

BSA Swim Test

The swim classification test is an important part of BSA aquatics programs for both Scouts and adults. Units are welcome to take their tests before attending summer camp at Gamehaven Scout Reservation.

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 (see below). 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 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; 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.

The different levels of swimming ability allow both Scouts and adults to do the following:

LEARNER: Allows swimming in shallow end of pool and boating with qualified accompaniment.

BEGINNER: Allows Scouts to swim in the designated areas and boating with qualified accompaniment.

SWIMMER: Allow Scouts to swim in all areas and boat in open areas of the lake

To complete the swim test a person must pass the requirements listed below. A person wishing to take a specific test does not have to pass any lower level tests. For example, if a Scout wanted to test for swimmer he would NOT need to take the learner or beginner test first.

Learner: Just get into the shallow water and get wet.

Beginner: Jump feet first into the water over your head. Level off, swim 25 feet, turn around and swim back.

Swimmer: Jump feet-first into the water and swim 75 yards in a strong stroke on your stomach or side (breaststroke, sidestroke, crawl, trudgen, or any combination). Then swim the last 25 yards on your back, keeping your hands in the water (elementary back stroke). After swimming these 100 yards, float and rest on your back for ten seconds.

UNIT SWIM CLASSIFICATION RECORD

This is the individual's swim classification as of this date. Any changes in status after this date i.e., learner 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 Number: _____ Date of Swim Test: _____

SWIM CLASSIFICATION

FULL NAME	LEARNER	BEGINNER	SWIMMER
1.			
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Name of Person Conducting Test:

Signature:

Unit Leader:

Signature:

Please keep one copy for your records and bring one copy to camp at check in.