



Seattle Canoe and Kayak Club



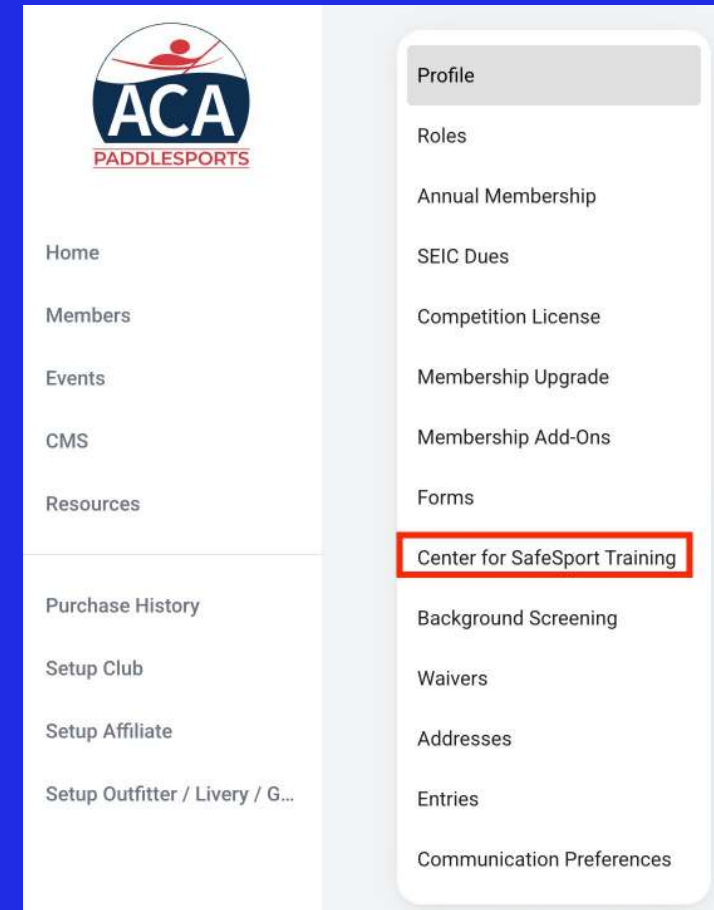
2026 Safety and Boathouse Orientation

Membership Requirements

- Attend annual safety orientation conducted by facility Recreation Program Specialist and Membership Chairperson at Small Craft Center or Online
- Sign 2026 SCKC Operating Rules Agreement
- Current float test (good for 3 years)
- Sign 2026 Risk and Release form
- Pay dues (\$395 for annual membership)
- Current SafeSport certification through the American Canoe Association
- Volunteer with races, course setups and takedowns

SafeSport Training

- All SCKC adult members are required to have a current SafeSport certification
- You can find the link in your ACA account profile



American Canoe Association

- SCKC is a member of ACA
- Participation in the Ted Houk and Eric Hughes Regattas requires a \$40 ACA Competition Individual Annual Membership
- Participation in US National selection and ACA Sprint National Championships requires a \$80 ACA Competition License (in addition to the Competition Individual Annual Membership)

When Can You Paddle?

- Most days of the year when there are not major events like regattas
- During daylight hours
- During adult classes (your membership covers)
- *Note: Scheduled instructional programs take priority using equipment*

Current Adult Classes

- Classes are included in your membership – please register on Active net
- When the weather turns warmer and time changes, look out for weekday paddling
- As a member, please communicate your paddling plan with coaches when at classes (if different from the class)

ERGS

- We have kayak and canoe ergs
- Located in the boathouse
- To use them, call the office to make sure someone can let you in

