Volume 2 Number 4 Apr 15, 2016



The Northeast District Monthly Gazette

A Publication of the Crossroads of America Council, BSA – Northeast District

"All the News...That Is News...for Pack, Troop, Crew & Ship Leadership in the Northeast District"

Follow Us On...

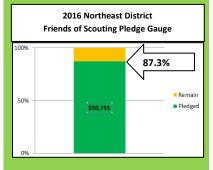




IN THIS ISSUE

- Northeast District Camporee Signup Deadline is HERE!
- 2. <u>CAC's Training Hub One Stop</u> <u>Shop for Local Leader Training</u>
- 3. <u>Ten Commandments Hike</u> <u>Approaching</u>
- 4. May "Ideal Year in Scouting"
 Round Table Date/Location Set
- Current Scout Service
 Opportunity Noble of Indiana
- 6. Outdoor Challenge Days An Opportunity for Adults to Give Back
- 7. <u>Using Journey to Excellence to</u> <u>Track Ongoing Unit Progress</u>
- 8. <u>Alternate High Adventure Outings</u> (Part 4 of 4)
- 9. <u>Northeast District Pinewood</u> <u>Derby Results</u>
- 10. <u>Annual Boy Scout Swim Tests</u> <u>Available</u>
- 11. <u>Do You Have Scouts Who Can't</u> <u>Get Enough Summer Camp Time?</u>
- 12. The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange – Red River Gorge, KY

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



In the Next 30 Days

- Apr 20, 2016 (7:00 PM)
 NED Commissioners Mtg.
- Apr 22-24, 2016
 NED Camporee
- Apr 29, 2016
 Camp Card Sales End
- Apr 29, 2016
 Cub Scout Early Bird Deadline

Northeast District Camporee Sign-up Deadline is HERE!

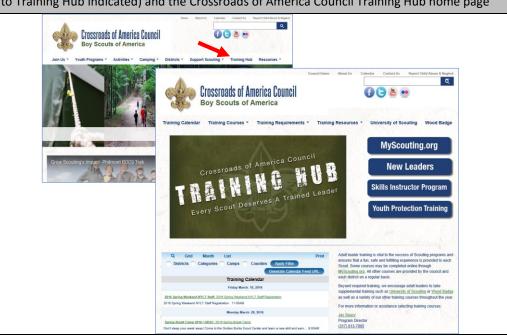
It's almost here. Yes, we are talking about the **Northeast District Spring Camporee** which is schedule for **April 22-24**, **2016** at **Ransburg Scout Reservation**. If your unit has not registered to test your wilderness survival skills yet you will need to act quickly. The deadline to <u>register</u> is **Thursday**, **April 21**, **2016**. You won't want to miss this!

<Return to Top of Page>

CAC's Training Hub - One Stop Shop for Local Leader Training

Last month we spotlighted the BSA training that is available online at www.myscouting.org. This month, we want to introduce a new training resource available to all leaders within Crossroads of America Council – the online Training Hub...your definitive source for finding local face-to-face training opportunities.

Screen shots of Crossroads or America Council, Boy Scouts of America homepage (with link to Training Hub indicated) and the Crossroads of America Council Training Hub home page



While this site contains a great deal of helpful information. There are three links in particular that you may find especially useful:

- (1) The **TRAINING REQUIREMENTS** link this will allow you to see required training at a glance for every Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity and Venturing Crew adult leader role.
- (2) The **TRAINING COURSES** link this will allow you to view at a glance all known training sessions within Crossroads of America Council for every adult leader role in Scouts.
- (3) The TRAINING CALENDAR link this will produce a month at a glance calendar view of all upcoming training events. This calendar can also be customized by using the filters available on this calendar generator.

For more information or assistance in selecting the correct training course contact <u>Jay Soucy</u>.

