

Tonbridge Town Sailing Club
Stand Up Paddleboarding Information
&
Equipment Suggestions

Requirements

SUP members at TTSC, if using their own paddleboard, must register as individual members of the British Canoe Association (“BCA”) and pay the BCA annual affiliation fee. BCA membership provides third party insurance.

TTSC SUP members do not need BCA membership to hire & use TTSC Paddleboards.

SUP Members and their guests must provide and wear their own adequate buoyancy aids or lifejackets at all times when on the water, and comply with Club By-Laws. Safety boat crews must also conform to this rule. Wetsuits do not constitute adequate personal buoyancy.

By its nature, Stand Up Paddleboarding is a “wet” sport and it is recommended that you wear suitable clothing for taking part in this exciting sport. In anything but high summer, wetsuits are ideal and for the really hardy, wintertime paddling could benefit from even a dry suit. If you have any questions about the correct clothing please ask at the club house.

No duties will be required of SUP members, other than at SUP sessions (for example safety cover). However, the club welcomes volunteers to assist in the operation of the club. There is an option within the membership sign-on procedure to volunteer.

As an SUP member you will be entitled to use the TTSC facilities including the canteen (when open), toilets, changing rooms and join in all social events at the club.

All new TTSC SUP members are required to attend a brief induction with the Class Captain/Safety Officer/ Committee Member to cover the rules and regulations, a lake orientation and a safety briefing. For those without additional qualifications, this will also involve an on water safety test.

A SUP member / user will be required to have a leash attached to their board when afloat. This will keep you attached to your board and significantly keep you visible.

All members are encouraged to read the Tonbridge Town Sailing Club Articles of Association & Bylaws documents, which can be found in the Members Area section of the TTSC website, [here](#). [link to Members Area]

Also see more details on the TTSC SUP membership form which can be found in the “downloads” section, [here](#). [link to membership/downloads page]

Equipment

TTSC will initially be purchasing two SUP boards & paddles to add to our hire fleet for TTSC members to use at Haysden Water. But you are welcome to use your own Paddleboards and equipment but please make sure that you have 3rd party insurance in place before you use your equipment at the lake and that you have individual membership of the British Canoe Association.

Paddle Boards

When choosing a board for calm lake conditions, stability and ease of use are key:

For beginners, look for boards around 10–11 feet long and 32–34 inches wide for maximum stability.

Paddles

- Adjustable Aluminium Paddle
Affordable and good for beginners; adjustable length makes it versatile.
- Fibreglass or Carbon Hybrid Paddle
Lighter and more efficient for longer sessions, though slightly pricier.

Length Guide:

- Stand the paddle vertically; the handle should reach about 20–25 cm above your head.

Here are some UK-based suppliers where you can buy beginner-friendly paddle boards and paddles:

1. The Paddle Co

- UK-designed boards, carbon-negative brand.
- Complete kits include board, paddle, fins, pump, and carry bag.
- Great for beginners looking for quality and sustainability.

2. The SUP Company

- Premium boards and accessories from leading brands.
- Offers expert advice and a wide range of SUP gear.

3. Paddle Direct

- Stocks trusted brands like Jobe and Aqua Marina.
- Free UK mainland delivery and beginner-friendly packages.

4. Aquaplanet Sports

- One of the UK's top-selling inflatable SUP brands.
- Affordable packages with everything included for beginners.

5. Stand Up Paddle Boards UK

- Wide range of inflatable and hard boards.
- Includes paddles, leashes, pumps, and safety gear.