

SWIMMING CLASSIFICATION

In accordance with Scouting America policy, each Scout and adult must have a swim classification upon arrival at camp. Swim classifications may be done at camp as part of the check-in process. An alternative is for individuals or units to conduct swim classifications for Scouts and adults prior to attending camp using the “Swim Classification” procedure and record sheet outlined on page [87](#). Arriving at camp with swim classifications already completed and submitted at the pre-camp meeting reduces a unit’s orientation time.

If taking advantage of the option to determine swim classifications prior to arrival at camp, the following procedure must be followed.

The swim classification at the unit level must be administered by an individual with one of the following certifications:

- Aquatics Instructor, Scouting America
- Aquatics Supervisor, Scouting America
- Certified Lifeguard

Any expense for this pre-camp classification is paid by the unit and is not reimbursed by the camp. The attached “Unit Swim Classification” report must be filled out completely with the proper classification filled in for all Scouts, leaders and adults who took the swim assessment. The Swim Classification form and the copy of the Scouting America requirements must be signed by the administrator of the classification assessment and submitted **along with copies of their certifications including current CPR with expiration date**.

Remember, every person using the waterfront must have a “swim classification.” If any person in your unit does not take part in the pre-camp classification session(s), he/she will have to take the swim test upon arrival at summer camp.

When the unit/Scout arrives at summer camp, each individual will be issued a buddy tag based on their classification.

Please note: When the swim classification is conducted away from camp, the Camp Aquatics Director reserves the authority to review or reassess at his/her discretion.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR UNIT LEADERS

The swim classification assessment must be given and scored according to the direction contained in this guide. Using any other standard risks putting a Scout in a life threatening situation. For example, overstating a Scout’s swimming ability could allow them access to deeper water than they are prepared for with the potential for tragic results.

Follow the guide for safety’s sake!

2026 UNIT SWIM CLASSIFICATION FORM

Unit No: _____ Campsite: _____ Week: _____ Date of Swim Test: _____

Unit Leader: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

This is the individual swim classification record as of this date. Any changes in status after this date i.e., non-swimmer to beginner or beginner to swimmer would require a reassessment and reclassification by the Camp Aquatics Director. All Scouts and leaders must complete the swim classification and record.

Special Note: When swim classifications are assessed away from camp or at the point of activity, the Aquatics Director shall at all times reserve the authority to review or reassess all participants to assure that standards have been maintained.

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR CERTIFICATIONS TO THIS FORM.

	PRINTED FULL NAME	Y / A	SWIM CLASSIFICATION		
			NON-SWIMMER	BEGINNER	SWIMMER
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

Name of person conducting classification assessment – (For this record to be valid, copies of certifications, including CPR with expiration date, must be attached)

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

SWIM CLASSIFICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is the unit leader's responsibility to ensure that the administrator of the swim assessment understands the standards for Scouting America's swim classification. Please have the administrator read and sign this description of the classification. **The administrator must also attach copies of their certifications, including CPR and expiration date,** to this paper and this should be submitted with the unit classification sheet. Sheets without this information will not be accepted at summer camp.

NONSWIMMERS (WHITE) have not completed either the beginner or swimmer test.

BEGINNERS (RED) MUST PASS THIS TEST: Jump feet first 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 the starting place.

SWIMMERS (BLUE) MUST PASS THIS TEST: Jump feet first into water over the head in depth. Level off and 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 completed in one swim without stops and must include at least one sharp turn. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

I understand the national standards of Scouting America for swim classification and I have administered the test in a manner supporting these standards.

Signature of administrator: _____

Date: _____