< Return to Top of Page >

- Apr 30, 2016 (11:30 AM)
 Swim Check Lawrence N
- Apr 30-May 1, 2016
 Spring Voyageur #1
- May 1, 2016 (3:30 PM)
 NED Eagle BoRs
- May 2, 2016 (6:00–9:00 PM)
 CPR/AED Training
- May 3, 2016 (6:00-9:00 PM)
 First Aid Training
- May 4, 2016 (7:00 PM)
 NED NED Committee Mtg.
- May 5, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
 MB Counselor Training
- May 6, 2016
 Boy Scout Early Bird Summer
 Camp Payment Due
- May 11, 2016
 Scouting for Food Patch orders due

May 12, 2016 (7:00 – 9:00PM) <u>Ideal Year in Scouting</u> Roundtable

- May 12-14, 2016
 Spring Wood Badge 2
- May 14, 2016 (2:00 5:00 PM)
 WD9BSA On-the-Air
- May 14-15, 2016
 Spring Voyageur #2
- May 15, 2016
 Nat Jambo Payment2

In the Next 60 Days

- May 18, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
 MB Counselor Training
- May 18, 2016 (7:00 PM)
 NED Commissioners Mtg
- Jun 1, 2016 (7:00 PM)
 NED Committee Mtg
- Jun 2, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
 MB Counselor Training
- Jun 5, 2016 (3:30 PM)
 NED Eagle BoRs
- Jun 6, 2016 (6:00–9:00 PM)
 CPR/AED Training

Ten Commandments Hike Approaching

The second council-wide five-mile <u>Ten Commandments Hike</u>, sponsored by the Crossroads of America Council's Chaplains Corps, will be held on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>May 7</u>, <u>2016</u>. This year's hike will begin and end at the <u>Ivy Tech Lawrence Campus</u> located at 9301 E. 59th Street. Scouts will hike to 10 locations and hear short presentations on the Ten Commandments.



In addition to learning about the 10 Commandments, Cub Scouts completing this hike can meet the following advancement requirements:

- Tiger Adventure: My Family's Duty to God (Requirements # 1 & 4)
- Wolf Adventure: Duty to God Footsteps (Requirement # 2a)
- Bear Adventure: Fellowship and Duty to God (Requirement # 2c)
- Webelos Adventure: Duty to God and You (Requirements # 2b & 2d)
- Arrow of Light Adventure: Duty to God in Action (Requirements 2a & 2b)

Boy Scouts completing this hike can meet the following advancement requirements:

- Tenderfoot (Requirement #5 & 9)
- Second Class (Requirement # 1b)

Online <u>registration</u> for this hike is currently open. More details can be found in the attachments found on the registration site. You may also contact the hike master, <u>Dave Soucie</u> or Northeast District Chaplain <u>"Wild" Bill Jensen</u> for more information.

<Return to Top of Page>

May "Ideal Year in Scouting" Round Table Date/Location Set

In May, there will be a special multi-district Round Table which will focus on the Ideal Year in Scouting. This meeting will emphasis the resources available to make sure your Scouts have a great year. This will include a special focus on Activities, Advancement, Camping, Planning/Budgeting, Training, as well as an opportunity to get to know Outside Vendors! In addition, more information about the new Lion program starting this Fall for Kindergartners will be available. Unlike our usual Northeast District Round Tables, this meeting will be held at the Golden Burke Scout Center on Thursday, May 12, 2016 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The agenda for the night follows:

7:00 – 7:05 PM	Opening/Assembly	
7:05 – 7:20 PM	Introducing the Ideal Year of Scouting (IYOS)	
7:20 – 7:45 PM	Northeast District Breakout/Announcements	
7:45 – 8:10 PM	IYOS Breakout 1*	
8:10 – 8:35 PM	IYOS Breakout 2*	
8:35 – 8:55 PM	IYOS Breakout 3*	
8:55 – 9:00 PM	Final Comments/Door Prizes	

^{*} Units should have at least two participants in attendance as each participant will only be able to attend 3 of 5 scheduled breakouts

Please make a note of this new date and location. We are looking forward to seeing you all there so that we can learn and share with Scout leaders from Del Mi, North Star, Pathfinder, Pioneer and T-Sun-Ga-Ni Districts.

<Return to Top of Page>

Current Scout Service Opportunity – Noble of Indiana

Is your Troop or Crew in need of service hours to move the needle on your Journey to Excellence scorecard? Noble of Indiana recently thinned trees on some of their land. They need help cleaning up the fallen trees (as a bonus you can keep the firewood). If interested contact Kevin Spangler.

<Return to Top of Page>

- Jun 11, 2016 (2:00 5:00 PM)
 WD9BSA On-the-Air
- Jun 13-17, 2016
 Dan Beard Week 1
- June 13-17, 2016
 Baden Powell Week 1
- June 15, 2016
 NED Commissioners Mtg.

