

Pre-requisites for ORCKA Canoeing Instructor Courses

Canadian Style Paddling Instructor

1. At least 18 years of age
2. Current ORCKA member
3. ORCKA Canadian Style Paddling Level 3
4. It is strongly recommended that all Canadian Style Paddling Instructors have, in addition to their canoeing qualifications, some qualifications in Swimming, First Aid and CPR

Moving Water Instructor or River Running Instructor

1. At least 18 years of age
2. Current ORCKA member
3. ORCKA Moving Water Level 3 or River Running Level 3
4. It is strongly recommended that all Moving Water Instructors have, in addition to their canoeing qualifications, some qualifications in Swimming, First Aid and CPR and River Rescue

Canoe Tripping Instructor

1. At least 18 years of age
2. Current ORCKA member
3. ORCKA Canadian Style Paddling Level 2
4. ORCKA Moving Water or River Running Level 1
5. ORCKA Canoe Tripping Level 3 Trip Leader
6. Minimum of 5 years of canoe tripping activities:
 - a. Log of canoe tripping leadership or shared leadership for a minimum of 50 nights and 1000 kilometres
 - b. Log of canoe tripping experience to include one, two or three canoe trips in isolated wilderness areas totalling at least 20 days and covering at least 400 kilometres, one trip of the three must be 9 days in length
7. Alternative admission criteria has been defined for those candidates having an extensive set of alternate outdoor related skills, certifications and experience (refer to below for Path B pre-requisites)
8. It is strongly recommended that all Canoe Tripping Instructors have, in addition to their canoeing qualifications some qualifications in Swimming, First Aid and CPR
9. Prerequisites of all prospective candidates must have their pre-requisites approved by the Course Director/ORCKA Chair of Instructor Courses. Deadline for Canoe Tripping pre-requisite approval is a minimum of two weeks prior to the course. Please submit for authorization to be completed at least two weeks prior to the course

Canoe Tripping Instructor Course Admission Criteria

To better reflect the diversity of skills and experience that Canoe Tripping Instructor Course applicants possess, ORCKA has revised the Admission Criteria for the Canoe Tripping Instructor course.

Applicants now have two distinct paths leading to successful admission, both of which are based on a points system. The 30 points needed for course admission are acquired from a combination of skill courses and relevant experience.

Path A represents the more traditional route to the *Canoe Tripping Instructor Course*. The required 30-point total for admission is reached through lower level ORCKA skill course pre-requisites, and wilderness trip leadership. Of note, kayaking and backpacking experience may now count toward the distance and duration requirement for trip leadership experience.

Path B is new. It was developed to reflect the greater diversity of skills, certifications, and experience that some *Canoe Tripping Instructor Course* applicants possess. Less advanced ORCKA skill level courses combine with trip leadership experience for a 10-point mandatory portion of the 30-point total needed for course admission. The remaining 20 points may be drawn from various categories representing non-ORCKA certifications, training, wilderness travel, and teaching/coaching experience.

Regardless of which path is chosen, it must be emphasized that applicants will be strictly required to include proof of certifications and documentation of trip experience with their application to the *Canoe Tripping Instructor course*. Applicants who fail to provide required documentation will have their applications returned, unprocessed.

PATH A (30 Points Required)

ORCKA Certifications

ORCKA Certifications	Points Awarded
Canoe Tripping Level 3	15 points
Canadian Style Paddling Level 2	5 points
Moving Water or River Running Level 1	5 points
<i>Trip Log*</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Shared canoe trip leadership – 50 nights/1000 kms</i>• <i>Up to three wilderness canoe trips totaling 20 days and 400 kms of which one trip must be at least nine days in duration</i>	5 points

* Note:

- *Kayak tripping may count for 20% of the trip duration/distance requirement*
- *Backcountry backpacking may count for up to 20% of the trip duration/distance requirement*

PATH B (30 Points Required)

Category 1 Mandatory Pre-requisites (Count 10 points)

