

# *Assessment Guide*

## *Enclosed Sea Guide*



*Australian Canoeing  
Award Scheme*

## Award Definition

### Award Definition.

The holders of this award are qualified to guide groups of novices on activity and day based programs in sea kayaks in enclosed waters defined as:

- Bays and Harbours
- Moderate conditions (forecast or 11 – 16 knots)
- Max 1.5 nautical miles from shore
- Breaking (overtopping) waves (sea) up to 0.5m
- No surf.

### Pre-requisite

Enclosed Sea Skills or equivalent

## Skill Component

### Prepare appropriate craft and equipment.

Throughout assessment participants use appropriate equipment for the environment.

This equipment promotes personal safety and is prepared in a way to not impede on safety.

### Model Enclosed Sea Skills set efficiently and safely.

Strokes are performed in moderate (to 16kn) conditions at sea:

Strokes:

- Forward and reverse paddle
- Forward and reverse sweeps
- Draw strokes(feathered or sculling)
- Stern Rudder
- Stopping
- Support using back of blade

For each stroke the minimum performance requirements are:

- Correct hand placement on paddle
- Sufficient wrist movement to enable correct blade placement
- Adequate paddle depth in water to achieve effective stroke
- Correct paddle blade angle throughout stroke
- Correct paddle entry and exit points with respect to craft and body position.

**Competently perform self and buddy rescues.**

Rescues are performed in moderate (to 16kn) conditions at Sea as rescuee and rescuer where applicable.

Buddy rescue:

- T rescue

Self rescue:

- Paddle float rescue

Rescues are performed as rescuee and rescuer where applicable.

Rescue is performed in a timely manner (no time wasted), promotes safety to all involved and is deemed to work in all conditions.

**Competently perform a tow.**

Tows are performed in moderate (to 16kn) conditions in enclosed Sea:

- Single tow

- In line tow

- V tow

- Short tow

- Contact tow

- Towing to hold position

Tows are performed using:

- Quick release system

- Floating system if disconnected

- Bright coloured rope can be an advantage

Tows are performed to promote safety to all

**Secure craft for transport, secure equipment to craft.**

Participants transport craft to and from venue, method is safe for craft and participant. (or able to demonstrate method they would use)

Equipment placed on craft is secured in a manner that does not impede safety and is accessible when required.

# Knowledge Component

**Have a broad understanding of the advantages and limitations of sea kayaks.**

General knowledge may include but not limited to:

- Construction material
- Water line
- Bow designs
- Rocker
- Storage
- Deck fitting
- Volume
- Hull shapes

**Select and advise novice paddlers on appropriate equipment and clothing with consideration of sun sense and hypothermia.**

Throughout assessment participants use appropriate equipment for the environment. This equipment is prepared in a way to not impede on safety.

**Plan and navigate full day enclosed sea activity for novice paddlers.**

Knowledge of, but not limited to:

- Latitude and Longitude
- Measuring distance
- Tide flow arrows
- Port and Starboard markers
- Cardinal markers
- Special marker
- Paddling speed
- Effects of wind and tide
- Eddies
- Scale
- Depths
- Types of coast line eg: cliffs
- Position fixing, 3 point fix
- Aiming off
- Types of sea floor
- Tidal vectors
- Lights on above markers

Able to complete a Navigation sheet.

**Store, operate and maintain appropriate safety and communication equipment.**

Equipment to include but not limited to:

- PFD
- Split paddle
- Mobile phone
- Hand pump
- Helmet (when in around rocks)
- VHF radio;
- Tow line;
- Sat Phone;
- Sling/rescue ladder;
- Hands-free pumps, foot or electric.

**Interpret weather for a marine environment.**

Able to identify good source of marine forecasts.

Knowledge of but not limited to:

- Highs
- Lows
- Fronts
- Swell
- Seas
- Beaufort scale
- Funneling
- Rebound
- Fetch

Sources of weather forecasts.

Telling signs of bad weather approaching.

