



## Membership Kit

Revised December 2015

Welcome to the Sebago Canoe Club! We are thrilled to greet you as a new member. Your experience with Sebago is sure to be both rewarding and fun. This membership kit is your introduction to the club and includes our Operating and Safety Rules. You must read these safety and procedural rules. We have tried to answer new members' most common questions and hopefully point you in the right direction to get any other questions or issues resolved. Please review the club website [sebagocanoecub.org](http://sebagocanoecub.org), for more information about specific club activity areas.

In addition to this packet, it is your responsibility as a new member to visit the members' only section of the club website, [sebagocanoecub.org/members](http://sebagocanoecub.org/members) (user name: sebagomember / password: checkinonow) to familiarize yourself with the club Constitution and Bylaws.

The Current Officers and Board Members are (as of October 2015):

### Club Officers:

Commodore:	Walter Lewandowski 917-670-0397	<a href="mailto:commodore@sebagocanoecub.org">commodore@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Vice Commodore:	John Wright 718-859-4375	<a href="mailto:vicecommodore@sebagocanoecub.org">vicecommodore@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Treasurer:	Zachary Abrams 718-434-5785	<a href="mailto:treasurer@sebagocanoecub.org">treasurer@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Secretary:	Beth Bloedow 718-241-9130	<a href="mailto:secretary@sebagocanoecub.org">secretary@sebagocanoecub.org</a>

### Board of Directors:

Howard Alfred  
John Decker  
Beth Eller  
Frank Favia  
Lynn Kraus  
Gracie Landes  
Javier Muniz  
Carlos Negron

Sebago Canoe Club also has activity committee chairs in all the various areas of activity that we offer. The members who participate in each specific activity elect those committee chairs. Only Senior members may be elected to be a committee chair. We also have a number of officers and committee chairs who are appointed by the Commodore. (See Constitution, Art IV, sect 12, Committee Chairs).

### Activity Committee Chairs:

Sea Kayaking:	Tony Pignatello	<a href="mailto:kayaking@sebagocanoecub.org">kayaking@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Cruising:	Tony Pignatello	<a href="mailto:cruising@sebagocanoecub.org">cruising@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Canoeing:	Dan Olson	<a href="mailto:canoeing@sebagocanoecub.org">canoeing@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Rowing:	Joe Romano	<a href="mailto:rowing@sebagocanoecub.org">rowing@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Sailing:	Jim Luton/Holly Sears	<a href="mailto:sailing@sebagocanoecub.org">sailing@sebagocanoecub.org</a>
Racing:	Michael Boxer	<a href="mailto:racing@sebagocanoecub.org">racing@sebagocanoecub.org</a>

## Appointed Officers and Activity Chairs:

Cabin Steward:	Linda Peterson	<a href="mailto:cabinsteward@sebagocanoeclub.org">cabinsteward@sebagocanoeclub.org</a>
Membership:	Beth Eller	<a href="mailto:membership@sebagocanoeclub.org">membership@sebagocanoeclub.org</a>
Gardening:	Mary Eyster/Mary Ann Hoag	<a href="mailto:garden@sebagocanoeclub.org">garden@sebagocanoeclub.org</a>
Grants:	Joan Byron	<a href="mailto:contact@sebagocanoeclub.org">contact@sebagocanoeclub.org</a>
Calendar/Blade Editor:	Beth Bloedow	<a href="mailto:publications@sebagocanoeclub.org">publications@sebagocanoeclub.org</a>
Social Committee:	Fran Pignatello	<a href="mailto:social@sebagocanoeclub.org">social@sebagocanoeclub.org</a>

We are proud to offer our membership the opportunity to participate in the sports of kayaking, canoeing, rowing, sailing and racing. In an effort to improve skills in these sports, we offer instruction and safety training to our members so they can enjoy the sport at an intensity that approaches the professional level. All instruction and safety training in kayaking and canoeing is conducted by accredited American Canoe Association instructors.

## Membership:

Sebago has membership types for individuals and families, including Conditional & Family Conditional and Senior & Family Senior. Distinguished long-term members may be elected to Honorary (lifetime) membership. Our membership year is on an annual basis beginning October 1 and ending September 30. Invoices are sent at the beginning of the membership year, on or about October. Any member joining after August 1 is not billed again until the following October. **All Club members must sign an electronic liability waiver annually.**

### Conditional Members:

- (1) Applicants eighteen years of age and over may be accepted for Conditional membership following receipt of a properly submitted application with fees for initiation and dues for the year.
- (2) Conditional members do not have voting privileges. They shall not be eligible to hold office. They may be appointed to a committee.
- (3) Conditional members may not have keys to the club unless they have a boat in storage or meet one of the other conditions set forth in the Operating and Safety Rules or activity-specific policy.
- (4) Conditional members may only use club-owned equipment as outlined in the Operating and Safety Rules. Sea kayakers should refer to the Sea Kayak Committee Policies for details. Sailors should refer to the Sailing Certification requirements and policies on the sailing page of the club website [sebagocanoeclub.org/sailing.html](http://sebagocanoeclub.org/sailing.html)
- (5) Conditional members may bring guests to the club. Each guest is limited to three visits per year before they are required to join the club. All guests are required to submit an online waiver.

