Troop Aquatics

Safety Afloat

Presentation Prepared by
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Red Cross Certified Lifeguard
Troop Aquatics

Safety Afloat

S S S
3 Sheets

P P P
3 Pillows

B E D
Bed
Safety Afloat

- Supervision
- Skills Proficiency
- Swimming Ability
- Physical Fitness
- PFD
- Planning
- Buddy System
- Equipment
- Discipline
Be sure to emphasize the benefits of getting B.S.A. Lifeguard assistance in planning and implementing the event.

“Will the event be safer with the help in planning?”
Check the merit badge books for the min. skill proficiency.
Learn how to handle the craft to be used for the outing.
Whitewater requirements... must be trained by a whitewater specialist (see also Guide to Safe Scouting).
Must meet State Certification and Motor-boating MB requirements.
Cub Scouts must limit canoeing and rafting to District and Council events on flatwater with no powerboats and sailboats.
Be sure to explain exceptions clearly—Beginners and non-swimmers may **ride** in canoes and sailboats with lifeguard only. At summer camp, Beginners and non-swimmers may row rowboats. All other events, only swimmers may participate in activities afloat (non-swimmers may still ride).
Every Scout must have these health forms! Class 2 is sufficient for most activities if they are not considered high adventure.

For Serious Medical Concerns:
Parents should also be consulted about abilities of the scout if there are serious medical concerns. Parents should be informed in detail what types of activities, skills will be needed for the activity afloat. Every effort should be made to help include everyone that can participate.
Describe different types (or bring examples) of PFD. Explain how to use. Emphasize that EVERYONE wears them at all times while in watercraft – no exceptions.
Times should be estimated generously. Talk to people who have traveled the route prior to your visit.

Discuss Tour Permits (Local and National). Mention Border Crossing issues into Canada. Mention waterway rules and agencies where this information can be found.
Notification depends on where you are going. Ask for participants to volunteer places. Discuss "who should know".
Emergencies – broken leg, heart attack, the “hurry cases”...
Other Problems – equipment failure, weather problems....
Contingency Plan – what do we do next?
Contingency plans should be in writing.
Common sense should apply to the proximity of the boats (across the lake is not acceptable). Also “supervision” should be a reasonable distance away as well (see and hear is a good rule of thumb).
No oars in canoes.
Scouts come in lots of different sizes.
Duct tape
Rope, throw bags etc.
Safety Afloat

 Discipline
- Know, Understand and Respect the Rules
- Help the Boys to Understand the Rules
- Enforce Rules Fairly
- Use Common Sense
Safety Afloat

SSS PPP BED

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Thanks for watching.
The End

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