

# Long Island Paddlers

Membership Application and Liability Waiver

**MEMBER TYPE**(Circle all that apply): **Renewal** **New** **Individual** **Family**

I, (We) (Please print full name (s)) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(Primary) \_\_\_\_\_ (Other) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**(IF FAMILY):** Partner Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Desiring to join fellow paddlers in Long Island Paddlers [the club] hereby declare that I (we) fully understand and accept the following facts as a participant:

1. Canoeing, Kayaking, and Rafting expose participants to physical exertion and various safety hazards . Water is an environment that is hostile to human life—and contains many hazards that may be hidden from view or not obvious.

2. I alone am responsible for my safety when I engage in Canoeing, Kayaking, or Rafting—and when I paddle on any river, rapid, lake, pond, bay, or ocean. I alone am responsible for determining the suitability of any activity to my abilities, and for determining whether I am capable of safely participating in that activity.

3. I expect to assist any paddlers who, in my judgment, appear to need assistance. But I expect to do so only within the limits of my ability—and only if I can do so without endangering my own safety. I understand that neither the law nor this agreement may create any legal duty for me to assist others. I also understand that neither the law nor this agreement may create any legal duty for others to assist me, especially if offering such assistance would endanger another's safety. I hereby waive any right to hold the club, its officers, members, agents, trip coordinators, and participants liable for any injury to my person or my property that is caused by any act or omission that occurs in connection with a club activity. I acknowledge that this includes any act or omission that is intended to promote my safety or well-being. I make this waiver for myself and anyone else who may claim through me, including but not limited to my heirs and representatives.

I give this waiver in the interest of permitting Long Island Paddlers to exist, to enable paddlers to freely donate their services to improving paddling sports, and to train others without fear of liability. I acknowledge that this waiver applies to all Long Island Paddlers activities. I give this waiver in exchange for the privilege of club membership—and acknowledge that it has no expiration date.

- By default, your contact information is included in the members-only directory. You can change this and other items online.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Partner Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Parents/Guardians of minors:

I hereby give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in Long Island Paddlers activities, subject to all of the conditions and waivers set forth above.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Membership fee: \$35.00 per Individual or \$45.00 per family. valid from Apr. 1 to Mar. 31.

Membership fee includes your on-line subscription to *Blazing Paddles*, and access to the members-only sections of LIPaddlers.org

**Make checks payable to Long Island Paddlers**

**Mail to: Peter Stoehr, Membership Director, 47 Cormack Court, Babylon, NY 11702**

# **Long Island Paddlers**

## **Mission Statement**

**Long Island Paddlers was formed to bring together a group of like-minded Canoeists and Kayakers to share a common love for boating and the outdoors. We endeavor to share information on safety, education, our experiences on the water, and other paddling-related subjects. Long Island Paddlers is open to all who would like to share in this sport. We are active during all twelve months of the year, both on the water and at our meetings with various programs and guest speakers. We participate in river clean-ups and other conservation activities, and encourage state and local governing bodies to improve access to the waters in and around Long Island by non motor-propelled watercraft. Long Island Paddlers has been and will continue to be active in many aspects of the sport of paddling, and to bring people together to share in all the fun that paddling with others has to offer.**

## **Statement of Purpose**

**Canoeing and kayaking can be dangerous. You can be injured and possibly die from canoe or kayak-related accidents. That is why we continue to disseminate information on safety, safety equipment, self rescues, group rescues, hypothermia, navigation, rules-of-the road, tidal currents, and weather-related hazards. Members are alerted to the many skill-elements that make up a good paddler, and are encouraged to obtain formal training from a qualified instructor.**

**Club trips are listed by members who want to paddle in certain areas that they know. Our Trip Coordinators are just that, and do not function as experts or instructors on these trips. You are the captain of your own craft and you alone are responsible for your own safety and well-being. No one can force you to launch your canoe or kayak from shore. This is your decision and your responsibility. We urge our members to beware of so-called experts, who may put the inexperienced paddler in a dangerous situation. Know your limitations and remember that it is safer to paddle in a group than alone. Always be aware of your surroundings and conditions. We urge you to paddle and to have fun. Learn as much as you can about our sport, and share your knowledge. It will make all of us better paddlers.**