Mandatory Pre-requisites	Points Awarded
ORCKA Canoe Tripping Level 3	10 points
One of ORCKA Moving Water 1, River Running 1, or Canadian Style Paddling 2	
Trip Log* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared canoe trip leadership – 50 nights/1000 kms • Up to three wilderness canoe trips totaling 20 days and 400 kms of which one trip must be at least nine days in duration 	

* Note:

- Kayak tripping may count for 20% of the trip duration/distance requirement
- Backcountry backpacking may count for up to 20% of the trip duration/distance requirement

Category 2 ORCKA Certifications (minimum 5 points required)

ORCKA Certifications*	Points Awarded
Moving Water Level 2	5 points
River Running Level 2	5 points
Basic Instructor, Camp Canoeing Instructor or Camp Canoe Tripping Instructor	5 points
Moving Water, River Running, Canadian Style Paddling or Kayak Tripping Instructor	10 points

* **Note:** You may not count multiple certifications within the same discipline. Highest point value applies

Category 3 Other Certifications (maximum 5 points)

Other Certifications	Points Awarded
Wilderness First Aid	5 points
Swiftwater Rescue Technician	5 points
National Lifeguard Service (NLS)	5 points

Category 4 Documented Paddling Experience

Documented Paddling Experience*	Points Awarded
Canoe or Kayak Tripping experience - 20 distinct wilderness trips totaling not fewer than 120 nights and 2,000 kms	5 points

* **Note:** If you meet this standard, you may count 5 points in addition to the points earned in Category 1

Category 5 Instructor/Teacher/Coaching Certificates (maximum 10 points)

Instructor/Teacher/Coaching Certificates	Points Awarded
Bachelor of Education or Equivalent Teacher Certification	5 points
Accreditation in National Coaching Certification Program	5 points
Recognized Instructor in Sport or Outdoor Recreation	5 points
Counselor at Accredited Youth Camp (2 years minimum)	5 points

Category 6 College/University Training (maximum 5 points)

College/University Training	Points Awarded
Graduate of a Recognized Outdoor Program (2 years minimum)	5 points

Category 7 Documented Volunteer Outdoor Leadership Experience (maximum 5 points)

Documented Volunteer Outdoor Leadership Experience	Points Awarded
Youth groups, Community Associations, Religious Groups, Scouts, Guides (2 years' experience)	5 points

Beginning in 2012, the ORCKA Canoeing Program 2000 will no longer be in use. The ORCKA Canoeing Program 2009 will wholly replace it. The following are some of the guidelines that will apply to Canoe Tripping Instructor courses commencing 2012:

1. All pre-requisites must be met:
 - a. The Canoeing Program 2009 includes significant revisions to the skill levels and the admission criteria for the Canoe Tripping Instructor course. These changes are designed to enhance the acquisition of skills and ensure qualified Instructor course applicants
 - b. It is the responsibility of all Instructor course applicants to provide proof of ORCKA and non-ORCKA certifications. If prospective applicants do not possess required documentation, they must acquire same before being accepted on the course
 - c. Similarly, detailed written documentation of wilderness trip experience must be present and verifiable. In the case of volunteer experience, applicants must have current references that can verify said experience
2. The course will be held over 5 (five) full days and include 50 (fifty) hours of course activity. Candidates shall arrive the evening prior to course commencement for course orientation and administration purposes (2 hours)
3. Courses may be conducted during a 5-day wilderness canoe trip. Courses may also be conducted during a series of day trips from a base camp in an appropriate outdoor setting
4. All course candidates must receive a pre-course package that includes pedagogy and lesson assignments to be prepared prior to the course
5. The candidates will undertake tasks such as menu planning, food preparation, equipment selection and packing, and the coordination of communication and safety protocols.

Prerequisites of all prospective candidates will be authorized by the ORCKA Chair Instructor Courses, Marty Tannahill, mtannahill@orcka.ca or (705) 533-3576.