

Swimwear Recommendations for Local Councils

The following recommendations are to aid councils in developing appropriate swimwear guidelines for their aquatics' programs.

The BSA National Aquatics Committee Swimwear Statement:

We recommend that swimwear should be comfortable, functional, and appropriate for the specific aquatic activity. As always, we remind everyone that Scouting's [Barriers to Abuse](#) state, "Appropriate attire is required for all activities". Policies should reflect the BSA's [statement](#) and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Local Council Swimwear Guidelines

When formulating your council's swimwear guidelines, they should be based on safety, inclusion, and respect. These guidelines also need to align with Scouting's Barriers to Abuse – "Appropriate attire for the activity". In addition to using the above BSA National Aquatics Subcommittee swimwear statement, you may decide to also include additional considerations. These can pertain to all ages, genders, and can apply to Scouts, Scouters, staff, visitors, and family members.

Additional Swimwear Guideline Considerations to Potentially Include:

- Clean
- Designed as swimwear
- Appropriate to the activity
- Secure enough to not shift or fall off while participating
- Infants & Toddlers must wear swimwear over diapers (anyone not potty trained must wear a swim diaper)
- T-shirt or additional layer may be allowed if it does not hamper movement in the water

Remember: Safety is the most important component of any swimwear guidelines – As you develop your local council's swimwear guidelines, please focus on protecting each person's health and safety, while maintaining dignity and respect.