



Tennessee Valley Canoe Club Membership Welcome Booklet

**Serving the paddling community of the
Chattanooga area and beyond**

**for
Membership year June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015
(updated February 21, 2014)**

version for club website

TENNESSEE VALLEY CANOE CLUB
P.O. BOX 11582 • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37401
www.tvccpaddler.com

Our Mission:

The Tennessee Valley Canoe Club brings together those interested in canoeing, kayaking, and related activities; increases the knowledge, safety, and appreciation of paddle sports for those who are interested; and supports conservation and preservation of recreational waterways. Membership is open to persons of all ages. Both families and singles are welcome.

The club's activities include:

- *Whitewater& flat water kayak and canoe training.*
- *Whitewater& flat water river trips for all skill levels.*
- *Water safety & rescue training.*
- *Extended canoe & camping trips.*
- *Annual & monthly meetings.*
- *Community service!*

2013 2014 TVCC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Brandon Beaty president@tvccpaddler.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Rebecca Hendrix vp@tvccpaddler.com
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT	LaDawn Wolfe avp@tvccpaddler.com
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SAFETY CHAIRPERSON	Andrew Waters safety@tvccpaddler.com
CRUISE MASTER I, CLASS II/III	Spence Lycan CM1@tvccpaddler.com
CRUISE MASTER II, CLASS III/IV	Tony Hill CM2@tvccpaddler.com
CRUISE MASTER III, OVERNIGHTERS	Carolyn Rand CM3@tvccpaddler.com
CRUISE MASTER IV, NONPADDLING	Jen Maxwell CM4@tvccpaddler.com
CRUISE MASTER V, SEA KAYAK	Ben Johnson CM5@tvccpaddler.com

To learn what the club is doing, we have the following resources:

Website at tvccpaddler.com

This is the main source of public information about the club and is your portal to view the club's calendar of monthly events. Information available there includes:

- Upcoming events and issues of importance to the membership.
- Some events will have a separate page with registration information
- A calendar showing club coming events, including club sponsored paddling trips
- Background of the club and how to join and renew membership.
- Information and registration forms related to the paddle school, Ocoee race and other events.
- Lists of scheduled sea kayak and canoe camping trips for the year with contact information.
- Lists of sea kayak day trips for the year with contact information
- Information about area river flow data and leading club paddling trips.
- Links to other paddling-related web sites.
- A **social site** with several discussion forums (including ones for whitewater, sea kayaking, and overnighter paddling as well as roll practice) where you can get to know other paddlers. You must be a club member to sign in to this area of the web site. Follow the directions on the social site page to request membership from the administrator.

Club web calendar at <http://tvccpaddler.com/events/>

Club sponsored events, paddling trips, and meetings are found on the calendar. You can look ahead for events in future months. The Board members keep this calendar up to date.

The club sponsored Yahoo Discussion Forum for all subjects paddling

Club members may request to join. Once the forum moderator approves your request, then you may log on and make discussion submissions. You can set up to receive the discussions as they occur or in groups, typically once to twice per day, depending on the frequency of discussion. This is where members can learn about jump paddling trips and last minute changes to scheduled club trips. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/tvcc/info> to read the steps to join.

TVCC monthly newsletter

This is published at the first of the month. Members make submissions to the newsletter editor by the 25th of the month, preferably sooner. Read the newsletter to learn what is happening in the club, and what members have been doing paddling on the water. The current month calendar of club events and scheduled club paddling trips is in the newsletter. The newsletter is emailed to your email address of record.

The current and all past newsletters can be found and read or downloaded at this web address link:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B4IaUSF3UKziZIBpVIM3MTISVDI1MWxpMDdTV1BLZw&usp=sharing>

At this site is a summary of many of the newsletters, helping you to find specific articles.

Following is a partial listing of club events

TVCC Board meetings

A monthly Board meeting is held typically in mid month on a Tuesday or Wednesday at 6p. Club members are invited to attend and learn what the Board does. Date and location are published in the preceding newsletter and at the Club calendar found at the website address <http://tvccpaddler.com/events/>

TVCC Annual meeting

This meeting is held in September, typically in mid month. It is a meeting of and for all club members. We elect our officers for the next year. See the newsletter and club web calendar for details and what other club events will happen before the meeting. We typically have some kind of party and campover at the meeting.



