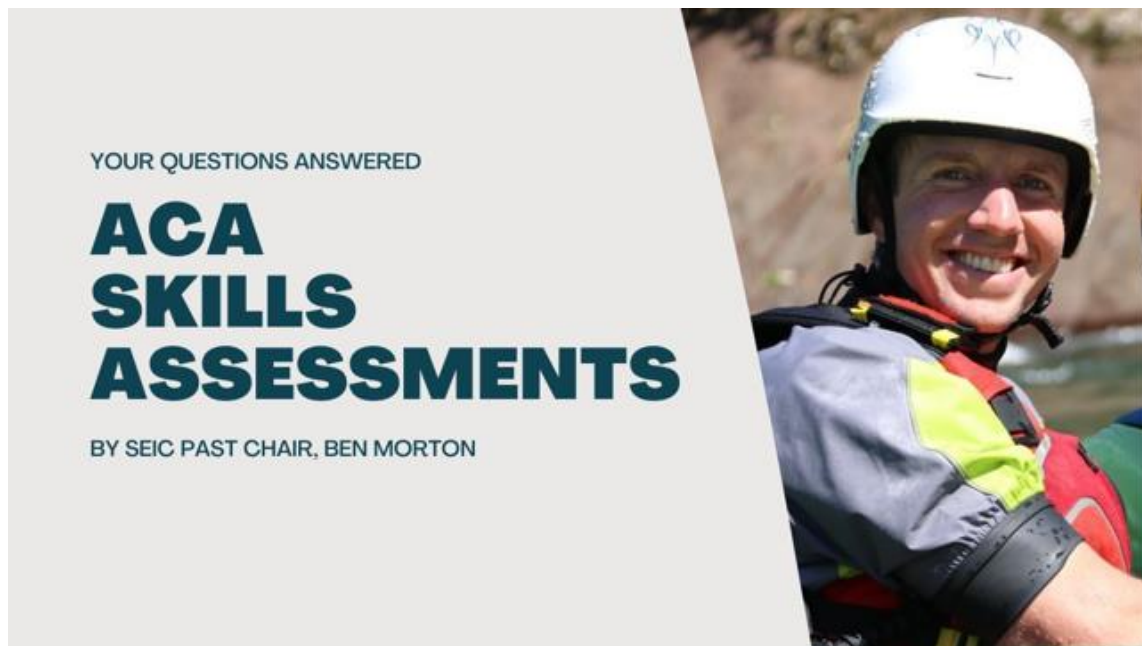




Welcome to the SEIC April 2023 Newsletter! 🌻 We have created this monthly newsletter to supply updates, information, and important news to increase communication and connectivity between the ACA Safety Education and Instruction Council, Discipline Committees, the ACA Staff, and certified instructors and trainers.

Stay tuned for a special announcement next month about new and expanded ACA instructional offerings which were approved during the March SEIC Meeting! Details coming soon!



This month, SEIC Past Chair Ben Morton presents critical information about ACA Skills Assessment awards including details about documenting student performance of the assessment skills criteria, registering and reporting an assessment course, and the value of assessments in the preparation for further coursework such as trip leader credentials and instructor certification. Check out Ben's helpful video within the [ACA Instructor Resources Youtube Playlist!](#)



We are proud to share a [FREE online paddling safety course](#) - perfect for new students - brought to you through a partnership between the ACA and the U.S. Coast Guard! This course is mobile-friendly from start to finish and is designed to work on s smartphone, tablet, laptop, or desktop computer. Topics included:

- Shopping for paddling equipment
- Securing a boat to your vehicle
- Trip Planning
- Filing a Float Plan
- On-water Group Management
- Waterway Hazard Identification
- Challenging Weather
- Temperature Regulation & Self Care
- Rescue Priorities & Protocol
- And more!

The course can be completed in one sitting or saved and completed at a later date. Most students finish the course in about 20 minutes. There is no minimum age requirement to take this online course, and ACA membership is not required. Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a completion certificate.

PS - Stay tuned for a fully translated Spanish version of this free online course, being launched next month!

*This online course is produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.*

[Access Free Online Course](#)



**Community  
Paddlesports Leader  
(CPL) Program**

**Zoom "Open House"  
Q&A  
and Discussion**

**Video recording  
now available!**



Community Paddlesport Leader (CPL) courses explore and develop solutions to “big picture” paddling challenges including venue selection, group management, participant competency, and rescues across a variety of paddlecraft. These non-discipline specific courses train leaders that engage with the broader paddling community to provide safe, fun, paddling experiences at the entry level. Want to learn more? [Watch the "Open House" discussion and Q&A video](#) from the zoom meeting hosted last month!



**LEVEL 1 & 2**

# **INSTRUCTOR CONTEST**

*Dec. 1, 2022 - Oct. 1, 2023*

**\$500 GRAND PRIZE IN EACH CATEGORY**  
*each entry gets you more chances to win!*

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Level 1 & 2 Instructor Contest is back! This year the Regional Activity Council (RAC) is extending the dates that you can submit your courses to be entered into the contest. The goal of this initiative is to encourage our instructors to safely welcome new and prospective paddlers to the community by teaching a few more Level 1 & 2 courses this season. For more information see the [Level 1 & 2 Instructor Contest Announcement](#).



ACA PADDLESPORTS  
**ANGLER**  
ENDORSEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Reminder!** Last year the ACA launched a new Paddlesports Angler instructor endorsement and skills-based curriculum with a focus on safety as well as paddling and fishing skills. The

endorsement to teach this curriculum is available for currently certified instructors in the IPC, River Kayaking, Coastal Kayaking and SUP disciplines.

There are a variety of in-person ways that an ACA instructor, IT or ITE can earn the Paddlesports Angler Instructor Endorsement as well as a new method that has been authorized by SEIC for ITs and ITEs who have prior fishing expertise. This online only process to earn the endorsement is being offered by the Paddlesports Angler Advisory Board for free until May 31st. [Learn more on the ACA website!](#)

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**Reminder!** After a 5-year hiatus, the ACA Swiftwater Rescue Conference is returning! This year's event will be held in Glen Jean, WV, from September 29th to October 1st. Presenters will include Charlie Walbridge, Sam Fowlkes, Mike Mather, Julie Munger, Tom Burroughs, Robin Pope, and a host of other amazing safety and rescue professionals. Attendees will have a chance to learn and practice the latest advances in swiftwater rescue, while refreshing core knowledge. ACA Instructor updates will also be available.

[Learn More & Register Here](#)

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#### Upcoming SEIC Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> from 7PM – 9PM Eastern
  - Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 7PM – 9PM Eastern
  - Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10AM – 4PM Eastern
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**CMS Helpful Hint of the Month:** Need to cancel a course that you registered in the CMS? Use the "Status" dropdown on the main registration screen to select "Cancelled." If that option does not immediately appear, remove all participants from the course roster, scroll down and click the button that says, "Cancel Course." Easy, right?!

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#### Useful Instructor & Trainer Resources:

- [Instructor & Trainer Resources YouTube Playlist](#)
  - [Course Management System \(CMS\) Log In & Tools](#)
  - [Free Online Paddling Safety Course for Students](#)
  - [Contact Your SEIC Board & Discipline Committee](#)
  - [SEIC Newsletter Archives](#)
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**THANKS FOR READING!**

