

GRAND CANYON COUNCIL

SAFETY AFLOAT

Participant Materials



Safety Afloat

Safety Afloat has been developed to promote boating and boating safety and to set standards for safe unit activity afloat. Before a BSA group may engage in an excursion, expedition, or trip on the water (canoe, raft, sailboat, motorboat, rowboat, tube, or other craft), adult leaders for such activity must complete "Safety Afloat Training," No. 34159A, have a "Commitment Card," No. 34242A, with them, and be dedicated to full compliance with all nine points of Safety Afloat.

1. Qualified Supervision

All activity afloat must be supervised by a mature and conscientious adult age 21 or older who understands and knowingly accepts responsibility for the well-being and safety of the children in his or her care, who is experienced and qualified in the particular watercraft skills and equipment involved in the activity, and who is committed to compliance with the nine points of BSA Safety Afloat. One such supervisor is required for each ten people, with a minimum of two adults for any one group. At least one supervisor must be age 21 or older, and the remaining supervisors must be age 18 or older. All supervisors must complete BSA Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense training, and rescue training for the type of watercraft to be used in the activity, and at least one must be certified in CPR. It is strongly recommended that all units have at least one adult or older youth member currently certified as a BSA Lifeguard to assist in the planning and conduct of all activity afloat.

For Cub Scouts: The ratio of adult supervisors to participants is one to five.

2. Physical Fitness

All persons must present evidence of fitness assured by a complete health history from physician, parent, or legal guardian. The adult supervisor should adjust all supervision, discipline, and protection to anticipate any potential risks associated with individual health conditions. In the event of any significant health conditions, the adult leader should require proof of an examination by a physician.

Those with physical handicaps can enjoy and benefit from aquatics if the handicaps are known and necessary precautions taken.

3. Swimming Ability

A person who has not been classified as a "swimmer" may ride as a passenger in a rowboat or motorboat with an adult "swimmer" or in a canoe, raft, or sailboat with an adult certified as a lifeguard or a lifesaver by a recognized agency. In all other circumstances, the person must be a swimmer to participate in an activity afloat.

"Swimmers" must pass this 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 swum continuously and include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

This qualification test should be renewed annually.

4. Personal Flotation Equipment

Properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) must be worn by all persons engaged in activity on the open water (rowing, canoeing, sailing, boardsailing, motorboating, waterskiing, rafting, tubing, kayaking, and ~~surfboarding~~). Type II and III PFDs are recommended.

5. Buddy System

All activity afloat must adhere to the principles of the buddy system. The buddy system assures that for every person involved in aquatics activity, at least one other person is always aware of his or her situation and prepared to lend assistance immediately when needed. Not only does every individual have a buddy, but every craft should have a "buddy boat" when on the water.

6. Skill Proficiency

All persons participating in activity afloat must be trained and experienced in watercraft handling skills, safety, and emergency procedures.

- a. For unit activity on white water, all participants must complete special training by a BSA Aquatics Instructor or qualified whitewater specialist.
- b. Powerboat operators must be able to meet requirements for the Motorboating merit badge or equivalent.
- c. Except for whitewater and powerboat operation as noted above, either a minimum of three hours' training and supervised practice or meeting requirements for "basic handling tests" is required for all float trips or open-water excursions using unpowered craft.

For Cub Scouts: Canoeing and rafting for Cub Scouts (including Webelos Scouts) is to be limited to council/district events on flat water ponds or controlled lake areas free of powerboats and sailboats. Prior to recreational canoeing, Cub Scouts are to be instructed in basic handling skills and safety practices.

7. Planning

- a. **Float Plan.** Know exactly where the unit will put in, where the unit will pull out, and precisely what course will be followed. Determine all stopover points in advance. Estimate travel time with ample margins to avoid traveling under time pressures. Obtain accurate and current maps and information on the waterway to be traveled, and discuss the course with others who have made the trip under similar seasonal conditions. (Preferably, an adult member of the group should run the course before the unit trip.)
- b. **Local Rules.** Determine which state and local laws or regulations are applicable. If private property is to be used or crossed, obtain written permission from the owners. All such rules must be strictly observed.
- c. **Notification.** The float plan must be filed with the parents of participants and a member of the unit committee. For any activity using canoes on running water, the float plan must be filed with the local council service center. Notify appropriate authorities, such as Coast Guard, state police, or park personnel, when their jurisdiction is involved. When the unit returns from this activity, persons given the float plan should be so advised.
- d. **Weather.** Check the weather forecast just before setting out, know and understand the seasonal weather pattern for the region, and keep an alert "weather eye." Imminent rough weather should bring all ashore immediately.
- e. **Contingencies.** Planning must anticipate possible emergencies or other circumstances that could force a change in the original plan. Identify and consider all such circumstances in advance so that appropriate contingency plans can be developed.

