

Dear PSC members:

Thank you for your patience as your Board worked through numerous concerns about running club-sponsored events in a world affected by Covid-19. Our goal has been to restore PSC events in a safe manner. This decision took a great deal of thought as it was prudent to make a well-reasoned decision to protect all parties rather than simply make a quick decision.

One of the most significant factors in the process is the car shift/shuttle. We do not believe there is a safe way to manage a car shift/shuttle so PSC event leaders will not arrange car shifts/shuttles for PSC events at this time. Participants will be responsible for making their own arrangements for car shift/shuttles; recommendations include involving other family members to spot cars or perform a bike shuttle. Participants must make their own decisions about joining events involving car shifts/shuttles.

For the foreseeable future, PSC will not be awarding points for event participation. We understand that some members will be joining events and others will choose not to join out of concern/priority for their safety and that of others; suspending point awards provides equal recognition to the choices made by members. We will continue to track event participation.

In addition, PSC events will operate under the following requirements until future notice:

- To participate in a PSC event, you must be able to answer each of the following questions NO on the day of the event. If any answers are YES, as a courtesy please notify the event leader that you will not be attending. Please ask yourself each of these questions prior to leaving your home:
 - Have you experienced any of the following symptoms recently (in the past 14 days)? (unusual persistent cough, unusual shortness of breath, fever above 100.4 F, chills, repeated shaking/chills, unusual muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea)?
 - Have you recently (in the past 14 days) been in close contact with anyone who has exhibited any of the above symptoms? (Close contact means within less than 6 feet for a prolonged period of time)
 - Have you recently (in the past 14 days) been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or been advised to self-isolate by a medical professional due to COVID-19 reasons?
 - Have you recently (in the past 14 days) traveled internationally?
- A face covering must be worn any time you are not able to maintain 6 feet of distance from others
- Participants must bring their own supplies to maintain proper hygiene, including hand sanitizer with a minimum 60% alcohol content
- Group members are not to share or touch each other's equipment, with exception of bow and stern toggles/handles to assist with launching and landing (excluding members of the same family)
- Participants are not permitted to share food or drink during the event (excluding members of the same family)
- When considering joining an event, please consider your personal skills relative to the event. For the courtesy and safety of all parties, please select only events well below your personal skill level.

- It is recommended that all participants have the ability to perform a self-rescue by either moving to shore or performing a solo deep-water rescue.

With any outdoor pursuit, risk is ever present. PSC always takes appropriate precautions for your safety; we take this role seriously, but know that PSC cannot guarantee the elimination of risk of contracting or being exposed to Coronavirus or any other communicable disease. Each participant must make their own choice to accept the risk of paddling with a group at this time.

When attending a PSC event, you are expected to bring with you a signed copy of the [Prairie State Canoeists Combined Waiver/Release of Liability](#); it must be dated with the date of the event.

Once again, thank you for your patience and we look forward to seeing you on the water soon!

Thoughtfully yours,

The PSC Leadership Team