



Course Information Package

Paddle Canada Level Two Instructor Training



Program Description

Our Level 2 Instructor program provides an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skill necessary to become a confident and competent instructor of intermediate paddling skills.

Intermediate instructional skills include managing groups in current, waves and wind; facilitating learning on a paddling trip; developing models to teach weather, navigation, and other knowledge; and developing conceptual frameworks for coaching and assessing intermediate paddlers.

Paperwork Checklist

Please use the following checklist to ensure you have received and reviewed all the required documentation prior to the program start date:

- ✓ Paddle Canada Level Two Instructor Training Program Document – please review
- ❑ Paddle Canada Waiver - please review and sign in the presence of your instructor
- ❑ SKILS Waiver – please review and sign in the presence of your instructor
- ❑ SKILS Medical Form – please bring a completed copy to your program
- ❑ SKILS Online Classroom – please review
- ❑ Paddle Canada Sea Kayaking Manual – please review

Expectations and Evaluation

Expectations

The general skill training and instructor training included in this course is designed to polish existing skills; it is NOT an introduction to these skills. In particular, successful candidates will have strong intermediate technical, tactical, mental, and physical skills in Class 3 waters, as defined by Paddle Canada Level 3 Skills certification. Furthermore, successful candidates will demonstrate strong instructional competencies in problem solving, learner centered teaching, critical thinking, leadership, and collaboration.

Problem Solving

- Design and execute at least 3 lessons based on identified learning outcomes.
- Analyze a teaching scenario and identify areas of success and areas for improvement.

Learner Centered Teaching

- Recognize and respect differences in learning styles
 - Develop and modify instructional style based on paddler needs
 - Provide constructive and positive feedback
- Use activities that promote enjoyment and learning

Critical Thinking

- Reflect and discuss the factors that promote effective learning
- Reflect and discuss learning styles and demonstrate how they may affect teaching styles and techniques
- Assess whether feedback is consistent with needs of the learner
- Observe and critique teaching scenarios

Leadership

- Implement an appropriately structured and organized learning environment
- Use demonstration quality techniques in teaching scenarios
- Provide timely interventions that promote learning

Collaboration

- Brainstorm and work collaboratively with other instructors to complete specific tasks
- Role-play a variety of instructional situations involving instructor(s), learners and observers.



Evaluation

The evaluation will comprise of a written test, written assessments, on water general paddling skills assessments, and on water and land based teaching scenarios.



Program Logistics

Prerequisites

Prior to participating in a Paddler Canada Level Two Instructor Certification program, candidates are required to have completed the following:

- Paddle Canada Level 3 Skills Certification
- Paddle Canada Level One Instructor Certification
- Significant teaching experience as a Level 1 Instructor in a wide variety of conditions and locations including a minimum of 15 days of logged instruction of Level-1 curriculum (either courses or clinics).
- A minimum of two level 1 skills courses within the past three years, being the lead instructor on both courses. These two courses count toward the 15 logged days.
- Significant paddling experience in a wide variety of conditions and locations
- In addition, candidates should have their Marine Radio Operators License, basic first aid (16 hours), and CPR Level C. The course instructors will ask to see proof of certification, so please bring copies to the course. As a Level 2 Instructor, you are becoming an ambassador of Paddle Canada and it is expected that you have an excellent understanding of the organization you will be representing.

Our Classroom

Our On Water Classroom: Clayoquot Sound and Ucluelet

The course is based on the West Coast region of Vancouver Island. We will meet at a classroom location on the first morning (details will be sent prior to the program). The area offers diverse paddling conditions ideal for a Level 2 Skills course. There is no overnight camping in the field component for this course. SKILS is providing accommodation at Surf Junction Campground for the night before the course and the following nights (5 nights in total). The course covers a lot of material in a very short period of time; candidates are discouraged from planning anything else during the 5 days of the course including the evenings. You will have to work on teaching assignments during the evenings.

What You Are Responsible For

You are responsible for all travel and paddling gear throughout the course. White water helmets are mandatory, and dry suits are strongly recommended.

If you need to rent equipment, please contact our office at info@skils.ca. A list of available equipment and rental costs is available at <https://skils.ca/rentals/>

Meals

You are responsible for all your own meals during the program. Plan on having lunch on the water. You are encouraged to bring extra snacks to fill in the holes and satisfy personal tastes.

Suggested Gear List

- Touring kayak
- PFD with whistle and knife
- Paddle and spare paddle
- Spray skirt
- Pump
- Helmet
- Tow line and other safety gear
- 15m buoyant heaving line
- Immersion clothing

- Emergency overnight bivvy equipment
- Tarp
- VHF Radio
- Navigation equipment
- Meals and water
- Program paperwork
- Log book, course materials, and reading materials

Course Materials & Background Reading

In our experience, a little preparation goes a long way in this course. Please take the time to read your course materials early and spend some time reviewing your Level 3 skills including tide and current calculations, basic piloting and compass navigation, weather interpretation, boat handling, and rescues. We will send you an email one month before the course with more information and reading to best prepare you for the course.

Thirty (30) days prior to the course, we will give you access to our online classroom. You are required to do the reading in the online classroom prior to the start of the course. This will help you to learn faster and get the best out of the in person section of the course. The "Above and Beyond" sections of the online classroom are not mandatory but if you are super keen, curious, or have time, you can learn much more in these sections. The online classroom is based on content from our books and training manuals.



Thank you for enrolling in our instructor training program. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact us at info@skils.ca. We look forward to playing on the water with you!