For Cub Scouts: Cub Scout canoeing and rafting does not include "trips" or "expeditions" and is not to be conducted on running water (i.e., rivers or streams); therefore, some procedures are inapplicable. Suitable weather requires clear skies, no appreciable wind, and warm air and water.

8. Equipment

All equipment must be suited to the craft, to the water conditions, and to the individual; must be in good repair; and must satisfy all state and U.S. Coast Guard requirements. To the extent possible, carry spare equipment. On long trips or when spare equipment is not available, carry repair materials. Have appropriate rescue equipment available for immediate use.

9. Discipline

All participants should know, understand, and respect the rules and procedures for safe unit activity afloat. The applicable rules should be presented and learned prior to the outing, and should be reviewed for all participants at the water's edge just before the activity begins. When Scouts know and understand the reasons for the rules, they will observe them. When fairly and impartially applied, rules do not interfere with the fun. Rules for safety, plus common sense and good judgment, keep the fun from being interrupted by tragedy..

Note: For cruising vessels (excluding rowboats, canoes, kayaks, and rafts, but including sailboats and powerboats longer than 20 feet) used in adult-supervised unit activities by a chartered Venturing crew or Sea Scout ship specializing in watercraft operations or used in adult-supervised program activity in connection with any high-adventure program or other activity under the direct control of the National Council, the standards and procedures in a forthcoming Sea Scout manual may be substituted for the "Safety Afloat" standards.

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's)

Properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) must be worn by all persons engaged in activity on the open water (rowing, canoeing, sailing, boardsailing, motorboating, waterskiing, rafting, tubing, and kayaking). Only U.S. Coast Guard-approved equipment (types I, II, or III) is acceptable for use in Scouting aquatics. Ski belts are not acceptable. Scouts and unit leaders should learn which type is appropriate for each specific circumstance and how to wear and check for proper fit.

Safe Guide to Scouting, 1999 (Blue cover), Pg 8-10.

Safety Afloat

The highly regarded Safe Swim Defense has given Scouting one of the most exemplary water safety records of any youth organization. Experience in the 1970s indicated, however, that Scouting needed to do more to ensure the safety of those participating in water activity afloat. Safety Afloat was developed to promote boating and boating safety and to set standards for safe unit activity afloat.

Before a BSA group may engage in an excursion, expedition, or trip on the water (canoe, raft, sailboat, motorboat, rowboat, tube, or other craft), adult leaders for such activity should complete Safety Afloat training, have a commitment card with them, and be dedicated to full compliance with all nine points of Safety Afloat.

Every unit leader in summer camp should receive this training and literature and be encouraged to make a commitment to follow the Safety Afloat standards whenever his unit is on the water. The "Safety Afloat Training Outline," No. 34159, should be used in the planning and conducting of this training. Such training should include:

1. An overview of the responsibility emphasizing the importance of qualified supervision and discipline.
2. Thorough explanation and discussion of each of the nine points of the plan.
3. Demonstration of proper style and fit of personal flotation devices (PFDs).
4. Tips on trip planning.
5. Demonstration of basic craft handling and safety skills.
6. Review of emergency procedures.

Use current merit badge pamphlets for information on handling and safety skills for each water craft. An excellent videotape dramatizing the elements of Safety Afloat has been developed by the BSA Health and Safety Service, and is available through your council service center.

1. **Qualified Supervision.** All activity afloat must be supervised by a mature and conscientious adult age 21 or older who understands and knowingly accepts responsibility for the well-being and safety of the children in his or her care, who is experienced and qualified in the particular watercraft skills and equipment involved in the activity, and who is committed to compliance with the nine points of BSA Safety Afloat. One such supervisor is required for each ten people, with a minimum of two adults for any one group. All supervisors must complete BSA Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense training, and at least one must be certified in CPR. (It is strongly recommended that all units have at least one adult or older

youth member currently certified as a BSA Lifeguard to assist in the planning and conduct of all activity afloat.)

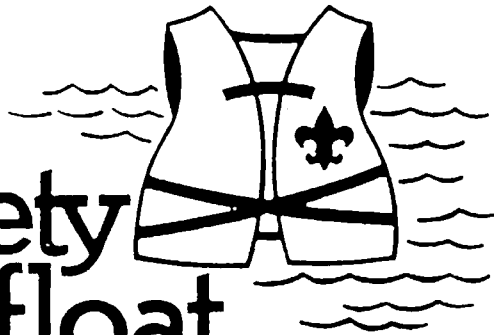
For Cub Scouts: The ratio of adult supervisors to participants is one to five.

