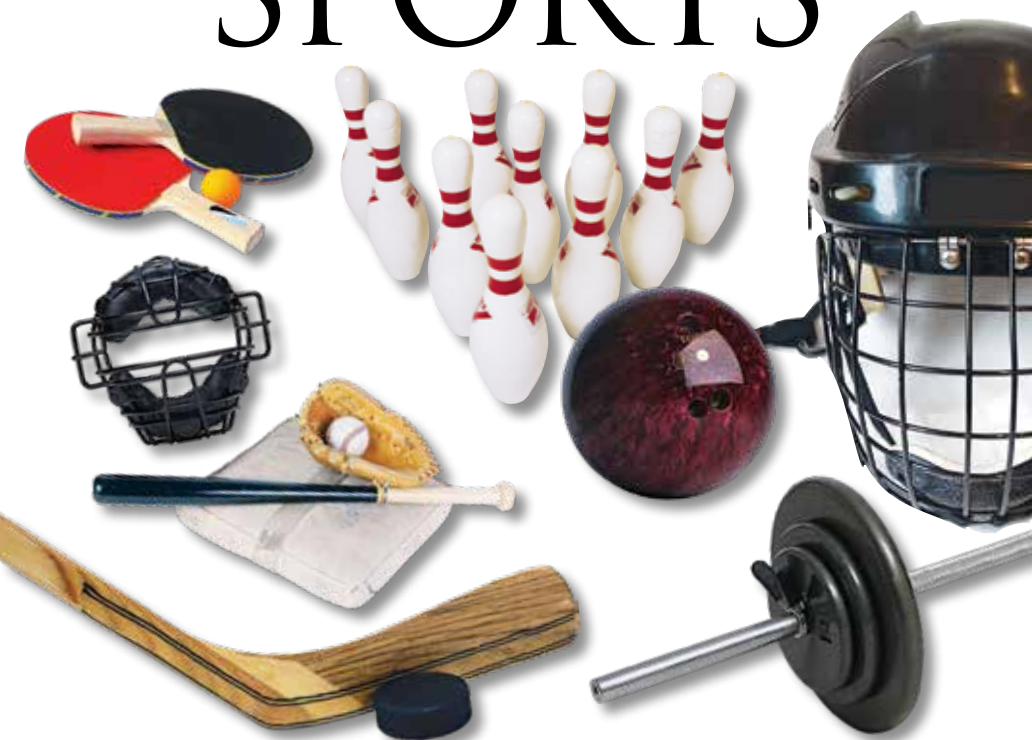


MERIT BADGE SERIES



SPORTS



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

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SPORTS



"Enhancing our youths' competitive edge through merit badges"



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Requirements

Note: The activities used to fulfill the requirements for the Sports merit badge may not be used to help fulfill requirements for other merit badges.

1. Do the following:
 - (a) Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while playing sports, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.
 - (b) Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while participating in sports, including sprains, strains, contusions, abrasions, fractures, blisters, muscle cramps, injured teeth, dehydration, heat and cold reactions, and concussions or other suspected injuries to the head, neck, and back.
2. Explain the importance of the following:
 - (a) The importance of the physical exam
 - (b) The importance of maintaining good health habits for life (such as exercising regularly), and how the use of tobacco products, alcohol, and other harmful substances can negatively affect your health and your performance in sports activities
 - (c) The importance of maintaining a healthy diet
3. Discuss the following:
 - (a) The importance of warming up and cooling down
 - (b) The importance of weight training
 - (c) What an amateur athlete is and the differences between an amateur and a professional athlete
 - (d) The attributes (qualities) of a good sport, the importance of sportsmanship, and the traits of a good team leader and player who exhibits Scout spirit on and off the playing field

