

Note to Counselors

Purpose

Boardsailing BSA has been developed to introduce basic boardsailing skills, equipment, and safety precautions; to encourage the development of skills that promote fitness and safe aquatic recreation; and to lay a foundation for more advanced and demanding boardsailing activities. It serves as a year-round program opportunity for Boy Scout, Varsity, and Venturing units and is well-suited for older Scouts at summer camp.

Counselors

Any person recognized as a boardsailing instructor by the U.S. Windsurfing or U.S. Sailing associations may serve as a counselor for this award with the approval of the local council. Adults with similar qualifications may serve as counselors with approval from a council aquatics committee. A person trained and experienced in boardsailing skills and safety may provide instruction for this award in a Scout summer camp program under the supervision of a currently trained BSA Aquatics Instructor. All requirements must be completed as stated.

Recognition

Scouts completing the requirements are eligible for a swimsuit patch, No. 249. A completed award application (No. 512-017) should be submitted to the local council by the counselor or unit leader.

Teaching Areas

Instruction must be conducted on a protected body of water in an area free from other traffic or large waves. Initial water entry and practice should be on a gradual beach clear of hazards. A steady three- to seven-knot breeze is ideal for beginner practice. All participants should be close enough to supervisory personnel for efficient instruction and ready assistance.

References

Basic skills and safety precautions are presented in the BSA publication: *Aquatics Supervision: A Youth Leader's Guide for Swimming and Boating Activities*. Additional references may be found online at www.uswindsurfing.org and www.ussailing.org.

