The James C. Justice National Scout Camp:

The John D. Tickle National Training & Leadership Center

BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIG – WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GIVE OUR CAMPERS THE BEST SUMMER EXPERIENCE OF THEIR LIVES!

BENEFITS

- Staff salaries start at \$1,150/month and go up from there, depending on qualifications and responsibility. A small number of experienced top-level managers can make as much as \$1,850/month
- Room (Tent) & Board provided
- Professional Certification Training,
- Professional Discounts on hundreds of brands,
- New River Gorge backyard playground with world famous rafting, rock climbing, mountain biking, & hiking,
- One of “America’s Coolest Small Towns” within minutes of the Site; another within an hour’s drive,
- Develop life skills through leading, guiding and caring for participants,
- Create friendships to last a lifetime!



NEW RIVER TREK



2019 will be our 3rd season offering [The New River Trek](#) . This is a 50-mile paddle trek on the New River. We navigate the upper portion of the river in inflatable kayaks (one or two-man) called “duckies”. This portion of the river includes Class I to III rapids. The final whitewater day in the Lower Canyon is a rafting experience and includes Class III to V rapids. Crews camp along the river through the New River Gorge. A gear boat (raft) accompanies the group to transport gear and food. Click here for video of [2018 New River Treks](#).

Whitewater Training for the New River Trek is available for the 2019 season. We are also hiring experienced applicants. We have several spots still available and would love to have you on the team this season. For more information contact Isaac.Colvard@scouting.org

Aquatics Positions Available

Click on Title for Details and to apply

- [Aquatics Director](#)
- [Aquatics Team Lead](#)
- [Aquatics Team Lead - Head Lifeguard](#)
- [Kayaking & Standup Paddleboard Guide](#)
- [Lifeguard](#)
- [White Water River Trek Director](#)
- [White Water River Trek Gear Boater](#)
- [White Water River Trek Guide](#)
- [White Water River Trek Logistics Driver](#)
- [White Water Waiver Coordinator](#)

For complete Application information visit <http://www.summitbsa.org/jobs/>



American Canoe Association: Video Resources

In August, filming began for the ACA's Youth Paddle Smart Web TV Series, a project funded through a grant administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The Youth Paddle Smart Web TV Series caters to beginning youth paddlers and their parents in an effort to focus their recreational boating career in a safe direction. The goal of the series is to provide critical and immediate information to aid in making smarter decisions and stay safe on the water. The series will be distributed using grassroots initiatives and social media outlets, which are known to be extremely popular among the youth of today. The project is two-pronged to address age and developmental learning styles of youth. The project will produce:

Video Series 1: Children 5-10 years of age and parents

- 20 focused informational video episodes
- 30 to 60 seconds in length

Video Series 2: Youth 11-17 years of age

- 40 focused and in-depth informational and skills based episodes
- 1 to 3 minutes in length

The Youth Paddle Smart Web TV Series will be open for public access immediately upon completion (Spring of 2019) and will encourage viewing on several media outlets including the Heliconia site, YouTube, the ACA home page.

Existing Videos. A list of current videos, with links, is found at https://www.americancanoe.org/page/Ed_videos. <https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericanCanoe1/featured> provides an alternate link to the ACA YouTube Channel.

Here are just a few of the existing titles you might find helpful:

- Top 5 Canoeing Tips
- Canoeing-River Hazards and Safety
- Golden Rules of Recreational Kayaking
- How to Re-enter a Sit Inside Kayak
- Choosing the Right SUP
- Stand Up Paddling-Rules of the Road
- Fundamentals of Lifejackets for Paddlers
- Lifejackets Float. Do You?

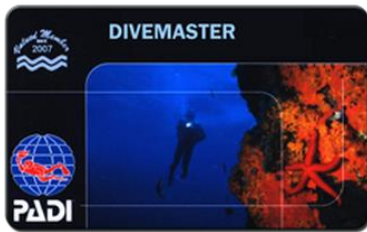
Teaching paddlesports in under 10 seconds... is it possible? The clips in the Web TV series run from 30 seconds to a few minutes each. The ACA is also working on a series of short videos that loop through the same skill component every 10 seconds. The ability to quickly watch a skill sequence repeat itself several times in succession on a mobile device will provide a new and different learning opportunity. Stay tuned for release dates.





FROM THE SEA . . .

Divemaster Program



Looking for the first step in working with scuba as a career? Your adventure into the professional levels of recreational scuba diving begins with the PADI Divemaster program. Working closely with a PADI Instructor, in this program you expand your dive knowledge and hone your skills to the professional level. PADI Divemaster training develops your leadership abilities, qualifying you to supervise dive activities and assist instructors with student divers. PADI Divemaster is the prerequisite certification for the [PADI Instructor Certification](#)

What can PADI Divemasters do?



