



## Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)



**WHEREAS** the American Canoe Association (ACA) and Sea Scouts, BSA have a valuable and productive relationship on behalf of young adults, their families, and adult leaders; we enter into this Agreement for the purpose of confirming a framework for a cooperative relationship under which ACA and Sea Scouts will assist one another in areas of mutual interest.

**WHEREAS**, ACA is a national nonprofit organization serving the broader paddling public by providing education related to all aspects of paddling; stewardship support to help protect paddling environments; and sanctioning of programs and events to promote paddlesport competition, exploration and recreation.

**WHEREAS**, Sea Scouts is a program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and is organized into units – called “Ships” – comprised of male and female youth ages 14-21 led by adult leaders. Sea Scouting promotes better citizenship and Improved members’ boating skills through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social, service experiences, and knowledge of our maritime heritage.

**WHEREAS**, the goal of this MOU between ACA and Sea Scouts, BSA is to create a mutually beneficial program that would encourage Sea Scout Ships to incorporate paddling into their programs and for ACA leaders to share their occupational expertise and guidance to America’s youth.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that ACA and Sea Scouts will work cooperatively with each other, within the policies, procedures, safety guidelines and regulations of each organization, to establish and nurture Sea Scout Ships so that young adults may grow in character, physical and mental health, citizenship responsibility and with personal growth necessary to achieve their greatest potential.

*All public communications and/or announcements about this initiative will be mutually approved by both ACA and Sea Scouts, BSA before they are issued.*

**FOR SEA SCOUTS, BSA:**

Keith Christopher, National Director, Sea Scouts, BSA

June 27, 2016

Date

**FOR AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION:**

Wade Blackwood, Executive Director, ACA

June 16<sup>th</sup> 2016

Date