



Swim Check Instructions

Unit Swim checks may be done at any time during the year. Swim checks are good for one calendar year from the date of issue. We accept swim checks from other camps, but the Aquatics Director has the right to retest as needed.

CIEC has determined the following may administer the swim checks per option #C:

Aquatic Instructor, BSA
BSA, Red Cross Lifeguard, and or Other lifeguard certification
BSA Swimming and Water Rescue Certification
Swimming Instructor i.e. Red Cross Basic Swim Instructor/Water Safety Instructor

In addition to the test administrator, unit leader(s) must be present to oversee the swim check to ensure YPT guidelines and all Safe Swim Defense/Safety Afloat policies outlined in the current Guide to Safe Scouting are followed. Unit Leaders must be 21 years or older and have current YPT, Safe Swim Defense and Safety Afloat training available at my.scouting.org

Swim Checks must be held to the standards of outlined in the Aquatic Supervision Guide available for free download:

<https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/aquatics/forms/>

Chapter 5: Swim Classification Tests. A one to one ratio of test administrator to swimmer is required. Do NOT have 10 scouts testing with 1 administrator watching.

Please use the BSA's Unit Swim Classification Record on the following pages for program check in.

Questions: please feel free to contact Sarah Franklin, CIEC Aquatic Committee Chair
ciecaquatics@gmail.com

Unit Swim Classification Record

This is the individual's swim classification as of this date. Any change in status after this date (i.e., nonswimmer to beginner or beginner to swimmer) would require a reclassification test performed by an approved test administrator. Changes and corrections to the following chart should be initialed and dated by the test administrator.

SPECIAL NOTE: When swim tests are conducted away from camp, the camp aquatics director retains the right to review or retest any or all participants to ensure that standards have been maintained.

Unit Number _____

Date of Swim Test _____

	Full Name (Print) (Draw lines through blank spaces.)	Medical Recheck	Swim Classification		
			Nonswimmer	Beginner	Swimmer
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					

NAME OF PERSON CONDUCTING THE TEST:

Print Name

Signature

Qualification

Council/Agency (Red Cross, YMCA, etc.)

UNIT LEADER:

Print Name

Signature

SWIM CLASSIFICATION PROCEDURES

The swim classification 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, preferably at the beginning of each outdoor season.** Traditionally, the swim classification test has only been conducted at a long-term summer camp. However, there is no restriction that this be the only place the test can be conducted. 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 (e.g., 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).

ADMINISTRATION OF SWIM CLASSIFICATION TEST (THE LOCAL COUNCIL CHOOSES ONE OF THESE OPTIONS):

OPTION A (at camp):

The swim classification test is completed the first day by camp aquatics personnel.

OPTION B (Council conducted/council controlled):

The council controls the swim classification process by predetermined dates, locations, and approved personnel to serve as test administrators. When the unit goes to summer camp, each individual will be issued a buddy tag under the direction of the camp aquatics director for use at the camp.

OPTION C (At unit level 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: **Aquatics Instructor, BSA; Aquatics Cub Supervisor; BSA Lifeguard; BSA Swimming & Water Rescue; or other lifeguard, swimming instructor, etc.** When the unit goes to summer camp, each individual will be issued a buddy tag under the direction of the camp aquatics director for use at the camp.

TO THE TEST ADMINISTRATOR

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 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.

BEGINNER'S TEST:

Jump feetfirst 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.