



Clean Boat Policy

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the procedures and expectations for maintaining clean equipment at Crouch Kayak Club to help protect UK waterways from invasive non-native species (INNS) and harmful pathogens. It supports the national Check, Clean, Dry campaign led by Paddle UK.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members, guests, coaches, paddlers, and visiting clubs using club equipment or launching from club facilities. It covers boats, paddles, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other gear that comes into contact with the water.

3. Responsibilities

- All Paddlers must follow Check, Clean, Dry procedures before and after paddling.
- Club Coaches & Leaders are responsible for promoting and supervising these procedures.
- Club Committee ensures appropriate facilities and signage are in place and that members are informed and trained.

4. Check, Clean, Dry Protocol

4.1 Check

- Inspect all boats, paddles, footwear, and equipment before entering and after leaving the water.
- Remove visible plant matter, animals, mud, or debris.
- Pay special attention to hard-to-see areas such as rudders, cockpit rims, and drain holes.

4.2 Clean

- Wash all kit thoroughly with fresh water, ideally using a hose or bucket.
- Ensure all areas, including inside cockpits and hatch compartments, are cleaned.
- Use designated washdown areas at the club or other sites where available.

4.3 Dry

- Allow equipment to dry completely before reuse, ideally for at least 48 hours.
- Store gear in a well-ventilated area to speed up drying.
- Avoid transferring wet equipment between different water bodies.



5. Club-Specific Guidelines

- Club boats and equipment must be washed down after every session, especially when used on different water bodies (e.g., river vs. sea).
- Private boat owners using club facilities must also adhere to this policy.
- Members participating in events or training at other locations must follow Check, Clean, Dry both on departure and return.

6. Awareness and Training

- New members are introduced to this policy during induction.
- Club signage reminds users of their responsibilities.
- Annual training or briefings will be offered to reinforce best practices.

7. Monitoring and Compliance

- Club officials may inspect equipment and remind members of procedures.
- Persistent non-compliance may result in a review of membership or restricted access to club facilities.

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Committee and updated to reflect current guidance from Paddle UK and other environmental bodies.

9. Supporting Resources

- [Check, Clean, Dry – Government Advice](#)
- [Paddle UK Environmental Guidance](#)
- Posters and leaflets available at the club noticeboard and website.

Reviewed Date: 09/03/2026

Next Review: 09/03/2027