



Boat Hire Policy (effective 14 October 2017)

Review: 1 October 2018

Background

NEWY PADDLERS INCORPORATED has a fleet of Club Boats made available for the use of Members. This document provides an overview of the running of the fleet. The fleet of Boats (in excess of 20) is a combination of new, 2nd hand and donated boats. The replacement value of the fleet is circa \$25,000 new. There are substantial costs incurred by the club in lending equipment and a hire fee is implemented to cover these costs and plan for fleet renewal.

Purpose of Club Fleet

With limited exceptions, Members are expected to either own their own boat, or to be working towards that goal. Club Boats are provided:

- To allow new or transitioning Members to 'find their feet' in selecting a boat that suits their needs.
- To allow existing Members to broaden their experience.
- To provide a short-term fall back for Members without access to their own boats.

The club is not in a position to offer long term use of club boats to members who are unable to purchase, store or transport their own boats. Please enquire about a rental boat rack in the shed.

Boat Types

With the club's focus on speed over distance, most of NEWY PADDLERS boats are necessarily lightweight, somewhat fragile and most with an underslung rudder. They can easily be scratched, chipped, split and otherwise broken if not handled correctly. The boats' need to be handled with care before, during and after paddling (see next page).

Pricing

Overall, our aim is to keep the pricing construct simple. Special cases /requests will be considered by the Committee on merit. Pricing structure reflects a number of factors:-

- NEWY PADDLERS promotes use of the fleet for activity which contributes to the Club and to the Club spirit.
- Usage outside the confines of Throsby Creek poses additional risk for the boats and the Shed contents.
- Offsite hire poses additional risks associated with transit, theft, storage, knowledge of waterway hazards and general wear and tear.
- And noting comparable costs for boat hire from commercial providers are significantly higher.

Hire Rates

Adult	Weekly	Monthly	3 Months
Kayak - Race	\$15.00	\$60.00	\$170.00
Paddle - Race	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$55.00
Kayak and Paddle	\$18.00	\$70.00	\$225.00
Kayak - Social	\$10.00	\$40.00	\$110.00
Paddle - Social	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$30.00
Kayak and Paddle	\$12.00	\$45.00	\$140.00
Youth	Weekly	Monthly	3 Months
Kayak - Race	\$10.00	\$40.00	\$110.00
Paddle	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$25.00
Kayak and Paddle (Inc PFD)	\$13.00	\$50.00	\$135.00
Kayak - Social	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$55.00
Paddle	\$3.00	\$10.00	\$25.00
Kayak and Paddle (Inc PFD)	\$8.00	\$30.00	\$80.00
Other Hire	Weekly	Monthly	3 Months
Double Kayak	\$15.00	\$60.00	\$170.00
Paddles (each)	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$55.00
Boat and 2 x paddles	\$25.00	\$85.00	\$250.00
Time Trial day only	Weekly		
Boat and Paddle	\$5.00		
Double Boat and Paddles	\$10.00		
Shed Hire		Monthly	
Kayak		\$20.00	

Members Storage of Boats: - \$20 per month – minimum of 6 months (there is no responsibility of care taken with members boats in storage unless they are being lent to the club). Please note that the club's insurance policy can only cover boats owned by the club and individual members will need to insure their own boats.

Booking Procedure

- Check the boat bookings sheet (accessed via the Club Fleet tab on the NEWY PADDLERS website) for your boats availability.
- Send an email to the Gear Steward, Malcolm Lewis malcolmlewis@optusnet.com.au with requested boat/date/time.
- Your booking will be confirmed by return email once reviewed/processed.
- Note that your booking request will be considered in light of your observed level of competency (ie requests for a known unstable boat - we may suggest an alternative). This is for your safety and the boat.
- Allow sufficient time for the request to be turned around (the person processing probably has a real job and family). To avoid disappointment, please give at least 48 hours' notice.
- Cancellations less than 24hrs prior to hire will still incur the hire fee given your booking made the boat 'unavailable'.
- Pay the nominated fee through on-line pre-payment) – banking details on booking page on web site.

(1:) On-site means NEWY PADDLERS shed is the base and Throsby Creek is the paddling location.)

(2:) On-site usage outside NEWY PADDLERS supported activities, and any off-site use, will generally not be approved for newer Members until completion of coaching course or demonstrated ability. A demonstrated understanding of personal safety, boat care and set-up procedure is a prerequisite. Usage of doubles is generally limited to two club members.)

(3:) Off-site means boat is removed from NEWY PADDLERS site and the paddling location is invariably 'elsewhere'.

Fair Use Policy

With increasing club membership and a set number of Hire Boats there is the potential for issues. Without being prescriptive the following considerations apply:

- Boat hire is generally granted on a first in, first served basis.
- Only NEWY PADDLER members that are competing for NEWY PADDLERS in club colours can hire racing boats/rec boats & is up to the committee.
- 'Regular hirers' (typically without their own boat) may despite booking in advance be asked to switch boats at short notice to provide a more appropriate boat for another Member.

- Where use of a boat is being monopolised, we may ask that you select a different boat.
- Block hires (eg for multiple weeks or longer) will be considered/granted on merit.

Usage & Care

- Please seek help if required when moving the kayak to/from confined spaces (eg the shed).
- Boats are never to be placed on a hard surface - concrete, asphalt, gravel, the pontoon or worn grass. This chips gelcoat and scratches the hull.
- The boat is to be set up (sitting in or otherwise putting weight onto a boat) using cradles. Cradles are located in the NEWY PADDLERS shed. One cradle must be located directly under or near to the rear bulkhead.
- After using boats at the NEWY PADDLERS shed, they are to be washed, dried and returned to the original rack in the original orientation.
- Where a boat is taken offsite – you must have appropriately fitted roof racks, tie downs and are responsible for ensuring your load is compliant.
- Misuse of boats will jeopardise ongoing availability.

Damage and Maintenance

- ***You are 100% responsible*** for the boat whilst it is in your care – as if it were your own boat. This means you are required to pay for any damage and for fair replacement cost if it is stolen, or written off (eg car accident). As would be the case if it was your own boat...
- Damage and maintenance issues should be reported verbally where practical (and in all cases confirmed in writing via email to newypaddlers@gmail.com).
- Do not continue to use the boat if this will worsen the issue, or if this poses increased risk to you/ others.
- Maintenance and repairs are generally undertaken or organised externally by assigned persons on the Committee.
- Minor issues (broken cables, missing nuts etc) may be temporarily attended to (but please report).
- Major repairs (structural issues, fibre glassing, gluing, screwing etc) should not be attempted.

Shed Use

- Entry to the shed is via key
- The shed is a water free zone in order to prolong the life of both the shed and racks. All boats (Club or personal) are to be washed in the cradles provided and dried before returning to their original rack and in the original fore/aft orientation.

- The last person to leave the shed (either for a paddle, or to leave the site) is responsible for locking the shed. Even if you are expecting someone to return to the shed imminently, it is your responsibility to lock up.

PLEASE NOTE: Damage generally refers to issues which were avoidable, caused by carelessness and/or misadventure – including hull scratches, and structural damage. Normal wear and tear maintenance is covered by NEWY PADDLERS.