

Kludahk Outdoors Club Philosophy and Policies

Philosophy

The Kludahk Outdoors Club regards our usage of the land, not as a right to be defended, but rather, as a privilege that must be earned and respected. Our philosophy regarding outdoor recreation and use of the forest/wilderness land is based on the concept of sharing, non-threatening, non-confrontational co-operation. We believe that due to this concept our relationship with the BC Forest Service and the major forest companies has been smooth and rewarding.

We do not advocate political or other action to “save” forests or other large land areas. We are not conservationist in the conventional usage of the term. We do not regard forest companies and loggers as enemies, nor do we regard resource extraction and industrial development as being inherently evil.

We do, however, advocate careful, conservative use of natural resources, the principle of sustainability, the protection of unique features, and the principle of sharing our natural heritage for the greatest benefit to most people, which can only be attained by sincere spirit of co-operation. We believe that the best interest of all of us is better served by co-operation rather than confrontation.

The Trail, Canoes, and Cabins

The Kludahk trail follows the San Juan Ridge, at elevation mostly from 2500 to 3500 feet and it is approximately 40 km in length. Five cabins have been built along the trail, about 5 hours apart.

All of the trail building, most of the trail amenities, and all of the cabin construction has been done by volunteer labour, and we ask that all users, whether members or not, respect and honour these contributions by contributing a little of their own.

The trail is open to all who wish to use it, excluding commercial activities. It is on Crown land, is used at your own risk, and is designated as a Forest Service Recreation area. Horses, bicycles and all motorized vehicles are prohibited from using the trail. Laminated maps are available for purchase. Please do not duplicate and distribute the maps as we are dependant on the income from these maps.

The integrity of Kludahk’s volunteer ethic is paramount to our club’s success. To give one or two days a year to do trail and cabin work is a reasonable expectation of all our members.

Most of the trail passes through sensitive alpine meadows and wetlands, which are particularly susceptible to damage during wet periods. During such periods only limited use is acceptable. To minimize impact on the terrain hikers are requested to avoid traveling in groups of more than eight. Please practice “no-trace” hiking and camping. Several latrines are placed near the trail for your convenience. Do not pollute drinking water or water upstream from a drinking site.

If you make use of our canoes, please handle with care. Do not drag or paddle them over shallow or rocky spots in the lakes. You are using them at your own risk. The Kludahk Outdoor Club assumes no responsibility for the safe condition of any of the canoes or the safety of those who may use them.

Smoking along the trail is prohibited during the dry summer months. Campfires must be out, cold, and wet before leaving them. No campfires are allowed during dry or windy conditions. A full water container must be within reach of a campfire at all times. Do not chop into standing trees.

If you are using a cabin please abide by the “Cabin Use Rules” as posted. Be considerate of the next users. Please use them with care, and leave them cleaner than when you arrived. Absolutely no smoking is permitted in cabins. Carry all garbage out. When staying at a cabin you are expected to bring in basic supplies and help with any maintenance chores to keep our trails and cabins in good shape for others to enjoy.

Only members in good standing may book the cabins. Advance booking and payment are necessary for overnight or weekend stays. The Kludahk Outdoors Club is a registered charity and a taxable receipt will be issued for any donations.



Kludahk Outdoors Club Sooke B.C.

USE WAIVER AND RELEASE AGREEMENT & MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please read carefully before signing. This is a release of liability and waiver of certain legal rights.

IN CONSIDERATION of my being permitted to participate in the Activities and functions (all of which are now referred to as "**the Activities**") offered or organized by the **Kludahk Outdoors Club**, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, release and forever discharge the **Kludahk Outdoors Club** and their directors, officers, employees, agents, servants, leaders, contractors, volunteers and managers, (all of which are referred to as "**KOC**") from and against all claims, actions, costs, expenses, and demands by reason of any damage, loss, death or injury to my person or property, howsoever caused, arising out of or in connection with my participation in Activities notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of KOC. **I agree to save and make harmless and indemnify the KOC from and against all lawsuits, claims, actions, costs, or expenses.**

I also agree to save harmless and indemnify all landowners whose property I may cross or travel on, or whose facilities I may use, from and against all claims, actions, costs, expenses

and demands in respect of any death, injury, loss or damage to my person or property, howsoever caused, arising out of or in connection with the Activities notwithstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of the said landowners.

I UNDERSTAND AND ACKNOWLEDGE AND ARE AWARE that there are risks, hazards and dangers inherent in the Activities associated with being in the wilderness. I also understand that these risks, hazards and dangers involve a risk of injury and even death, and that I am voluntarily participating in these Activities and using equipment and facilities with the knowledge of the dangers involved. I hereby agree to expressly assume and accept all and any risks of injury or death.

I acknowledge that I have informed myself of all of the risks, hazards and dangers inherent in these Activities and understand that I am responsible for providing myself with equipment appropriate for the participation in the Activities.

I acknowledge that I have decided to participate in activity and use equipment or facilities and assume all responsibility for my participation and Activities, utilization of equipment or facilities in my Activities. In addition KOC cannot accept responsibility for valuables left behind in the facilities.

I acknowledge that in many areas of the Trail there is no cell service and that it can take many hours to reach assistance in the event of a medical emergency and even greater time for rescuers to reach areas of the Trail.

I AGREE to assume all such risks, hazards and dangers, and further agree to bear all costs of rescue and medical treatment rendered to me, or for my benefit, arising from the Activities.

I RECOGNIZE and **ACKNOWLEDGE** that in addition to contracting for the above provisions on their own behalf the KOC is also contracting as agent for, and to the benefit of, their officers, managers, servants, agents, leaders, employees, members, directors, contractors, volunteers, and all persons acting under the authority of the KOC.

I HAVE READ THIS INDEMNITY AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ACCEPT ITS TERMS, AND IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

I have hereunder set my hand, this _____ day of _____, 20__

Signature of Participant
(or of parent/guardian if participant is under age 19)

Please Print Name

Signature of Participant
(or of parent/guardian if participant is under age 19)

Please Print Name
Address and Telephone Number

Signature of Witness

Printed Name of Witness

Application Form for Membership

THE SIGNED WAIVER AND THIS SIGNED APPLICATION FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND MAILED TO THE ADDRESS BELOW.

In order to become a member you must participate in one orientation hike/work party, and adhere to the KOC's philosophy and policies. All members are expected to contribute to the KOC by helping with trail and cabin maintenance.

Once we receive your application by mail, you will be advised by email as to the next work party dates. Work parties are scheduled around trail conditions and leader availability. If after 5 work party dates have been sent to you and if you have not attended one, your application will be expunged from our files. Once you have completed the work party requirement, your application will go to our directors for review. You are not a member until you have received our notice of acceptance email.

KOC Philosophy and Policies: **I hereby acknowledge that I have read and agree with and will adhere to the Philosophy and Policies of KOC as expressed on the attached sheet: "Kludahk Outdoors Club, Philosophy and Policies."**

Your Name(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Membership category: Single \$35/year _____ *DO NOT PAY YOUR FEE NOW!*

Check appropriate
category

Family \$50/year _____ How many in family _____

*Only non-profit youth groups may apply Youth Group \$60/year _____ How many in group _____

Do you know any other KOC members? Yes ___ No ___

If "Yes" please list them for references: _____

Reason(s) why you want to become a KOC member: _____

Date: _____

SIGNATURE - Print name

SIGNATURE - Print name

***Membership fee is payable upon notification of acceptance by the membership director.** Do not pre-pay the membership fee. Please mail application form and any cheques to: Kludahk Outdoor Club, PO Box 167, Sooke, BC, V9Z 0P7