In the Next 90 Days

- June 20-24, 2016
 Dan Beard Week 2
- June 20-24, 2016
 Baden Powell Week 2
- Jun 25-26, 2016
 WD9BSA ARRL Field Day
- June 27-July 1, 2016
 Dan Beard Week 3
- June 27-July 1, 2016
 Baden Powell Week 3
- Jul 7, 2016 (7:00-8:00 PM)
 MB Counselor Training
- July 11-15, 2016
 <u>Dan Beard Week 4</u>
- July 11-15, 2016
 Baden Powell Week 4

Who Can I Contact

Do you have feedback on the current issue?
Do you have ideas for news items in a future issue of
The Northeast District Monthly Gazette?

Contact: Mike Chambers

Outdoor Challenge Days – An Opportunity for Adults to Give Back

Did you know that there is a great opportunity for adults to give back to special needs and at risk youth in our community...right in our own back yard? Every year Crossroads of America Council's Reaching for Tomorrow program hosts Outdoor Challenge Days at Camp Belzer. This is a weeklong event that hosts over 9,000 youth from across Indiana for a day in the out-of-doors where they get to experience over 90 activities, including:

Archery	BB Gun Safety	Bike Race
Body Bowling	Campfire Setup	Crafts
Cookie Decorating	Dancing	Earth Ball
Face Painting	Instrument Zoo	Knot Tying
Marshmallow Blow Tubes	Nature Hike	Obstacle Courses
Putt- Putt Golf	Rain Gutter Regatta	Ring Toss
Rope Bridges	Sack Races	Tent Set Up

This year's event will be held the week of May 16-20, 2016. Each day runs from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM (lunch for volunteers will be provided). In order to provide this end-of-year capstone event for the youth in the program, there is a need for over 80 volunteers per day to help run the event; volunteer activities could include helping to run a station, serving as a greeter as the children arrive, or even helping to safely fill the Camp Belzer parking lot with school busses! So, you are interested in helping out, but you can't work the entire week at this event; no problem...there are opportunities for volunteers that can be customized to your availability. To volunteer, please contact Shelia Cain via e-mail or by phone at 317-936-5141. We are looking forward to seeing many of our Northeast District volunteers at this weeklong event!

<Return to Top of Page>

Using Journey to Excellence to Track Ongoing Unit Progress

Scouting's <u>Journey to Excellence</u> (JTE) was launched in 2014 as a way for units, districts, councils and National Boy Scouts of America (BSA) to measure their performance against standards that are based on what successful units, districts, councils and National BSA needs to do to deliver quality programs to the youth being served. It is important to note that unit performance metrics are "owned" by the unit, while district performance metrics are highly impacted by a compilation of the JTE measures of unit performance in their district, and council performance metrics are similarly impacted by district performance metrics within the council. In the 2016 JTE program, all levels share four common performance groupings:

- Planning and Budgeting
- Program

- Membership
- Volunteer Leadership

Within each performance grouping, the criteria have been slightly customized based on the unit level (e.g., Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturing, etc.). Each criterion has both a clear description of what success is, as well as a point value for bronze, silver, and gold level performance. As you achieve at one of those levels, you earn those points. Each criterion will be scored and you'll have a total score. You will need a prescribed number of total points to achieve a targeted JTE level for your unit, district and council. Simply put, as you earn more points, you'll achieve a higher level.

Since 2015, Crossroads of America Council, BSA has required all units to complete and turn in JTE documentation as part of the re-chartering process. While some units may wait until the re-chartering process to compile their annual metrics, there is another way to look at the JTE which may serve units better. If you track your performance on a monthly to quarterly basis, you can get an early warning of potential problem areas which would allow units to course correct before the end of the year. Let's take an example:

Participation in Service Projects is one criterion within the Program performance group that needs to be tracked. If your Troop is targeting Gold Level performance in the criterion, your

unit will need to complete a minimum of five (5) service projects AND enter the hours in the national BSA JTE <u>Service Hour</u> database. If you simply spread these 5 service projects across the year, a unit would need to complete a service project roughly every 2.5 months to meet this goal. If this metric is being tracked at least quarterly, and the unit has not yet performed a service project at the mid-way point of the year, then they would need to schedule enough service projects for the second half of the year to attain the level they want to achieve. A similar analysis can easily be done for every criterion on the JTE scorecard, and if necessary, course corrections can be implemented before it is too late!

If you take nothing more away from this article, please remember that JTE is not just a bunch of numbers that you have to fill out and submit to your district leadership as part of your unit re-chartering process; it can be (and should be) an valuable mechanism to help units routinely track the criteria that will allow them to deliver a quality, sustainable program throughout the year. As an extra bonus for those units that track their JTE performance throughout the year will mean that the "pain" of re-chartering will be lessened significantly!

