

## National Sea Scout Committee Charter

As stated in Article III, Section 9, clause 18 of the National bylaws: Standing committees shall be governed by committee charters setting forth the committee's scope, roles, and responsibilities and in accordance with any specific provisions of these bylaws. Committees shall develop strategic goals, recommendations, and action steps as appropriate to be provided to the Executive Committee. The support committee shall report direct to the overseeing standing committee.

### **Mission**

The purpose of the National Sea Scout support committee is:

To develop, enhance, and expand the Sea Scout program in a manner that emphasizes the purposes and achieves the objectives of the Boy Scouts of America.

### **Responsibilities**

*“Our responsibility in this committee is to ensure that we develop, oversee, and provide resources for policy, standards, program, training, and materials to support the delivery of a safe, exciting, relevant, high adventure maritime program for Sea Scouts and other BSA programs. This committee will also guide councils to provide quality program, provide quality equipment, design quality facilities, and create a climate for financial sustainability and growth of the Sea Scout program. One of the causal factors that impacts quality membership growth in the BSA is retention of its youth members in all programs. Our goal is to experience growth in the number of youth who participate more fully in high adventure activities in, on, under, and around the water and other outdoor activities.”*

The responsibilities of the National Sea Scout Support Committee are to bring together enthusiasts and subject matter experts from the wide range of Sea Scouts to:

- Support and provide resources to facilitate an effective Sea Scout program.
- Provide guidance and recommendations to the BSA as to the value and age appropriateness of various Sea Scout activities that promote an exciting Scouting program.
- Establish safety policies and procedures governing approved Sea Scout activities for Scouts including rules, equipment and facilities.
- Evaluate standards to accredit BSA facilities involved in Sea Scout activities.
- Encourage councils to expand Sea Scouts by chartering new Sea Scout Ships; and recruiting new leaders and youth members to existing Ships.
- Encourage councils to engage in activities that assist in retaining Sea Scout youth and adult members.
- Develop and provide oversight to the policies and standards for Sea Scout advancement, training, activities, awards, insignia, uniforms, and programs.
- Develop and improve Sea Scout literature and support materials in all media types.
- Facilitate communication and cooperative efforts within the Sea Scout community at the national, regional, area/flotilla, council, and ship levels.
- Represent and update the BSA regarding nautical industries latest products and practices.
- Establish, develop, and maintain cooperative relationships with national boating and maritime organizations including the U. S. Coast Guard and the U. S. Navy.
- Develop Sea Scout leader training courses, both adult leader and youth, appropriate for delivery at the ship, council, area/flotilla, regional, and/or national levels. Assist regions with Sea Scout training and activities.
- Assist with appropriate training and certification programs required for conducting Sea Scout activities at BSA events or facilities.

- Develop and support Sea Scout functions at national Scouting events, including but not limited to national jamborees and conferences.

## **Organization**

*Review of charter* – this charter shall be reviewed and reassessed by the National Sea Scout committee at least annually, and any proposed changes shall be submitted to the standing committee chair for approval.

*Membership/Structure/Quorum* – the National Sea Scout committee shall consist of at least 10 but no more than 35 members, including ex officio members. The committee chair shall be appointed by the standing committee chair. The vice-president (standing committee chair) shall be an ex officio member of the committee. A quorum of any meeting of the National Sea Scout committee shall consist of a majority of its voting members.

*Staff designee* – there shall be a staff person on the committee as designated by the overseeing National Sea Scout Director.

*Meetings* – the National Sea Scout committee shall convene at least 1 time per year. Committee members may participate by teleconference.

*Agenda, Minutes, and Reports* – The chair, in collaboration with the staff designee, shall be responsible for establishing the agendas for meetings. An agenda, together with relevant materials, shall be sent to committee members at least 10 days in advance of the meeting. Minutes for all meetings shall be drafted by the staff designee, reviewed by the committee chair, and approved by committee members at the following meeting.