

National Sea Scout Support Committee 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane P.O. Box 152079 Irving, TX 75015-2079 972-580-7810 972-580-2430 fax www.seascout.org

Sea Scouts, BSA - General Information

Joining Sea Scouts -

- How old (or young) can a youth be to join Sea Scouts?

 Sea Scouts is a co-ed program for young men and women who are 13 years of age and have completed the eighth grade or are 14 and not yet 21 years of age.
- Can females be registered members of the Sea Scout program?

 The Sea Scout program allows females to be registered youth or adult members of the program, as long as they meet the age and membership standards of the Boy Scouts of America. It is not a prerequisite for any person to have been a Girl Scout or member of another girl youth program prior to joining. Approximately 35% of all Sea Scouts are female.
- How can I become an adult volunteer in Sea Scouts?
 Any person, male or female, who is 21 years of age or older and meets the membership standards of the Boy Scouts of America can apply to be an adult volunteer with Sea Scouts. Generally adult leaders should have an interest in or skills related to nautical, boating, or underwater activities.
- Is there a Sea Scout unit (ship) in my area?

 Ships are organized in areas throughout the U.S., usually where there is a body of water (lake, ocean, or river) where they can conduct nautical programs. Anyone having an interest should make contact with their local Boy Scout council to learn more about the location of ships in their area or how to organize a ship if there is not one. You can also visit www.BeAScout.org and enter your home address or zip code and it will show the local council where you live or units that might be in
- How does an organization interested in aquatics or boating become involved and supportive of the Sea Scout program?
 Organizations or businesses interested in the nautical world are great assets for local Sea Scout ships. They can help provide resources such as adult volunteers, instructors, equipment, etc. Some give full time, part time, or even one-time support to the Sea Scout program.

your area you may contact for joining information.

• Is it possible to be a Sea Scout if there is not a ship in my area?

You have to be connected to a ship in order to become an active member. If there is not a ship close to where you live, we can usually identify an active group close to your residence or school address.

The Sea Scouts Program

- Are Sea Scouts the same as Boy Scouts or Venturers?
 The Sea Scout program is a part of the Boy Scouts of America and is for older youth.
 Members are the same age as Venturers, but work directly with nautical programs.
- How often do Sea Scouts meet?
 Most Sea Scout ships meet twice a month at meetings and have one outdoor activity per month. There is no specified requirement of how often they meet.
 Some do meet weekly.



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• May parents attend and participate in ship meetings and activities?

Parents are encouraged to be a part of the program and are needed to help with chaperoning activities and meetings, as well as serving as instructors if they have the skills to help provide strength to the program.

• What kind of activities do Sea Scouts do?

Sea Scouts is all about activities in, on, under, and around the water. They participate in aquatics and boating activities, but also do other types of activities based on the interests of the youth involved. Some go camping, rock-climbing, caving, have fun with paddle sport activities, and much more.

Uniform and Supplies

- What supplies and equipment are needed to participate in Sea Scouts?

 The ship does not have to own a boat in order to become a ship. They would need to have access to boats of all sizes and shapes but can find other adults and organizations who own them who can provide the instruction and support needed.
- Where can I purchase BSA literature, uniforms, and other program materials to learn more about and support the Sea Scout program?

The National Supply Group carries some of the badges for Sea Scouts and the Sea Scout Manual. Uniforms and badges are available from the Sea Scouts' Ship's Store, as well as military surplus stores around the country for the navy style whites and blues dress uniforms. New Century Universal and working shirts and pants can be purchased from Wal-Mart (Dickies brand). Specialty items can be purchased through SG Trading Post (a BSA licensed vendor). More information can be found at www.seascout.org.

Advancement and Awards

- Can a Boy Scout earn his Eagle Scout award as a member of a Sea Scout ship? If a Boy Scout joins the Sea Scout program as a First Class Scout, he can earn the other ranks including his Eagle in the Ship or his Troop.
- Can Sea Scouts earn Boy Scout or Venturer badges and awards?

 Sea Scouts can earn any of the Venturer badges or awards. Boy Scout badges and awards can only be earned by the male members of the Sea Scouts if they have completed their First Class Scout rank prior to joining the Sea Scouts.
- Can Boy Scouts or Venturers earn the ranks and awards of the Sea Scouts?

 Only registered Sea Scouts can earn the ranks and awards from the Sea Scouts. Boy Scouts and Venturers are not allowed to earn the Sea Scout awards unless they are a registered Sea Scout.
- Does a youth have to be a member of the Boy Scouts in order to join the Sea Scouts?

Any youth who meets the age and membership standards of the Boy Scouts of America can join the Sea Scouts, even if they were not a Scout as a younger youth.