< Return to Top of Page>

Alternate High Adventure Outings (Part 4 of 4)

The final article in the series may be just what the doctor ordered if you have you tried to get your unit lined-up for a Philmont trek, but lost your chance in the annual lottery. If you are still looking for a mountain-top experience, then the Rocky Mountain High Adventure Base (RMHAB) may be just what you need! Located in the high country of southern Colorado near Poncha Springs, Colorado the RMHAB is run by the Rocky Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America. This council-run high adventure program offers whitewater rafting, backpacking, mountain biking, climbing/rappelling and caving.

TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM RMHAB: From Indianapolis, it is probably best to look into flights on American, Delta or United into and out of Colorado Springs, CO. From there, you will need to make the two-hour drive to RMHAB.

YOUR RMHAB ADVENTURE(S): RMHAB offers numerous options for week-long adventures, allowing Troops/Crews to put together a unique experience. There are two options in particular that bear highlighting.

The RMHAB offers five **MOUNTAIN BACKPACKING** options. The Colorado Trail (15-24 miles) is a moderate guided backpacking trip intended for novice crews. There are also two Fourteener Challenge guided treks (Mount Shavano [14 miles] and Mount Antero [23 miles]); either will let you experience a 5,000 foot vertical gain and allow you summit mountain peaks of over 14,000 feet! The RMHAB also offers two self-guided treks. There is a Continental Divide Mt. Peck day hike, as well as a two to three-day self-guided Continental Divide Trek which allows the hikers to summit Mt. Ouray (13,961 feet in elevation). The RMHAB also offers a two-day **WHITEWATER RAFTING** experience pitting your crew against the roaring Arkansas River as it fights its way along the sheer rock walls of the Brown's Canyon of the Arkansas. Regardless of the options selected you will experience spectacular Rocky Mountain views, so don't forget your camera!

WHEN TO GO: RMHAB offers treks throughout June and July of each year. Interested units should plan on arriving on Sunday afternoon, no earlier than 1:00 PM and may checkout as early as Friday evening to allow for early morning flights out of Colorado Springs returning to Indianapolis.

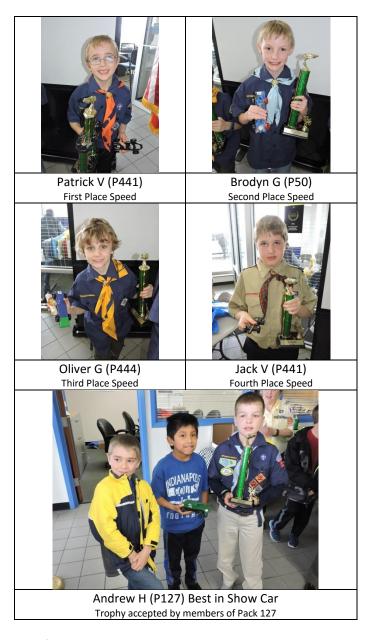
COSTS: Not counting transportation charges to and from RMHAB, the program offered here currently costs \$450 per participant if paid in full, postmarked on/or before March 1st (this is a \$45 discount for "early bird" registration for the week). Included in these charges are all meals and snacks on your selected high adventure activities. RMHAB can also provide tents and cooking equipment if your unit does not have appropriate gear.

For more information download a copy of the <u>Leader's Guide</u> on all of the RMHAB offerings. You may also contact <u>Kelley Mangin</u> or <u>Judy Dorland</u> at the Estes Service Center (719-561-1220). You may also contact <u>Chuck Fairbanks</u>, Scoutmaster for Troop 133, as he has been to RMHAB.

<Return to Top of Page>

Northeast District Pinewood Derby Results

And another outstanding Northeast District Pinewood Derby is in the books! On Saturday, April 9, 2016, scouts representing 16 Packs from across the Northeast District assembled at Ed Martin Honda on North Shadeland Avenue for the final race of the season. At the end of the day, the top four "speed" cars and the "best is show" car received trophies. The winning scouts are shown below.



We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge that this event would not be possible without an "army" of willing volunteers. Special mention goes to Kathleen Martin Harrison and Dave Sonneman (Ed Martin Honda – our host for the third straight year!), Jessica Jarrett (P335), Jay German (P444 and T276), The Harmon Family (P237), The Kelley Family (P88), Jerry Phillips (P200 and T133), Brian Lloyd (T88), Brad Morrin (T88), Brent Stingley, and NED Committee Members Jenny Mondy, Terry Fulner, and Joe Carter.

