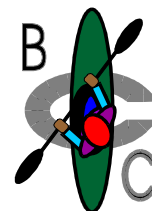


Bath Canoe Club Membership

Information for Prospective Members

Thank you for your interest in joining Bath Canoe Club!



General Information

Bath Canoe Club aims to provide a friendly environment, which encourages individual development. With the help of BCU qualified coaches, members are encouraged to obtain formal canoeing qualifications, via the British Canoe Union Coaching scheme.

Novices are accepted into the club providing that they can swim 50 metres in light clothing, & must undertake a course to obtain the BCU 1 & 2 Star awards. Young persons under 18 must be supervised by their parent/guardian or by their nominated Responsible Adult at all times whilst engaging in any club activity.

The Bath Canoe Club committee may at its sole discretion, decline to accept an application or renewal of membership, without disclosing the reason.

Annual membership starts on 1st April of each year & runs on to 31st March of the following year. Reduced fees are available if you join after 1st October. The Club is open in the summer on Wednesday evenings & Sunday afternoons, regular opening times will be posted upon the club notice board. A local pool is available for use at certain times.

A key holders roster for opening the Clubhouse for Members Paddling sessions will be posted by the Committee so that members may gain appropriate access to the Club.

Regular club meetings are held, to which new members are encouraged to attend.

Bath Canoe Club encourages its members to join the British Canoe Union, to make use of the facilities it can offer you, such as third party insurance & a bi-monthly magazine.

New Members

The club is a family orientated club & welcomes new members. All new members are expected to take the British Canoe Union (BCU) 1* & 2* courses, for which training is provided by club coaches throughout the summer. Each course generally consists of a pool session, followed by 6-8 evening/weekend river sessions. Once members have passed their 1* test they may take part in excursions on the River Avon from the Clubhouse; once they have passed the 2* they will be able to join any organised trips. The club also organises 3* courses. Children are welcome to join in club activities as long as they are supervised by a parent/guardian who also takes parts in the activity. Please note that children younger than 12-13 are generally not large/strong enough to manoeuvre the club boats.

To join the club please go to our website & register, or complete a Membership Application form & forward it to the membership secretary, or introduce yourself to the coach at one of the pool sessions. Details of courses are posted on the website (check the Event Diary > Categories > Training – BCC) or available from the membership secretary.

Pool Sessions

The club runs swimming pool sessions throughout the year at Kingswood School swimming pool (top of Lansdown Hill) on Monday nights from 8.30pm to 10pm. Pool sessions are free to members & £4 to non-members. You simply require your swimming costume & towel!

Open River Sessions

During the summer the club holds open sessions on the river at 6.30pm on Wednesday evenings & 2pm on Sunday afternoons. As these are unsupervised sessions, all new members are required to take the 2* course before attending these sessions. If you do not have your own equipment the club has over 60 canoes to choose from, & also supplies paddles, spraydecks & buoyancy aids, so you simply require a change of clothes, waterproof jacket, towel & suitable footwear.

Telephone

The club has a voicemail account, which can be reached on **01225 585555**.

Note: If you have access to the internet, please register on-line at <http://www.bathcanoeclub.co.uk> (Membership > Registration); you can also pay on-line after you have registered.

Trips

The club runs a full diary of trips all year. Bath is ideally located to reach rivers in Wales & the South West, & to reach the coast for surfing in North Devon & South Wales. See the website (check the Event Diary > Categories > Trips) for the scheduled trip list (& the email list for short-notice, weather dependent spur-of-the-moment trips!).

Clubhouse

Bath Canoe Club is proud to have one of the best canoe clubhouses in the country, recently re-furbished with support from Bath City Council & a National Lottery grant. The clubhouse has its own riverside launching site & can be seen (downstream on right) whilst standing on Cleveland Bridge. The entrance to the small lane leading to the clubhouse (Cleveland Cottages) is by the Methodist church on the main A4. See the website (Contact Us page) for a link to a detailed map. The address of the clubhouse is: **Bath Canoe Club, The Old Organ Factory, Cleveland Cottages, Bath BA1 5DD**

Email Mailing List

As canoeing is a weather dependent sport (river levels, surf conditions etc.) many trips are organised at short notice. It is therefore strongly recommended you have an email account: members are automatically added to the mailing list. Many last minute trip details are organised or communicated through the email mailing list.

Trips

Trips are organised on the basis that a group of equal individuals wish to paddle together.

The trip organiser is responsible for co-ordinating the details of the trip. The organiser or others on the trip may advise on safety, paddling technique or other elements of the activity. This advice is given as an opinion & not an instruction. It is up to each individual to decide on how they conduct their paddling activity. The organiser or any other member of the party will not act as group leader, each person must decide for themselves if they have the personal ability to paddle a particular stretch of water.

First Aid

A number of the members of Bath Canoe Club have been trained to administer First Aid. Should the need arise & your condition is such that your permission cannot be obtained, members will administer First Aid as deemed necessary by them at the time. Membership of the club will be considered to be acceptance of this procedure.

British Canoe Union Membership (BCU)

Bath Canoe Club is affiliated to the BCU & therefore you can enjoy most of the benefits of BCU membership including access to Canals & Waterways & third party liability insurance (please see www.bcu.org.uk for details). However if you want to enter competitions or become a coach you will need to have Individual Full membership of the BCU.

Clubhouse Keys & Loan of Club Equipment

Clubhouse keys can be made available to members subject to committee approval, a cash deposit & posted club rules. Club equipment can be borrowed with prior permission of the quartermaster & subject to posted club rules.

Storing Boats at the Canoe Club

You can only store boats provided you are a fully paid up member & paid the storage fee. Members must write their name on their boat(s), where it is clearly visible. Boats without visible names will be considered to be club boats & will be moved & used for general club use. For members who leave the club & do not remove their boats within 6 months, it will be taken that they have donated them as club boats. The BCC committee may then dispose of them in the best interest of the club.

PLEASE KEEP THESE PAGES FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. Alternatively, you will find all of this information in the Membership section of our website.