- Work at local dive centers, on live-aboard dive boats, yachts and at exotic resort locations
- Assist PADI Instructors with students
- Lead PADI Scuba Divers on guided dive tours
- Teach and certify PADI Skin Divers
- Teach PADI Discover Snorkeling programs
- Conduct PADI Scuba Review & ReActivate
- Lead certified divers on Discover Local Diving experiences
- Teach Emergency First Response programs after successful completion of an Emergency First Response Instructor course.
- Earn several Specialty Instructor ratings and be able to teach those specialties



What materials are provided by Florida Sea Base
 PADI Divemaster Crew Pack (Includes)
 PADI Divemaster Manual and slates
 PADI Instructor Manual
 Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving
 Discover Scuba Diving Cue Card
 Scuba Tune Up book
 RDP (Table, eRDPML)



What are the prerequisites for the course?

- PADI Open Water Diver
- PADI Advanced Open Water Diver
- PADI Rescue Diver
- PADI Emergency First Responder /First Aid and CPR
- Medical clearance signed by a physician (both PADI and BSA forms)
- 40 logged dives to start (60 logged dives to receive certification)
- 18 years old by the start of the course



What will I do?

Start out by having an amazing time and meeting new friends. During the PADI Divemaster program, you learn dive leadership skills through both classroom and independent study. You complete water skills and stamina exercises, as well as training exercises that stretch your ability to organize and solve problems as well as help others improve their scuba skills. You put this knowledge into action through a series of practical training exercises.

What costs are associated with the program?

Florida Sea Base covers the cost of the materials and course fee. The Divemaster agrees to work for Florida Sea Base for at least one spring or summer season as payment for the course. If the Divemaster cannot fulfill this requirement they will be responsible for reimbursing Florida Sea Base \$750 for the course fee and \$364 for the materials

Participants are responsible for the PADI Divemaster Application fee (\$122*), PADI Divemaster eLearning fee (\$232*) and the APDI Dive Theory eLearning (\$129*). You must use this link when registering for the PADI on-line classes:

[Register Now for E-Learning](#)

Florida Sea Base provides housing, food and rental dive equipment during the program.



Course Dates

December 17, 2018 - January 1, 2019

May 13 - 19, 2019

December 18, 2019 – January 1, 2020

How do I apply for the course?

1. Complete the Florida Sea Base Application:
2. [Divemaster Academy Application](#)
3. After completing the application send it to joe.angelo@scouting.org



Instructor Development Course (IDC)



Are you ready to take that next step? The PADI Instructor Development Course (IDC) is your next logical step as a PADI Professional. PADI Open Water Scuba Instructors are the most sought-after dive professionals around the world because they've completed the program that sets the standard for training dive professionals. You *earn* a PADI Instructor rating through hard work and commitment, but you're rewarded with a job that lets you share incredible underwater adventures with others – transforming their lives for the better and enriching yours.



What can PADI Instructors do

- Work at local dive centers, on live-aboard dive boats, yachts and at exotic resort locations
- Teach PADI scuba courses from Open Water through Divemaster
- Independently conduct Discover Scuba Courses
- Teach Emergency First Response First Aid and CPR courses
- Earn Specialty Instructor ratings and teach those specialties
- Conduct BSA Scuba Diving Merit Badge (once registered with BSA)
- Make a profound difference in someone's life
- Teach Project AWARE courses and be an advocate for our environment.

What materials are provided by Florida Sea Base



- PADI IDC Crew Pack (Includes)
- PADI Guide to Teaching
- PADI Specialty Course Instructor Manual
- Open Water Prescriptive Lesson Guides
- Diving Knowledge Workbook
- Open Water and Confined Water Lesson Planning Slate
- Student Skill Practice Slate
- Instructor Cue Cards
- Quizzes and Exams
- PADI EFR Instructor start up pack

*You will need all the prerequisite materials for previous courses you have taken.

What are the prerequisites for the course?

- Open Water Diver
- Advanced Open Water Diver
- Rescue Diver
- Divemaster
- PADI Emergency First Responder /First Aid and CPR
- Medical clearance signed by a physician (both PADI and BSA forms)
- 60 logged dives to start (100 logged dives to receive certification)
- 18 years old by the start of the course
- Complete the PADI IDC and Dive Theory eLearning



What will I learn?

The IDC teaches you to conduct all PADI core courses. You'll be able to organize and present information, conduct skill development sessions and control open water dives. Basically, you become a better public speaker and get really good at demonstrating skills while watching out for student diver safety. Key topics include:



- PADI Standards and Procedures for courses you can teach with in water workshops
- Learning, Instruction and the PADI System
- Risk Management and Diver Safety
- The Business of Diving and your role as an instructor
- Marketing Diving and Sales Counseling

What's an IE

Once you complete the IDC you will need to successfully complete the Instructor Examination. An Instructor Examination (IE) is a two-day evaluative program that tests an instructor candidate's teaching ability, dive theory knowledge, skill level, understanding of the PADI System, attitude and professionalism. PADI IEs are standardized and conducted by specially trained PADI Instructor Examiners. The IE location, testing environment and examination sessions are organized to be as objective as possible to fairly and consistently evaluate a candidate's abilities. Only those who meet the IE performance requirements earn the respected PADI Instructor certification.