Checkout the photos below and the video footage of the event available on the $\underline{\text{NED Facebook}}$ Page.



We are looking forward to seeing everyone again next year!

< Return to Top of Page>

Annual Boy Scout Swim Tests Available

As warmer temperatures arrive, more and more unit outings will involve activities either near, on, or in the water. Don't forget that every scout should complete the BSA Swim Tests within 12-months of any outing involving water activities...this includes upcoming Summer Camp stays. If you are looking for a convenient way to complete these annual tests, then we may just have identified "the ticket".

The Lawrence Swim Club is willing to partner with us to promote and offer numerous swimming opportunities for our Scouting families. The first opportunity to utilized the Lawrence North swimming pool to complete BSA Swim Tests will be on April 30, 2016 beginning at 11:30 AM. If you are interested in taking advantage of this offering, please contact Mark Unland either via <a href="mailto:e-mailto:

Units will be staged based on who Mark hears from first. Mark, and a few others will be administering the swim tests, but we will still need folks to supervise, especially when the boys are not in the water... so we would like for a leader of the Troop to be present. Also, Scouts who are going to participate must print, complete, and turn-in the Release of Liability attached on the last page of this issue of *The Northeast District Monthly Gazette*.

< Return to Top of Page>

Do You Have Scouts Who Can't Get Enough Summer Camp Time?

Yes...summer camp will be here before you know it! While most Scouts will attend camp with their units, did you know that Crossroads of America Council offers two additional day-camps focused on Boy Scout advancement? Yes, I'm talking about Dan Beard First Class Camp and Baden Powell Merit Badge Camp. Both of these week-long day camps are offered right here in our back yard at Camp Belzer!

<u>Dan Beard First Class Camp</u> is designed for Boy Scouts who are working towards the rank of First Class. During the Monday-Friday camp, Scouts will have the opportunity to complete various requirements towards the ranks of <u>Tenderfoot</u>, <u>Second Class</u> and <u>First Class</u>. Scouts attending Dan Beard camp will also earn their <u>Totin' Chip</u>, the <u>First Aid</u> Merit Badge and <u>Camper</u>, the first rank of Firecrafter. The Program has a set limit of 30 participants, and will fill quickly.

Baden Powell Merit Badge Camp is provided to help younger Scouts earn up to eight unique merit badges in the summer. The program is an accelerated, intensive learning environment. Scouts may be required to complete prerequisites, take classroom notes and/or have out of class assignments to complete the merit badge requirements. The program offers 12 Eagle Required Merit Badges (Camping, Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Citizenship in the World, Communications, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Science, Family Life, First Aid, Personal Fitness and Personal Management) as well as merit badge electives (Archaeology, Archery (Week 6 only), Automotive Mechanics (Week 3 only), Aviation (Week 2 only), Chemistry, Chess, Coin Collecting, Collections, Fingerprinting, Fire Safety (week 5 only), Game Design, Indian Lore, Law, Leather Working, Mammal Study, Moviemaking, Oceanography, Orienteering, Photography, Pulp & Paper, Radio, Railroading, Scouting Heritage, Search & Rescue (Week 5 only), Soil and Water Conservation and Weather).

There are six (6) week-long sessions offered for both of these camps beginning in mid-June and running through the end of July. The cost to attend either camp for a week is \$130 per Scout. We certainly hope that you alert Scouts in your unit to these advancement-focused summer camp opportunities.

<Return to Top of Page>

The NED Outdoor Experience Exchange – Red River Gorge, KY

Are you are looking for a unique rock climbing outing for your Troop or Crew? Are you tired of hiking or backpacking over at the same trails year after year? If the answers to these questions are YES, then read on to learn more about a location in eastern Kentucky that is just over a 3-hour drive from Indianapolis.

WHERE: The Red River Gorge area of Kentucky is located about an hour's drive east of Lexington, KY. For a Troop or Crew, there are two possible bases of operation with access to the various activities in this area. The first is McKee Scout Reservation located on Highway 11, 8 miles south of Mount Sterling, and 6 Miles north of Clay City, KY. To reserve a campsite for a week-end, contact the Blue Grass Council Scout Service Center in Lexington, KY. Their telephone number is 859-231-7811. The second possible base of operations is Natural Bridge State Resort Park located at 2135 Natural Bridge Rd. in Slade, KY. To reserve a campsite here, you may use their online reservation site, or contact the park directly at (606) 663-2214.

