

Clwb Canŵ Eryri / Snowdonia Canoe Club

Information for members



Membership Fees

Adults

If you are already an On the Water member of Canoe Wales or Paddle UK, the club membership fee is £25. Otherwise the fee is £35, and the club will arrange 'Club Associate' membership of Canoe Wales on your behalf. This ensures that all members are covered by appropriate 3rd party insurance for club events.

Juniors (Under 18)

£5 if joining with a parent or guardian who is also a member

£16 if joining independently and an On the Water member of Canoe Wales or Paddle UK, £21 Otherwise.

The correct membership fee should be paid by BACS (faster payments from your bank account).

Account Name: Snowdonia Canoe Club (Lloyds Bank Business Account)

Sort Code: 30-99-50

Account: 61299362

Spond

We use a mobile phone app called Spond to book onto paddling sessions. The app clearly shows all paddling opportunities available, and how to participate. If you don't have a smart phone, you can also use Spond via a website. You'll get access to Spond when you become a club member.

Kit – Kayaks, Paddles, Spraydecks, Bouyancy aids etc

If you do not have your own kit, you can borrow by mutual arrangement with the boat borrowing team. There is no charge when borrowing kit for club paddles. **You need to allow plenty of time to arrange the borrowing of kit, and be able to transport it safely (so roof rack if borrowing a kayak).** Most of our equipment is located at Plas Menai near Felinheli. The membership secretary also has a garage in Penmaenmawr containing 1 Romany Sport, 1 Romany Sportive, plus paddles, spraydecks and PFD.

Club led paddles

All Club paddles are described as such in Spond, and have clearly identified club leaders. Club leaders are experienced sea kayakers who have leadership qualifications from national paddle sport bodies. All leaders have current first aid and safeguarding training.

- **Monday evening paddles** start after Easter and continue to late September. These are open to all, but if you're new to the club and have no qualifications, you may be asked to undertake a very brief assessment session before your first paddle.
- **End of Month paddles** usually happen on the last Sunday of each month and run all year round (weather allowing). Bring lunch, a hot drink, and any safety equipment you know how to use. Expected sea and weather conditions for any paddle will be provided close to the paddle date. If you are unsure of your ability to take part, please discuss this with the paddle leader before attending.
- **Ad hoc club paddles** These are paddles and training sessions beyond the normal rota. They are club led and are also arranged and advertised on Spond. Required skill levels will be advised in the paddle description.
- **Assessment of ability to safely attend outdoor paddles**
We have a two-level assessment – one for Monday night paddles and another for full day paddles. If you have the SKA qualification or higher, then there is no need for the assessment, otherwise you may be asked to attend a one-off assessment session. We try to make our short assessments straightforward and fun. It's no big deal if you miss some of the requirements, you'll be offered help and advice to close any gaps. ([see assessment sheet](#)).

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Peer Paddles

Any paddle not clearly described as a Club Paddle should be assumed to be a peer paddle. Peer paddles are arranged between club members, and are not covered by club insurance. It is recommended that you do not join peer paddles on the sea until you are at or near SKA level. If you choose to attend peer paddles, please ensure you are familiar with the points below.

- **Independent Activity:** Peer paddles are not organised or supported by the club, and therefore, are not covered by club insurance.
- **Assessment of Conditions:** It is essential that you understand the conditions you will be paddling in and are confident in your ability to manage those conditions on the day of the paddle, not just on your best day. Recognise that if you find yourself struggling, others might be struggling as well, and there may be no one available to assist you. If you have any doubts about your ability to handle the expected conditions, or if you have concerns about the capabilities of other attendees, please communicate with fellow paddlers and decide for yourself if you think the proposed paddle is safe. If you are uncertain, reconsider your attendance.
- **Personal Responsibility for Safety:** While mutual support among peer paddlers is encouraged, your safety and the decisions you make are ultimately your own responsibility at all times. Ensure you have the necessary safety equipment and the skills to use it effectively. No other individual or group has accepted responsibility for your safety.
- **On-the-Day Decisions:** Upon arrival at the paddle location, if you find that the conditions are more challenging than anticipated or you do not feel confident, do not hesitate to express your concerns. If in doubt, don't get on the water. There will be opportunities to paddle on other days.

If, after considering all the above points, you decide to participate, please ensure to take care of yourself, look out for your fellow paddlers where you can, and enjoy the experience.

Winter evening pool sessions

- **Plas Menai Pool** (Plas Menai National Outdoor Center)
Monday evening sessions from early October to mid-April. Cost £5 per 45 minute session using kayaks provided at the pool. Two sea kayaks and several general purpose kayaks are available.
- **Holyhead Leisure Center**
You need to have your own kayak, or have borrowed one for a block of sessions. Holyhead is a bigger pool than Plas Menai and sessions cost £12 for 1 hour. These are often Tuesday or Friday evenings. Sessions are unstructured, but help and advice is readily available from other participants.

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Club Rules

General Rules

1. Club members must be able to swim at least 12 metres.
2. Members participate in club activities at their own risk.
3. Members' own equipment and boats must be safe and suitable for the activities undertaken.
4. Always ensure that your spray deck release strap is easily accessible.
5. No reckless paddling activities. Be aware of other water users.
6. Juniors, under 18 years, must be accompanied by a parent or designated adult.

Outdoor Rules & Advice

1. All intending to participate on an outdoor paddle to sign in on Spond. If your paddling ability is different to that stated in Spond, please inform the paddle leader.
2. On club paddles, the leader's instructions must be followed at all times.
3. On club paddles, the leader's decision on who can participate in the paddle is final.
4. You are advised to wear a helmet at all times.

Pool Rules

1. An introductory session is required for all members on their first visit to the pool. This will include a capsized drill, the righting of a capsized paddler, manual handling of swamped kayaks, and a 12m swim. If you are a non-swimmer, you must wear a PFD.
2. Respond quickly to rescue a capsized paddler. (Preferred method – reach across the kayak, grab the deck and roll yourself and the boat back over. Capsized paddlers can help the rescuer by leaning forward and holding their deck to make a more streamlined shape.)
3. Empty your boat while in the water, not on the poolside or edge. This safeguards the boat and your back.
4. Members may only enter the pool without a boat if helping, instructing, or rescuing. No recreational swimming.
5. Respond quickly to the instructions of the pool supervisor (SCC member on pool duty, or other pool staff).
6. Photos and videos may be taken during pool sessions for training purposes only. If any member objects to this policy, please contact a member of the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

The above rules are in addition to other pool rules at the facility being used.