

Trips - Kayaking

Kayak trips for February are under construction. Emails will be sent to the kayak membership at a later date.

Paddle Guidelines: *Club paddles allow new members to meet other members; to paddle in a safe environment and to introduce new members to Victoria area paddling locations. They are tailored to beginner paddlers although experienced paddlers are welcome to attend. The pace is set by those at the back of the "pack". All those who plan to attend need to wear immersion gear (i.e. drysuit or wetsuit OR insulating clothing such as fleece). ALSO remember to bring a change of clothes in a drybag. If you are unsure about the suitability of your equipment or clothing, please contact the trip leader for advice prior to the paddle date. It is also expected that you will bring adequate food and water for the duration of the trip.*

Courses and Workshops

VCKC has a few kayaks that are available for members on these club courses and workshops. When you register for a course, please indicate if you would like to book a club kayak. When you use a club kayak, all the safety equipment is provided. However, it is your responsibility to transport the kayak to and from Crystal Pool. Therefore, if you register for any of the above sessions at Crystal Pool, you will have to arrange your own transportation including roof racks and tie downs.

If there is a workshop that you would like to see happen, get a group of four to six members together and contact Patti at the above email address.

Crystal Pool Practice Sessions

Practice Time at Crystal Pool
Date: Sat, Feb 7
Location + Time: Crystal Pool - 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.
Cost: \$15

Come out and practice your skills at Crystal Pool with fellow VCKC members. Space is limited to 18 members. Pre-registration is required by Sunday February 1.

Crystal Pool is located at 2275 Quadra Street. Entrance is from the East side by Central Park (Queens Ave).

Paddle Canada Flatwater (Introduction to Kayaking)

Dates: February 21 + 22
Location + Time: Crystal Pool - Sat 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm. VCKC Clubhouse + Gorge - Sun 9:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Cost: \$45

For information on Paddle Canada course content, please go to Paddle Canada's website and review the [Sea Kayak Program overview](#)

Space is limited to 6 members, so don't delay! Please register for these courses or workshops with Patti Stevens at pattilou_333@yahoo.com.

Canoeing Flatwater Trips

**Saturday, February 7
Sunday, February 22**

Destinations will depend on wind, but options include Maple Bay to Cowichan Bay or Vesuvius (Saltspring); Shawnigan Lake; and the Somenos Lake/Richards Creek paddle if there is enough water. Suggestions of other trips you'd like to do are welcome.

E-mail notices will be sent out to all canoe program paddlers roughly a week prior to the trip as a reminder. Sign-up is expected by the Thursday before the paddling day.

Participants should have taken and passed the [RCABC](#) Lakewater Level I tandem course. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the trip leader but will depend on the strength of the group and on the location of the planned trip.

Unless otherwise specified, all trips start by meeting at the Clubhouse parking lot at 9 am. The aim is always to have all participants back at the parking lot by 5 pm at the latest. At this time of year, return time is likely to be earlier.

Participants should be dressed appropriately for the forecast weather (call 250-363-6717 or look up the [Environment Canada forecast](#) on the web) and, if the trip is to be on the ocean, check the time of the tides and currents. It is helpful to bring your own charts or maps so that you can be self-sufficient if necessary.

Alan Thomson

Moving Water Trips

Saturday, February 14
Friday, February 27
Saturday, March 14
Sunday, March 22
Saturday, April 11
Friday, April 24
Sat. & Sun. May 2 & 3

VCKC river trips are open to current members or invited guests (waiver required) who have received RCABC or equivalent instruction and who agree to abide by VCKC safety rules as outlined in the member guide.

Unless otherwise announced, we meet at 8:30 am at the Millstream Park'n'Ride (exit 14/Sooke off the

Island Highway) and carpool to the appropriate river section. Please contribute to driver's fuel and vehicle expense. (\$10 is appropriate these days.) Trips are subject to last minute cancellation due to water level or road closures so please advise by Thursday evening if you plan to attend and phone my cell (after 6:30 a.m., please) if your plans change. The three club river boats are available for a modest fee on a "first call" basis.

May 2 & 3 Lake to Bay VIII (Our annual Cowichan River run with Friday and Saturday evening camping at the Stoltz group site.)

Tom Staebell
res 655-7113 after 5:00 pm
cell 588-2207 after 6:30 am
thestaebellfamily@shaw.ca