2. **Physical Fitness.** All participants must present evidence of fitness assured by a complete health history from physician, parent, or legal guardian. The adult supervisor should adjust all supervision, discipline, and protection to anticipate any potential risks associated with individual health conditions. In the event of any significant health conditions, proof of an examination by a physician should be required by the adult leader.
3. **Swimming Ability.** A person who has not been classified as a "swimmer" may go on a unit activity afloat as a passenger in a rowboat or motorboat with an adult "swimmer," or in a canoe, raft, or sailboat with an adult certified as a lifeguard or a lifesaver by a recognized agency, and "nonswimmers" or "beginners" may ride as passengers in canoes when accompanied by an adult designated by the aquatics program director. During summer camp recreational boating in designated waters, all may use rowboats. In all other circumstances, the person must be a "swimmer" to participate in activity afloat. "Swimmers" must pass this test:

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth. Level off and swim 75 yards in a strong manner, using one or more of the following strokes: side-stroke, 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 at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating. This classification test should be renewed annually.

4. **Personal Flotation Equipment.** Properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) must be worn by all persons engaged in activity on the open water (rowing, canoeing, sailing, boardsailing, motorboating, waterskiing, rafting, tubing, kayaking, and surfboarding). Type II and III PFDs are recommended.
5. **Buddy System.** All activities afloat must adhere to the principles of the buddy system. The buddy system assures that for every person involved in aquatics activity, there is always at least one other person constantly aware of his or her situation and prepared to lend assistance immediately when needed. Not only does every individual have a buddy, but every craft should have a "buddy boat" when the craft are on the water.

Safety Afloat



6. **Skill Proficiency.** All persons participating in activity afloat on the open water must be trained and practiced in craft-handling skills, safety, and emergency procedures.

- a. All persons planning to participate in unit activity on whitewater must complete special training conducted by a BSA Aquatics Instructor or a qualified specialist in whitewater safety and skills.
- b. Powerboat operators must complete state certification and be able to meet requirements for the Motorboating merit badge or equivalent (American Red Cross, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, or U.S. Power Squadron).
- c. Except for whitewater and powerboat operation as noted above, either a minimum of 3 hours' training and supervised practice or meeting requirements for "basic handling tests" is required for all unpowered craft.

For Cub Scouts: Canoeing and rafting for Cub Scouts (including Webelos Scouts) is to be limited to council/district events on flatwater ponds or controlled lake areas free of powerboats and sailboats. Prior to recreational canoeing, Cub Scouts are to be instructed in basic handling skills and safety practices.

7. Planning.

- a. **Float Plan.** Know exactly where the unit will "put in," where the unit will "pull out," and precisely what course will be followed. All stopover points should be determined in advance. Travel time should be estimated, with ample margins to avoid traveling under time pressures. Accurate and current maps and information on the waterway to be traveled should be obtained, and the course should be discussed with others who have made the trip under similar seasonal conditions. (Preferably, an adult member of the group should run the course prior to the unit trip.)
- b. **Local Rules.** Determine what state and local laws or regulations are applicable. If private property is to be used or crossed, obtain written permission from the owners. All such rules must be strictly observed.

- c. **Notification.** The "float plan" must be provided to the parents of participants and a member of the unit committee. For any activity using canoes on running water, the "float plan" must be filed with the council office. When the unit has returned from this activity, persons receiving the "float plan" should be so advised. Appropriate authorities, such as Coast Guard, state police, or park personnel should be notified when their jurisdiction is involved.

- d. **Weather.** Check the weather forecast just before setting out; know and understand the seasonal weather pattern for the region; and keep an alert "weather eye." Imminent rough weather should bring all ashore immediately.

- e. **Contingencies.** Planning must anticipate possible emergencies or other circumstances which could force a change in the original plan. All such circumstances should be identified and considered in advance so that appropriate contingency plans can be developed.

For Cub Scouts: Cub Scout canoeing and rafting does not include "trips" or "expeditions" and is not to be conducted on running water (i.e., rivers or streams), therefore, some procedures are not applicable. Suitable weather requires clear skies, no appreciable wind, and warm air and water.

8. **Equipment.** All equipment must be suited to the craft, to the water conditions, and to the individual; must be in good repair; and must satisfy all state and U.S. Coast Guard requirements. As far as possible, spare equipment should be carried. On long trips or when spare equipment is not available, repair materials must be carried. Appropriate rescue equipment must be available for immediate use.

