

Date January 19, 2006

Dear Scout's

I'd like to introduce a new Boys Scouts of America Instructional Merit Badge Program offered by the Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC). 2006 marks the 34<sup>th</sup> year that NOC has been serving the southeast as a leader in outdoor adventures. We have been at the forefront of whitewater kayak and canoe instruction and paddlesports since our founding in 1972. NOC's Adventure Resort is headquartered in Western North Carolina and we also have operations in Tennessee and South Carolina/Northeast Georgia.

Through NOC's merit badge programs, Scoutmasters can easily and confidently help Boy Scouts ages 11 to 18 earn a merit badge in seven outdoor categories. Our most popular categories are whitewater canoeing and kayaking. This program fulfills all the requirements of achieving an individual merit badge in either whitewater canoeing or kayaking. I have enclosed an overview of the program, which meets all the requirements in the *Boy Scouts Requirements 2005 Manual*. The NOC instructors are ACA (American Canoe Association) certified and meet all Scout Counselor requirements in order to lead this Merit Badge Program. As the Overview indicates, NOC can also offer additional outdoor Merit Badge Programs in Cycling, Fishing, Bird Study, Indian Lore and Horsemanship.

Our NOC Scout team would like to present this Instructional Merit Badge Program to your District's Round Table meeting at the next available opportunity for your district council members. I will follow up with you in the next 10 days to see if this program is of interest to you for your councils. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Thank you so much for your time and we look forward to the opportunity to serve your Scouts.

Kind regards,

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*NOC is committed to experiential education for youth to help them to develop the skills that lead to an engaged, productive and fulfilling life. Our programs develop participants' confidence and communication and team-building skills. Guaranteed.*