# Canoeing Grades

#### And Training

# SSWA Info 009 (Nov 04)

# Amended Mar 09, Nov 11

**Revised and – ReIssued 26th Nov 2011**

Each of the paddling Adventure Skills is organised into 9 Stages. Each Stage builds on the previous and leads on to the next. Stages are not aligned to any Section. While a Beaver Scout may naturally start at Stage 1 and move through the Stages in their time in Scouting, a new Scout joining at 13 years of age would be expected to start at Stage 1 and move up.

The Badge for each Stage of the paddling Badge indicates that the person has achieved a specific level of knowledge and ability in relation to that Stage of that Adventure Skill. Therefore, the young person must be able to carry out the skill safely and competently to that level and have the knowledge required at that level.

The Stages are progressively challenging and it is not envisaged that a Scout would be in a position to pursue all Stages of the Paddling Badge.

When it comes to assessing progress in the Paddling Badge, as in every other aspect of the Programme, the Scout Method is used. In keeping with the “Learning by Doing” aspect of the Scout Method, the Paddling Badge should be pursued and assessed in a practical manner as an active part of the Programme.

# Requirements

Each of the skill requirements are presented as a statement of competency - I know how, I can do, etc. These Competency Statements outline the knowledge, abilities and experience that the young person must display. Each Competency Statement is further broken down into a set of Skills Requirements. The Competency Statements and Skills Requirements for Paddling are listed in the Adventure Skills manual

# External qualification

The Adventure Skills requirements from Badge 5 to 9 are aligned with those of the Irish Canoe Union (ICU). So, as a young person progresses with an Adventure Skills they also attain the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to attain an equivalent outside qualification. At this point, this means they will be able to attend assessment courses or examinations run by the national certification bodies, it does not mean that will automatically qualify.

The Irish Canoe Union (ICU) and British Canoe Union (BCU) run external skills courses that will lead on to specific Instructor courses.

Badges 1 to 4 are an introduction to Water Activities such as Paddling and Rafting and can be assessed by any Scout Leader. From Badge 5 the awards are specific to kayaking and must be assessed by a suitably qualified Instructor.

Reference Material

The following reference material provides useful information about this Adventure Skill.

Note: It is not possible to “study” for an Adventure Skill. Knowledge gained from reading must be supported by real and practical experience in the selected Adventure Skill.

There are many books and DVD’s available that will show the different aspects of Kayaking, Rafting and Paddling

**The Sea Scout Book- The Scout Shop**

# Up to date information on Kayaking and canoeing can be found at

# [www.canoe.ie](http://www.canoe.ie)

# www.bcu.org.uk

Worldwide Web: there are also many useful links which provide tips and guidance on various aspects of Kayaking skills, Rafting, Raft Building and design.

**See Below**;

# The National Governing Body for Kayaking and Paddling sports in Ireland is the Irish Canoe Union (ICU). The ICU developed a very comprehensive training scheme for all aspects of canoeing, which suits Scouting very well.

[**Kayaking Skills Awards**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832616) **[Canoe Skills Awards](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx" \l "_Toc286832626)** [**Sea Kayaking Skills Awards**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832622)

[**Level 1 Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627)[**Level 1 Canoe Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627) **[Level 1 Sea Kayaking Skills](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx" \l "_Toc286832627)**

[**Level 2 Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627) [**Level 2 Canoe Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627)[**Level 2 Sea Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627)

[**Level 3 Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627)[**Level 3 Canoe Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627) **[Level 3 Sea Kayaking Skills](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx" \l "_Toc286832627)**

[**Level 4 Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627) **[Level 4 Canoe Skills](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx" \l "_Toc286832627)** [**Level 4 Sea Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627)

[**Level 5 Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627) **[Level 5 Canoe Skills](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx" \l "_Toc286832627)** [**Level 5 Sea Kayaking Skills**](http://www.canoe.ie/en-us/awardsqualifications/skillsawards.aspx#_Toc286832627)

**Sit-on-Top Skills Awards**

Sit-on-top Flat Water Skills

Sit-on-top River Skills

## Canoeing Ireland Instructor Qualifications

Resources for trainee Instructors and course tutors are available on <canoe.ie>

[**Kayak Instructor Qualifications**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834511)

[**Level 1 Kayak Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834512)

[**Level 2 Kayak Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834513)

[**Level 3 Kayak Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834514)

[**Level 4 Kayak Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834515)

[**Sea Kayak Instructor Qualifications**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834516)

[**Level 3 Sea-Kayaking Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834517)

[**Canoe Instructor Qualifications**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834518)

[**Level 2 Canoe Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834519)

[**Level 3 Canoe Instructor**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834520)

[**Level 5 Instructor (All Disciplines)**](http://www.canoe.ie/AwardsQualifications/InstructorQualifications/tabid/887/language/en-GB/Default.aspx#_Toc286834521)

**River Safety and Rescue Training**

The River Safety and rescue awards (RSR) deal with the core skills of safety and rescue in the river environment.

River Safety and Rescue 1 (RSR 1)

River Safety and Rescue 1 (RSR 2)

River Safety and Rescue 1 (RSR 3)

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Qualifications Equivalence with Other European Countries. The awards consist of skills awards and Instructor levels. Full details are available on <canoe.ie>

 A core group of seven European Canoe Federations are engaged in a process to establish a common system of kayaking and canoeing personal performance skills and coaching awards across Europe.  
  
 For more information see [www.europaddlepass.com](http://www.europaddlepass.com/" \t "_"blank")

Qualifications Equivalence with British Canoe Union

Both the British Canoe Union (BCU) and the French Canoe Federation (FFCK) operate an awards and qualification scheme which has a number of similarities to that of Canoeing Ireland.

To facilitate BCU and FFCK Coach qualifications who move to and reside in Ireland, Canoeing Ireland’s Training and Development Unit will consider applications for an equivalence procedure.

Holders of BCU and FFCK Coach qualifications who wish to apply for an equivalent Canoeing Ireland qualification should forward an application to the Training Officer, Canoeing Ireland, Sport HQ, Park West, Dublin 12 or email [training@canoe.ie](mailto:training@canoe.ie)

Applications are considered on an individual case by case basis by the Training and development Committee.

Candidates should be aware that since 2009 certain key differences exist in the skills awards, at Levels 4 & 5 in particular, and also in remit of some instructor qualifications.

For more information on British Canoe Union awards and qualifications please consult the BCU website.

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For more information see < [www.europaddlepass.com](http://www.europaddlepass.com) >