

Ship 915 By-laws



I. Objectives

The Aim of ship 915 is to help young adults develop high standards of character, citizenship and personal fitness by participating in Marine activities. We want to give youth a chance to learn and have fun on the water.

II. Program

Our program is youth led with adult support. We have meetings to make decisions, pass on information, learn and have fun. Our regularly planed activities usually have something to do with the water. Ship members help on Projects with our sponsor (Boca Ciega Yacht Club) and around the community. Members also help the ship by taking care of our boats and other property.

III. Activities

Ship leaders intend to provide at least one activity per month and at least one super Activity a year.

IV. Safety

Water activities have inherent dangers. To prevent injuries, Ship 915 will follow the highest standards of safety outlined by:

- BSA
- Coast Guard
- SCUBA agencies

Small boats (Boca Ciega Yacht Club, Sunfish, Prams, Day Sailors, etc) may be used by Sea Scouts who are "Certified and follow the Safety Rules approved by the Quarterdeck, Ship Committee and the BCYC Board.

Adults shall be present at every activity at the ratio of at least 1 adult to every 10 Sea Scouts. An adult will be on each sailboat or staffing a safety boat.

V. Sailing

The Sea Scouts will maintain a boat (s) to be used for trips, racing and "Good Will" Sails. ("Good Will" Sails are cruises given to people whom aid Sea Scouts in some way.)

VI. Diving

Ship 915 will go on diving trips. For members to participate they must be certified and have safe equipment. After certification, Youth must make at least one dive with and approved Ship adult before being allowed to "Buddy Up" with another youth. Discipline on dives must be strict to preserve safety.

Fishing/Crabbing/Water Skiing, etc.

All of these have been done, and can be done again as a Ship. Everyone needs to chip in money for gas when we burn a bunch.

VII. Service

Service is a part of Scouting. Members give service to our sponsor, BCYC, and the community. We help BCYC, maintain the facilities and equipment. We give to the community in the form of projects like planting mangroves, beach clean up and storm assistance.

VIII. Activity Leadership

All Major activities will have a Youth Chairman, and an Adult Chairman to provide assistance and support. Together they are responsible for assuring success. Different ship members should be activity leaders to gain knowledge and experience as a leader.

IX. Trip Money

Members pay the cost of activities. Food and supplies money must be in well before the trip so the buyer has something to work with. Persons who have been budgeted money may use it to pay cost.

X Intra Ship Activities

Ship 915 will support other local Ship activities.

XI. Membership

Membership is open to persons, 14 years or older who agree to follow:

- Ship 915's by-laws
- Sea Scout Promise
- BCYC guidelines.

Members must pay fees set by the Quarterdeck.

XII. Uniforms

At all Sea Scout Quarterdeck Meetings, and when we are at intra-ship functions, we wear some form of uniform. We do this to show unity. ("We are proud of what we are and what we do")

Ship 915 Uniforms are very practical.

Our "Normal" uniform is:

Ship T-shirt and blue shorts or pants

Appropriate boat shoes

Our most "formal" Class "A" uniform for special occasions is:

Light blue standard USCG shirt with patches and beige kaky shorts or pants.

Appropriate boat shoes.

Closed toe shoes with a ????? must be worn when on a ship.

The ship Storekeeper will get USCG uniforms and Ship T-shirts, and charge for them. Boat shoes and shorts are the individuals' responsibility.

XIII. Meetings

Our normal meetings are on Wednesday 1900 hrs to 2100 hrs. The Boatswain leads meetings.

XIV. Quarterdeck Meetings

Ship officers, and Crew Leaders, have a Quarterdeck meeting on the first Wednesday of each month. The Yeoman will print a schedule of activities extending as far as possible for the approval of the membership.

XV. Activity Meetings

On the remaining Wednesdays, we do what everyone wants. Tours to companies, Vocations trips, Sail, Skate, Go Cards, Putt-Putt, Horseback riding, laser tag, or training. All Sea Scout functions must include at least 2 scouts and 2 adult advisors.

XVI. Duty Days

Our boats must be maintained. "Duty Days" are normally on the same day as BCYC Work Day. (The Saturday following the BCYC monthly meeting.)

On Duty Days, crews do maintenance on boats owned, or used, by the Ship. Youth clean and do needed maintenance on the boats. A minimum average of 2 hrs a month must be done. With the Skipper's approval, youth may do projects for BCYC that count a Duty Day Hours.

Duty Days like dues must be up to date before participating in Ship activity. Youth whom owe more than 2 Duty Day Hours can not participate in Ship activities.

XVII. Officers

To be a Ship officer, members must promise to:

- Attend at least 80% of Ship meetings and events.
- Meet the duties of the position described in the Sea Scouts Manual
- Fulfill "Officer duties" described in the Ship 915 officer's Handbook.

XVIII. Elections

Officers shall be elected by secret ballot. Any Sea Scout member may nominate any other Sea Scout member to run for office. On accepting a nomination, the candidate must say they can, and will, meet the duties of the office if elected. They may make a campaign speech. Members may ask the candidates questions.

XIV. Terms

The normal term of office is six months, starting the first Wednesday of October and ending the first Wednesday of April and vice versa. Normally, no scout shall serve more than two successive terms in the same office.

XX. Performance

Officers are expected to fulfill their duties so that the Ship lives up to the expectations of the members. Ship Officers, at a Quarterdeck Meeting, shall remove any officer that does not perform his/her duties. The Boatswain will appoint a replacement with the concurrence of the Skipper.

XXI. Ship Committee

The purpose of the Ship Committee is to support and give guidance to the youth. Youth, whom parents' are involved, tend to get the most out of Sea Scouting. Ships that do not have strong adult support tend to "sink"

XXII. Money

The Ship Purser, and the Committee Treasure, will oversee all financial activities.

Ship 915 shall have a budget prepared by the purser and Treasure. It will be presented to the Quarterdeck, and Ship Committee. The budget will define the costs for the expected activities for the six-month term and where the money will come from.

Dues are \$10.00 per month paid quarterly (\$30.00)

Initiation fee is \$35.00 which includes BSA insurance, ????????, one Sea Scout handbook and three months dues.

XXIII. Fund Raisers.

Fund raisers will be held to earn money.

To work on fund raising projects, youth must have their duty hours up to date.

When sales are being made, the person who sells and delivers the product, gets credit. If the person whom sells, but does not deliver the product may only receive 1/2 credit. The person delivering will receive the other 1/2 credit.

The Quarterdeck and Committee will decide the percentage of Fund Raising proceeds to be put in the accounts. At least 50% of all fund raising projects will go to individual accounts.

XXIV. Accounts

The purser will maintain two types of accounts;

- Ship
- Individual

The Ship account is used to buy things needed by the Ship. (Badges, books, parts, etc.)
Dues will be placed in the Ship's account.

Youth and adults may raise money for their individual account. Money from the accounts may be used to pay the cost of participating in scouting activities.

XXV. Re-Registration

Every year ship 915 must re register with BSA. For a youth to re-register:

- All back dues must be paid.
- BSA fees must be paid.

XXVI. Officer's Duties

The officers' duties are listed in the Sea Scout manual.

XVII. Changing the by-laws

Ship; 915 by-laws may be changed if:

- Proposed changes are given to members at least 1-month before the vote.
- 1/2 vote when a quorum of 75% of the membership is present.
- Skipper agrees
- Ship's Committee agrees.