

December 1, 2025 SEIC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording Link: https://youtu.be/id03V-_Fz9Q

Please use the time stamps outlined below to navigate the video recording and find the item/discussions you need.

Voting members in attendance: Ryan Rushton, Alan Cammack, Lance Elzie, Anne Sontheimer, Jeff Atkins, John Browning, Patrick Higgins, Rachel Nagle, Tom Burroughs, Stacy Leagh Wildes, Robert Kauffman, Elisha McArthur, Mike Aronoff, Ashley Brown, Anthea Raymond, Ge Wu

Guests in attendance: Kelsey Bracewell, Ben Morton, Krista Lenzmeier, Beth Spilman, Suzanne Britt, Wayne Douchkoff, Chuck Earls, Jeff Little, Drew Gregory, Francheska Barreto, Jake Vitak, Trey Moore, Robin Simms, Geoff Luckett, Andrea White, Chad Hoover, John MacDonald, Stanley Esquivel, Kaycee Maas, Jameson Riser, Greg Weiss

2:15 - Thanks to Discipline Committee Chairs for years of service to SEIC

2:40 - Two word check in

13:01 - ACA Staff Presentation (Beth Spilman)

25:50 - ACA Board of Directors Presentation (Suzanne Britt)

29:30 - Discipline Committee Reports

- Canoe Committee - Written report in CMS (submitted by RJ Forth)
- Coastal Kayaking Committee - 30:00 (John Browning)
- Packrafting Committee - 31:09 (Patrick Higgins)
- Rafting Committee - 32:02 (Elisha McArthur)
- River Kayaking Committee - 34:11 (Anne Sontheimer)
- Safety & Rescue Committee - 35:20 (Tom Burroughs)
- Stand Up Paddle Board Committee - 39:26 (Rachel Nagle)

41:30 - Leadership Pathway Updates (Ryan Rushton)

1:01:00 - RAC Update (Andrea White & John MacDonald)

1:02:00 - Motion 0 - Approval of [previous meeting minutes](#)

- Passes 15-0-0

1:06:30 - [Motion 2025-12-01](#) - Create ACA Kayak Fishing Discipline Committee

- Passes 13-2-0

1:37:35 - [Motion 2025-12-02](#) - Skills Award Requirement for Instructor Course Admission
ICW L2-L5

- 1:42:00 - Friendly amendment proposed by Rachel Nagle and supported by Alan Cammack and Ryan Rushton: have assessment requirement begin at L3 instead of L2
- 1:46:45 - Comment from Elisha McArthur that an across the board skills award requirement (prior to ICWs) will be a detriment to the Rafting Discipline
- 1:49:25 - Anne Sontheimer accepts the friendly amendment. Trey Moore agrees.
- Passes 14-1-0

1:52:30 - [Motion 2025-12-03](#) - River Kayak Instructor Level 3 ICW Entry and Updated Level 4 ICW Criteria

- Passes 14-1-0

2:13:00 - [Motion 2025-12-04](#) - Amend SEIC Policy Manual, Chapter 3.4.C

- 2:16:00 - Ryan Rushton suggests tabling this motion because Leader Trainer updates do not yet exist in the SEIC Policy Manual
- 2:17:00 - John Browning accepts the suggestion to table this motion until a later time when the Leader update process has been better structured and outlined within the SEIC policy

2:17:35 - [Motion 2025-12-05](#) - Update the L2 Coastal Sit-On-Top Documents

- Passes 15-0-0

2:19:30 - [Motion 2025-12-07](#) - Update the L3 Coastal Kayak Sit-On-Top Documents

- Passes 15-0-0

2:20:35 - [Motion 2025-12-08](#) - Adoption of a Standard Teaching Framework for Instructor Development

- 2:35:30 - Stacy agrees to table this motion for further discussion

2:35:45 - [Motion 2025-12-09](#) - Retiring the Day Trip Leader / "Old" Trip Leader Assessment Program

- Passes 15-0-0

2:38:00 - [Motion 2025-12-10](#) - Update the Instructor Trainer Candidate Evaluation Guide in 2 areas

- Passes 14-1-0

2:57:30 - 2026-2027 Discipline Committee Election Results

3:02:30 - Breakout Discussion: Advice for Incoming Committee Members

▼ **Room 1**

- Alan Cammack - SEIC VC
- Anthea Raymond
- Ben Morton
- John Browning
- Krista Lenzmeier
- Mike Aronoff
- Rachel Nagle, SUP Chair

▼ **Room 2**

- Ashley Brown
- Chuck Earls
- Elisha McArthur
- Jeff Little
- Lance Elzie
- Patrick Higgins
- Stacy Wildes

▼ **Room 3**

- Andrea White
- Jeff Atkins - IPC
- RKC Anne Sontheimer
- Robert Kauffman
- Suz Britt
- Tom Burroughs- Safety And Rescue

3:07:20 - Group 1 Discussion Summary (Alan Cammack)

- Defining roles and responsibilities (for incoming committee members)
- Idea of commitment and time and planning
- LMS working group
- Leader pathway group / committee formation
- Cross discipline consistency
- SEI resources working document

3:10:20 - Group 2 Discussion Summary (Patrick Higgins)

- Committee alignment for procedures and processes
- eLearning modules (about education holistically: learning to learn, learning to teach)
- Professionalism overall
- Marketing and business training
- Advice to incoming members:
 - Read your emails
 - Ask questions
 - Simplify things
 - Follow procedures

3:13:45 - Group 3 Discussion Summary (Anne Sontheimer)

- Job descriptions for committee members
- Importance of IPC, requires diverse make up
 - Need to be more proactive in this market space
- Clarify direction for IPC
- Keep momentum for the Guide Pathway
- More collaboration with RAC and Competition
- Smart Start = need to increase awareness and support for the market share

3:19:15 - Elisha McArthur proposes working group to address the goals of [Motion 2025-12-08](#) - Adoption of a Standard Teaching Framework for Instructor Development (which was tabled earlier in the meeting)

- Ryan: suggests waiting to form the working groups until the new committees are seated and the new members are given the opportunity to engage with this goal

Mike Aronoff mentioned John MacDonald's work with coordinating regional events/updates or discipline development events and the need to reinvigorate that discussion/idea

3:23:00 - Ryan Rushton shares upcoming SEIC Meeting dates for 2026

- Spring 2026 - February 28 from 10AM to 4PM Eastern
- Summer 2026 - June 16th from 7PM to 9PM Eastern
- Fall 2026 - September 28th from 7PM to 9PM Eastern
- Winter 2026 - December 5th from 10AM to 4PM Eastern

3:24: 10 - Invitation to give meeting feedback / closing thoughts

3:39:33 - Motion to adjourn by Elisha McArthur and Tom Burroughs, second