

Falmouth Canoe Club

Falmouth Canoe Club is based at the Falmouth Watersports Association next to Trago Mills in Falmouth.



They have 25 senior members and some 30 junior members. There is a waiting list of some 20 juniors. The club owns some 15 kayaks and one open Canadian Canoe or 'Kiwi'. The Kayaks are made by a local company called Wild Ones at Piece near Redruth.

The Membership secretary, Dale, wants to computerise the membership forms. He can use a computer but has very little experience of Databases. A user guide to the finished Database would be most useful. Some of the things that he would like to do are:-

Keep a record of who has and hasn't paid their membership. The membership is due every April. Seniors pay £25 a year and juniors £20 a year. Members are sent two reminder letters. Anyone joining after November gets a £10 reduction. Juniors become Seniors the April after their 16th Birthday.

Keep a record of those on the waiting list so that they can be contacted when a place becomes vacant. You have to be at least 8 to become a junior.

In canoeing there are various Skills badges. These are called Star Tests. They range from one Star for beginners through to five Star for Advanced Canoeists. Each Star test can be taken in one of three types of craft - Closed Cockpit Kayak, Canoe or Open Cockpit Kayak.

There are also 5 levels of coaching award level 1 coach through to level 5 coach. To become a coach you have to pass a Canoe Safety Test, a first aid certificate and also hold the correct star award e.g to become a level 2 coach you have to hold a level 3 Star award.

After level three you have to specialise in a type of canoe or kayak

To start to train to become a level 2 coach you have to be at least 16. You have to be at least 18 to take the test.

The juniors can take the Cadet Leader award when they are 13.

It is important to know what awards people hold as for certain events are restricted e.g a level 2 coach can only take people out on Sheltered water. To canoe certain rivers you have to hold a 2 star award. Some events are also restricted to BCU (British Canoe Union) members

Coaches also need to know if anyone in their party have a medical condition such as Asthma.

Dale wants to be able to produce address labels to send out the quarterly newsletter but to save postage he only wants one label per household. Often there are two or three members at any one address.



Events are also cancelled at short notice due to bad weather when this happens it would be useful to contact people to save a wasted journey. To reduce costs Dale would like to send a text message to those that have mobile phones and/or an email. The rest he will just have to contact using a normal phone line

As there a limited number of kayaks available at the club it would be useful if to know who has got their own kayak. It would also be useful to know who is willing to give people a lift to places when sessions are not held at the Watersports centre or who are capable and licensed to drive the Minibus.

Much of this information is available on their current membership form but it probably needs redesigning.

The club has a Pentium 200 with a 1Gb hard drive. An A4 colour ink jet printer is available Dale would like to keep costs down.

If you have any questions please feel free to email Dale at memsec@falmouthcc.org.uk. He is always willing to reply to polite, well focused requests. 