

Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

355 Gorge Road West, Victoria, BC, V9A 1M9



VCKC Kayak Booking Guidelines Updated November 21, 2021

When not scheduled for club events (kayak courses, workshops, club paddles, etc.) the club kayaks are available to VCKC members for personal use on the Gorge Waterway - on the club side of the Tillicum Bridge only. **Members must have successfully completed the Paddle Canada Sea Kayak Basic Skills course or have equivalent skills.** Members who have Paddle Canada Sea Kayak Basic certification **must always paddle with one or more paddlers.** Members who have Paddle Canada Sea Kayak L1 certification have been trained in self rescue and **are allowed to paddle solo.** The club kayaks can also be booked by members to participate in club sanctioned paddles – day trips and camping trips.

Please read and follow guidelines:

- Contact the kayak booking volunteer (kayakbooking@vckc.ca) to reserve a boat for the date and time you want to paddle. Plan ahead - give the booking coordinator 4-5 days advance notice.
- Tell the kayak booking volunteer which kayak you would like to use (see the list of club kayaks for the names and types of the kayaks in the fleet).
- Paddles are in the kayak locker; there are PFDs in the general basement area
- Always wear a PFD and carry the following safety gear: hailing device (whistle), spray skirt, pump, throw-rope-bag.
- Members who are paddling solo (L1 certified) have additional responsibilities. Carry a paddle float and a spare paddle. Tell someone when and where you are going paddling. Contact that person when you return from the solo paddle.
- Lock the basement door on your way out.
- After your paddle take the hose on the reel outside and thoroughly rinse the kayak inside and out, drain it and sponge out excess water. Also rinse the paddle and all the safety gear.
- **Leave the hatches open** so they can dry out. Put the rubber hatch covers inside the hatches.
- Store the kayaks “**bow in**”, with the **skegs and rudders facing out.**
- Return the hose to the basement storage area. Turn off the facet (behind door)
- Return all the rinsed, damp gear to their respective places
- Return the paddle to the kayak locker.
- Turn off the lights and lock the basement door.

If any kayak or gear is in need of repair, please notify the kayak booking volunteer (you will not be asked to pay for the repairs as long as you were paddling responsibly – accidents happen).