

GOLDEN GATE

SEA KAYAK SYMPOSIUM

Attendee Guide

Please review this entire guide. If you still have questions, email Matt at mattpal mariello@gmail.com

Contacts:

From February 16th-20th, there are 2 major contacts. If you need anything, use the following cell phone numbers:

Sean Morley – (415) 816-8746

Matt Palmariello – (603) 548-7886

Schedule

Thursday, February 16, 2012

3:30pm – 11:00pm	Hostel Check-in	Marin Headlands Hostel
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Registration Check-in	Marin Headlands Hostel

Friday, February 17, 2012

7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast	Marin Headlands Hostel Main Floor
7:00am – 8:00am	Make your own lunch	Marin Headlands Hostel Main Floor
7:30am – 8:45am	Symposium Check-in	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
8:00am – 8:30am	Rental Equipment Pick-up	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
8:45am - 9:00am	Daily Safety Briefing	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
9:00am – 4:00pm	Classes	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Dinner	Presidio Yacht Club
7:30pm – 11:00pm	Kokatat Party w/ Steve Wilson	Presidio Yacht Club

Saturday, February 18, 2012

7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast	Marin Headlands Hostel Main Floor
7:00am – 8:00am	Make your own lunch	Marin Headlands Hostel Main Floor
7:30am – 8:45am	Symposium Check-in	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
8:00am – 8:30am	Rental Equipment Pick-up	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
8:45am - 9:00am	Daily Safety Briefing	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
9:00am – 4:00pm	Classes	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
5:30pm – 6:30pm	Dinner	Marin Headlands Hostel
7:00pm – 10:00pm	John Turk Presentation & Raffle	Bayside Elementary School, Sausalito

Sunday, February 19, 2012

7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast	Marin Headlands Hostel Main Floor
7:00am – 8:00am	Make your own lunch	Marin Headlands Hostel Main Floor
7:30am – 8:45am	Symposium Check-in	Presidio Yacht Club Launch

8:00am – 8:30am	Rental Equipment Pick-up	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
8:45am - 9:00am	Daily Safety Briefing	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
9:00am – 3:00pm	Classes	Presidio Yacht Club Launch
11:00am	Hostel Check-out	Marin Headlands Hostel

Friday Evening Event

Kōkatat

- Party under the Golden Gate hosted by Kokatat
 - Kokatat Prize Draw
- Film Screenings from the Reel Paddling Film Festival
 - Music by Steve Wilson
- Kicks off at 7:30pm at Presidio Yacht Club

Saturday Evening Event

Sea Kayaker Magazine

Presents, An evening with Jon Turk

- With a short presentation by the Seabird Protection Network & San Francisco Baykeeper
 - To be followed by the GGSKS Raffle (top prize – P&H Delphin)
- Doors open at 7:00pm at Bayside Elementary School, 630 Nevada St., Sausalito, CA 94965
 - Free to symposium attendees, \$10 for guests

When You Arrive at the Launch....

- 1) Please park straight and tight – more information about parking is below.
- 2) Check-in at registration on your first day. The check-in table is downstairs, indoors at the Presidio Yacht Club.
- 3) Get yourself sorted for the day – unload your kayak, begin to dress, organize your kit. Note that there is limited space on the beach so do not take your kayak to the beach until you are ready to launch.
- 4) Attend the daily safety briefing at 8:45am at the launch.
- 5) Break into classes at 9:00am and have fun.

Parking

Parking is very important, so please do your absolute best to follow these guidelines.

- 1) Please carpool when possible. The event takes place within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and they have asked us to impact the parking areas as little as possible. If you are staying at the hostel and don't have a boat on your roof please leave your car at the hostel and ride with somebody else.

- 2) Please park head-in at the dirt lot bordering the east side of Horseshoe Cove. Park straight and tight to minimize the amount of space being taken up.
- 3) Trailers – please park parallel on the left side of the parking lot and leave your keys at registration while on the water.

Symposium Check-in

All students **MUST** check-in before their first class of the event. You only need to check-in on your first day. Check-in is available Thursday night from 7-9pm at the Marin Headlands Hostel and each morning beginning at 7:30am downstairs at the Presidio Yacht Club. Upon checking-in you'll be asked to complete an event waiver (different than the liability release already sent in), fill out any missing paperwork and make any owed payments. You will also receive an event T-shirt and last minute event updates.

The Launch

Is compact and will be busy. Please do your best to make room for others. Kayaks do not have to be on the beach at 8:45am – they can remain in the parking lot until your classes begin.

Rental Equipment

If you rented equipment from a local area outfitter, please confirm with them that they are providing everything you need. Rental equipment can be collected at 8:00am at the Presidio Yacht Club Launch.

Morning Safety Briefings

There is a mandatory safety briefing each morning at 8:45am @ The Presidio Yacht Club Launch. The daily briefing addresses weather and tidal conditions for the day, general rules and overall safety for the event and the local area. Any last minute updates will be announced in the morning briefings. Classes begin immediately following the safety briefings.

General Information

Carpooling

Carpooling is very important, as the parking lot has limited space – please share cars when possible.

Class Rosters

Class rosters are finalized after registration closes on February 7th and will be posted online at ggsks.com. Please check that your name is on the list for each day you've signed up. We try our very best to accommodate everybody's first choice classes, but it is not always possible. Classes are filled on a first come first served basis.

