



GIBSONS PADDLE CLUB Winter Restrictions Policy

1. Winter restrictions are in effect from November 1st to March 31st.
2. The time of day for paddling is restricted from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset of each day.
3. **The Paddle Club Safety Policy must be followed.**
4. The crew must be familiar with local geography so that in the event of an emergency, they can give the Coast Guard their exact location.
5. The observed weather and MARINE weather forecast must be stable or improving.
The forecast is available on the internet at www.gibsonspaddleclub.ca.
6. Paddling locations of Gibsons, and Sechart: All paddlers must stay within zone 1 **unless** they meet the requirements, in full, of the outer zones (zone 2 or zone 3) for each location.
7. **Winter restrictions for small boats:**
 - a. **Paddlers must have taken small boat training**
 - b. **Paddlers must have ocean huli experience in small boats within the last 12 months**
 - c. **OC 1 users going out alone are restricted to Zone 1.**
 - d. **All other requirements for Zones 1 to 3 apply to small boat users.**
8. **ZONE 1 Requirements, all locations:** Boats and crew must remain within 100 metres from the shore (in the Winter Restriction area as defined in paragraph 11) at all times. Crew must be equipped with, and meet the requirements of, the following:
 - Appropriate thermal protective clothing is required. No cotton allowed. Wetsuits are **strongly** recommended.
 - Properly fitting PFD's must be worn at all times.
 - Bailers: Two large and two small secured to the boat in a quick - release manner. Ladder: It is **strongly recommended** that crews carry the ladder in the canoe.
 - **Paddle Club Safety Bag – check the bag to make sure all the listed items are present.**
 - **OC 4 – requires a minimum of three crew members, with a minimum of three crew members who have Huli'ed in the last 12 months**
 - OC 6 – **requires a minimum of five crew members, with a minimum of three crew members who have Huli'ed in the last 12 months**
 - **Mirage – in addition to the above Mirage crews must have a minimum of three crew members who have Huli'ed in the Mirage**



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9. **ZONE 2 Requirements, all locations:** OC-6/OC-4 Paddlers wishing to go beyond 100m, while staying within the Winter Restriction area as defined in paragraph 11, are required to have the following:

- Appropriate thermal protective clothing is required. No cotton allowed. Wetsuits are **strongly** recommended.
- Properly fitting PFD's must be worn at all times.
- Bailers: Two large and two small secured to the boat in a quick - release manner. Ladder: It is **strongly recommended** that crews carry the ladder in the canoe.
- **Paddle Club Safety Bag – check the bag to make sure all the listed items are present.**
- **OC 4 – requires a minimum of four crew members, with a minimum of three crew members with ocean huli experience in the last 12 months**
- OC 6 – **requires a minimum of six crew members, with a minimum of five crew members with ocean huli experience in the last 12 months.**
- **Mirage – in addition to the above Mirage crews must have a minimum of five crew members who have Huli'ed in the Mirage**
- Spare paddle.
- Waterproof VHF radio or a cell phone in a dry bag.
- Dry-bags with spare clothes for entire crew.
- Survival Kit including space blanket, fire starter, flares, flashlight, fresh water, high energy snacks

10. **ZONE 3 Requirements, all locations:** OC-6/OC-4 Paddlers wishing to go **beyond** the zone 2 area in the Winter Restriction area as defined in paragraph 11 are required to have the following:

- Appropriate thermal protective clothing is required. No cotton allowed. Wetsuits are **strongly** recommended.
- Properly fitting PFD's must be worn at all times.
- Bailers: Two large and four small secured to the boat in a quick - release manner. Ladder: It is **strongly recommended** that crews carry the ladder in the canoe.
- **Paddle Club Safety Bag – check the bag to make sure all the listed items are present.**
- **OC 4 – requires a minimum of four crew members, with a minimum of three crew members with ocean huli experience in the last 12 months**



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- **OC 6 – requires a minimum of six crew members, with a minimum of five crew members with ocean huli experience in the last 12 months.**
- **Mirage – in addition to the above Mirage crews must have a minimum of five crew members who have Huli'ed in the Mirage**
- Spare paddle.
- Waterproof VHF radio or a cell phone in a dry-bag.
- Dry-bags with spare clothes for entire crew
- Survival Kit including space blankets, fire starter, flares, flashlight, fresh water, high energy snacks
- Motorized escort boat, equipped with a towrope and large enough to carry at least six additional passengers (crew members in case of an emergency) and tow an OC-4/OC-6 canoe at the same time.

11. Winter Restriction Areas are defined as:

i. In Gibsons:

- a. **Zone 1:** stay within 100 metres from Gibsons Harbour to Hopkins Landing.
- b. **Zone 2:** the area bounded by Gibsons Harbour, the Bluff and bearing southeast, across the Gap (Shoal Channel), to the northwest shore of Keats Island, to Melody Point, across Howe Sound to Hopkins Landing, to the Langdale Ferry terminal, and passing Hopkins, Soames, Grantham's, back to Gibsons Harbour.
AND from Gibsons Harbour to the Gap and hugging the shore to Chaster House (Gower Point) and back, along the shore to Gibsons Harbour.

ii. In Sechelt:

- a. **Zone 1:** stay within 100 metres from shore from Mackenzie Marina to Tuwanek.
- b. **Zone 2:** the Sechelt Inlet area waters bounded by the Mackenzie Marina, south to the Lighthouse Pub (Porpoise Bay), north to Tillicum Bay, Tuwanek and Three (3) Mile Point, bearing west, directly across the Sechelt Inlet to Piper Point and back (south) to the Mackenzie Marina