TVCC Paddle School

This is our signature event of the year. It is held the **first** weekend after Memorial Day. The paddle school is still going strong after nearly 25 years. It starts Friday evening and goes through Sunday evening. Club instructors teach students beginner to intermediate paddling skills with on-water training Saturday and Sunday **on the Hiwassee and Ocoee Rivers**. We teach whitewater, seakayak and recreational kayak skills. It is based at an Ocoee Raft Outfitter campground. We have **potluck dinner and live music** Friday evening **along with an Outfitting Tent**. You can purchase a catered dinner for Saturday. **Before the dinner a canoe joust is held**. An **Auction** of donated paddling goodies and other great items is held after the dinner. Watch for information and registration forms in the newsletter and on our website. To continue the training, we schedule training trips each weekend of the summer **ending in September on the Ocoee River**.



Rescue Rodeo

This event is typically held the last Saturday of July and is now 17 years young. This is a beginning training of paddling safety and river rescue in a fun format on land in the morning and on the Hiwassee River in the afternoon. A party with food follows the on-river training.



Swift Water Rescue Clinic

This is a two day club clinic for club members to learn more whitewater safety and rescue techniques. It is presented by our club ACA trained and certified swift water rescue members of the club safety committee. Registration is required as the number of participants that can be accommodated is limited. We try to have two events each year, one in May and one in August, river flows and weather permitting.

Ocoee Race

A race from the Ocoee River put-in to below Powerhouse for club members, normally the second Saturday of October. The fifth annual race just finished in 2013. There are a number of different

categories, including a raft category. This race attracts a large number of boaters in the elite class. The rest of us decent to good boaters can be in the other categories including long boat, short boat, open boat, hand paddle, and duo. There are men's, woman's, junior's and over 50 categories. You are sure to enjoy competing against your friends and your last year time. A party and award ceremony follows the race.



Annual Christmas Party

This is a fun event held in early December. The club provides the meat. Members bring a food dish to share and their best BYOB to drink. Past events have been at the Pot House.

Club Sponsored Paddling Trips

TVCC sponsors year round monthly 1) whitewater (beginner and more advanced separate trips), 2) sea kayak and 3) overnight paddling trips, each led by a trip leader. These trips are posted on the club calendar and the newsletter calendar.

Supporting Our Community

TVCC sponsors a number of events to help the community and our rivers, such as the annual Tellico River Cleanup, safety support boats for the swim part of two summer triathlons, the Big Brother Big Sister Rafting event, safety support boats for the annual Girl Scout Raft Race, and more. All these events are on the club calendar and described in the newsletter and where you can learn how to join in and help.

Other good club information to know

Membership

The membership year is from June 1 to May 31. Memberships received from January 1 to May 31 will count for the following June 1 to May 31 period. The membership form (new or renewal) is found at the club website. Use the on-line form and then pay on-line with your credit or debit card. You may also mail in your a check to follow your on-line application.

Membership Directory

It is published in an e-format in late July and usually in late November.

Rock Creek paddling discount policy (at Nov 2013)

Rock Creek at their Riverside and Ocoee stores will give current TVCC club members a 10% discount off the normal price of paddling accessories upon showing the current year signed club membership card. The discount does not apply to boats. It applies to all the things normally used in paddling the boat. Rock Creek reserves the right to determine which accessories are included in the discount plan.

NOC paddling discount policy (at Nov 2013)

TVCC members are eligible for a 10% discount off any full-price items in the store - all gear, clothing and footwear (including paddling, camping, hiking, casual, etc). The only exceptions are boats and sale items -- no discounts on boats, or items marked down below normal MSRP. For sale items, members will receive the sale price, which is lower than the 10% club discount. TVCC members can utilize this discount at our store along the Nantahala River, as well as our stores in Gatlinburg, TN and Asheville, NC (inside The Grove Park Inn). TVCC club discounts are also eligible at our online store - store.noc.com. Enter code "TVCC" at checkout.

TVCC is a lifetime member of American Whitewater – you may join AW at a discount

TVCC regularly supports the work of American Whitewater (AW) with a donation. Carla Miner of AW wrote us in an email of January 2013:

Thank you for the Tennessee Valley Canoe Club's support of AW. Your club has a Lifetime membership in AW so there are no annual dues required and there is no expiration date on your club's membership. As an Affiliate Club you can pass on a \$10 savings to your members for their individual AW memberships. An individual membership for your club members is \$25 and they can take advantage of this price on our website at <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-aw/> they would want to choose the \$25 - Affiliate Club Member option.

TVCC is an American Canoe Club Paddle America Club Member – you may join ACA at a discount

Candy Patton of ACA wrote us in an email of May 2013:

I received a message that you had a question about ACA membership with a PAC (paddle America club). There are many benefits to being a member of the ACA and a PAC. The biggest one is discounted membership. ACA memberships are: 1) Individual = \$40.00/ PAC Individual \$30.00, and 2) Family = \$60.00/ PAC Family \$40.00. For the Individual membership there is a promo code PAC that will need to be applied if renewing online.