

JCC Wet Exit Training

Purpose

To help ensure general paddler safety on club paddles. Each club paddler must prove they are competent at wet exiting their kayak in a safe and composed manner. This is to help reduce the risk of entrapment issues and possible drowning.

Timings

The club will conduct two main wet exit training sessions a year. One in spring at the start of outdoor Tuesday evening sessions based at the JCC club house. The other in Autumn just before pool sessions start. i.e. ahead of winter Sunday paddling sessions. However the training can be completed at any time of the year if required.

Who needs to qualify?

Everyone who paddles regularly with the club on the sea. Leaders, Coaches and general club paddlers.

Visitors and overseas members

If the visitor(s) experience level is known to the session leader or they can provide evidence of any training which would include a wet exit and deep water rescue. Then they can take part in the paddle session. Ideally this should be established in advance to avoid any embarrassment or disappointment in not being able to join in with the session.

How do you qualify?

By demonstrating to a qualified club coach or leader that you can safely wet exit your kayak in a composed and calm manner. This is to be conducted under the following conditions.

- Starting with the spray deck on and being released underwater
- Test conducted in the sea, in deep water, where the participant can't touch the bottom
- During sheltered water conditions.
- While wearing full kayaking gear. Cag, dry/wet suit, BA, spray deck, helmet.

Definition of a club qualified club coach or leader

Any club coach or leader who is active on the current club session rota.

How long is the wet exit training valid?

1 Year from the time the test was taken.

Recording

Date, name of paddler and tag number will be recorded on a spreadsheet and kept in club records. A security (ie single use) plastic tag will be issued to the paddler and displayed on their buoyancy aid at club paddles. This way club coaches and leaders can visually identify who has completed their wet exit training and who hasn't.

Implementation

Any club paddler who attends more than 3 club paddles and does not complete their wet exit training can be refused to participate if further club paddles at the discretion of the paddle session leader.