



Gibsons Paddle Club – Small Boat Policy

- 1) All members have unrestricted access to the Walden Nalu OC-1's (plastic)
- 2) To gain the right to use any other OC-1's or OC-2 the club currently has or may purchase in the future, GPC members must pay the small boat fee and go through a training session supervised by a designated small boat trainer.

For guidelines and details on the training session refer to the “Small Boat User Procedure”. The “Small Boat User Procedure” document is provided to each member doing the training session. On completion of the training session, the member must sign a Small Boat Usage agreement.

- 3) **The Club will have a Small Boat Manager who is responsible for:**
 - a. Maintaining a list of experienced members to be small boat trainers.
 - b. Maintaining a list of members who are current “licensed” small boat users.
 - c. Arrange training sessions for new small boat users.
 - d. Collect and submit the small boat fees, when necessary (i.e. At the time of training new small boat users.) to the treasurer.
 - e. Recommend to the executive the small boat usage fee for the following year.
 - f. Represent small boat users at the executive level.
 - g. Recommend to the executive modifications to the Small Boat Policy.
 - h. Maintain information for small boat repairs including parts, qualified repair persons, required maintenance/repairs, etc.

4) Training

- a. Training for the usage of small boats includes:
 1. the basic methods of hauling the boats in and out of the water,
 2. paddling technique,
 3. huli recovery
 4. proper storage and handling techniques
- b.. Training sessions are scheduled on an as needed basis. Members interested in taking the small boat training should contact the small boat manager at smallboats@gibsonspaddleclub.ca. Members can attend the training session without being obligated to pay the yearly small boat usage fee.

- 5) **Fees** – In recognition of the fact that small boats have a maintenance cost:
- a. An additional fee, in addition to the regular yearly membership fee is required. Small boat fees are set at the AGM in the same manner as Club membership fees (see Membership fee policy) and will not be prorated.
 - b. The fee will be used to pay for maintenance of the small boats, and to purchase additional equipment that may be required for the small boats. Fees not utilized for maintenance and equipment will be held in an account for future repairs and maintenance (in the event maintenance costs exceed the annual fees collected) and to build a contingency fund for future replacement/purchase of small boats.
 - c. Fees are due by January 31st of the current year.
 - d. Fees will be payable to the Gibsons Paddle Club, and are submitted with the member's annual membership fees or may be submitted to the Small Boat Manager, if registering for small boats at other times during the year.
- 6) **Padlock Combination** – When a Club member has taken the required training, and has paid the required fee:
- a. The trainer will provide the member with the combination that will open the padlock on the small boats.
 - b. The member is responsible for keeping the combination confidential and will not share the combination with non small boat users.
 - c. Each January 31st, the combination for the padlock will be changed.
- 7) **Safety** – The GPC Safety Policy applies to small boat users and in addition the following safety rules apply:
- a. In the summer small boat users will keep the boat at least 2 full boat lengths (5-fee or 16 meters) from shore with the following exceptions:
 - i. Gibsons Harbour
 - ii. Between Keats and Home Island the user will take the passage closest to Home Island.
 - b. During the winter months (November through March) small boat users must comply with the Winter Restrictions Policy, with the zone for winter paddling for small boats being restricted to:
 - The shores from Gibsons to Hopkins Landing keeping as close as possible to shore avoiding the shallow areas North of Armours beach and Granthams Landing and the rocks at Soames Point.

- c. Youth 18 years and under must be supervised by an adult at all times. The small boat manager has the discretion to waive this rule, if appropriate.

8) General Rules

- a. Small Boat Bookings – The Outrigger Canoe Scheduling Policy applies. As the Club currently owns only two OC-1s and one OC-2 the following booking restriction applies in order to provide fair access to small boats for all users:
 - Small Boat users may paddle as many times as they wish but can only have one booking per week for an OC-1 and one booking per week for an OC-2. Before using the small boat prior to an unbooked outing, the boat booking schedule on the internet must be checked and the booking put in the schedule (the booking must be removed from the calendar after use)
 - Members wanting more than one booking per week (i.e. Training for racing) may contact the small boat manager at smallboats@gibsonspaddleclub.ca
- b. Small boats may not be taken off the Sunshine Coast. Small boat users wanting to use small boats other than the Gibsons area must contact the small boat manager, and are responsible for transportation and any damage that may occur.
- c. Racing – The small boats will not be available for races other than the Howe Sound Outrigger Races. Usage of the small boats in the Howe Sound race will be determined by time trials, if necessary (i.e. More requests than the number of boats available). Time trials will be organized and conducted by the users who wish to race small boats.
- d. Any damage to, or loss of, equipment that occurs to the Club's assets as a result of negligence becomes the responsibility of the user, and the user is liable to the Club for any financial cost that are incurred in repairing the damage or replacing the loss.