



ALL YOU CAN SUP!



## Frequently Asked Questions

<b>I am new to paddle boarding, does AYCS membership make sense for beginners?</b>	Absolutely! This membership is structured not just to give you access to boards but also to help you learn both formally and informally in a relaxed environment.
<b>Can I really SUP when I want?</b>	Yes... All season, 29 <sup>th</sup> March to 3 <sup>rd</sup> October, every day from 0900 to 1700, come rain or shine (but obviously not in extreme weather!)
<b>Do you have your own launch point and how sheltered is it?</b>	Yes, the Mistral pontoon is 30 metres from the AYCS members' lounge and provides access to the tidal lagoon and creeks sheltered from the prevailing South Westerlies. From there you can paddle further up the harbour and into the various channels.
<b>How long is the 'season'?</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> March to 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2021.
<b>Can I be a member for a limited time, rather than a year?</b>	Our membership season actually runs from April to September (incl). We are also offering shorter, monthly membership, as an option but, as you would expect, monthly fees are proportionately higher.
<b>What equipment do you provide?</b>	Members will use top quality, Mistral inflatable boards, including paddle & leash (dry bags and buoyancy aids are also available if required).
<b>How can I be sure an AYCS board will be available for me when I want it?</b>	Book! We know it's not always practical but the way to guarantee a board being available is to take advantage of our online booking system. That will guarantee that we know you are coming and that a board is prepared.
<b>How old does someone need to be to become a member?</b>	To be a full member you will have to be 18 years old.
<b>Can my children become members?</b>	Yes, we are offering youth membership from the age of 10 years old but <u>not</u> independent of a full adult member and they will not be able to take boards out without an accompanying adult member.
<b>Is there a family membership?</b>	Not as such, but there are reduced rates for additional family members from the same household.
<b>What happens when I join?</b>	The first time you come down after you've joined, make yourself known to the team and we'll prepare your ID and give you a brief induction, show you around the boards and facilities, etc.. You will also be given a welcome pack to take away.
<b>If I am a member, and a friend (who is not a member) wants to come with me, can I get a board for them?</b>	Yes, you can hire an extra board for a non-member from Sandy Point Watersports, and, as a member you will get a discount on that hire rate.



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<b>Will I be able to park at the marina?</b>	Yes, the Marina has a car park and cycle racks.
<b>As a member, can I bring my own board?</b>	Yes, you can bring your own board along as a member, but we would ask that you register with the team on arrival and show your ID before launching from the site. Also, you will need to pay for your own harbour dues with the Conservancy.
<b>If I can't make a slot I have booked, what do I do?</b>	Either go online as soon as you can to 'request to cancel' the slot, or call to let us know and we'll do it for you.
<b>How much is membership?</b>	SEE this link to the fee schedule.
<b>How frequently will training sessions be run?</b>	We are finalising the full season's tuition, but the first sessions are currently scheduled for 11 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> of April 2021 (two sessions on each day). We hope to run between 4 and 8 sessions a month. Interested? Make sure you book!
<b>What do I need to wear for SUPing?</b>	Of course, it might vary with the weather but, as a rule, lightweight things that you don't mind getting wet! It is useful to have a windproof top with you on colder days. The boards do have luggage straps if you'd like to take more with you. Make sure you use sun protection too.
<b>I'm experienced at paddle boarding, how far can I go on a board from the launch point?</b>	We like where you're going with this! Chichester Harbour covers an area greater than 3,700 Hectares! The harbour is home to many pretty shoreside villages accessible by SUP. You can travel for miles, even under the bridge at the North of the island into Langstone harbour and beyond. Naturally, a word of caution here. The harbour is tidal and of course there is often the wind factor and fatigue to consider too! We recommend that you discuss your plans with the team before you undertake anything too onerous!
<b>What other benefits does membership come with?</b>	Friendships, sea, sand, fun and of course discounts at Sandy Point Watersports on-site shop for your special own SUP board, SUP accessories, equipment, T-shirts and trendy gear(!). Also show your membership ID and you'll get a 20% discount at the on-site Drift Bar on food and drink.
<b>Will I be able to use a board after 1700?</b>	That's not the intention in the AYCS membership itself, however, we can provide discounted hire for members who wish to take a board overnight or longer. We will do our best to be flexible to accommodate those long summer evenings as best we can!
<b>Are there any limits to the number of junior family members that one full member can be responsible for?</b>	You SUP at your own risk! There are many variables to consider when paddling and, if you are taking responsibility for juniors, you need to consider your own capabilities,