Getting Around

A google map is located at ggsks.com under the *information* dropdown menu under *symposium map*
Link: [symposium map](#)

There are three important locations for Symposium weekend.

1) Marin Headlands Hostel
Fort Barry Building 941
Sausalito, CA 94965
(415) 331-2777

2) Horseshoe Cove – The beach launch at the Presidio Yacht Club at Travis Marina

3) Bayside Elementary School – 630 Nevada Street, Sausalito, CA 94965

Nearby Markets

- Safeway - 110 Strawberry Village #100 Mill Valley, CA 94941.
- Mollie Stone's Market 100 Harbor Drive Sausalito, CA 94965.

What to bring:

Everyone attending the event must be adequately prepared in terms of their personal equipment and clothing. Students should be dressed for immersion during all on-water activities. The average water temperature in late February is 52.5 degrees F. The average daily air temperature is a high of 48 degrees F, low of 36 degrees F at night.

We can provide specific advice on suitable clothing but you should consider wearing:

- Either a dry suit with appropriate thermal protection underneath or a combination of dry top and dry pants with suitable thermal protection underneath or a minimum 3mm wetsuit covering the legs and torso and a dry top with thermal protection underneath. A limited number of demo Kokatat dry suits will be available.
- Suitable thermal headgear
- Suitable footwear with some Thermal protection
- A US Coastguard approved PFD with whistle attached
- Suitable spray skirt
- Suitable helmet for Rescues and Rock Garden Classes

If you are taking an official BCU class, review the syllabus for a required equipment list.

At the very minimum, EVERY paddler should have access to the following while in their kayaks:

- dry thermal & windproof clothing
- fresh water & food

In addition, we encourage each participant to have with them a bilge pump, paddle float, spare paddle, whistle, light & first aid kit.

Contingency plan for the event:

In the event of Bad Weather and/or Medical Emergency all water activities are subject to cancellation due to safety concerns including but not limited to: weather, sea state, or other hazardous conditions.

The decision to cancel any water activity will be made by the Safety Officer in conjunction with the lead instructor for that activity. Every attempt will be made to find an alternative location and/or activity for participants.

Food & Accommodations

Please Note

Food is only provided to those who purchased the meal plan in advance. If you did not purchase the meal plan, please do not eat the food provided. We strive to maintain the honor system and don't want to revert to tickets or wristbands. Please respect that.

Breakfast

If you purchased the meal plan, breakfast will be provided downstairs at the Marin Headlands Hostel from 7:00-8:00am each morning. No food will be available at the Travis Marina Launch.

Lunch

If you purchased the meal plan, lunches are to be self-prepared each morning from 7:00-8:00am downstairs at the Marin Headlands Hostel. We'll provide everything you need to make a healthy, delicious lunch.

Please bring your own water bottle, lunchbox/bag and utensils. Classes are not guaranteed to return to the launch or hostel for lunch, so please bring lunches with you in your kayaks. There are no markets or stores at Horseshoe Cove and no food will be available at the Travis Marina Launch.

Dinner

If you purchased the meal plan, dinner will be provided Friday & Saturday nights. Friday night dinner will be served from 6:00pm – 7:00pm at the Presidio Yacht Club – downstairs. Saturday night dinner will be served from 5:30pm – 6:30pm at the Marin Headlands Hostel.

Other

Please feel free to bring any special foods that you cannot live without. If you have a certain brand of tea or wine or bread or whatever that you really love, then bring it. There is plenty of room for food storage and refrigeration at the hostel. Anything you leave in the kitchen should be labeled.

Marin Headlands Hostel

The Marin Headlands Hostel is a special place and adds to the overall feel of the event. However, there are certain rules to follow and things to keep in mind. **If you purchased 3 nights of lodging via GGSKS, you are booked for Thursday, Friday & Saturday night.** If you choose to stay Sunday night, you must book directly with the Marin Headlands Hostel.

General

- Rooms are coed and shared. Bring ear plugs if you are a light sleeper.
- The hostel reception desk is open 7:30am – 11:30pm each day.
- Check-in is after 3:30pm.
- No pets allowed.
- Quiet hours are between 10:30pm and 7:30am.
- Smoking is allowed outside the building only in designated areas.
- Cell phones do not work – there is a pay phone.
- There is no internet.
- Linens, pillows and blankets are provided. There are no sleeping bags allowed in the hostel. Please use the provided linens and blankets.
- Guests are required to pick-up after themselves.
- No food or drinks allowed in the dorm rooms.
- The Marin Headlands Hostel is a Marin Certified Green Business. No disposable utensils are allowed, recycling is mandatory.

Specific to GGSKS

- Upon arrival, please see the message board for room assignments. Room assignments were made on a first-come first-served basis.
- See Matt Palmariello or Justine Bunnell with questions.

Checkout

- Checkout is 11:00am on Sunday February 19th. Most people will be on the water at 11:00am, so please check-out before you go to the launch on Sunday morning. If you have made arrangements to stay Sunday night, you may be asked to move your things into a different room Sunday morning.
- As part of the check-out process, please strip your bed and deposit the dirty linens on the main floor. Please pick up after yourself.

Questions

If you have questions, please contact Matt at mattpal mariello@gmail.com.