

# PIEDMONT COUNCIL BSA

## Swimming-Lifesaving MB Counselor Requirements

Information in the Guide to Advancement is a good start point – a) BSA Lifeguard, b) AED certification, c) CPR certification or Red Cross First Aid certification as outlined in the GTA section 7.0.1.0

Swimming and watercraft activities must be conducted in accordance with BSA Safe Swim Defense or BSA Safety Afloat, respectively, and be supervised by mature and conscientious adults at least 21 years old and trained in the program applicable. Counselors for merit badges involving swimming or the use of watercraft must be so trained, or use helpers who are.

Swimming. Demonstrations or activities in or on the water must be conducted according to BSA Safe Swim Defense and BSA Safety Afloat.

Lifesaving. Demonstrations or activities in or on the water must be supervised by an adult at least 21 years old with certification in Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED or equivalent, and also as BSA Lifeguard or Aquatics Instructor or equivalent.

To assure Piedmont Council Swimming-Lifesaving Merit Badge Counselors can properly teach swimming & Lifesaving, these additional requirements are added to the Guide to Advancement.

Must be 21 years old to serve as MB Counselor outside of summer camp. In summer camp the Aquatics Director is allowed to use instructors 18 years old serving under his/her guidance. This requirement is a GTA requirement and is noted here for emphasis.

BSA National Camp School Directors w/ current certification or Red Cross Water Safety Instructor w/ current certification can be immediately accepted as MB Counselors for both Swimming and Lifesaving Merit Badges. It's desirable for Piedmont Council to have many National Camp School Accredited Aquatic Directors and Instructors.

Those who have previously been certified by National Camp School or Red Cross Water Safety Instructor (WSI) will be accepted as swimming-lifesaving merit badge counselors provided health and strength will permit.

Others not Camp School Certified or WSI certified will be approved (or dis-proved) by on-site test during the summer camp season. The Piedmont Council Aquatics Director is responsible for this scheduling and certification.

Once an on-site test-certification is completed by the Piedmont Council Aquatics Director, the following standard requirements follow a) BSA membership code 42 registered, b) MB Counselor Orientation completed, c) Youth Protection Training current, d) completion of the MB Counselor Information form.