



Victoria
Club Tread

Criteria for Kayaking Events

(Version 1 July 2010)

General:

- Kayaking events must only be held during daylight and finish at least 2 hours before sunset.
- Kayaking trips must only be held between May 1 and September 30 each year.
- Trips must only be held under fair weather conditions with winds less than 8 knots.
- The kayaking event coordinator to participant ratio must not exceed 1:6.
- Kayaking events must take place at the pace of the slowest member.

Location of Events:

- Kayaking events are *ONLY* permitted on the following protected waters: The Gorge (between West Bay and the east side of the Tillicum Bridge), Esquimalt Lagoon, Tod Inlet, Thetis Lake, and Main Lake on Quadra Island.

Qualifications of Kayaking Event Coordinator:

- Kayaking event coordinators must hold at least Paddle Canada Level 1 certification or equivalent.
- Qualified kayaking event coordinators will be identified by the Club Kayaking Committee which will forward the names to the Club President and Schedule Editor.

Role of Kayaking Event Coordinator:

- Promote safety measures and practices.
- Assess eligibility of all participants, including:
 - ⇒ membership in the Club
 - ⇒ health issues
- Assess preparedness of participants:
 - ⇒ Personal floatation device fit, adequate clothing, spare clothes, safety equipment, etc.
 - ⇒ kayaking experience
- Encourage inexperienced kayakers to pair up in a double kayak, which is more stable than a single.
- Select kayaking event location from the permitted locations listed above.
- Carry a VHF or cell phone for emergency communication.
- Carry a basic first aid kit.
- Assess the latest weather forecast and cancel the event if the criteria are not met.
- Refuse participation if proposed participants do not meet Club criteria.

Participants Must:

- Be a member of Victoria Club Tread.
- Be dressed appropriately and wear a wet suit or insulating clothing such as fleece / fast drying materials.
- Wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) and carry safety equipment required by regulation including a whistle, throw line, and pump. These are supplied by the outfitter for those who are renting a kayak.
- Carry a change of clothing in a dry bag or other waterproof bag in the kayak.
- Advise the event coordinator if anxious or uncomfortable on the water.
- Advise the event coordinator of any relevant medical conditions.
- Sign the Club liability waiver as well as the outfitter's waiver if renting a kayak.

Qualifications of Participants:

- While previous kayaking experience is not a requirement, participants are encouraged to take the Paddle Canada "Introduction to Kayaking" course (or equivalent).
- Wet exit and reentry experience is highly desirable but not essential.