***Note: The activities used to fulfill the requirements for the Sports merit badge may not be used to help fulfill requirements for other merit badges.***

1. Do the following:

a. Explain to your counselor the most likely risks you may encounter during athletics activities, and what you should do to anticipate, help prevent, mitigate, and respond to these risks.

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b. Show that you know first aid or understand the treatment for injuries that could occur while participating in athletics, including sprains, strains, muscle cramps, contusions, abrasions, blisters, dehydration, heat reactions, and concussions.

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| Sprains: |  |
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| Strains: |  |
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| Muscle Cramps |  |
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| Contusions: |  |
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| Abrasions: |  |
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| Blisters: |  |
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| Dehydration: |  |
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| Heat reactions: |  |
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| Concussions |  |
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c. The importance of maintaining a healthy diet.

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2. Explain the following:

⬜ a. Before completing requirements 4 and 5, show that you have received a physical examination from your health care practitioner within the last 12 months.

b. Explain the importance of the physical exam

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c. Explain the importance of maintaining good health habits for life (such as exercising regularly), and how the use of tobacco products, alcohol, and other harmful substances can negatively affect your health and your performance in sports activities.

Maintaining good health habits:

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Use of tobacco products:

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Use of alcohol:

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Use of other harmful substances:

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d. Explain the importance of maintaining a healthy diet

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3. Discuss the following:

a. The importance of warming up and cooling down

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b. The importance of weight training

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c. What an amateur athlete is and the differences between an amateur and a professional athlete

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d. The attributes (qualities) of a good sport, the importance of sportsmanship, and the traits of a good team leader and player who exhibits Scout spirit on and off the playing field.

Attributes (qualities) of a good sport:

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The importance of sportsmanship:

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The traits of a good team leader and player:

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⬜ 4. Take part for one season (or four months) as a competitive individual or as amember of an organized team in TWO of the following sports: baseball, basketball, bowling, cross-country, diving, field hockey, flag football, flagteam, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, spirit/cheerleading, swimming, tackle football, table tennis, tennis, track & field, volleyball, water polo and wrestling, and/or badminton. Your counselor mayapprove in advance other recognized sports.\* Then with your chosen sports do the following:

\* The BSA has prohibited as official Scouting activities intramural, interscholastic, or club-sport competitions or activities. However, they can be acceptable for your individual participation in an organized school, league, or club activity if approved by your counselor.

⬜ Baseball

⬜ Basketball

⬜ Bowling

⬜ Cross-Country

⬜ Diving

⬜ Field Hockey

⬜ Flag Football

⬜ Flagteam

⬜ Golf

⬜ Gymnastics

⬜ Ice Hockey

⬜ Lacrosse

⬜ Soccer

⬜ Softball

⬜ Spirit.Cheerleading

⬜ Swimming

⬜ Table Tennis

⬜ Tackle Football

⬜ Tennis

⬜ Track & Field

⬜ Volleyball

⬜ Water Polo

⬜ Wrestling

⬜ Badminton

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| **⬜** |  |
| **⬜** |  |

Then with your chosen sports do the following:

a. Give the rules and etiquette for the two sports you picked.

b. List the equipment needed for the two sports you chose. Describe the protective equipment and appropriate clothing (if any) and explain why it is needed.

c. Draw diagrams of the playing area for your two sports.

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| Sport 1: |  | Season Began |  | Season Ended |  |

a. Give the rules and etiquette

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b. List the equipment needed.

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Describe the protective equipment and appropriate clothing (if any) and explain why it is needed.

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c. Diagram

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| Sport 2: |  | Season Began |  | Season Ended |  |

a. Give the rules and etiquette

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b. List the equipment needed.

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Describe the protective equipment and appropriate clothing (if any) and explain why it is needed.

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c. Diagram

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5. With guidance from your counselor and before beginning requirement 4, establish a personal training program suited to the activities you chose for requirement 4.   
Do the following:

a. Organize a chart and track your training, practice, and development in the sports for one season or four months.

b. Demonstrate proper technique for your two chosen sports.

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| ⬜ | Sport 1 |  | ⬜ | Sport 2 |  |

c. At the end of the season, share your completed chart with your counselor and discuss how your participation in the sports you chose has affected you mentally and physically.

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**When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088).Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from** [**http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf**](http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf)**.**

**You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from** [**http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf**](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf)**.**