

Squamish Paddling Club Boat / SUP Usage Policy – January 2017

The club has invested funds in surf-skis and paddleboards for the purpose of:

- providing an opportunity for club members to try boats / boat types they don't own;
- developing the future participation in different paddle sports
- providing suitable boats for club-organized events

This usage policy is written to cover the safety aspects of using the club equipment and to facilitate an equitable use of equipment by all members.

Members must sign-out the boat on the sign-out sheet in the boathouse. The boats are available to all members with storage (at any time) and available to the general membership at club events (including social paddles).

The boats may be used for extended periods only with prior written approval of the Club's Executive. In such cases the member who signed out the boat will be personally liable for all damages or loss until the boat is returned to the storage space in the club house.

All participants must be members and boat usage fees apply.

It is essential that all paddlers assess the ability of the paddlers to operate safely in the prevailing and possible conditions. Paddlers must know the dangers and effects of hypothermia and the procedures in case of capsizing. Paddlers must individually decide if the actual conditions are suitable for the participants.

All participants must wear a Transport Canada Approved, properly fitted personal flotation device (PFD) with whistle. SUP and Surf-ski paddlers must use a boat tether. Other safety equipment required for the vessel by Transport Canada includes a throwline, bayer (vessel dependent) and a light.

It is highly recommended that a first aid kit and a cell phone (in water-proof container) also be carried. Club boats must not be on the water after dusk or before dawn.

In the winter, it is recommended that participants wear immersion gear (wetsuit/drysuit).

It is strongly recommended paddlers do not go paddling in freezing temperatures.

Members are expected to purchase their own PFD, although club PFDs and paddles may be used for drop-ins participants and programs.