

Trippers' responsibilities

Participants need to be aware of their own ability levels. Continue learning!

The best way is by taking courses from professionals and gradually increasing your paddling challenges. The worst way is by trying to extend limits by going out with a group 'to see what you can manage'.

It is the participant's responsibility to self assess their ability level relative to conditions of the paddle.

Ask the coordinator about the locality and what he or she knows of the range of possible conditions: distance, weather, wind speed and direction, fetch and currents. Learn to check these conditions yourself. Dress appropriately. Always remember, weather can change. Prudent paddlers hope for the best but are prepared for the worst.

Participants need to be competent enough to get back into their boat with an assisted rescue.

Doing this in rough weather in the ocean is a poor time to learn this skill.

Be courteous and considerate.

Contribute to the enjoyment of the group. Stay with the paddlers or tell the coordinator you are breaking off. If there is a capsize or other incident and you are not assisting, stay with the rest of the group, which should, if possible, move to a more sheltered location to wait.

RESPECT NATURE

Keep away from wildlife, tread lightly and bring your discards back with you.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND SAFETY

The main purposes of our Club's paddles are enjoyment, recreation, companionship and safety. These trips are also a means for our members to gain experience, confidence, skills and competence.

We advise that inexperienced paddlers participate in several introductory and/or easy paddles from the Day Trip Schedule, until they feel they have gained the skill and confidence to participate in more challenging and demanding trips.

The Coast Guard requires paddlers to carry safety equipment with them on every paddle. These include a paddle, a 15m buoyant throw line, a whistle or horn, a bailer or pump, a PFD or lifejacket and a light if paddling after dark.

Our Club also recommends that you wear suitable attire, and bring a complete change of clothing and a first aid kit in a dry bag. Please be sure to have these items, along with water and some energy food, when you participate in Club paddles.



The image shows the Nanaimo Paddlers logo, which consists of the word "NANAIMO" in a serif font above a stylized red and blue paddle, and the word "PADDLERS" in a serif font below it. The logo is overlaid on a scenic photograph of a rocky coastline with waves crashing against the shore and mountains in the background. Below the photo, the text "Membership information:" is followed by the website "WWW.NANAIMOPADDLERS.ORG" and the phone number "phone: 250-802-0048".

Welcome to
the

NANAIMO
PADDLERS

Please take a moment
to get acquainted with
our organization
and
come paddling
with us!

Who we are

We are a group of more than 200 people of all ages and skill levels united by our love of recreational paddling.

Our Club was formed in 1980, and was originally known as the *Nanaimo Paddlers Canoe Club*, then as the *Nanaimo Paddlers Canoe and Kayak Club*. Today we are incorporated as a non-for-profit society in British Columbia; our official name is *Nanaimo Paddlers*.



When and where we meet

We are an informal group that runs on volunteer energy. We meet at 7 p.m. at the Beban Park Social Centre at 2300 Bowen Road in Nanaimo on the first Wednesday of the month from September through May. In June, we meet in open air, have a picnic and paddle into the evening.

You are welcome to join our meetings and enjoy our speakers and presentations.

When and where we paddle

Year around:

Day paddles are Wednesdays and Saturdays. Check www.nanaimopaddlers.org for contact information.

Seasonal:

Overnight trips for members range from 3 days to 3 weeks and include:

- Wilderness camp & paddle
- Car camp & paddle
- Resort camp & paddle.

Scheduled:

Skills development sessions-indoor/outdoor

Benefits of membership

- * Paddle with like-minded individuals and explore beautiful locations in BC that you might never have known about or been able to paddle to
- * Join multi-day trips to a variety of spectacular locations on the BC coast
- * Meet new friends and paddling buddies
- * Attend monthly meetings with speakers, slide shows, and presentations
- * Attend mentorship program, courses, and events
- * Access the "Meet Up" tool to read about past paddles, schedule your own and sign up for events.
- * Get involved with the Club as a Director or on a Committee
- * Use your membership card to get 10% off gear, rentals, and lessons at Alberni Outpost, Comox Valley Kayaks and Valhalla Pure Outfitters upon request; Get West Adventure Cruises for 20% off; more to come
- * Become a trip coordinator to help mentor other less experienced paddlers
- * Organize a trip to a place that you have wanted to paddle
- * Enjoy affiliations with other paddling clubs
- * Be part of the exciting BC Marine Trails Initiative
- * Participate in the Newcastle, Spider Lake and Christmas Social events



***Nanaimo Paddlers in Brooks Bay
North West Coast of Vancouver Island***
