



Gibsons Paddle Club – Small Boat Policy

- 1) 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 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.

- 2) **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. Represent small boat users at the executive level.
- e. Recommend to the executive modifications to the Small Boat Policy.
- f. Maintain information for small boat repairs including parts, qualified repair persons, required maintenance/repairs, etc.

- 3) **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.

- 4) **Padlock Combination** – When a Club member has taken the required training:
 - 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 Armour's 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.