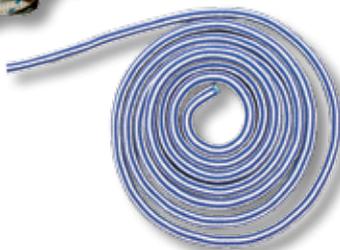


MERIT BADGE SERIES



SMALL-BOAT SAILING



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SMALL-BOAT SAILING



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Requirements

1. Do the following:
 - a. Explain first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while small-boat sailing, including hypothermia, dehydration, heat reactions, motion sickness, cuts, scratches, abrasions, contusions, puncture wounds, and blisters.
 - b. Identify the conditions that must exist before performing CPR on a person, and explain how to recognize such conditions. Demonstrate proper technique for performing CPR using a training device approved by your counselor.
2. Before doing the following requirements, successfully complete the BSA swimmer test.
3. Describe the boat you will be using for the sailing requirement, naming all of the major parts and the function of those parts.*
4. Before going afloat, do the following:
 - a. Discuss the nine points of the BSA Safety Afloat plan.
 - b. Explain the rules of the road in general and any specific rules or laws that apply to your area or state.
 - c. Explain how water conditions, the hazards of weather, and heavy winds can affect both safety and performance in sailing.

*The skills may be demonstrated on any boat available to the Scout; sailboards are not acceptable. While no specific sail plan is recommended, it is suggested that the craft be smaller than 20 feet. The boat must be capsizable and have the capability of sailing to windward.

- d. Discuss the warning signs of inclement weather and what to do should heavy winds develop or a storm approach.
 - e. Prepare a typical float plan.
 - f. Discuss the proper clothing, footwear, and personal gear required for small-boat sailing in warm weather and in cool weather. Explain how choosing the proper clothing, footwear, and personal gear will help keep you comfortable and safe while sailing.
5. Discuss with your counselor how to identify the wind direction and wind indicators. Explain the importance of this task before setting sail.
6. Following the BSA Safety Afloat plan, show that you and a buddy can sail a boat properly. Do the following:
- a. Prepare a boat for sailing, including a safety inspection.
 - b. Get under way from a dock, mooring, or beach.
 - c. Properly set sails for a round-trip course approved by your counselor that will include running, beating, and reaching—the basic points of sail. While sailing, demonstrate good helmsmanship skills.
 - d. Change direction by tacking; change direction by jibing.
 - e. Demonstrate getting out of irons.
 - f. Demonstrate the safety position.
 - g. Demonstrate capsize procedures and the rescue of a person overboard.†
 - h. Demonstrate the procedure to take after running aground.
 - i. Upon returning to the dock, mooring, or beach, properly secure all equipment, furl or stow sails, and prepare the craft for unattended docking or beaching overnight or longer.

†Capsize procedures should be conducted under the close supervision of the counselor. A rescue boat should be standing by to assist, if necessary, and to tow the capsized craft to shore. Self-bailing boats are acceptable for this requirement. Extreme care should be taken to avoid personal injury and damage to the boat or equipment.

7. Demonstrate a working knowledge of marlinespike seamanship. Do the following:
 - a. Show how to tie a square (reef) knot, clove hitch, two half hitches, bowline, cleat hitch, and figure-eight knot. Demonstrate the use of each.
 - b. Show how to heave a line, coil a line, and fake down a line.
 - c. Discuss the kinds of lines used on sailboats and the types of fibers used in their manufacture. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of each.
8. Describe how you would care for and maintain a sailboat and its gear throughout the year.
9. With your counselor, review sailing terminology and the points of sail. Discuss various types of sailboats in use today and explain their differences.

Small-Boat Sailing Resources

Scouting Literature

Deck of First Aid; Emergency First Aid pocket guide; Be Prepared First Aid Book; Fieldbook; Sea Scout Manual; Canoeing, Kayaking, Motorboating, Rowing, Scuba Diving, and Whitewater merit badge pamphlets

Visit the Boy Scouts of America's official retail website at <http://www.scoutstuff.org> for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other helpful Scouting materials and supplies.

Books

Ashley, Clifford. *Ashley Book of Knots*. Doubleday, 1944.

Bond, Bob. *The Handbook of Sailing*. Knopf, 1992.

Fries, Derrick. *Start Sailing Right!* US Sailing Association, 1997.

Isler, Peter, and J.J. Isler. *Sailing for Dummies*. IDG Books Worldwide, 1997.

Kantor, John. *Basic Sailing*. Longshore Sailing School (www.LongshoreSailingSchool.com), 2004.

Maloney, Elbert S. *Chapman Piloting and Seamanship*, 65th ed. Hearst Corporation, 2006.

Rousmaniere, John. *Annapolis Book of Seamanship*. Simon & Schuster, 1999.

Royce, Patrick. *Royce's Sailing Illustrated*. Royce Publications, 1997.

Smith, Hervey Garrett. *The Marlinespike Sailor*, 2nd ed. Martino Fine Books, 2012.

US Sailing Association. *Small Boat Sailor Certification Record Book* ("The Little Red Book"). US Sailing Association, 2001.



Magazines

Sail

180 Canal St., Suite 302
 Boston, MA 02114
 Toll-free telephone: 800-745-7245
 Website: <http://www.sailmagazine.com>

Sailing

Website: <http://www.sailingmagazine.net>

Sailing World

P.O. Box 420235
 Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235
 Toll-free telephone: 866-436-2460
 Website: <http://www.sailingworld.com>

Organizations and Websites

American Sailing Association

5301 Beethoven St., Suite 265
 Los Angeles, CA 90066
 Telephone: 310-822-7171
 Website:
<http://www.asa.com>

Online Small Boat Sailing Course

Website: <http://www.sailingcourse.com/smallboat/index.html>

U.S. Coast Guard: Boating

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

US SAILING Association

P.O. Box 1260
 Portsmouth, RI 02871-0907
 Toll-free telephone: 800-877-2451
 Website: <http://www.ussailing.org>

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