

# BSA Stand Up Paddleboarding Application



Name of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Unit type \_\_\_\_\_ Unit number \_\_\_\_\_ Council \_\_\_\_\_

Name of council-approved counselor \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor qualification \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of counselor signifies applicant has completed all requirements: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Requirements

1. Review the BSA Safety Afloat policy. Explain to your instructor how this applies to stand up paddleboarding.
2. Before fulfilling other requirements, successfully complete the BSA swimmer test: Jump feetfirst 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: sidestroke, breaststroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy, resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be completed in one swim without stops and must include one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.
3. Explain safety considerations for stand up paddleboarding in the following environments: lake, moving water, white water, open ocean, ocean surf.
4. Review the characteristics of life jackets most appropriate for stand up paddleboarding and understand why one must always be worn while paddling. Then demonstrate how to select and fit a lifejacket for stand up paddleboarding.
5. Describe the correct type of leash to wear in the appropriate water venues.
6. Name and point out:
  - a. The major parts of a stand up paddleboard
  - b. The parts of a paddle for stand up paddleboarding
7. Discuss:
  - a. The different types of stand up paddleboards
  - b. How to correctly size and hold a paddle for stand up paddleboarding
8. Using a properly outfitted stand up paddleboard, demonstrate the following:
  - a. How to safely carry a stand up paddleboard
  - b. How to safely paddle away from a dock or shoreline (on knees)
  - c. How to stand and balance on a board in the neutral position
  - d. How to appropriately fall off a board
  - e. How to remount the board
  - f. Forward stroke
  - g. Back stroke
  - h. Forward sweep
  - i. Reverse sweep
  - j. Draw stroke
  - k. One self-rescue technique—lay on your stomach and paddle with your hands
9. With *supervision* from your instructor, paddle a course that involves:
  - a. A straight line for 25 yards and stop within one board length
  - b. A figure 8
  - c. Moving abeam to the right 10 feet and to the left 10 feet

## Notes to Counselor

Any youth or adult who is registered with a troop, crew, or ship and completes the requirements is eligible for a patch and recognition card. The completed award application should be handled as directed by the council Training, Aquatics, or other committee. Instruction for the BSA SUP award is to be conducted under safe conditions on calm water. One to three hours in one or more sessions should suffice for instruction and practice.

Information and skills are discussed in *Aquatics Supervision: A Leader's Guide to Youth Swimming and Boating Activities*, No. 34346, and the BSA SUP brochure at [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org). All counselors must be trained in Safety Afloat and have council approval. Any person with current training as a BSA Aquatics Instructor or as a SUP instructor by the American Canoe Association, or a person with similar experience in SUP skills, safety, and instruction may serve as a counselor.