

2025 Training

In order to help promote safe sea kayaking for SISKa members we are again partnering with professionals from island kayaking skills companies. They are once again offering discounts to SISKa members.

Registration and payment for these will take place directly with the company involved and be subject to their normal customer policies. You will be able to book immediately, making it easier for your own planning and for the company involved. If companies provide discounts for gear, we will also promote those.

Of course, our SISKa instructors will continue to offer on-water skills development workshops and courses to members as well, and information about these will be circulated to members when available.

"Training" 2025 offers received are listed as follows:




BestCoast Outfitters
Blue Dog Kayaking
Dancing with the Sea
Go Kayak
Ocean River Sports
SKILS
Roll with it Kayaking
Crosscurrent Kayaks





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BestCoast Outfitters (BCO) is a collective of industry professionals who together combine a retail business with paddling training and trip experiences.

Use the code **BCOBF24** at checkout for an extra 10% discount on all courses!

Sign up for 3 Spring TuneUp courses and get 1 FREE

 <p>PADDLE CANADA BASIC COURSES</p>	<p> FEB15 Paddle Canada Basic: Victoria MAR15 Paddle Canada Basic: Victoria MAR16 Paddle Canada Basic: Victoria APR12 Paddle Canada Basic: Victoria APR13 Paddle Canada Basic: Victoria </p>
 <p>PADDLE CANADA LEVEL 1 COURSES</p> <p>PADDLE CANADA LEVEL 2 COURSES</p>	<p> FEB22-23 Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills: Victoria MAR22-23 Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills: Victoria APR5-6 Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills: Victoria APR19-20 Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills: Victoria MAY31-JUN1 Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills: Victoria </p> <p> MAR15-16 Paddle Canada Level 2 Skills Preparation: Victoria APR10-13 Paddle Canada Level 2 Skills: Victoria </p>
 <p>PADDLE CANADA LEVEL 3 COURSES</p>	<p> FEB8-9 Paddle Canada Level 3 Skills Preparation: Victoria MAR20-24 Paddle Canada Level 3 Skills: Deer Group </p>

 <p>PADDLE CANADA LEVEL 4 COURSE</p>	<p><u>MAY1-6 Paddle Canada Level 4 Skills: Victoria & West Coast Vancouver Island</u></p>
 <p>PADDLE CANADA INSTRUCTOR COURSES</p>	<p><u>APR18-21 Paddle Canada Level 1 Instructor: Victoria</u> <u>MAY15-19 Paddle Canada Level 2 Instructor: Victoria</u></p>
 <p>SPRING TUNE UP</p>	<p><u>MAR 8 Spring Tune Up Currents Session: Tillicum Narrows</u> <u>MAR 8 Spring Tune Up Strokes: The Gorge</u> <u>MAR 8 Spring Tune Up Rescues: The Gorge</u> <u>APR 13 Spring Tune Up Strokes: The Gorge</u> <u>APR 13 Spring Tune Up Rescues: The Gorge</u> <u>APR 13 Spring Tune Up Currents Session: Tillicum Narrows</u> <u>APR 26 Spring Tune Up Rolling Session: Flemming Beach</u> <u>MAY 17 Spring Tune Up Rolling Session: Cadboro Gyro Park</u> <u>MAY 18 Spring Tune Up Current Session: Tillicum Narrows</u> <u>MAY 18 Spring Tune Up Rescues: The Gorge</u> <u>MAY 18 Spring Tune Up Strokes: The Gorge</u></p>
 <p>OTHER COURSES AND HANGOUTS</p>	<p><u>JAN5 Current Session: Tillicum Narrows</u> <u>JAN 18 Navigation, Tides & Currents: 865 Yates Street</u> <u>MAR1 Risk Management Session: Fleming Beach</u> <u>MAR2 Race Rocks Adventure: Race Rocks</u> <u>MAR26-29 Surf and Splash: Surge Narrows</u> <u>APR26 Risk Management Session: Fleming Beach</u> <u>MAY10-13 Hangout: Discovery Island Lodge</u></p>

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BLUE DOG KAYAKING

SISKA is pleased to recommend and promote Blue Dog's paddling instruction business as well as their online store. .

You can find out all about Blue Dog Kayaking's workshops, courses, trips and expeditions at <https://bluedogkayaking.com/>.

Kayaks and gear can be found at Blue Dog Outfitters <https://bluedogretail.com>

Here is their message to SISKA members:

Blue Dog Kayaking is delighted to support SISKA again during 2025, by offering a 10% discount on all gear excluding NDK Kayaks and all trip and courses excluding lodge based and Blue Dog without borders programs.

The coupon code is SISKA25 for both kayaking and retail online purchases.