**Knowledge of tides for enclosed sea trips.**

- High and Low
- Tide range
- Spring and neap
- Rule of twelves
- 50/90 rule
- Secondary ports

**Minimal environmental impact.**

Follows AC environmental code.

**Knowledge and maintenance of craft.**

General knowledge of what makes a kayak a Sea Kayak. Must include but not limited to:

- Storage
- Decklines
- Cockpit
- Bulkheads

Able to explain or show simple repair kits and the purpose of its contents.

Able to explain or demonstrate simple glass repair.

**Knowledge of Rules and Sea.**

Knowledge of but not limited to:

- Give way rules for other water craft.

**AC's role, membership structure, your rights and responsibilities.**

Has an understanding of AC membership, structure and rights and responsibilities as a registered AC leader.

**Safety Guidelines, Minimal Impact Guidelines, Risk Management Policy, Incident Reporting requirements.**

Has knowledge of these documents.

**Hazard identification and risk management program for an enclosed sea trip.**

Able to identify Risks and casual factors for an Enclosed Sea trip and also able to identify management strategies to reduce any risks.

May include:

- Separation
- Drowning
- Sunburn
- Hypothermia
- Hyperthermia

**Licensing, permits and other legal and behavioral laws and requirements.**

Able to give examples of any licensing, permits and other legal and behavioral laws and requirements that may be required for a trip.

**Understanding of selection of launching and landing sites.**

Sites must be appropriate and promote safety to group.

**Maintaining log books.**

Knowledge of ACs PaddleLog.

Understands the purpose and contents of a logbook.

## Experience Component

**Minimum Logbook requirement.**

Produce a logbook to Australian Canoeing standards that show:

- Six enclosed sea environment trips of a minimum of three hours duration
- Two different overnight enclosed sea kayak trips.
- Six guided enclosed sea activities of at least three hours duration as an observer under training or as an assistant Guide (must be in two different locations).
- Two guided enclosed sea activities of at least six hours duration as lead guide under observation of a qualified guide.

## Communication Component

**Establish and maintain an effective communication system within a group of novices.**

Participant establishes a safe working system group stays within communication distance. Communication is limited to:

- Verbal
- Whistle
- Visual

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**Brief a group of novices paddlers to participate in activity.**

Must include but not limited to:

- Purpose and duration of trip;
- Expected conditions;
- Correct posture;
- Setting up the craft;
- Strokes as required;
- Group movement requirements;
- Actions in the event of an emergency;
- On water signals.

Brief is clear and concise, attention of the group is gained.

Recollection could be tested.

**Deliver directions in a clear and concise manner.**

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**Debrief.**

A debrief is conducted to suit the trip and group.

## Leadership Component

**Manage the launching and landing of a group of novice paddlers.**

Launch and landing promotes safety to all involved.

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**Manage a group of novice paddlers in moderate conditions at sea.**

Group is managed in a safe manner to reach goal, assistance and direction given if and when needed. Route is managed to promote safety to group.

**Manage multiple capsizes and emergencies of novice paddlers.**

Rescues are managed to promote safety to all in group.

**Manage group packing.**

Packing is managed to promote efficiency and safety.

**Manage tows of novice paddles in moderate conditions in enclosed sea.**

Tows are managed to promote safety to all.

## Written Component

### Plan a personal trip

You are to prepare for a 1 day Enclosed sea paddle with a group of six novices in an area of your choice. You are the head guide for all aspects of the trip. The area must fit within the award definition above.

Prepare:

- Hazard identification and risk management program for the trip
- A detailed navigation plan for the trip including main route, stops and contingencies
- An equipment list for the trip (include all equipment including safety and communications)
- A basic contingency plans in the event of environmental, human or equipment failure
- A list of permits and licenses required for the trip
- A briefing in point form to be delivered prior to departure, to include route, group spacing, actions in the event of sickness, group split, capsize or other emergency

Look at the Bureau of Meteorology site and write down or print out the forecast for your trip. Analyse how these conditions will affect your trip and outline any changes or precautions you might take