



2016 Merit Badge Changes

Neal Robison

Thunderbird Roundtable Commissioner

Feb 2016



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Prepared. For Life.®

Revised Requirements

- ***BSA Merit Badge Maintenance Task Force***
- **Cooking**
- **Lifesaving**
- **Photography**
- **Snow Sports**
- ***Minor Updates***



Cooking

- **Grouped requirements – easier to follow**
- **Cleaned-up redundancies**
- **Removed section about food illnesses**
- **Combined w/req about food allergies & food intolerance**



Cooking - Groupings

- **Health & Safety**
- **Nutrition**
- **Cooking Basics**
- **Cooking at Home**
- **Camp Cooking**
- **Trail & Backpacking Meals**
- **Food-related Careers**



Lifesaving

- **Added principles of BSA Safe Swim Defense**
- **Added req to watch video or live demo of rescue (*rowboat, canoe, kayak or SUP*)**
- **Updated CPR techniques**



Photography

- *Way too many to list here*
- **Composition, lighting, etc still the same**
- **Introduces stop-action & blur motion techniques**
- **Updates to include digital cameras & smartphones**
- **New pamphlet due by March**



Snow Sports

- Snowshoeing joins
 - *Downhill skiing*
 - *Cross-country skiing*
 - *Snowboarding*as option for badge



Minor Updates – Check Website

- American Business
- American Labor
- Archery
- Camping
- Chemistry
- Citizenship in the Community
- Citizenship in the World
- Emergency Prep
- Environmental Science
- First Aid
- Mining in Society
- Personal Management
- Railroading
- Skating