Regards

Dave Nichols

CEO, Blue Dog Kayak Outfitters

[250 710 7693](tel:2507107693)

bluedogkayaking.com

[Facebook](#)



Unleash The Dragon



" Passionate about Paddling, making learning fun for all"

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DANCING WITH THE SEA

Paulo Ouellette at Dancing with the Sea has been a friend and supporter of SSKA for many years. A Greenland paddler and a talented instructor, Paulo is offering the following:

Greenland Paddling Lessons

The Effortless Power & Stability Workshop

For those who already use a Greenland paddle, and for anyone who's curious about trying it.

Workshop to make kayaking gentler, more stable, and more powerful - at any age.

Learn two game-changing techniques:

- The Integrated Forward Stroke - uses your whole body naturally to reduce shoulder strain while increasing power and endurance
- Tension-Free Edging - the key to effortless turning and rock-solid stability in rough water

This workshop is perfect for paddlers who:

- Want to protect their shoulders while increasing power
- Seek more stability and confidence in rough water
- Would love to paddle longer with less fatigue
- Are ready to discover a gentler, more efficient approach

Regular price: \$199

Special Siska member price: \$80 (enter coupon code at checkout: "SSKA2025")

Friday Jan 3, 2025, from 10:00 am to 1:00pm

Friday Jan 10, 2025, from 10:00 am to 1:00pm

Takes place at Telegraph Cove

→ Click here to learn more or sign up: dancingwiththesea.ca

Limited spaces available.

Apprenticeship Program

Gentle Strength: Traditional Paddling Mastery

3-Months

Regular price: \$1200

Special Siska member price: \$1020 (enter coupon code at checkout: "SISKA15")

Starting Friday February 2, 2025, from 10:00 am to 1:00pm
Until the end of April

Whether you're an accomplished paddler or just starting out, this apprenticeship takes you down a completely different path than conventional kayaking instruction.

We're not teaching the same techniques with slight improvements - we're exploring an entirely different approach to moving through water.

You will transform your paddling through systematic, guided practice of the ancient techniques that create effortless power and unshakeable stability.

You know those days when the wind kicks up and the waves get steep? Or when you hit that spot where the current makes the water all confused and choppy? Most paddlers tense up and just try to power through it. But there's this totally different way to handle it.

I'd love to show you how to make those conditions feel... actually kind of fun. Not by being bold or aggressive, but by learning to feel really comfortable in them. We'll take it step by step, starting where you feel solid and gradually exploring more challenging stuff. It's amazing how different it feels when you've practiced something enough times that your body just knows what to do.

The cool thing is, we can create these conditions in places where it's totally safe to practice. So by the time you encounter them for real, it's no big deal - It's familiar, and you know exactly how to respond automatically.

This intimate weekly training ensures you don't just learn the movements - you embody them.

Over 12 weeks, you'll:

- Explore the connection between relaxation and power
- Stop relying on hard-to-learn techniques and instead develop a natural way of moving with your kayak

- Improve your stability in waves without needing to be skilled or fast with bracing
- Develop a deeper relationship with your boat and the water
- Build natural, sustainable power that protects your joints
- Experience faster paddling with less energy by developing greater efficiency
- Effortless turning and edging that feels stable, and easy on the shoulders, even in 20-knot winds

Limited to 6 paddlers to ensure individual attention.

Perfect for:

- Experienced paddlers interested in expanding their skills
- Beginners who want to explore traditional techniques
- Anyone curious about the Greenland paddle tradition
- Paddlers focused on long-term joint health
- Those who want more stability in rough water without fighting the waves
- Those looking to make their paddle strokes more efficient and powerful
- Those who want to stay comfortable during full-day paddling adventures

Meet weekly for 3-hour sessions

→ Click here to learn more or sign up: dancingwiththesea.ca

Kayak Alchemy Retreat

Regular price: \$2291

Special Siska member price: \$2061 (enter coupon code at checkout: "SISKA10")

Want to completely transform how kayaking feels in your body?

The Alchemy Retreat is a 5-day retreat that's all about making kayaking feel as natural as walking.

Think of it like this: birds don't fight the air, and dolphins don't fight the water. They just flow. That's exactly what we'll discover together - that sweet spot where your paddle becomes an extension of you, and your kayak feels like it's reading your mind.

Whether you're looking to master that roll you've been working on, feel more at home in waves, or just want to paddle longer without your body complaining... we'll get you there fast.

But here's the thing - we'll do it in a way that probably feels different from anything you've tried before. More like unlocking something that's already there, rather than forcing new skills.

We'll focus a lot more on how to keep your body aligned and balance, and move with more ease and efficiency...Like a dancer.

Beautiful location, great people, lots of time on the water, and plenty of relaxation built in.

Plus, some pretty amazing transformations happen when you have five full days to really dive deep.

