## Dear Merit Badge Counselor;

First I would like to thank you for your time and commitment to the scouts of the Pennsylvania Dutch Council as an Aquatics Merit Badge Counselor. Your commitment, like many others, has gone to advancing the skills and character of many of the scouts that have gone through our council.

The National Office has been updating the merit badge requirements for aquatics, climbing, shooting etc., along with the requirements for the counselors. National required that each council form a committee for Shooting Sports, Aquatics, and Climbing. As the Aquatics Committee, we are required to inspect our camps, set up training, and insure that all aquatics activities are safe, along with many other aquatics related matters. One item is to insure that all Aquatics Merit Badge Counselors are properly trained and certified. As a committee we have met to discuss the directives of National, and guidelines set at National Workshops.

Attached are the requirements to be a counselor for each merit badge. Please review them and send a copy of the certifications for each merit badges you instruct. If you do not have the needed certifications, you can contact me and I will set up training, or tell you where you can find the training.

## Aquatics Merit Badge Counselor Worksheet

Our Records show that your certification in the following has either expired, will expire soon, or is incomplete. These must be completed in order for you to remain registered as a Merit Badge Counselor. Please fill in the missing information and return this form along with a copy of the certifying document to the council office.

Required for all Aquatic Positions: Youth Protection First Aid CPR Safe Swim Defense Safety Afloat (Except Swimming and Lifesaving)	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
Swimming Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): BSA Aquatics Instructor Trained Swimming Coach Red Cross OR YMCA, OR School Swimming Instructor Trained or Approved as/by a BSA Aquatics Instructor	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
Life Saving Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): BSA Aquatics Instructor BSA Lifeguard Councilor American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor American Red Cross OR YMCA Lifeguard Councilor State or National Recognized Agency Lifeguard Instructor	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
Canoe Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): BSA Aquatics Instructor American Canoe Association Canoeing Instructor US Canoe Association Canoeing Instructor American Red Cross Canoeing Instructor With Council Approval, Have previously held an above Certification, or be trained as/by a BSA Aquatics Instructor	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
Rowing Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): BSA Aquatics Instructor Trained or Approved as/by a BSA Instructor	Expiration Date Expiration Date
Small Boat Sailing Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): BSA Aquatics Instructor American Sailing Association Instructor USA Sailing Association Instructor Trained or Approved as/by a BSA Aquatics Instructor	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
White Water Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): American Canoe Association Whitewater Instructor US Canoe Association Whitewater Instructor American Whitewater	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
Water Sports Trained or Approved as/by a BSA Aquatics Instructor	Expiration Date
Motor Boating Trained or Approved as/by a BSA Aquatics Instructor	Expiration Date
Kayaking Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): BSA Aquatics Instructor American Canoe Association Kayaking Instructor US Canoe Association Kayaking Instructor American Red Cross Kayaking instructor With Council Approval, Have previously held an above Certification, or be trained as/by a BSA Aquatics Instructor	Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date Expiration Date
SCUBA Diving Merit Badge (1 Required for Registration): Certified SCUBA Diver by PADI, NAUI, SSI, IDEA, PDIC, SDI, or another agency that is a member of WRSTC. It should be noted that the Diving instructor for requirement 4 must be a SSI, IDEA, PDIC, SDI, or another agency that is a member of WRSTC.	Expiration Date a SCUBA Diving instructor certified by PADI, NAU The scout must provide a copy of their open water

IJ**,** diver certification with the merit badge blue card.