

Greater Niagara Frontier Council

Swimming and Boating Regulations for Council Properties

Buddy System:

For all swimming and boating activities, the buddy system is used.

All participants will check in and out of the ability areas with a buddy using a tag system.

Swim Test:

Each person attending summer camp must take a swim test. During school year events, only aquatic participants must test. Adults and Scouts, BSA participants may pre-test prior to camp in a pool with approval of the Aquatics Committee. Council run swim test dates and locations are announced in early Spring each year. All Cub Scouts must test at camp in the lake.

Swim Test Requirements

Swimmer (Blue)

- Jump feet first into water over the head, level off and begin swimming.
- Swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: side, breast, trudgen, or crawl.
- Swim 25 yards using an easy, resting backstroke.
- The 100 yards must be completed without stops and must include at least one sharp turn
- Rest by floating...Long enough to demonstrate the ability to rest when exhausted.

Beginner (Red)

- Jump feet first into water over the head, level off and begin swimming.
- Swim 25 feet on the surface.
- Stop, turn, and resume swimming back to the starting place.

Non-Swimmer (White)

- Did not complete either of the swimming tests.

**Note - when swimming you must use only the areas that both swimmers are qualified to be in.
Example: if a blue and a white swimmer are buddies they must remain in the white area.*

Boating Regulations

Paddle Boats, John Boats, & Row Boats

Any combination of red/blue swimmers, but must include at least one blue swimmer (any age) in the boat.

One or more white (non-swimmers) may use any of these craft with at least one blue adult swimmer in the boat.

Canoes

All (minimum of 2 and maximum of 3 in a canoe) blue swimmers (any age) in the canoe.

A red swimmer (or 2 red swimmers) may canoe with at least 1 adult blue swimmer in the canoe.

Kayaks & Stand Up Paddleboards (SUP)

Blue swimmers only (any age for kayaks, SUPs are Scouts, BSA only).

Kayaks & SUPs must have buddy boats – max of 3 in a buddy group.

Sailboats

A blue Arrow of Light may be a passenger on a sailboat with a blue adult who has sailing knowledge.

A blue Scouts, BSA buddy pair may operate a sailboat if one participant has sailing knowledge.

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