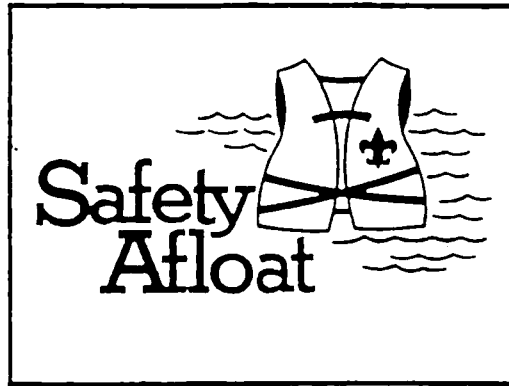
9. **Discipline.** All participants should know, understand, and respect the rules and procedures for safe unit activity afloat. When Scouts know and understand the reasons for the rules, they will observe them. When fairly and impartially applied, rules do not interfere with the fun. Rules for safety, plus common sense and good judgment, keep the fun from being interrupted by tragedy.

Note: For cruising vessels (excluding rowboats, canoes, kayaks, and rafts, but including sailboats and powerboats longer than 20 feet) used in adult-supervised unit activities by a chartered Explorer post or ship specializing in watercraft operations, or used in adult-supervised program activity in connection with any high-adventure program or other activity under the direct control of the National Council, the standards and procedures in the *Sea Exploring Manual*, No. 33239, may be substituted for the Safety Afloat standards.



Appendix B. Safety Afloat Discussion

Three factors important in the safety of any boating activity are (1) the people involved, (2) the equipment used, and (3) the nature of the environment surrounding the activity. Safety Afloat attempts to put these three factors together to reduce potential risks through awareness, knowledge, and skill. Keep this in mind as the requirements for this section are discussed and demonstrated.



Before any BSA group engages in an excursion, expedition, or trip on the water using small craft (canoe, raft, sailboat, motorboat, rowboat, tube, or other craft less than 20 feet in length), the adult leaders for such an activity should complete Safety Afloat training, and commit themselves to full compliance with all nine points of Safety Afloat.

Qualified Supervision

All activity afloat must be supervised by a mature and conscientious adult over 21 years of age who understands and knowingly accepts his responsibility for the well-being and safety of the children in his care, who is experienced and qualified in the particular watercraft skills and equipment involved in the activity, and who is committed to compliance with the nine points of BSA Safety Afloat. One such supervisor is required for each ten people, with a minimum of two adults for any one group. All supervisors must complete BSA Safety Afloat and Safe Swim Defense training, and at least one must be certified in CPR. (It is strongly recommended that all units have at least one adult or older youth member currently certified as a BSA Lifeguard to assist in planning and conducting all activity afloat.)

For Cub Scouts: The ratio of adult supervisors to participants is one to five.

Explain the meaning of qualified supervision and the necessary qualities required:

Maturity is the first essential quality required of someone supervising a youth activity on the water.

Maturity is the ability to make good choices among a variety of alternatives.

Maturity is a compassion for others based on an understanding of their shortcomings, whether they involve physical ability or endurance, eagerness or foolhardiness, pride or selfishness.

Maturity is knowing when to push to meet a reachable challenge, and when to stop and revise the activity because of

challenges beyond the capability of individuals in the group.

Knowledge is the second essential quality for an aquatic activities supervisor. The supervisor should understand the conditions the group will encounter and prepare the group through training in how to cope with the worst of these conditions. The supervisor should be totally familiar with the watercraft the group will be using and with its limitations, whether based

on the design of the craft itself or the abilities of the individuals using the craft.

Physical Fitness

Explain the need to be physically fit for boating activity:

Because boating can be strenuous, the participants' general fitness level needs to be determined and special precautions taken if necessary. Discussion should not be limited to the disabled. Daily mileage should be adjusted to the group since fatigue can contribute to accidents. Races should not be entered without proper conditions.

Swimming Ability

Explain the importance of swimming ability as a prerequisite for watercraft activities:

There is no substitute for good swimming ability. Two out of every three water fatalities involve nonswimmers. Since most fatal boating accidents are drownings, the ability to swim is an obvious precaution. Review current statistics. Candidates should know BSA policy concerning the use of watercraft by nonswimmers and beginners.

Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

Describe U.S. Coast Guard classifications of PFDs and the BSA's guidelines on wearing them:

Only U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFDs (Types I, II, or III) are acceptable for use in Scouting aquatics. (No ski belts are permitted.) Properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved PFDs must be worn by all persons in activity on the open water. This includes rowing, canoeing, sailing, sailboarding, motorboating, waterskiing, rafting, tubing, kayaking, and surfboarding. Type II and III PFDs are recommended in most situations.

All Scouts should be instructed in how to put on a PFD and how to check it for proper fit. Scout leaders responsible

for aquatic activity and craft must always check to ensure that PFDs are the right type and properly worn. Both Scouts and unit leaders should be taught the types of PFDs and which is appropriate for each specific circumstance.

Explore reasons for any reservations the candidate might express concerning this policy. Note the importance of example. Note the awkwardness of donning PFDs in water when the boater is dumped from the craft, injured, or hypothermic. To be an effective aid to the unit, the candidate must know BSA policy and be convinced of its soundness.