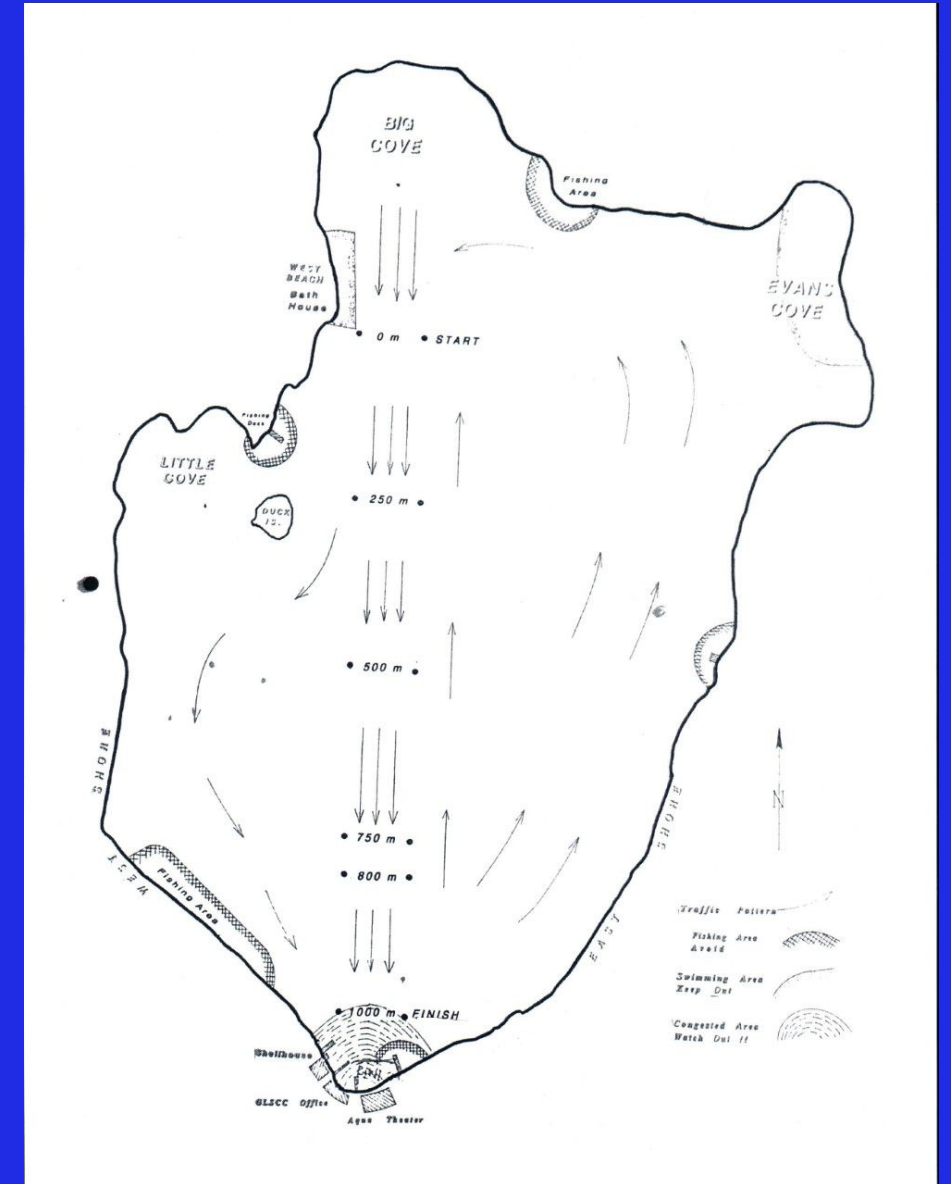


The Lake is Closed...

- When whitecaps are present
- When ice is present on the lake
- When thunder is heard or lightning is seen
 - Lake will remain closed for a minimum of 30 minutes and will reopen only when weather conditions are safe

Traffic Pattern

- In general, counterclockwise, but adjust for wind and weather
- If there are rowing coaches on the water, communicate to them your training plan
- Keep 75 ft from fisherfolk and docks
- Canoe/kayaks yield to less maneuverable crew boats as well as launch boats (stay on outside)



Self-Rescue

- Especially if new to paddling, stay close to the shore
- If in a sprint boat and fall out, immediately flip the boat, collect your paddle and swim to shore
- Sprint boats do not have floatation!
- Other boats, like surfskis, allow for self-rescue

What Boats Should I Use?

- Use only boats you are competent to paddle
- Adult coaches can give advice on what boat you might like if you want to try a higher level
- Boat Levels:
 - Level I: recreational canoes – all paddlers automatically approved
 - Level II: Viper 55, trainers, Tornados, surfskis (V7& V8), marathon boats
 - Level III: Team boats, Super Lancer, Orion
 - Level IV: All hi-performance boats

Boat Care

- **Default:** Ask someone for help moving your boat
- Be mindful of the boats around the one you're using
- Secure the bungee cords



Paddles

- Be sure to use “SCKC” labeled club paddles vs. personal paddles
- Personal paddles tend to be on the left side of the paddle rack



Seats & Footboards

- Do not take seats and footboards from another boat if a boat is missing parts
- Use another boat, use the ladder to get a seat, or look in the bins



Boat Repairs

- All club boats have a sticker with a number
- If a boat is damaged or needs repair, report it to the office, using the number on the sticker



When Boats Are on Land...