4. With guidance from your counselor, establish a personal training program suited to the activities you choose for requirement 5. Then do the following:
 - (a) Create a chart and use it to track your training, practice, and development in these sports for one season (or four months).
 - (b) Demonstrate proper technique for your two chosen sports.
 - (c) At the end of the season, share your completed chart with your counselor and discuss how your participation in the sports you chose has affected you mentally and physically.
5. Take part for one season (or four months) as a competitive individual or as a member of an organized team in TWO of the following sports: baseball, basketball, bowling, cross-country, diving, field hockey, flag football, flag team, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, spirit/cheerleading, swimming, tackle football, table tennis, tennis, track & field, volleyball, water polo and wrestling, and/or badminton. Your counselor may approve in advance other recognized sports.* Then with your chosen sports do the following:
 - (a) Give the rules and etiquette for the two sports you picked.
 - (b) List the equipment needed for the two sports you chose. Describe the protective equipment and appropriate clothing (if any) and explain why it is needed.
 - (c) Draw diagrams of the playing areas for your two sports.

*The BSA has prohibited as official Scouting activities intramural, interscholastic, or club-sport competitions or activities. However, they can be acceptable for your individual participation in an organized school, league, or club activity if approved by your counselor.



Sports Resources

Scouting Literature

Scouts BSA Handbook for Boys, Scouts BSA Handbook for Girls; Emergency First Aid pocket guide; *Be Prepared First Aid Book; Archery, Athletics, Canoeing, Climbing, Cycling, First Aid, Golf, Horsemanship, Kayaking, Personal Fitness, Rowing, Safety, Scuba Diving, Skating, Small-Boat Sailing, Snow Sports, Swimming, and Water Sports* merit badge pamphlets

For more information about Scouting-related resources, visit the BSA's online retail catalog (with your parent's permission) at <http://www.scoutstuff.org>.

Books

- Bauer, Gerhard. *New Soccer Techniques, Tactics & Teamwork*. Sterling Publishing, 2002.
- Dearing, Joel. *Volleyball Fundamentals*. Human Kinetics, 2003.
- Dintiman, George Blough. *Speed Improvement for Young Athletes: How to Sprint Faster in Your Sport in 30 Workouts*. National Association of Speed and Explosion, 2006.
- Driver, Bruce. *The Baffled Parent's Guide to Coaching Youth Hockey*. International Marine/Ragged Mountain Press, 2004.
- Faigenbaum, Avery D., and Wayne L. Westcott. *Youth Strength Training: Programs for Health, Fitness and Sport*. Human Kinetics, 2009.
- Fortin, Francois. *Sports: The Complete Visual Reference*. Firefly Books, 2003.
- Greene, Larry. *Training for Young Distance Runners*. Human Kinetics, 2004.
- Hammond, Tim. *Sports*. Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Books, 2005.
- Heitzmann, Ray. *Careers for Sports Nuts & Other Athletic Types*. McGraw-Hill, 2004.
- Lancaster, Scott. *Athletic Fitness for Kids*. Human Kinetics, 2007.
- McIntosh, Ned. *Managing Little League*. McGraw-Hill, 2008.
- Micheli, Lyle, and Mark Jenkins. *The Sports Medicine Bible for Young Athletes*. Source Books Inc., 2001.
- Paye, Burrall, and Patrick Paye. *Youth Basketball Drills*. Human Kinetics, 2000.

Plays, F.B. *Unbeatable Flag Football Plays*. Kindle Edition, 2011.

Werner, Doug. *Bowler's Start-up: A Beginner's Guide to Bowling*. Tracks Publishing, 1995.

Organizations and Websites

American College of Sports Medicine

401 West Michigan St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3233
Telephone: 317-637-9200
Website: <http://www.acsm.org>

American Council on Exercise

Toll-free telephone: 888-825-3636
Website: <http://www.acefitness.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Brain Injury Website:
<http://www.cdc.gov/HeadsUp/>

Human Kinetics Coach Education

Telephone: 217-351-5076
Website: <http://www.asep.com>

Institute for International Sport— National Sportsmanship Day

Website: <https://internationalsport.org/national-sportsmanship-day>

National Federation of State High School Associations

P.O. Box 690
Indianapolis, IN 46206
Telephone: 317-972-6900
Website: <http://www.nfhs.org>

National Youth Sports Health & Safety Institute

Website: <http://www.nyshsi.org>

United States Olympic Committee

One Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Website: <http://www.teamusa.org>