Show how to wear PFDs properly.

Show and indicate why you test PFDs. After checking buckles, fabric, and weight, the most reliable test is conducted in the water. The most common problems involve the stitching and plastic buckles. Kapok vests need to be checked for floatability. If the plastic bags that hold the kapok have been punctured, it is likely that the vest will not support a person in the water for very long. These vests should be destroyed or put out of service.

Buddy System

Describe the responsibilities of the buddy.

The purpose of the buddy system is to remind each boater to always remain near his buddy and to be aware of his buddy's situation so that he can lend immediate assistance when needed. This statement is similar to the buddy guidelines in Safe Swim Defense, but there are some notable differences.

First, buddies are normally companions in the same craft (exceptions: tubing, surfboarding, kayaking, and sailboarding). Second, boating buddies do not necessarily have the same swimming ability (specifically aboard a rowboat or motorboat). Third, buddy checks normally do not occur, except at castoff and at the end of each segment of a trip. It is recommended that the supervisor maintain a record of buddies for easy reference. Discuss a plan for assigning buddies for tubing, kayaking, surfboarding, sailboarding, or waterskiing.

Explain what is meant by a "buddy boat." The buddy boat serves the same purpose as an individual buddy. This requires the group to travel together—except in rapids, where the occupants of one boat watch the occupants of another. The occupants in the lead boat must check behind often to avoid getting too far ahead of the group, and to determine if there are any problems.

Discuss "solo" activities such as tubing, surfboarding, sailboarding, and kayaking. Review sailboarding standards in the "Aquatics" section of *Camp Program and Property Management*.

Skill Proficiency

Explain the skills required before a group performs an activity afloat and discuss the safety skills (i.e., maximum load, PFDs, effect of environmental conditions on participants, physical condition of participants):

What emergency procedures should all participants be trained to follow in the event of lightning storms, high winds, upset craft, person overboard, or an injured person in

your group? What do you do if you and your boating partner become suddenly aware that you are no longer a part of the group—they went one way and you another? Are there other situations to discuss?

Discuss these training and experience levels needed to handle small craft:

1. At least three hours of training and supervised practice, or meeting the requirements of the basic handling test, is recommended for handling all unpowered craft.
 - a. The basic handling test for a *rowboat*.
 - (1) Demonstrate the ability to launch a boat properly, row a straight line for 100 yards, turn, come back, land, and moor the boat properly.
 - (2) Participate in a swamped-boat safety demonstration, including the use and care of PFDs.
 - b. The basic handling test for a *canoe*.
 - (1) As a stern paddler (tandem with a partner) demonstrate the ability to launch the canoe properly, paddle a straight course for 100 yards, turn, come back, land, and rack the canoe.
 - (2) With a partner, jump out of the canoe, hold onto it, and climb back into the canoe without swamping.
 - (3) With a partner, get into a swamped canoe and paddle it to shore.
2. Powerboat operators must meet state requirements and be able to meet requirements for Motorboating merit badge.
3. All persons who plan to participate in a unit activity on white water must complete specialized training involving the environmental conditions encountered on or in running water, conducted by a BSA Aquatics Instructor or qualified equivalent.

Discuss why a basic skill level is required and why this level can change under new or different circumstances. Since skill levels normally vary within a group, activities must be adjusted to the level of the least skilled.

Indicate the source of skill training. The candidate should be familiar with the BSA local council plan for Safety Afloat training and specific courses offered by the BSA and other groups and organizations such as the American Red Cross, the YMCA, the American Canoe Association, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadron, local canoe associations, local colleges, and marinas that periodically provide boat-handling training.

Float Plan

Estimates of travel time and water conditions should be accurate. The number of participants in the group and skill levels should be appropriate for the candidate's own group. Do not dictate the details of the trip to the degree that the

candidate only needs to fill in the names of the participants. Information should include local council requirements. If necessary, acquaint the student with information sources such as river guidebooks.

Indicate the persons who need to be advised of this activity. Primarily notify individuals who would be anticipating your return and would be aware if your group was overdue at checkpoints or returning. A first consideration are parents and spouses; second, members of the unit committee in the chartered organization. Of course, a tour permit is required by the local council, but this is primarily a check to see that all the proper conditions have been met prior to the trip. In all likelihood the local council is not going to know when or even if you return unless notified by an anxious parent or spouse that something has gone wrong.

Certainly, if the float plan takes you into state or federal parks or forests, appropriate officials should be advised. And it is a well-advised unit that notifies, or better, requires permission of private property owners if you plan to camp or cross their premises.

