

SWIM CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES

The swim classifications of individuals participating in a Boy Scouts of America activity is a key element in both Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat. The swim classification tests should be renewed annually, preferable at the beginning of each outdoor season. Traditionally, the swim classification test has only been conducted at summer camp. However, there is no restriction that this be the only place the test is conducted. The Yocona Area Council believes it may be more useful to conduct the swim classification prior to a unit going to summer camp.

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. 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 of 12-foot depth and with shallow water footing or a pool or pier edge always within 25 feet of the swimmer.

The various components of each test evaluate the several skills essential to the minimum level of swimming ability. Each step of the test is important and should be followed as listed below:

SWIMMER'S TEST

Jump feet first 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: side stroke, breast stroke, trudgen, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy resting back stroke. The 100 yard swim must be continuous and include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

BEGINNER'S TEST

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, level off, swim 25 feet on the surface, stop, turn sharply, resume swimming as before, and return to starting place.

ADMINISTRATION OF SWIM CLASSIFICATION TEST

OPTION A (at camp)

The swim classification test is completed during check-in by Camp Aquatics personnel.

OPTION B (at camp with council-approved aquatics resource people)

The swim classification test done at a unit level should be conducted by one of the following council-approved resource people: BSA Aquatics Instructor, BSA Aquatics Director, or Yocona Area Council approved Lifeguard. When the unit goes to summer camp, each individual will undergo the waterfront orientation.

UNIT SWIM

CLASSIFICATION RECORD

This is the individual's swim classification as of this date. Any change in status after this date (i.e., non-swimmer 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.
(Please copy and bring completed form to camp)

UNIT NUMBER _____ DATE OF SWIM TEST _____

FULL NAME (Please Print)	SWIM CLASSIFICATION		
	NON-SWIMMER	BEGINNER	SWIMMER
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			

NAME OF PERSON CONDUCTING TEST:

 PRINT NAME

 SIGNATURE

 CERTIFICATION

 EXPIRATION

UNIT LEADER:

 PRINT NAME

 SIGNATURE