

Surf Kayak Competitions 2016

England Surf Kayak

Entry is usually in advance. Some events also allow entry on the day, but even if this is the case, it really helps the organiser to know likely numbers ahead so he or she can prepare the first heats of the day – so please book in beforehand if you can!

There are **two categories of boat**. **Short Boat** is less than 2.75m in length, and can include fins – this category is often still called HP, or High Performance, and has developed without restriction to become the most dynamic form of modern-day surf kayaking. **Long Boat** is 3m or over in length, no fins allowed – this category has its roots in the original slalom and general purpose kayaks used in the early days of surf kayaking, and is still sometimes called the International class.

In each boat category, there is a class for Open (or Men), for Ladies, Junior and Master. Juniors are 18 or under on 31st December of the competition year. Masters are over 40 on 1st January of the competition year. At a competition, generally each person can enter a maximum of two classes for which they qualify – this is so the heats, timing and judging can run easily. However, particularly when there are Long Boat Ladies, Junior and Masters classes, these are often small numbers and can sometimes be allowed as a third entry, at the discretion of the organiser.

Events run slightly differently, some events employ judges, and costs for organisers vary so the entry fee can vary from event to event. Entry fees cover prizes for the competition and the organiser's expenses, and where possible any surplus is used by the organisers, for the benefit of developing the sport. You need to be a member of Canoe England / British Canoeing or be prepared to join temporary membership on the day for liability insurance.

All surf events depend upon surf conditions. Conditions are checked in the week before an event and a call is announced by Thursday evening to confirm the event is on and the meeting place and time, or to find out if it has been postponed.

At the event, the organiser will aim to arrange reps after the first round, in at least the most popular open, short boat class. How a competition day runs does depend on numbers entered, surf conditions and people being on time for heats and for judging, and things can change during the day – so please keep in touch with what's going on, and appreciate the event organiser and helpers are volunteers and probably want to surf too!

Participants need to be available to help with timing, flags and judging for the event to keep to time and run smoothly. Those new to competitions will be given good guidance whilst they learn alongside regular participants. This is also a good way to see people surfing and develop your own awareness and skills.

Results will be published, and ranking lists updated, soon after each event.

Many of the details and entries are now through www.tournr.com with thanks to Chris Skardon for providing this service.

Tips and coaching to develop your skills and have even more fun - www.surfkayakskills.com

Keep up with news worldwide at www.kayaksurf.net

Please send any updates or corrections to the calendar to john@skernlodge.co.uk

England Surf Kayak Competitions 2016, and selected International events *last updated: 18 February 2016*

Date	ESK 2016 Ranking	Event		Organiser & contact details
13-15 March		Steamer Lane, California	30 th Santa Cruz PaddleFest	http://santacruzpaddlefest.com/
2-3 April		Rest is Best	Canoe Wales series, 1 Rest Bay, Wales Handicapped and open competition	Chris Watson https://tournr.com/Tournament/Details/311
9-10 April	ESK Non-competition	Surfkayakskills.com Spring Session	Coaching weekend suitable for all standards, social and ride with the England team surfers.	Glyn Brackenbury, at Skern Lodge, North Devon http://www.surfkayakskills.com/spring-session-2016.php
tbc		Mundaka, Euskadi	Basque country, Mundaka rivermouth & Bakio beach	Txema.carreto@gmail.com
tbc		Scottish Champs	Thurso, North coast surf.kayak@canoescotland.org	surfpaddler@gmail.com
16 April	ESK ranking 1a Short boat, open class	Black Rock, Widemouth Shoreline Handicap	Handicap event. Everyone competes in 3 heats, surfs with the top paddlers, and learns about judging. Top 8 short boats go to semis and a final.	Simon Hammond www.shorelineactivities.co.uk/black.rock.surf.kayak.weekend.event entries live at https://www.tournr.com/Tournament/Details/201
17 April	ESK ranking 1b All other classes	Black Rock, Widemouth Bude CC and Shoreline	Short and Long boat classes for Masters, Juniors, Ladies. Long boat class, Men/open.	As above
14-15May. Reserve: 21-22 May	ESK ranking 2	Cornish Open, Red River, Godrevy	All classes. Meet at the NT car park, Godrevy.	Pete Blenkinsop 07737 259698 blenks@hotmail.com Details and entry on www.tournr.com nearer the date
tbc		Gower Madness, Llangennith	Canoe Wales series , all classes. Camping at Hill End. Entries only in advance.	Rich Berry Alstom69@hotmail.com Welshsurfkayak.co.uk
28-29 May		Peniche, Portugal	Portugal invites you to an international event	
9-10 July	ESK ranking 3	Putsborough Surf Kayak Classic	Saturday: All classes. Sunday: tbc	Steve Chivers 07771 824645. Details will be on www.tournr.com and www.surfkayakskills.com in early June
18-22 July		Ocean Spirit, Portugal	Waveski Worlds. There is no surf kayak this year	Bruno Melo www.oceanspirit.pt
3-4 Sept Res 10-11 Sept		Newgale, Pembrokeshire	Welsh Open.	Andrewbailey829@btinternet.com
6-7 October		British Canoeing Home Internationals	Team Competition for the British home nations.	Hosted by CANI in Portrush, Northern Ireland
8-9 October		British Open	Individual British titles in all classes.	Hosted by CANI in Portrush, Northern Ireland
22-23 October Res: 29-30 Oct	ESK ranking 4	Gwithian	All classes. SKC Open Championships, and the SKC Beginner Championships	Andy Howlett Info@surf kayakingcornwall.com
tbc	ESK ranking 5	Freshwater West	All classes.	Tim Thomas Tim.Thomas@palmequipmenteurope.com Details and entries on www.tournr.com nearer the date
tbc		Irish Open , Easky	Kayak and Waveski	
Tbc?		Tynemouth	Newcomers and Experienced classes	