

Dear EPP Member,

Thank you for your interest in the European Paddle Pass education. <http://www.europaddlepass.eu/>

First of all you should be aware that the EPP is a personal proficiency system – it has no inherent coach or assessor system.

How to join the EPP-group?

To join the EPP-system you should consider that the big part concerns developing (or adapting) a system to be in compliance with the EPP.

Apart from the formal stuff you most of all need a system to handle education.

That means:

- You must describe how coaches are educated and tested.
- Describe how assessors are educated and tested
- How paddlers are educated and tested
- How the different levels are quality assured and how you ensure the same level of delivery throughout the system (teaching the same and achieving the same level in the different teaching places).
- How the system is operated: who runs courses, who runs test (persons as well as institutions e.g. federation, club, school, private centres, universities, state).
- How the system is operated e.g. how i certificates issued, how is the certificates registered (e.g. database), is certificates sent out, can educators be found on a webpage, what sort of teaching resources is available (e.g. Booklets, webpages, video, standard documents, crib sheets etc.)

The EPP is protected so it would be a violation of intellectual property just to translate them without consent from the EPP-group. However neither the EPP nor any other organization can claim ownership of the knowledge of paddling. The wise thing would be to work on a translation that never goes below the demands of the EPP standards but also take into account the national culture, tradition, paddling education, formal national (sports) educational system. Be aware that heightening the standards can also be problematic in the long run.

In respect to this also take into consideration that EPP covers several disciplines and should preferably be implemented in all disciplines being governed by the national federation.

We will be happy to welcome new members into the EPP family. If you need help during the process we will be able to set you up with an expert who can help you draw up a roadmap to membership.

What about assessment, can we use our own ideas?

Yes - since there is no standard system there is no mandatory system. However there seems to be developing a lot of similarities in the national systems (as they all have to make sure the same levels is ultimately achieved / present in the paddlers being assessed).

Who can run scheme

- National Governing Body (NGB) members.
- The NGB can license a private company or another third party to operate the EPP scheme but the NGB remains ultimately responsible for the scheme in their jurisdiction
- Coaching outside EPP countries is encouraged and allowed. EPP group members should encourage individuals from other member states to complete EPP awards in their home state.
- It is allowed that NGB members can run courses in other EPP countries

Where to start?

You could start by sending some basic information to our secretary, Morten Juul Madsen [mjm@kano-kajak.dk]?

- What is your position in your national governing body (NGB) / federation?
- What disciplines would the NGB expect to work with?
- How are the current teachers /instructors trained (is there a national system in place)?
- How are the current paddlers trained (is there a national system in place)?
- What is the target group? (Children, adults, elite, recreational etc).
- Who do you expect to run the education? (federation, clubs, private centers, schools, teacher education etc)

For further explanation we will send you the bylaws that explain many of the issues.