WHAT: The Red River Gorge area of Kentucky has tons of outdoor fun available. Probably one of the most unique opportunities is climbing at Torrent Falls Climbing Adventure, located at 1617 North KY 11, Campton, KY. This is the first VIA FERRATA in the United States which consists of a protected climbing route around a horseshoe rock canyon with a series of fixed steel cables running along the rock face that climbers can secure themselves to, limiting any falls. If your Troop or Crew is up for more excitement, Torrent Falls also offers guided ROCK CLIMBING and RAPPELLING opportunities, as well as an opportunity for Scouts to work on Climbing Merit Badge. Please note that reservations are required. If DAY HIKING is more your speed, Natural Bridge State Park offers 22miles of scenic trails and a 60-acre lake inside the state park. Probably the highlight on the park trails is numerous views of the large natural sandstone bridge that gives the park its name. If rugged back country BACKPACKING is what you are looking for, then Red River Gorge is also a great jumping off place, as it marks roughly the midway point on the 290-mile Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail transecting the state of Kentucky from north to south through the Daniel Boone National Forest.

WHEN: The Red River Gorge area, McKee Scout Reservation and Natural Bridge State Park are all open year round, however it is important to note that McKee Scout Reservation is used for in-council long-term camp during the summer months (limiting its use as base of operations for Troops/Crews wanting to visit the Red River Gorge area during the summer months). The Sheltowee Trace National Recreational Trail is also open year round, while Torrent Falls climbing season is typically from March 1st – December 1st each year.

COST: Depending on the options selected, this trip can range from moderately expensive to inexpensive. Natural Bridge State Park and McKee Scout Reservation offers primitive campsites at a reasonable rate and the backpacking options on the Sheltowee Trace National Recreational Trail are free to users. The item that can make this a moderately expensive trip is if the Troop/Crew decides to climb at Torrent Falls. The current costs for their various climbing options are listed on their **website**.

Tell us about your outing to Red River Gorge by posting on the <u>Northeast District Facebook</u> page!

< Return to Top of Page>



LAWRENCE-LEARN-TO-SWIM¶

LAWRENCE-MASTERS-SWIMMING¶

LAWRENCE-ADULT-WATER-POLO]¶

П

Waiver-and-Release-of-Liablilty¶

Please-read-carefully-before-signing-This-is-a-Release-of-Liability-and-Walver-of-Certain-Legal-Rights¶

¶
I,, the enrolled participant and/or the parent/guardian of the participant agree and understand that swimming/water polo is a HAZARDOUS activity. I recognize that theres are risks inherent in the sport of swimming and water polo, including but not limited to paralyzing injuries and death.
The participant hereby agrees to participate in the Swim Team, Learn-to-Swim Program(s), Pre-Competitive Swimming, Water Polo, and/or Evaluations and hereby agrees to indemnity and hold harmless Lawrence Swim Team, Bearcat Swim School, Lawrence Masters Swimming, and/or Lawrence Water Polo, its coaches, officers, directors, agents and employees against any liability resulting from any injury that may occur to the participant while participating on the Lawrence Swim Team, Bearcat Swim School, Lawrence Masters, and/or Lawrence Water Polo Programs. The participant also agrees to indemnify the Lawrence Swim Team, Bearcat Swim School, Lawrence Masters, and/or Lawrence Water Polo for any damages incurred arising from any claims, demand, action or cause of action by the participant.
The participant authorizes any representative of the Lawrence Swim Team, Bearcat Swim School, Lawrence Masters, and/or the Lawrence Water Polo to have the participant treated in any medical emergency during their participation on the Swim Team (Youth or Adult), Learn-to-Swim, or Water Polo Programs. Further, the participant and/or parent/guardian agrees to pay all costs associated with medical care and transportation for the participant.
I have noted on the back of this form any medical/health problems of which the staff should be aware.
I·HAVE·CAREFULLY·READ·THE·ABOVE·LIABIILITY·RELEASE·AND·SIGN·IT·WITH·FULL· KNOWLEDGE·OF·ITS·CONTENTS·AND·SIGNIFICANCE.¶
1
Signed:
→ → → (Participant-or-Parent/Guardian)¶ ¶ ¶

→ (Participant or Parent/Guardian)¶