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	their capabilities and the conditions you are paddling in (wind/tide etc.). Only then will you be able to assess and plan for safe paddling, including determining how many juniors you are prepared to be responsible for in the circumstances.
<b>I'm going away on holiday for a few days, can I take one of the boards away with me?</b>	Yes, we are open to facilitating this. There would be an additional cost but, as a member, it would be discounted. Hire rates are available from Sandy Point Watersports.
<b>I don't want to be a member. Can I pay a fee to just launch my board there and use the facilities when time permits?</b>	Yes, we can offer a daily membership to use the launching point and facilities, however, you will need to take responsibility for your harbour dues, which are available from the Conservancy.
<b>What happens out of 'season'?</b>	This is the first year for AYCS and paddle boarding has typically been more popular in the warmer months. We plan to close the facilities on 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2021. However, for those members who wish to SUP out of season we will consider what options might be supported as the season progresses. No promises yet though!
<b>I live on Hayling and I'd like to meet new people, will there be a social SUP element to the membership?</b>	Absolutely, we are a friendly bunch and we know there are many out there who seek fun and company in a great waterside setting. You can also look forward to a BBQ or two, when it gets warmer and we are truly unlocked-down.
<b>Will you help me get to know others who want to SUP in company?</b>	That's the plan! We know that SUPing can be something that people do to get away from the crowds, but we also know from experience that paddling in company is a great way to build friendships. It also provides the opportunity to 'buddy' for people who just aren't yet comfortable with going it alone. In the member's lounge there will be a notice board for people to communicate and we will also facilitate a social media group where members can connect.
<b>Can you help us understand more about the wildlife in the harbour?</b>	The harbour is a fantastic resource full of wonderful wildlife. We are planning, with specialist local support, to provide ample information and guidance to our members identifying what they might see and how to avoid disturbing natural habitats.
<b>Will you be offering any SUP yoga classes?</b>	Yes, it is our intention to lay on SUP yoga sessions in the lagoon. This will be largely driven by demand, so as soon as enough members raise their hand we'll be on it!
<b>Can I join a harbour tour by SUP?</b>	We will be planning a few more adventurous trips during mid-season and will make the membership aware of them as they hove into view (they will be weather and tide dependent). So, if it appeals to you, let the team know.



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<b>I love being on the water enjoying the experience. Sometimes I feel a competitive urge, though. Will you organise races at all?</b>	It was only a matter of time! We know where you're coming from. The short answer is yes. During mid-season we'll see who is up for a few short races and we'll even throw in some prizes.
<b>Will there be training sessions on the surf as well as in the harbour?</b>	SUP surfing is increasingly popular and we certainly love it! We don't have scheduled SUP surf sessions because they can only really be planned when the conditions are right, but, given a suitable weather forecast we will plan and communicate to members who register an interest.
<b>I will be travelling for a little while to get down there, can I make myself a cup of tea/coffee in the members' lounge?</b>	Yes. The members' lounge will have tea and coffee making facilities, a fridge and microwave for tasty morsels. (N.B. Covid guidelines will need to be followed). Of course, there is the on-site Drift Bar too where your AYCS member's ID will get you a <b>20% discount</b> off of food and drink.
<b>I live some distance away and I'd like to come down for a few days. Rather than travelling backwards and forwards do you have any deals on accommodation locally?</b>	Yes, we have contacts locally, in addition to the local hotels, who do have reasonable short-term accommodation for let.
<b>How far can I take my SUP skills?</b>	That's entirely up to you! We will support you with the kit and facilities. The rest depends on your enthusiasm and appetite. We will always encourage the development of members' understanding of the various SUP disciplines, the water we SUP on, proper planning and risk assessment. If you want to become a SUP instructor let us know as we will be planning at least one Instructor training course this year. Similarly, if racing is your thing don't hide your light under a bushel. We are the UK importer of the world-famous Mistral watersports brand which has supported many leading riders, we may even let you try out the superfast hard boards! Maybe you just want to help us improve the AYCS experience... If so, we're all ears!



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## Ready to Join?

<b>How do I sign up to become a member?</b>	Go to <a href="http://www.sandypointwatersports.com/membership">www.sandypointwatersports.com/membership</a> and click 'SIGN-UP'. Select 'Membership', choose your duration and checkout by creating an account. Once you've created an account, come visit us at Sparkes Marina for payment. You will also receive an induction & welcome pack on the day. Alternatively, come visit us and we can do it all face-to-face.
<b>How do I book a board?</b>	Go to <a href="http://www.sandypointwatersports.com/hire">www.sandypointwatersports.com/hire</a> and click 'BOOK NOW'. Select '2hr SUP Hire'. At checkout, login to your member's account, which will apply 100% discount. Please note, all other activities will be charged at 15% discount. All bookings are subject to weather conditions and may be cancelled if deemed unsafe by the team.