Space is super limited. It filled up in 19 minutes last year so if you think you might be interested...

Get on the early bird list.

→ Click here to learn more or sign up for the early bird list: dancingwiththesea.ca

Thanks very much,

Paulo



GO KAYAK

For the past several years, Go Kayak's focused paddling skills workshops and other sea kayaking programs have been very popular with SSKA members, and we're sure 2025 will be no exception!

Yves and Patti (email: gokayakca@[yahoo.ca](mailto:gokayakca@yahoo.ca)/info@[gokayak.ca](mailto:gokayakca@yahoo.ca))

Go Kayak 2025 Spring Training Schedule: <https://www.gokayak.ca/newsletter.html>

**For Info or to Register, contact Go Kayak | Phone/Text: (250) 477-9881 | Email: gokayakca@yahoo.ca
Yves Aquin and Patti Stevens**

GO KAYAK

Sea Kayak Surf in Tofino (2 days)

\$360.00 - Regular Price

\$310.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Tofino, BC.

. Thu - Fri March 13-14, 2025

. Sat - Sun March 15-16, 2025

. Sat - Sun April 12-13, 2025

. Sat - Sun April 26-27, 2025

. Thu - Fri May 15-16, 2025

. Sat - Sun May 17-18, 2025

This course teaches you how to deal with surf by:

***1- Avoiding it. Apply knowledge and seamanship to launch and land in surf zone.
Very***

useful when paddling on West Coast Vancouver Island.

2- Learning how to deal with the surf if a wave catches you.

3- Having fun playing in the surf zone, building confidence, and paddling skills.

Fun at Trial

\$150.00 - Regular Price

\$100.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Sunday March 30, 2025, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm

. Monday March 31, 2025, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

- . Monday April 28, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm*
- . Tuesday April 29, 2025, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm*

This course is all about playing at Trial Island. We are going to paddle in active water with emphasis on current, paddling and re-entry skills. Prerequisites:

Participants

MUST have Lv2 Skills or equivalent.

Baynes Fun

\$150.00 - Regular Price

\$100.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

- . Tuesday April 1, 2025, from 8:30 am to 11:30 am*
- . Saturday April 5, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm*
- . Wednesday April 30, 2025, from 8:30 am to 11:30 am*
- . Saturday May 3, 2025, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm*

This course is all about playing in Baynes Channel. We are going to paddle in active water with emphasis on current, paddling and re-entry skills. Prerequisites:

Participants

MUST have Lv2 Skills or equivalent.

Currents at Tillicum Bridge

\$150.00 - Regular Price

\$100.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

- . Sunday March 9, 2025, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm*
- . Sunday March 23, 2025, from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm*
- . Sunday April 6, 2025, from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm*
- . Sunday April 20, 2025, from 10:30 pm to 1:30 pm*

This course is designed for individuals who want to learn how to navigate sea kayaks safely and effectively in various current conditions. Participants will learn essential skills, safety protocols, and techniques to paddle in currents, tides, and changing water conditions.

Edging and Bracing - The Grey Zone

\$130.00 - Regular Price

\$85.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Saturday March 22, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

. Monday May 5, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

This workshop will provide you with the skills to effectively develop your edging and reflexive paddle braces. Use your legs, lower body, and core muscles to increase your boat control and thereby enhancing your confidence and paddling skills.

Maneuvering and Turning Strokes

\$130.00 - Regular Price

\$85.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Monday April 7, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

. Monday May 12, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

This workshop teaches you the techniques for turning and maneuvering your kayak in situations. Take control and push your boundaries, you are now in charge of your kayak!

Beginner and Intermediate Re-Entries

\$150.00 - Regular Price

\$100.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Monday May 5, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

. Monday May 12, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Learn how to deal with a possible capsized by performing rescue skills such as wet exit, self and assisted re-entries; essential skills to review every year.

Advanced Re-Entries

\$150.00 - Regular Price

\$100.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Saturday March 22, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Learn how to deal with a possible capsized by performing rescue skills such as wet exit, self and assisted re-entries; essential skills to review every year.

Forward Strokes

\$130.00 - Regular Price

\$85.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Monday April 7, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Learn how to perform an effective forward stroke without losing efficiency and energy.

Chart and Navigation - In-Class and On-water

\$200.00 - Regular Price

\$150.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

Course 1

In-Class: Wednesday March 5, 2025, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

On-Water: Saturday March 8, 2025, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Course 2

In-Class: Saturday April 19, 2025, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

On-Water: Saturday April 19, 2025, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

This course is designed to teach participants the skills and knowledge required for safely navigating a sea kayak using nautical charts, compasses, and other navigation tools.

Go Tarp 101

\$150.00 - Regular Price

\$100.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria, BC.