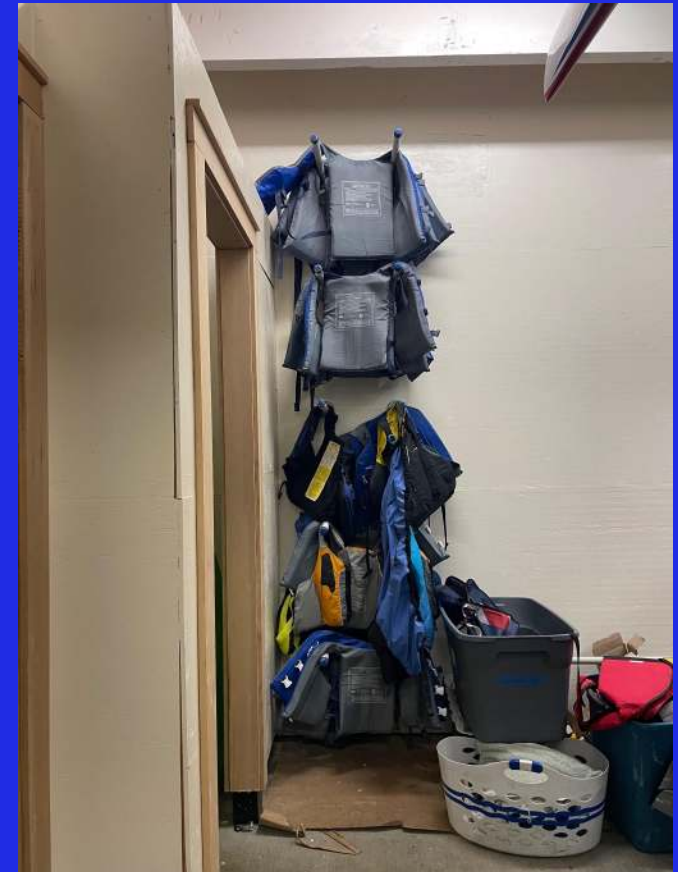
- Place boats on sawhorses (slings) or in the water
- To avoid scratches and damage to kayak rudders, do not put them on the ground or on the dock.
- If on dock, be sure rudder hangs off edge of dock



Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs)

They don't
work if you
aren't
wearing
them!

- We recommend wearing PFD's (life jackets) at all times
- PFD's must be worn when the water temperature is below 50 degrees and/or by all beginning and intermediate paddlers
- Hi-performance paddlers may choose not to wear one when water is above 50 degrees, but must have one in the boat



Winter Operations

- Defined as water temperature below 50 degrees F – generally October to April.
- PFDs required to be worn
- Independent paddling allowed with minimum of two boats on water – with a partner
- Use more stable boats



Boathouse Safety & Security

- Always close and confirm the door is locked when you are on the water and when you leave.
- **Never** leave the door unlocked.

Boathouse Safety & Security

- The bay door on the lakeside has a latch that must be shifted in order to open the door – and must be closed when leaving



Closed



Open

Boathouse Safety & Security

- Additionally, be sure to keep the chain tied on the hook when the lakeside bay door is open or closed



Boathouse Safety & Security

- The Green Lake pathway-side bay door can be opened and closed using the buttons to the right of the door
- When opening the door, press and hold the “^” button until it starts to move (takes a couple seconds!)
- Don’t worry about the chain with this door



Boathouse Safety & Security

- Light switches control the whole boathouse and are located on the lakeside on both ends of the building



Boathouse Safety & Security

- Keep the door to the launch house closed
- This door locks from the launch house side



Boathouse Safety & Security

- Use the exterior door in the launch house to exit
- Make sure the door closes behind you



Cleaning Station

- A cleaning station of wipes, masks, gloves are available in the boathouse
- Broom and bucket also available for geese droppings



Cubbies

- Feel free to use, but please take your belongings after you paddle.



Post Paddling Responsibilities

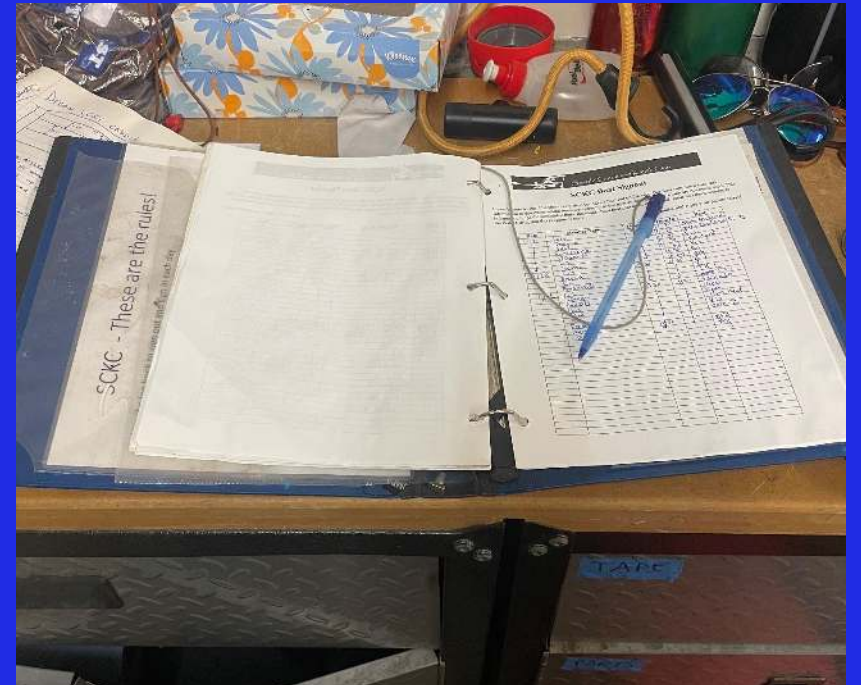
- Empty water out of boats and towel them off – If water is available, rinse off boat if soiled with algae or duck droppings
- Towels should be placed in the “dirty” basket to be laundered
- Hang up PFD’s, paddles, spray skirts and towels after use
- Don’t leave towels on the ground – they collect dirt and scratch the boats

