

SEA SCOUTS BSA

SMALL BOAT HANDLER

**WORK TOWARDS THE SMALL BOAT HANDLER MERIT
BADGE ABOARD A 74-FOOT, CLASSIC SCHOONER
ON THE CHESAPEAKE BAY**



HOW WE TEACH:

On all of our interactive programs, we will have the scouts break into smaller groups to work directly with our crew members.

After the safety speech, some of the scouts may help raise the sails.

Our crew will educate them using a questions/answer format. This enables our crew to share fun facts while finding out the level of interest and knowledge in a fun and interactive way. The scouts will cycle through three different learning stations including the captain's station.

The captain will ask a question about the information they just learned. When a scout raises their hand and gives a correct answer, they will take a turn helming (steering) the boat for a couple of minutes.

It is our intent to offer every scout a turn at the "helm". If time permits, maybe the adults can take a turn at the helm, as well.

QUICK FACTS:

**2-HOUR PRIVATE CRUISES
FROM DOWNTOWN
ANNAPOLIS**

Cruises available every day

**GROUP SIZE: 2 - 40
INCLUDING ALL GUESTS**

AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Buoyage System

Chart Symbols

Shapes for Buoys

Beacons and Day Beacons

Ranges and Range-Markers

Differences on Intracoastal
Waterways, Lakes and Rivers

RULES OF THE ROAD

Danger Zone

Windward & Leeward Clearances

Stand-on and Give-way Vessels

Sailboat Right of Way and Rules

Required Lights & Sound Signals

"HELM THE BOAT"

How does the boat steer?

How do you give commands as
captain?

Directions you might hear from
the captain.

Every scout will get a chance to
"helm" the boat.

TIMELINE OF A WOODWIND CRUISE



Scout & Students
receive a Woodwind
Participation Patch

Check in at Dock Office where boat departs.
Get outfitted in life jackets for entire sailing group.*
Line up in Boarding Line to be greeted by Captain.

When boarding, ask for permission to board the vessel.
During the safety speech, before we leave the dock, we discuss personal safety, what to do if someone falls overboard, if there is a fire aboard, and how to work the boat systems safely.
The scouts will have a chance to help raise the sails, weather permitting. Scouts divide into smaller learning stations that will rotate around boat. Rotate through all 3 stations. (about 20 minutes each)

During the sail, soft drinks and bottled water will be handed out.
At end of sail, disembark and help put life jackets away.

Other places to visit in Annapolis within walking distance of boat:

Maryland State House
United States Naval Academy
Annapolis Maritime Museum
William Paca House
Hammond Harwood House
Downtown Main Street



What to see around us when aboard

When we sail around Annapolis harbor and into the Bay, we will go by the U.S. Naval Academy. Along the way we will point out interesting sights and animals to everyone aboard. We may head near the 5 mile long Chesapeake Bay Bridge, or towards a lighthouse, or perhaps see some large ships in the ship channel.

What to Wear

Since we sail rain or shine, bring gear so you are prepared for the conditions that are predicted ON the water. We recommend layered clothing and REQUIRE soft sole shoes, like sneakers, sandals. We provide complimentary rain ponchos.

*Life Jacket Policy

According to Boy Scout and Girl Scout Safety Procedures, all scouts, adults and other children aboard a scout cruise are to be outfitted in life jackets. We have purchased Type III life jackets which are more comfortable for non-emergency use. We do carry the "Emergency-Use" life jackets aboard.



Schooner Woodwind
ANNAPOLIS SAILING CRUISES

Annapolis Sailing Cruises: Schooner Woodwind
Boat: 80 Compromise Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
410-263-1981 www.schoonerwoodwind.com

Small Boat Handler Merit Badge for Sea Scouts

Badge Requirements:

Aids to Navigation

- Introduction to Aids to Navigation
- Buoyage System
- Chart Symbols and Letter Designations
- Primary Shape for Buoys
- Obstruction, Mid-Channel and Special Types of Buoys
- Beacons and Day Beacons
- Ranges and Range-markers
- Intracoastal Waterways, Lakes and Rivers



Rules of the Road

- Danger Zone
- Windward and Leeward Clearances
- Stand-on and Give-way Vessels
- Sailboat Right of Way
- Sailboat Rules
- Lights Required on Boats
- Emergency Lights
- Sound Signals
- Safety Equipment
- Visual Sighting Devices
- Check the Scouts' Knot Skills



Helming the Boat

When they get to the captain's station, the captain will quiz them on their new found knowledge.

When a scout raises their hand and a correct answer is given, they will take a turn helming (steering).

It is our intent to offer every scout a turn at the "helm".