Indicate what weather and environmental conditions the leaders should be alert to. As the group plans for a float trip, plan for the worse possible conditions that could happen and train the participants to be prepared to meet these conditions. Do not be lulled into apathy by the anticipation of a great adventure. Weather and environmental conditions can and do change rapidly. Be prepared to handle these abrupt changes.

Steady weather patterns involving high or low temperatures will require special precautions. Probabilities of abrupt weather changes, such as local thunderstorms or passing fronts, are available from forecasts. The leaders should be alert to these possibilities and be able to recognize approaching systems in time to bring the craft ashore.

Discuss the dangers of high wind and waves, lightning, poor visibility in rain, and sudden drops in temperature. Note that large stretches of open water should be avoided in unsettled water and weather. It is better to follow a lake shoreline than to cut across with an offshore wind because waves are potentially worse in large or wide open areas. Discuss how different water levels affect a river and why rapid changes, either rises or drops, should be avoided because of debris and difficulty variations. On some rivers changes are due to dam release. Surf and tides must be considered on coastal trips.

Discuss the accessibility and use of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio broadcasts.

Indicate what sources of emergency help would be available in case of need. Specific sources should be identified along the route. These include hospitals, ambulance service, ranger stations, and local law enforcement agencies. Candidates should identify the quickest means of summoning aid (telephone, CB radios, etc.) and the nearest access to the water for emergency vehicles.

Equipment

Review a list of equipment needed for a trip. This list will vary, depending on the body of water, craft, and season. Include in your list items needed for transportation.

Review and demonstrate how to pack and load equipment properly in your craft. Equipment should include appropriate patrol gear, personal items, and boating essentials. Important items such as food and bedding should be waterproof. Check loaded craft for stability, freeboard, and rated capacity.

Discipline

Explain what good discipline means and why it is important to an activity afloat.

The candidate should realize that discipline is as much the responsibility of the participants as the leader and that poor discipline can endanger the entire group as well as the individual. Examples of poor discipline from the candidate's own background, such as laxity, favoritism, and adverse rigidity, might help the candidate define good discipline.

TROOP 102
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
BEDFORD, TEXAS 76025

MAY 14-15, 1994

ADULT LEADERSHIP:

WILLIAM EYERSOLE - SCOUTMASTER - 2216 JONES STREET
BEDFORD, TX 817-555-4416 AGE: 48

CLYDE THORNTON - PARENT OF TROOP MEMBER 1588 SMITH ST.
BEDFORD, TX. 817-555-6611

PARTICIPATING SCOUTS:

EDWARDS, DAVID	555-2381	MILLS, DEWEY	555-3999
EVERSOLE, MIKE	555-4416	OWENS, PETE	555-5521
GRIPPEY, STEVE	555-7928	REED, KEVIN	555-8002
KNIGHT, JOHN	555-6321	REED, THOMAS	555-8002
MARTIN, BRUCE	555-5871	THORNTON CHRIS	555-6611

EQUIPMENT: 5 CANOES - 15 PADDLES - 12 PFD'S - 1 TRAILER
OVERNIGHT CAMPING GEAR FOR 2 PATROLS

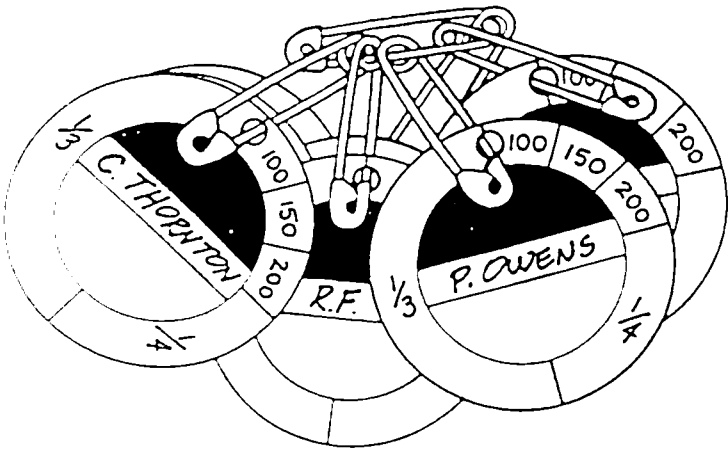
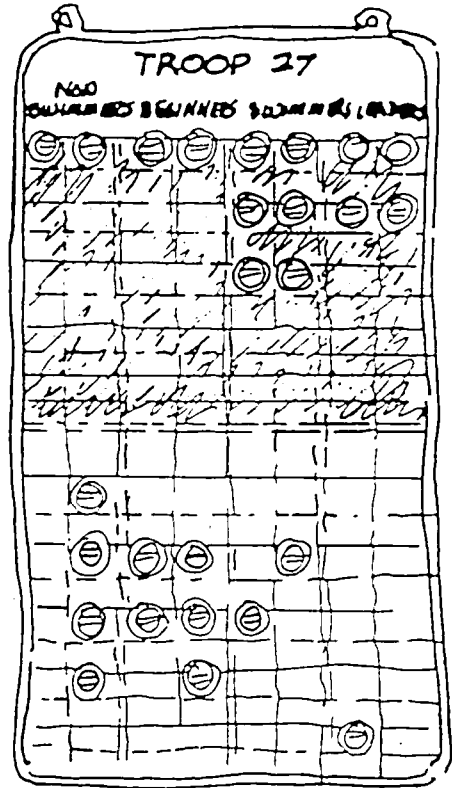
PLAN: FLOAT DOWN BRAZOS RIVER IN PALO PINTO COUNTY - 17 MILES
LEAVE 1ST METHODIST CHURCH - 8:00 AM SAT. MAY 14
PUT IN - HWY 16 CROSSING - 10:30 AM SAT. MAY 14
OVERNITE CAMP - CARSON'S LEDGE @ MILE 8 - PERMIT ISSUED
BY THE BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY.
PULL OUT - WORTH RANCH - 3:30 PM - SUN. MAY 15
ARRIVE 1ST METHODIST CHURCH - 6:00 PM - SUN. MAY 15

