

## Aquatics Area Safety Policies and Procedures

This handout serves both as a reminder for troops participating in Kia Kima swim checks and as a notice for those troops who have completed their checks prior to arrival at camp

1. If your troop has completed their swim checks before arriving at camp, there is no need to participate in the swim check procedure at the Cherokee Lake. Please give your roster with swim classifications and medical restrictions to your troop guide. Your troop guide will make your troop's buddy tags while the troop goes through medical rechecks. During the camp tour, your troop guide will show you your respective aquatics area and will assist in placing the buddy tags in the correct location. The troop guide is responsible for turning in the roster to the appropriate aquatics director. Please note the policy and procedure located below.
2. If your troop is participating in swim checks at Camp Cherokee's Lake (John Cooper Lake), proceed there after the check in, medical recheck, and visit to your campsite. Please arrive at the lake ready to swim. There your troop will be swim checked and buddy tag's information will be filled in full.
3. Buddy Tags will be issued to every scout and scouter who has participated in a swim test.
4. The buddy tag issued to each bather is theirs and theirs alone. Once the tags are filled out and issued, do not touch or handle another bathers tag. In addition, do not alter the color or information of your tag. The aquatics staff retains a master list of swimmers and their classification.
5. The waterfront staffs reserve the right to retest any aquatics participant who does not appear to perform at the level at which he or she is classified.
6. Buddy tags are colored as follows:
  - a. No color is a nonswimmer
  - b. Red on the top half is a beginner
  - c. Red on top and Blue on the bottom is a swimmer
7. The first initial and last name of participant is written in the space in the front middle of the tag.
8. The back of the buddy tag will contain the troops campsite location, the respective camp, the troop number, and the participants first name.
9. You must receive permission from an aquatics staff member before entering or leaving the waterfront areas. We are required to keep an accurate count of people in the area at all times.
10. You will not be allowed into the area without a buddy tag, no matter if you are entering the water or not.
11. To enter the water you must also have a buddy that will swim at the same level as you.
12. Bathers are only allowed to be in the area represented by the placement of their tag on the "in" board.
13. When not using your tag, it will be placed on the "out" board under you campsite name.
14. Bathers are not permitted to throw rocks, participate in rough horseplay, wrestle, or fight in the water.
15. When the buddy check bell is sounded, pair up with your buddy, remain quiet and follow instructions given by lifeguards.
16. There will be no inflatable devices, rafts, or boats in the swimming areas without prior aquatics director approval .
17. When the waterfront area is vacant, or an aquatics staff member designates the area as closed, there will be no entry into the water permitted.
18. The Kia Kima waterfronts operate on the 30/30 national standard. If lightning is seen and thunder is heard within thirty (30) seconds of each other, the swimming areas must be vacated for no less than thirty (30) minutes. Swimming areas may be closed or limited for other unforeseen safety hazards such as extremely cold or turbid water.
19. You must be a swimmer to participate in waterfront merit badges. You must be a swimmer to ride in or operate a boat or water craft. You must be a swimmer to participate in the Slide, Blob, and Iceberg. No exceptions. Direct any questions to the waterfront directors.
20. Violation of any of these policies may result in warning or removal from the waterfront.
21. The waterfront staff reserves the right to enact other policy, program, or safety guidelines that may not be listed here.