MOTORBOATING MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

Additional checkoff sheets and helps are available from ScouterMom.com.

1. Do the following:										
1a. Explain to your counselor the most likely hazards you may encounter while participating in motorboating activities, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these hazards.										
1b. Review prevention, symptoms, and first-aid treatment for the following injuries or illnesses that can occur while motorboating: cold-water shock and hypothermia, dehydration and heat-related illnesses, sunburn, and motion sickness.										
1c. Discuss the BSA Safety Afloat policy. Explain to your counselor how it applies to motorboating activities.										
2. Do the following:										
2a. Before doing requirements 3 through 6, successfully complete the BSA swimmer test.										
2b. Review the characteristics of life jackets most appropriate for motorboating and why a life jacket must always be worn while participating in motorboating activities. Demonstrate how to select and properly fit the correct size life jacket.										
3. Do the following:										
3a. Explain inboard, outboard, and inboard/outboard motors, and the uses and advantages of each. Discuss the special features of a bass boat and a ski boat										
3b. Explain the safety procedures and precautions involving handling fuel and engine servicing, and equipment storage and placement.										
3c. Explain how to winterize a boat motor and tell why this procedure is necessary.										
3d. Explain the safety procedures and precautions involving swimmers and skiers in the water, passenger positions underway, and boat wakes.										
4. Show you know safety laws for motorboating by doing the following:										
4a. Explain the rules or laws that apply to recreational boating in your area or state.										
4b. Have a permit to operate a motorboat, if required by the laws of your state. Discuss how you would find information regarding the boating laws in different states.										
4c. Discuss how the hazards of weather and heavy water conditions can affect both safety and performance in motorboating										
4d. Discuss with your counselor the nautical rules of the road and describe the national and your state’s aids to navigation.										

4e. Explain and show the correct use of equipment required by both state and federal regulations to be carried aboard a motorboat										
4f. Explain federal and state rules for a ventilation system, and tell why these rules are required										
5. Demonstrate proper boat-handling procedures and skills by doing the following:										
5a. Fuel the boat and complete a safety check.										
5b. Board and assist others in boarding										
5c. Get underway from dockside or from a beach launch										
5d. Run a course for at least a mile, showing procedures for overtaking and passing slower craft, yielding right-ofway, passing oncoming traffic, making turns, reversing direction, and using navigation aids.										
5e. Stop and secure the boat in position on the open water using anchors; get underway.										
5f. Land or dock; get out and assist others.										
5g. Moor the boat and secure all gear.										
6. Point out and explain the mechanical and safety features of a boat trailer. With others assisting, do the following:										
6a. Launch a boat from a trailer.										
6b. Remove a boat from the water using a trailer.										
Completed										
Presented										