IN EMERGENCY CONTACT KAREN EYERSOLE 817-555-4416

Float Trip Buddy Tag Ideas

Portable Plastic Buddy Board

The portable buddy board shown here can be made and used by units at all aquatics activities. The top section, used for the actual check-in procedure, can be constructed of red oilcloth or colored plastic. The bottom or tag-storage section is made of clear plastic. Clear plastic pockets are then sewn on both sections to enable easy reading of tags. Adaptable to all surroundings, this board can be fastened to a wall at the YMCA pool, a fence at the city pool, or a tree at the unit swimming hole. To carry, fold lengthwise down the center and carefully roll from bottom to keep tags in place.



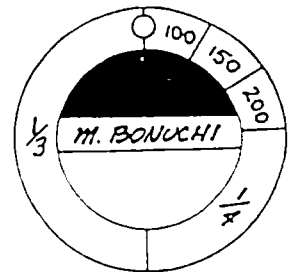
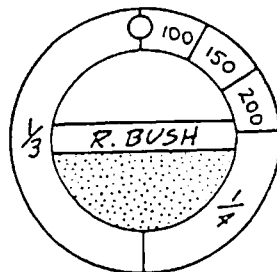
Safety Pin Buddy Tag Cluster

For a float trip, an easy and inexpensive method to keep track of buddies in boats is to use safety pins. You need a safety pin for each canoe, boat, or raft plus two more. Clip buddy tags together on each safety pin representing one craft. Slip all of the pins onto a "master" pin to keep the group together. Add one more safety pin that can be used to attach the entire cluster to the leader's PFD, available for easy reference while on the water!

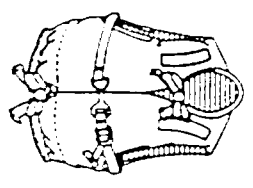
Buddy Tag, No. 01595—Print name in center with waterproof ink. Use red and blue permanent marking pens to identify swimming classification.

Swimming Classification and Record

- a. Nonswimmer—plain white
- b. Beginner—color top semicircle red
- c. Swimmer—color lower semicircle blue

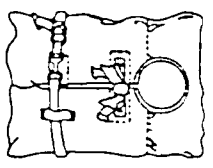


**TYPE I
OFFSHORE LIFE JACKET**



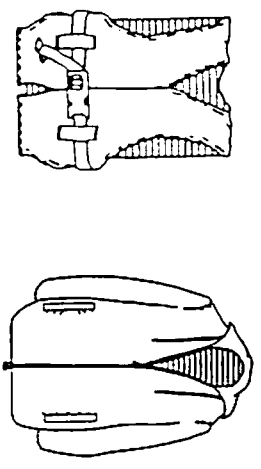
Intended for use off-shore in open or coastal waters, or potentially rough seas where quick rescue may not be available. A Type I PFD will turn most unconscious persons face-up in the water. It is the most effective PFD for use in rough water because it has a greater flotation value than any other type. It is reversible and is available in only two sizes, adult (90 lbs. or more) and child (less than 90 lbs.). It is the type required for use on vessels carrying passengers for hire.

**TYPE II
NEAR SHORE BUOYANT VEST**

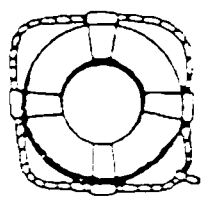


Designed for general boating activities and suitable for protected areas where rough water is not likely to be found, or for activities where quick rescue is available. A Type II is not suitable for extended or overnight survival in rough or cold water. A Type II PFD will turn many but not all persons face-up in the water. It is available in several sizes, adult (more than 90 lbs.), medium child (50 lbs. to 90 lbs.), and one or two small child sizes (less than 50 lbs. or less than 30 lbs.). It is less buoyant than the Type I.

