

Troop 37 PDF and Waterfront Guidelines

Swimming shall be allowed at Kayak Camp without personal flotation devices only under the following circumstances:

1. The troop establishes positive control over the waterfront, including:
 - a. The use of two buddy boards, one for boating and one for swimming, with an adult or older scout dedicated to operating each board (these individuals would not be included in the 1:10 ratio);
 - b. Limitation on interaction between parents/scouts and the waterfront supervisor/lookouts (questions and requests are too distracting and could probably be handled by the persons operating the buddy boards);
2. Two lookouts who are at least 18 years old, one of whom is a certified lifeguard, are dedicated to the swimming area. To run the waterfront for the week-long camp, the Water Safety Committee estimates the troop would need to have at least two certified lifeguards at camp.
3. Swimming without PFDs is only allowed when the “Salad” (small boat for swamping play) and other toys are not available. The committee discussed having two separate swimming areas, one for swimming and one for water play, but concluded it would be impractical because the scouts would move back and forth from one to the other. Another option that was suggested is to have different times for swimming and water play.
4. Rambunctious behavior is not allowed without PFDs.
5. When practical, the swimming area is limited to six feet in depth (there are times when this would not be practical because the water becomes deep too quickly).

Each year, it will be in the discretion of the camp director and waterfront supervisor to determine whether the resources are available to operate under these circumstances and whether they want to offer swimming without PFDs. If not, all scouts must wear PFDs at all times when in the water at Kayak Camp.

To improve the general safety of the waterfront at Kayak Camp, the following shall be implemented:

1. Greater positive control at the waterfront, including the use of two buddy boards, as described above, and a limitation on interaction between parents/scouts and the waterfront supervisor/lookouts (parents/scouts may direct inquiries and requests to the persons operating the buddy boards)..
2. Use of a barrier to control access to the beach if the waterfront supervisor feels additional control would be beneficial.
3. When the waterfront is closed, the area used by Troop 37 is closed to all non-troop-sponsored water-related activity (including swimming by adults and siblings), unless the activity is authorized by the waterfront supervisor. The waterfront may, however, be used for non-swimming activities such as fishing, skipping rocks, reading on the beach, etc.