. Saturday March 29, 2025, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Go Tarp 101 is a course designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively set up and utilize tarps in various outdoor situations.

Sea Kayak Paddle Canada Basic Kayak Skills

\$305.00 - Regular Price

\$225.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria

. Saturday May 10, 2025.

This is the primary starting point of the Paddle Canada Sea Kayak skills progression.

With a focus on foundation skills and knowledge, Basic Kayak Skills inspires students to go out on short paddling excursions in class-0 or calm and sheltered waters.

Sea Kayak Paddle Canada Level 1 Skills

\$360.00 - Regular Price

\$300.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria

. Friday - Saturday May 9-10, 2025

Building on the information covered in Basic Skills, Sea Kayak Level-1 Skills is a two-day course that moves participants beyond flatwater kayaking and into the sport of sea kayaking.

Sea Kayak Paddle Canada Level 2 Skills

\$700.00 - Regular Price

\$600.00 - Spring Training Special offer for Vancouver Island Paddle Club Members.

Location: Victoria - Note: No Camping

. Monday - Thursday March 24-27, 2025. (On-line and evening homework)

. Monday - Thursday April 21-24, 2025. (On-line and evening homework)

Building on the skills developed in Level-1, Level-2 provides paddlers with the intermediate skills they need to go sea kayaking in class-2 conditions along semi-exposed shoreline with a possible overnight bivy. Leadership, incident management, open-water rescue, self-care and navigation are core parts of the curriculum.

OCEAN RIVER SPORTS

Ocean River Sports, one of the original kayaking companies in our area, has long been a strong supporter of SISKa – we're delighted that ORS continues to offer services and gear for sea kayakers and special deals for SISKa members!

Exclusive Offer for Siska Members: 10% Discount on Paddle Canada Courses, Clinics, Personal Coaching, and More

Dear Siska Members,

We are thrilled to offer you an exclusive 10% discount on all our Paddle Canada courses, clinics, personal coaching sessions, and more this year! This is a fantastic opportunity for you to elevate your paddling skills, gain confidence, and enjoy the water even more.

Starting March 1st, we will be offering **Basic and Level 1** Paddle Canada courses on a bi-weekly basis. These courses are available for booking on our website. The **Level 2** course is still being finalized and will be added to the calendar soon.

We are also working on adding our **clinics** to the website. Some of the clinics we will be offering include:

- **Capsize & Re-entries** (in both flat and dynamic waters)
- **Navigation Clinic** for beginners and intermediate paddlers
- **Refine Your Strokes, Edging, and Bracing**
- **Rolling Clinic** to enhance your confidence and technique on the water

Additionally, we are offering a **special 4-day Personal Coaching Program** with a tailored progression plan to help you reach your specific paddling goals. This personalized coaching is a great way to focus on your individual development and progress at your own pace.

To take advantage of the 10% discount, simply mention your Siska membership when booking any course, clinic, or coaching session.

We look forward to helping you on your paddling journey!

Best regards,

The Ocean River Team

Ocean River Sports

450 Swift St | Victoria B.C.

p: [250-381-4233](tel:250-381-4233)

www.oceanriver.com

SKILS

SKILS has been a strong supporter of SSKA for a number of years, so we are delighted to work with them again in 2025!

You can see their 2025 offerings now online at <https://skils.ca/>

Check out the details of their discount offer to SSKA members below and consider joining them with a couple of paddling friends in one or more of their paddling events next year.

In 2025, SKILS provides a 15% discount when a group of 3 SSKA paddlers book for a specific program. This must be the same program with the same dates. Our goal is to provide the highest quality of instruction or guiding to our participants.

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Roll with It Kayaking

This company is the newest of our partners. We look forward to working with them again in 2025!

Roll with it Kayaking is happy to continue to offer 15% discounted pricing for paddle club members for courses and kayak outfitting throughout 2025.

Check out: <https://rollwithitkayaking.com>

Thanks very much.

Raj

Raj Persram

Sea Kayaking, Rolling and Paddling

250-385-

6088 | RollWithItKayaking.com

Roll with it Kayaking acknowledges being situated on unceded Coast Salish Territories.

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CROSSCURRENT KAYAKS

[Crosscurrents Kayak](#) is pleased to offer SSKA members' special discounts on select 2025 training programs, including Paddle Canada Basic and Level 1 Skills courses, Underwater Composure Clinics, Current Clinics, and related Women on Water sessions. Please visit our [Padding Club Program](#) for more information. See you soon on the water!

Best,
Caroline

Caroline Ross
Crosscurrents Kayak
Nanaimo BC
778-268-1338

Web - crosscurrentskayak.ca
Facebook - [crosscurrentskayak](#)
Instagram - [crosscurrentskayak](#)