**TYPE III
FLotation AID**



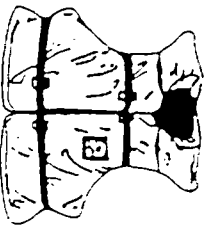
Designed for general boating activities or specialized activities such as hunting, fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. A Type III PFD is designed to provide a stable face-up position in calm water for a conscious person floating with head tied back. A Type III PFD is not intended to turn or maintain an unconscious wearer face up in water. It is available in many sizes. Intended for use in calm weather, calm water, and daylight and is suitable for use in protected areas where rough water is not likely to be found or where quick rescue is available. Wearer may have to tilt head back to avoid face-down position in water. If used for a special activity it should be worn at all times. A special Type III PFD called a jacket is also available which provides flotation, and some hypothermia protection for vest, legs, and trunk area as well as some protection against impact injury.



**TYPE IV
THROWABLE DEVICE, RING BUOYS, BUOYANT CUSHIONS**

A Type IV PFD is intended to be thrown to a person who has fallen overboard and is designed to be grasped and held by the user until rescued. It may be a cushion or a ring buoy. If the Type IV is of the cushion type it should not be worn on the back. A cushion worn on the back will turn a person face-down in the water. A Type IV PFD is of no use to an unconscious or exhausted person and is not recommended for nonswimmers or children. It is not suitable for rough or cold water survival. It provides enough buoyancy for the users to hold their heads out of the water. It is suitable for use on boats under 16' in protected areas where rough water is not likely to be found and where quick rescue is available. One Type IV PFD is required for use on boats 16' and over in length as an extra throwable device.

**TYPE V
SPECIAL USE DEVICES**



General:
Designed and approved for restricted uses or specific activities such as sailboarding or commercial white water rafting.
The label on the Type V PFD indicates the approved activity, restrictions or limitations, and performance type. This type of PFD is only acceptable when used for the activity for which it is designed. Board sailors are not required by California boating law to wear PFDs. Some local jurisdictions may require PFDs in areas under their control. However, it is recommended they wear one when engaged in the sport. If a Type V PFD is approved and identified for "commercial use" only, it does not satisfy requirements for recreational white water rafting, unless otherwise specified.

GRAND CANYON COUNCIL FLOAT PLAN

(Must be attached to tour permit for whitewater afloat activities)

Unit: _____ District: _____
(Type and unit number)

Unit Leader: _____ Telephone: _____

Date Departure: _____ Date Return: _____

Number of Participants: Youth: _____ Adults: _____

Check all that apply below:

Afloat Activity: Lake River- moving water River-whitewater* Ocean

Boating Craft: Canoe Kayak Raft Power boat Rowboat

Sailboat Sailboard Inner tube

*Whitewater: Any river where there are rapids. Whitewater rivers in Arizona include the Verde, Gila, Lower and Upper Salt. The lower Colorado River (Hoover Dam and below) is not considered a whitewater river but rather moving water and whitewater training is not required.

Qualified Supervisors:

Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts and Venture Scouts: 1 supervisor for every 10 participants, minimum of 2

Cub Scouts: 1 supervisor for every 5 participants, minimum of 2

1: Name _____ Age _____

Training: Safe Swim Defense Card Expiration Date: _____
Safety Afloat Card Expiration Date: _____
CPR Expiration Date: _____
Whitewater (if whitewater) Training Date: _____

2: Name _____ Age _____

Training: Safe Swim Defense Card Expiration Date: _____
Safety Afloat Card Expiration Date: _____
Whitewater (if whitewater) Training Date: _____

3: Name _____ Age _____

Training: Safe Swim Defense Card Expiration Date: _____
Safety Afloat Card Expiration Date: _____
Whitewater (if whitewater) Training Date: _____

4: Name _____ Age _____

Training: Safe Swim Defense Card Expiration Date: _____
Safety Afloat Card Expiration Date: _____
Whitewater (if whitewater) Training Date: _____

Participants

Name:

Telephone:

1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
5. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
6. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
7. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
8. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
9. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
10. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
11. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
12. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
13. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
14. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____
15. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Youth	_____

(Attach additional sheet for more participants or use back side of last page of this form)

Equipment:

Boats and Paddles:

Safety Equipment Including PFDs:

Other:

Emergency Contact(s):

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Trip Plans:

Travel Route To And From Destination:

Travel Route on Water (include starting location, ending location each day, approximate travel times on water and rest stops along the way):

Contingency Plans for Emergencies (include medical problems, weather, evacuation):