



March 31, 2026

Hello SISKI; CKCC & Nanaimo Paddling Clubs

RE: 2026 Raft Up in the Comox Valley – Sept 15 & 16, 2026

The Comox Valley Paddlers Club invites your members to paddle with our club on some of our favourite trips in September. This cross-club paddling event, named “Raft Up”, was conceptualized in 2023 as a way of safely introducing members from other paddling clubs to new destinations on Vancouver Island by utilizing the knowledge from the local clubs.

PADDLE DESCRIPTIONS:

On each of the two days we will offer two types of paddle choices. One will be a “Day Paddle Easy” and one a “Day Paddle Intermediate” – descriptions are available on our club’s website:

<https://www.comoxvalleypaddlers.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Trip-Ratings.pdf>

Day Paddle Easy = SISKI’s “Relaxed” Paddle: Shorter, safer paddles, more shoreline, short crossings. Appropriate skills, clothing and gear are required (self-assessed PC Level 1).

Day Paddle Intermediate = SISKI’s “Energized” Paddle: These longer, more ambitious paddles will require paddling across open water with potential exposure to active water. These destinations will proceed only if the weather forecast is decent. Windy conditions or a large swell will result in our coordinators choosing a safer destination for that day. Expectations are that participants in these paddles would be competent, experienced paddlers, trained in self and assisted rescues, wearing the appropriate clothing, having a seaworthy kayak and all the required gear.

The Comox Valley Paddlers Club will welcome up to 25 members from the other clubs on Vancouver Island to paddle with our members on some of our favourite paddles:

- 1.) **Comox Harbour Tour** - Rating: CVPC's "Day Paddle Easy"; SSKA's "Relaxed Paddle"
Leisurely shoreline paddle likely to include the Royston Wrecks, Courtenay Estuary, Little Mexico on Goose Spit (this requires ~1 nm crossing)
~ 3-4 hours with stops, distance and speed to be decided by the group

- 2.) **Comox Lake** - Rating: CVPC's "Day Paddle Easy"; SSKA's "Relaxed Paddle"
Leisurely shoreline paddle (possible <1 nm crossing) likely to include Perseverance Creek, Coal Beach, Whyte's Bay, Comox Dam
~3-4 hours with stops, distance and speed to be decided by the group

- 3.) **Deep Bay Past Denman and Chrome Island to Hornby Island**
Rating: CVPC's "Intermediate Day Paddle"; SSKA's "Energized Paddle"
~4 hours; 8 nm (return) to Ford's Cove or Heron Rocks with 2 crossings in each direction, includes time spent on Hornby
Destination will be changed if its windy.
This paddle IS NOT APPROPRIATE for novice paddlers!
Limit of 6 non-CVPC members per paddle.

- 4.) **Union Bay to Denman Island then Tree Island** (with option to circumnavigate)
Rating: CVPC's "Intermediate Day Paddle"; SSKA's "Energized Paddle"
~4 hours; 7 nm diagonally to Tree Island (return) or up to 10 nm in total to circumnavigate Seal Islets, includes time spent on Tree Island
Requires ~2 nm crossing to Denman (~2.5 nm if paddled diagonally to Tree Island)

N.B. For popular paddles, additional coordinators will be assigned to create smaller groups. Also, if the conditions are very windy, we have 2 alternative paddling routes that can be chosen on short notice.

WAIVER & INSURANCE:

Members from other clubs will be required to sign our club's Non-Member Release Form before participating in this event and will be covered by our club's insurance policy.

LOCAL INTEREST & ACCOMMODATION: The following links were supplied by our tourist information centre. For accommodation ideas, please refer to pages 69 & 70 in the Comox Valley Guide or search online for BnB's.

[Comox Valley Guide](#)

[Comox Valley Website](#)

[Whats On Digest](#)

REGISTRATION:

1. Look at the paddle descriptions (above) and decide which paddles interest you.
2. E-mail me at hkoziol@shaw.ca giving your name, email address and mobile phone number along with your preferred choice of paddle for each day.
3. I will send you our Non-Member Release Form (waiver) to review, sign and return.
4. That's it! You're done!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 1, 2026

Additional details will be sent out once registration closes. Please contact me if you have any questions.

We're really looking forward to meeting you and showing you the paddling that the Comox Valley offers!

Helen Koziol
Comox Valley Paddlers Club