

Certification Pathway/Assessment Guidelines

Level 2 Kayak Instructorship Award

Applying to Attend an Assessment.

Before applying to attend a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Assessment, a candidate must:

1. Have maintained registration as a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Trainee.
2. Hold the Level 3 Kayak Skills Certificate.
3. Be at least 18 years of age.
4. Have unrestricted access to a fully equipped kayak, personal equipment, and additional equipment as listed for a Level 2 kayak Instructor assessment.
5. Have attended an approved Level 2 Kayak Instructor Training Course or Programme within the 24 months preceding a selected assessment date. (extensions to training period can be applied for).
6. Completed your Garda vetting process.
7. Completed an approved First Aid training course (REC 2 or equivalent).
8. Attended a Sport Ireland approved Child Protection Awareness Workshop.
9. Be a member of Canoeing Ireland.
10. Submit a completed Level 2 Kayak Instructor Logbook accompanied by a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Assessment application to a registered Canoeing Ireland Instructor Assessor at least 2 weeks prior to a selected assessment date.

Other logbook requirements:

1. At least 30 hours (on the water) of instructional experience and trip leading experience under the supervision of at least two registered Canoeing Ireland Instructors.
 - a) 10 of these hours must be under the supervision of a Level 3 Kayak Instructor, the remaining hours can be logged under the supervision of a Level 2 Kayak Instructor.
 - b) 15 hours in a closed cockpit kayak, the remaining hours can be logged in sit on tops.
2. Have recorded in a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Logbook as part of the above logged hours details of assisting in the preparation of a group for a Level 2 Kayak Skills Assessment. The group must consist of at least three participants.
3. Assist on two Level 2 Kayak Skills assessments
4. Be recommended for assessment by a registered Canoeing Ireland Level 3 Instructor.

Format of Assessment

1. During a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Assessment candidates must satisfy an assessor that they are competent to bring a group on a journey and instruct on water of Grade I difficulty. As well as teaching and personal canoeing ability, candidates must also demonstrate that they are sufficiently mature and responsible to manage a group.
2. During assessment, aspects of a candidate's personal kayaking skills and First Aid may be assessed. It would be expected that a candidate would have maintained a skill level equivalent to that of the Level 3 Kayak Skills Award and where possible to have improved on this.

A candidate will be expected to:

1. Draw up a lesson plan lasting up to three hours and to organise an instructional session for a novice/basic level group on flat water.
2. Plan and take the group on a significant journey of at least 2km.
3. Teach any stroke, technique, or rescue applicable to flat water as outlined in the Level 3 Kayak Skills Award Syllabus.
4. Demonstrate techniques and skills as required by the Level 3 Kayak Skills Award if requested to do so.
5. Demonstrate an ability to carry out the following rescues efficiently and effectively: Self-Rescue, X or Assisted X-Rescue, Unconscious Casualty and Eskimo Rescue.
6. Demonstrate an ability to roll competently without any prior set-up.
7. Demonstrate an effective method of towing an empty kayak, a kayak with a participant who has a minor injury or illness, a kayak with a participant who has a major injury or illness.
8. Present a suitable kayak correctly fitted out for instruction along with other appropriate personal equipment (See Level 2 Kayak Instructor List of Equipment). It would be expected that a candidate's equipment would be of a standard consistent with the responsibilities likely to be encountered by a Level 2 Kayak Instructor. Examination of equipment will form an important part of the overall assessment.
9. Demonstrate effective group control, group rapport, and instructional ability.
10. Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of basic First Aid as well as a thorough working knowledge of the cause/effect/treatment of Shock, Hypothermia, EAR, and CPR.
11. Attend a debrief at which a self-appraisal is presented.

Assessment Guidelines

1. It is recommended that a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Qualification is assessed by an instructor other than the instructor who runs the training course leading to assessment. Notwithstanding this, a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Qualification can only be assessed by a registered member of the Level 2 Kayak Instructor Assessor Panel.
2. Clear guidelines should be given in writing should a candidate fail an assessment as to the area/areas which need to be improved upon.
3. Candidates cannot depend on any assistance (material or practical) during an assessment.
4. No other award or qualification can be assessed during a Level 2 Kayak Instructor Assessment.
5. The assessment candidate/assessor ratio is a maximum of 2:1.