

Tampa Bay Sea Kayakers

Trip Leader Orientation and Assessment

April 2016

Training and assessment of Tampa Bay Sea Kayaker members desiring to become Trip Leaders will be conducted by the Safety and Training Coordinator or by another TBSK Trip Leader approved by the Safety and Training Coordinator or appointed by the President or Vice President.

Prior to the Training Day:

Candidates should review and be familiar with the Club's Paddling Guide on the Club's Website (Includes the Trip Leader Orientation and Assessment, Trip Participation Guidelines, and Skills Self-Assessment & Trip Ratings).

On the Day of Training: Candidates should come with equipment expected to be carried by TBSK Trip Leaders and should bring a completed sample Trip Plan to include the Float Plan and notes documenting that a risk assessment has been completed noting Marine Weather conditions and tide/current levels for a projected route in the Tampa Bay area.

The assessment will include:

- **Review of Planning** – discussion of the Trip Plan to include Weather and Tides, Maximum group size, Route and Duration, participant skill level and information to be included when posting a trip in the EBB & FLOW
- **Safety Talk** – Ensuring that the Club's Waiver Forms are properly completed by each participant to include emergency contact and guest information (if non-members present). Review of communication systems to be used during the trip (whistle, visual signals and cell/radio contact), and ensuring that participants are properly equipped.
Note Expected Weather, tides/currents, route and duration, and ask about medical conditions. Ask for Questions.
- **Safety Gear** –to include: Boat Inspection, PFD/Spray Decks/Whistle/Pump/Paddle/Paddle Float/Lights (for night paddles), Food, Water/Drink, Deck Lines/Floatation/Hatch Covers.
Trip Leader additional equipment: Radio/cell phone, First Aid Kit, Short and long tow lines, extra water, spare paddle.
- **On Water Evaluation** -
Bracing Skulling Draw Reverse Paddling Emergency Stops Wet Exit
"T" Rescue "T" Rescue Scoop Self Rescue Towing Appropriate use of Ranges
- **TL Discussion** – Basic Navigation, Group integrity, Communication, Line of Sight, Awareness, Position (CLAP), Delegation of Sweep and Lead paddlers, "Directing" rather than conducting rescues if necessary, Reporting any incidents to the T&S Coordinator. Questions and group feedback.