What costs are associated with the program

Florida Sea Base covers the cost of the materials and course fee. The Instructor agrees to work for Florida Sea Base for at least one spring or summer season as payment for the course. If the Instructor cannot fulfill this requirement they will be responsible for reimbursing Florida Sea Base \$1050 for the course fee and \$375 for the materials.

Participants are responsible for the PADI IDC Application fee (\$175*), Instructor Examination Fee (\$690*), PADI IDC eLearning fee (\$366*) and the PADI Dive Theory eLearning (\$129*). You must use this link when registering for the [PADI on-line classes](#).

Florida Sea Base provides housing, food and rental dive equipment during the program.

*PADI fees subject to change, Florida Sea Base has no control over PADI fees.

Course Dates

- January 17 -27, 2019
- April 18 – 28, 2019
- September 12 – 22, 2019



How do I apply for the course?

Complete the [Florida Sea Base IDC Application](#)
Complete the [PADI IDC Application](#)
After completing the application send it to joe.angelo@scouting.org



2 St Croix Adventures

St. Croix Adventure

St Croix boasts amazing vistas, crystal blue water, vibrant coral reefs, and endless opportunities for adventure. Participants will set sail, snorkel, boat, and kayak; learn about ecosystems and underwater species; work with conservationists and scientists to help save marine life; and visit Buckhead Island National Park, historical Christainsted, and historical Fort Christiansvaern. Every day is a new adventure!

Crews will camp at beautiful Camp Wall overlooking the Caribbean Ocean. St. Croix adventures are available in the summer for crews of six to eight. This is a six-night, seven day adventure.

St. Croix Scuba Adventure

Are you a certified diver? If so, underwater exploration and discovery await you in the U. S. Virgin Islands. Pristine coral reefs, sea turtles, countless species of fish, and underwater organisms map the sea floor surrounding St. Croix. Depending on the weather, crews will make as many as 10 dives.

In addition to world-class diving, participants will also explore historic Christansted and historic Fort Christainsvarn, learn about underwater ecosystems and species, take part in citizen science and conservation projects, and learn from local scientists and/or conservationists.

Crews will camp at beautiful camp Wall overlooking the Caribbean Ocean. St. Croix adventures are available in the summer for crews of six to eight. This is a six-night, seven-day adventure.

DEMA Show

Florida Sea Base will be exhibiting at the DEMA (Dive Equipment and Marketing Association) trade show. This is the only trade show in the US for dive Industry Professionals. This year it will be taking place in Las Vegas. This show is an excellent opportunity to meet dive professionals that could become a part of our professional scuba diving staff at Florida Sea Base. If you are planning on being at the show please drop by the booth to have a talk.

Used Scuba Equipment

Every year Florida Sea Base sells scuba equipment that was used in our scuba department program. It is Aqualung equipment and less than 3 years old. Much of this equipment is in good to excellent condition. Included in the sale are Wave BC's that are weight integrated, Calypso regulators with octo and three gauge console (pressure gauge, depth gauge and compass, sorry no computers). Normally this equipment would retail for over \$1129. We sell it for \$360 per set. Contact Joe Angelo joe.angelo@scouting.org to order your set.



SEA SCOUTS HAVE A LIASION WITH THE NATIONAL AQUATICS SUBCOMMITTEE

In May for 2018, the National Commodore, Charlie Wurster and the acting Sea Scout Director Rob Kolb appointed the retiring NER Commodore, Noel E. Guzman as the National Sea Scout Committee Liaison to the National Aquatics Subcommittee. This was a long-awaited decision with the Aquatics Subcommittee since it has been many years since the Sea Scouts had a voice in a very important committee.

The positioning will have a twofold purpose; it would increase the Sea Scout awareness of the ever changing legislative rules for pools and lakes, updates within the aquatic merit badges and any changes within the paddle sports community. For the Aquatics Subcommittee the Sea Scouts can provide the State and Federal changes to motorized vessels and licensing as well as seamanship and small boat handling and sailing information that are primary activities for the Sea Scouts.

This sharing of information can enhance both sides when overall sharing of the Scouting divisions is required. Now, more than ever with the advent of Family Scouting, the Sea Scouts are 107 years old and the oldest nautical coed youth program in America that has been actively involved in this domain for quite some time.

The Sea Scouts have been tasked effective immediately to work with the American Canoe Association to monitor regulatory and other movements and report back as news occurs, regarding "Prop Guards". A new and up and coming legislation that has its start in Suffolk County, NY. This legislation could have a major impact on our small boat-motorize vessels in lakes and rivers.

The involvement of the Sea Scouts with the Aquatics Subcommittee will have a great relationship as the two agencies are all for and about aquatics and let's not forget: on, in, under, and around the water.

For more info on Sea Scouts feel free to access our web site @ www.seascout.org