General Rules

- Do not leave personal items overnight in the boathouse.
- Gear and clothing left in the boathouse will be placed in the lost and found bin and may be auctioned off or claimed by other paddlers. 😊
- Members may not make changes to the boathouses without prior Seattle Parks and Recreation approval.

A Typical Visit to the Lake?

1. Go to the boathouse to be let in
2. Put your belongings in the cubbies
3. Open the bay doors and carry out slings
4. Carry your boat and paddle out to the slings
5. Make sure you have your PFD and close the bay doors
6. Sign in to the log
7. Leave through the side door
8. Paddle and have fun!



When You Return?

1. Go to the boathouse to be let in (or use the garage door opener)
2. Wipe down the boat
3. Return your boat and paddle
4. Carry in the slings
5. Close all doors
6. Sign out in the log
7. Drop off the garage door opener at the office or put in the top right drawer
8. Take away all personal belongings



Scenarios to Practice SCKC Policies

I'm in a sprint boat and I fall out! What do I do?

1. Immediately flip over the boat
2. Gather my paddle (and anything else in the boat)
3. Take a breath!
4. Start swimming to the shore
5. Dump out the water and hop back in

It's 2 pm on a weekday and I want to go for a paddle.
What do I do?

1. If the water temperature is below 50, I'll need a buddy
2. Arrive at the boathouse and ask someone to let you in
3. *You could also send a message on Signal or call ahead*
4. Follow the usual steps when you visit the lake
5. Be aware of any afternoon classes

I'm paddling towards the lily pads/little cove and I see a crew boat near Duck Island. What do I do?

1. Stay on the shoreside of the lake
2. Give ample space between yourself and the crew boat

Advisory Council Open Invitation

- Members are welcome to attend any SCKC Advisory Council Meetings
- Meetings are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm, at the Small Craft Center or accessible via Zoom
- Ask the office on how to attend – (206) 684-4074

Racecourse Setups & Takedowns

- Members are expected to volunteer for 4 racecourse setups or takedowns each year.
- Be sure to sign the volunteer list at each event.



Power Boat (Launch) Drivers

- Launch drivers are vital for racecourse setup and takedown + to drive safety boats during races
- Drivers...
 - Must be over 18 years of age
 - Have a current Washington State Boater Education Card. Details are available through the office – 206-684-4074.
 - Complete orientation for each boat that they drive

2026 Setup/Takedown

Spring Regatta (Rowing), March 21

Setup – March 15

Takedown – March 22

Summer Extravaganza (Rowing), Aug. 1

Setup – July 26

Takedown – Aug. 2

Ted Houk – Canoe/Kayak, June 13-14

Setup – June 7

Takedown – June 21

Frostbite Regatta (Rowing), Oct. 31

Setup – Oct. 25

Takedown – Nov. 1

Frostbite Camp and Eric Hughes Distance Race

Weekend of Nov. 6-8

We send reminder emails about a week ahead of the work days.

SCKC's Home Regatta

- **Ted Houk, June 13-14**
 - 2nd biggest regatta behind Nationals
 - Sprint races - 1000 m, 500 m, 200 m
- **Eric Hughes, Nov 6-8**
 - Distance races - 5K, 10K
 - Frostbite Camp

Other Dates to Be Aware of

- **Saturday, May 16:** Open House
- **Fridays, July 10 - September X:** Duck Island Races (Fridays)
- **Wednesday, July 29 - Saturday, August 1-** Nationals (Claremont, Ohio)
- **Saturday, December 12 -** Green Lake Pathway of Lights
- **December:** SCKC End-of-Year Party (Date TBD)

Stay tuned for additional events!

Communications

- Check out the SCKC Website
- Please share your email with us if you'd like to receive communications from the club
- You're also welcome to join our Masters Signal chat



See you on the water!
Office: (206) 684-4074



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