

What is a BSA Certified Angling Instructor?

A volunteer that helps **Recruit** Cub Scouts and **Retain** or **Reactivate** older Scouts BSA, Venture Scouts or Sea Scouts using fishing to "hook them" into a lifetime of outdoor activities!

A volunteer committed to improving his or her Council, District or Unit Fishing Programs. A CAI will:

- Develop quality fishing programs for Units, Districts, Councils, scout camps and high adventure bases.
- Increase attendance at your summer camp with an active fishing and fly fishing program.
- Provide quality equipment to your camp or Units at *Value Pricing*.
- Provide training and resources to Scout leaders and Camp Staff.
- Develop competent Merit Badge Counselors.
- Teach Scouts how to enjoy the sports of fishing and fly fishing.

How do you become a BSA Certified Angling Instructor?

To become a CAI, you need to attend a weekend CAI Course. Contact your Regional Fishing Chairman (locate at www.bsafishing.org) if you have any questions, would like to attend a currently scheduled course, or schedule a course in your Council.

The Boy Scouts of America has designated the CAI Course as a train-the-trainer course (BSA Training PAS Code: CS61 / Patch Code from BSA National Supply: 620739). The course provides the fundamental knowledge, skills and resources you need to help improve Council, District and Unit fishing programs to aid in Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation of Scouts.

As a BSA Certified Angling Instructor, you have the opportunity to teach Scouts the knowledge and skills they need, and have FUN! Together we can keep Scouts in Scouting longer through fishing!

Do you need prior fishing experience?

No prior fishing experience is required, nor is any personal fishing equipment needed to take the course. However, if you possess angling knowledge and skills, we would like you to share those talents within the CAI Course and in future angling activities.

Who are the instructors and what is their experience?

CAI courses are facilitated by experienced members of the BSA National Fishing Committee and their team of CAI Course Directors. We have trained over 1,300 Certified Angling Instructors.

All course instructors focus on providing enhancements to BSA Fishing programs and serving our Scouts.

What are the types of angling lessons taught?

The CAI course syllabus includes age appropriate skills using fishing equipment and techniques for Scouts of all abilities, ranging from cane pole to closed face spinning, open face spinning, baitcasting and fly fishing.

The course uses best practices for content delivery in both the classroom and the field.

- The EDGE Method is used to provide Scout Leaders and Camp Staff with the **knowledge** they need to design, develop and provide fishing program leadership.
- Participants will learn fishing and fly fishing **skills**, including fly tying, casting, knot tying, best practices in fishery management, ecology and how best to teach Scouts at all levels.
- Participants are given access to specialized **resources**, including custom documentation, websites, videos, and equipment.

Who Should Attend?

Council Camps: Participants typically include Unit leaders wishing to grow their membership with an active outdoor program such as current and future Council Camp Program Directors, Camp Fishing Staff Members, Merit Badge Counselors, Cub Scout Day Camp Staff, Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Sea Scouts and Venture Staff.

Unit Leaders: Den Leaders, Assistant Scoutmasters, Committee Members, and Scouts over the age of 15 who have earned the Fishing and Fly-fishing merit badges. You will be prepared to instruct Scouts in fishing and fly fishing while using fishing to plan outdoor activities in all seasons. This includes outdoor and indoor skill development and preparation.

Leaders who take this course qualify as Fishing and Fly Fishing Merit Badge Counselors.