



Support the ACA community to get involved, access exclusive benefits, and give back to the waterways we all enjoy. Share in our mission & celebrate what it means to make the world a better place to paddle!



Founded in 1880, the American Canoe Association (ACA) is a national nonprofit organization serving the paddling public by providing education related to all aspects of paddling, stewardship support to help protect paddling environments, and sanctioning of programs and events to promote paddlesport competition, exploration, and recreation. The heart of the ACA is the people who paddle, cherish and protect the rivers, lakes, streams, bays and oceans of the world.

Our vision:

To connect diverse communities by fostering a shared commitment to safety and stewardship, and by providing opportunities for challenge, achievement, and fun through paddlesports.

Since 2017, the ACA has proudly served as the National Governing Body (NGB) for the Olympic sports of Sprint & Slalom as well as the Paralympic sport of Paracanoe.



National Paddlesports Instruction Program:

The ACA National Paddlesports Instruction Program has been acknowledged as the premier paddlesports education program throughout the United States and in over 40 countries. Through the efforts of the ACA National Office and the Safety Education & Instruction Council (SEIC), course curricula and educational resources are developed and made available to the general public, instructors, partners, and the overarching outdoor industry.

- Training & Skill Development
- Assessment & Instructor Certification
- Paddlesports Safety Facilitator Certification

Learn more about available courses or to find an instructor:

<https://americancanoe.org/take-a-paddling-class>

Insurance Program:

One of the many benefits of being affiliated with the ACA is our ability to provide liability insurance for on-water events. The ACA's program provides excellent coverage from highly-rated insurance companies. It can be used for paddling in most classes of water, and is available at affordable rates that are competitive with other national providers.

- Outfitters, Liveries, and Guides
- Clubs & Organizations
- ACA Certified Instructors
- Hull (Personal Property)

Find all the affordable policies & programs available: <https://americancanoe.org/insurance>

Grassroots Paddlesports Community Leaders:

The ACA Regional Activity Council (RAC) provides a regional infrastructure of ACA volunteers at the regional, state, and local level to help connect paddlesports communities and join forces on projects related to safety, education and instruction, competition, public policy and stewardship, and recreation. These local ACA volunteers can often:

- Help paddlers find instruction or connect with instructor certification opportunities
- Promote competition, training, stewardship and community-based paddlesports events
- Build coalitions for paddler advocacy initiatives, and much more!

Connect with your Regional Chair or State Director at: <https://americancanoe.org/regional-activity-council/>

Competition Program:

The ACA is committed to developing and promoting paddlesport athletic competition; we organize and manage paddlesport competitions for athletes of many skill levels including youth & beginner-friendly races to the selection of USA National Teams who compete on the international stage. As the National Representative to the International Canoe Federation (ICF) we support internationally recognized competitive paddling disciplines such as Sprint, Slalom, Paracanoe, Whitewater Freestyle, Surfski/Ocean Racing, Marathon, Wildwater, Dragonboat, and many others. Learn more at: <https://americancanoe.org/competition>

Member Benefits:

- [Members Only Discounts: Merchandise & Events](#)
- [Monthly Newsletters](#)
- [Rapid Media Publications](#)
- [Stewardship Support & Public Policy Representation](#)
- [Exclusive Access to Sugar Island & Camp Sebago](#)
- [Insurance Coverage](#)
- [Educational Resources](#)
- [Subaru VIP Program](#)

Find all the details: <https://americancanoe.org/member-benefits>

