



PORTLAND KAYAK POLO NEWSLETTER

Spring & Summer 2015

Contents

2015 Alder Cup	1
Outdoor Kayak Polo Season	1
New Venues!	1
Marine Park, Vancouver	1
Tryon Cove, Lake Oswego / Rivervilla Park, Oak Grove	1
New Insurance	1
2015 Kayak Polo Nationals	2
Kayak Polo Nationals Q & A	2
2015 New Kayak Polo Rules	3
Stolen Polo Boats	3

2015 Alder Cup

Thank you to Alder Creek who let us participate in Paddlefest the best way we know how, with lots of splashing and shouting!

On April 26, 2015 3 teams battled it out for one round robin until breaking into 2 teams and playing until everyone was exhausted. Thankfully the weather and water conditions were excellent this year!

After the games we retreated to Who Song & Larry's for tasty Mexican food and margaritas.

Outdoor Kayak Polo Season

Starting June 2 we'll play polo every Tuesday at our new [Tryon Cove](#) venue from 5:30-7:30pm!

In order to participate, purchase a one-time \$10 PDXKP 2015 Outdoor Pass as well as sign an OKCC waiver for our new liability insurance. (Payable at your first practice.)

New Venues!

At long last we have two excellent new venues!

Marine Park, Vancouver

On the way to the boat ramp, the road takes a hard right. Just after that is the open parking area in the boat basin, no fee. Carry your boats down to the river from that lot. The boat basin is to the east of the parking lot. Please do not walk into the restricted area where the fire truck could be. When you are driving down SE Columbia Way

there is a large brown sign directing you to the boat ramp that is impossible to miss. You will turn onto Marine Pkwy and there is an immediate parking lot to your left. Keep going. Within 200 feet there is an entrance with gates and probably a firetruck we are not allowed there since they need to get in and out quickly. Just after this fencing (another 100 feet) is the parking lot with a small park.

Tryon Cove, Lake Oswego / Rivervilla Park, Oak Grove

Depending on where you live you can park and play at the Alder Creek Tryon Cove Boathouse at 14110 Stampher Rd, Lake Oswego OR you can park at Rivervilla Park at 925 SE Courtney Rd. Oak Grove, OR and paddle straight across to Tryon Cove.

This location is excellent due to ample parking, potential on site goal storage, clean unobstructed water, there's even a great city pier that we can easily hang a single goal for half pitch or set up the full pitch for large turnouts. Thank you Alder Creek!

New Insurance

We have new liability insurance requirements that will make things simpler and easier thanks to the Oregon Kayak & Canoe Club (OKCC for short)! Feel free to thank the OKCC for their continued support of Kayak Polo by joining the club for a bargain price of \$20!

<http://www.okcc.org/membership/>

2015 Kayak Polo Nationals

2015 US Kayak Polo Nationals – Hansen Dam Los Angeles, California – Saturday & Sunday October 24 & 25, 2015

When I first started playing kayak polo in Boston, I thought it was insane that Boston players would fly to Austin, LA, or Charlotte to play kayak polo. Then I started attending regional tournaments and I realized how much fun it is to play against other teams and be around other kayak polo enthusiasts. I attended Nationals in LA in 2009, Omaha in 2011 and San Francisco in 2013 and loved every minute of it. Don't be intimidated, you don't need a bombproof roll or to be a star polo player to have a great time. I feel US Nationals is like a big family reunion where you meet a lot of great folks from the US and Canada while playing kayak polo in the sunshine for an entire weekend! What's not to like about that, right!?

I know October seems like ages away but I want to make sure everyone is aware of how fun and exciting this opportunity is so don't miss out.

Kayak Polo Nationals Q & A

Is there a website?

Yes!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1585818691672350/>

How do the divisions work?

A: People capable of playing at the national level

B: Everyone else

Women: All abilities

U21: All abilities

Is there a site for Portland planning?

Yes!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/782647435183373/>

Am I good enough?

Yes! Nationals has different divisions for different skill levels, and the kayak polo community is very welcoming.

In addition, PDXKP will have training and scrimmages to help players learn the rules and basic strategy. If you're interested but are unsure if you are suited for

Nationals, let us know and we'll give you honest feedback on what to expect.

Do I need a roll?

No. Not everyone at nationals will be able to roll and even the best paddlers wet exit sometimes. We have plenty of time before October to work on bracing, rolling and t-rescues. We can also work on positioning and boat skills to help prevent you from flipping.

Is it expensive?

Team registration is usually around \$40-60 per person. Shirts and tournament banquet are optional.

Other costs such as food, transportation and accommodation vary depending on your choices. Low budget options, such as camping and carpooling from Portland to LA are possible. If you are bringing a boat you can often find space on a roof rack of a vehicle driving down.

What equipment do I need?

Ideally, polo-legal boat, pfd, spray skirt, paddle and helmet with face mask. If you don't own these don't worry. We can help you modify your gear, borrow the appropriate gear here in Portland or possibly down in LA. Just let us know, and we will work with you to find a solution.

What division should I play in?

Most of us will probably play in the B and/or Women's divisions.

Women can play in two divisions, just be prepared to play a lot of polo and spend a lot of time refereeing/timekeeping.

How many games will I get to play?

Generally, each division has one or more round robins and then a double elimination playoffs. In the past, this means teams play 6-9 games.

What is the schedule like at nationals?

This depends a lot on how many teams register, the number of pitches and the length of the tournament. This year's nationals will last two days and have 2 pitches. A typical day might last from 8 am-6 pm. Your team would have 4-6 games interspersed with breaks between games. In addition, your team might have to perform duties (e.g., judging lines and scoring) for a few games each day.

2015 New Kayak Polo Rules

For those of you on Facebook there is a great page to follow "ICF Canoe Polo Rules for Players and Referees". They cover the latest rules and lots of interesting pictures and explanations.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/ICF-Canoe-Polo-Rules-for-players-and-referees/256199671158887?fref=ts>



Rule 64.5 (Illegal Possession)

A player may not manoeuvre their kayak with their hands or paddle while the ball is resting on their spray deck, or tucked under their arm.



5 SECONDS / POSSESSION

The intention of this rule is to prevent players "carrying the ball" whilst paddling with **both** hands on their paddle. So if the ball is held under the arm, or between arm and body whilst **both** hands are on the paddle during active paddle strokes to manoeuvre the kayak, it will be considered illegal possession. A support stroke or bracing is not considered an active paddling stroke unless this stroke then becomes a forward, reverse or turning stroke, in which case it will become carrying the ball.

Note: the wording of this rule will be updated in the future to make it clear.



Rule 59.2

The referee may restart play as soon as the attacking team are ready even if up to 2 players of the defending team are not back in their own half. No player of the defending team may take any part in the game until their body has crossed the centre line back to their own half. Infringement incurs yellow card to the offending player. Signals 1, 15 and 17 apply.

If a player on the defending team that **has not** crossed back into their own half proceeds to take any part in the game, they shall be sanctioned with a yellow card.



Stolen Polo Boats

The Chilliwack BC kayak club had 2 light blue Fluid Vuvubats stolen on 5-16-2015. Keep an eye out if they make their way down here. (Identical to Eric, Harvey and Amy's boats.)

