



Traditional Kayaking Endorsement Workshop

Instructor Endorsement Criteria

Course Overview: This workshop is designed for currently certified ACA Coastal Kayak Instructors (ACA Level 3 and above) seeking the traditional kayaking endorsement. An instructor holding this endorsement is certified to teach the course described in the ACA course outline titled “Coastal Kayak Traditional Skills.”

Course prerequisites:

- Hold a current ACA Coastal Kayaking Instructor Certification at Level 3: Coastal Kayaking or higher.

Essential Eligibility Criteria (EEC):

ACA courses are open to all individuals who acknowledge the ability to perform the following essential eligibility criteria.

1. Breathe independently (i.e., not require medical devices to sustain breathing)
2. Independently maintain sealed airway passages while under water
3. Independently hold head upright without neck / head support
4. Manage personal care independently or with assistance of a companion
5. Manage personal mobility independently or with a reasonable amount of assistance
6. Follow instructions and effectively communicate independently or with assistance of a companion
7. Independently turn from face-down to face-up and remain floating face up while wearing a properly fitted life jacket*
8. Get on / off or in / out of a paddlecraft independently or with a reasonable amount of assistance*
9. Independently get out and from under a capsized paddlecraft*
10. Remount or reenter the paddlecraft following deep water capsize independently or with a reasonable amount of assistance*
11. Maintain a safe body position while attempting skills, activities and rescues listed in the appropriate Course Outline, and have the ability to recognize and identify to others when such efforts would be unsafe given your personal situation*

** To participate in adaptive programs, participants must acknowledge only the first six EEC listed above. Entry-level adaptive programs will involve teaching and practicing EEC #7-11.*



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Course Duration: 1 Day (8 hours)

Course Location / Venue: Optimal conditions are flat water with a sandy or firm bottom on which to stand.

Course Ratio: 5 students: 1 Instructor; with an additional instructor or qualified assistant the ratio can be 10: 2

Traditional Kayaking Instructor Endorsement Criteria:

1. Demonstrate understanding of core ACA Instructional skills:
 - Teaching and learning theory
 - Effective methods of providing feedback
 - Development and application of essential eligibility Criteria
2. Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively in an instructional team environment
 - Work well with students, including ability to listen and respond to student concerns and desires
 - Work well with other members of instructional teams
 - Actively participate in discussions through the workshop
3. Demonstrate knowledge and skills of traditional kayaking
 - Master the skills outlined in the “Coastal Kayak Traditional Skills” course outline
 - Be able to describe Greenland, Inuit and at least one other Arctic kayaking culture
 - Teach and demonstrate a forward finishing roll and a rearward finishing roll
4. Demonstrate the ability to fit students to traditional equipment
 - Understand how to safely fit a student to a qajaq with particular attention to potential entrapment hazards of skin on frame qajaqs
 - Be able to fit a student to a traditional paddle
5. Demonstrate safety skills required for a traditional kayaking course
 - Be able to perform standard rescues (including unresponsive paddler rescue) quickly and fluently
 - Demonstrate the ability to conduct rescues for kayaks that lack bulkheads
6. Demonstrate the ability to paddle and perform rescues efficiently and comfortably, while maintaining appropriate situational awareness and group management in level three conditions.
7. Demonstrate leadership, group management skills, experience and judgment necessary for proper risk management and effective instruction.