### Senior Members:

- (1) Conditional members may be accepted for Senior membership after satisfactorily completing the probation period of one year. They must have fulfilled their work requirements, or have paid the necessary work fee, have a current electronic liability waiver on file and there can be no outstanding dues.
- (2) Conditional members must request to have their name published in the club newsletter before they can request Senior status.
- (3) Applicants for Senior membership shall be voted on at a General or Annual Meeting. Applicants must be present at the meeting. The affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority shall be required for acceptance.
- (4) Senior membership is automatically continued as long as membership is paid and you are in good standing.
- (5) Senior members are given keys to the club as long as they maintain their membership in good standing.
- (6) Senior members may use club-owned equipment as outlined in the Operating and Safety Rules. Sea kayakers should refer to the Sea Kayak Committee policies for details. Sailors should refer to the Sailing Certification requirements and policies on the sailing page of the club website [sebagocanoeclub.org/sailing.html](http://sebagocanoeclub.org/sailing.html)
- (7) Senior members may bring guests to the club. Each guest is limited to three visits per year before they are required to join the club. All guests must submit an online waiver.

- (8) The last Senior member to leave the club must check and lock all buildings, and turn off water supply.

(Note: Rule # 8 applies to all members with keys.)

## General Information:

1. All members must read and obey the complete set of Operating and Safety Rules along with the club Constitution (posted on the website at [www.sebagocanoeclub.org/members/](http://www.sebagocanoeclub.org/members/)) and By-laws. If you have any questions about the safety rules, please ask before you do anything that might be dangerous.
2. All members must be in good standing, with all dues and fees paid by December 1.
3. All members and guests must sign in and out in the logbook located in the clubhouse whenever they come to the club.
4. All members should make an effort to attend General Meetings. The Annual Meeting of the membership is held on the third Sunday in September (check website calendar). Officers and Board Members are elected at this meeting. There is also a General Meeting on New Year's Day (Frostbite Regatta). Please see the website calendar for a schedule of additional General Meetings. All meetings are held at the clubhouse in Brooklyn.
5. All members are welcome to attend the Board Meetings that are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.
6. All members should join the private Sebago Canoe Club Google Group. This listserv is the primary conduit for information about club events and activities, as well as requests for volunteer help. Contact [secretary@sebagocanoeclub.org](mailto:secretary@sebagocanoeclub.org) for access to the listserv.
7. *The Blade* (the official club newsletter) is published digitally several times a year. All events, calendars, contact information, current news and articles are published in *The Blade*. Additional information can be found on the website.
8. No private property, including but not limited to cars, boats or trailers, may be kept on club grounds or stored in the club's facilities without permission of the Vice Commodore.
9. All members and their guests must have signed waivers on file with the club.
10. All members must wear PFDs whenever they go out on the water. Members are responsible to see that all of their guests wear PFDs and follow the established club safety rules.

## Work Requirement:

1. All members must perform fifteen hours of work each year for the club (or five hours of work plus completing one official workday). Workdays are held throughout the season and are announced on the listserv. Note: any work you do that helps the club counts towards your requirement.
2. We encourage members to be proactive about finding a volunteer task that meets your skills. Ask the committee chairs and the Vice Commodore, who is responsible for the grounds, if they need assistance. Let them know what types of job might fit your skills or if you have a particular area of expertise.
3. You are responsible for listing any and all work that you perform for the club. There is a workbook located on the main desk in the clubhouse. If there is no sheet with your name, create one.
4. Record all work and the date it was completed on your page. The book is audited for billing purposes.
5. Those who do not do the work or do less than 7.5 hours will be charged \$150 as their work fee when they receive their annual bill. Those who perform at least half (7.5 hours) but not all of the work requirement will be charged \$75 as their work fee. Members may apply to the club Board of Directors for exemption from the work requirement for reasons of health, age or distance from the club.

## Cabin at Lake Sebago: (\*see additional information at end of document)

1. Sebago Canoe Club maintains membership as a Paddle America Club with the ACA. This enables us to lease a Cabin at the ACA Camp. To use this cabin, a club member must also be a member of the ACA.
2. All Sebago members are encouraged to join the American Canoe Association (ACA) and those who wish to use the cabin must join the ACA or be a guest of an ACA member and pay the higher guest fees. Join the ACA with membership type PAC and select Sebago as your club affiliation. All Sebago members with an ACA membership and their guests may use the ACA Camp at Lake Sebago in Harriman State Park.
3. Keys to the camp gate can be obtained by showing your ACA membership card to Camp Director Linda Peterson. Contact the Cabin Steward for additional information.
4. The club's cabin is for use by Senior members. Conditional members may request the Cabin Steward to allow them the use of the cabin under the supervision of a Senior member. Please contact the Cabin Steward for specific information regarding the cabin and the ACA Camp.
5. Sebago Senior members may bring guests to the cabin if accommodations are available. Sebago members who are ACA members will be given first preference to use the cabin. Please see the Cabin Steward for information.

6. All members must sign in and out at the cabin's usage log and at the main pavilion at Lake Sebago when they use the club cabin or the ACA Camp grounds. They are also responsible for paying the ACA daily fees at the pavilion.
7. While at Lake Sebago, remember that you are representing the club. Any Sebago members and guests using the camp must abide by all ACA Camp rules.

### Boat Storage at Brooklyn Clubhouse:

1. Boat storage is not included in your membership dues. Boat storage is dependent upon availability and the suitability of the boat for use at our facility.
2. Sailboats for storage at the club must meet the approval of the Sailing Chair.
3. For the first boat stored inside there is a storage fee of \$90. For the second boat inside the fee is an additional \$120 and for the third boat inside the fee is an additional \$150. Outside boat storage on a rack or on the ground is \$60 for each boat. A boat on a trailer (if permitted) is \$90.
4. No boats may be brought onto the grounds without arrangements with the boat storage coordinator and appropriate activity chair. Payment must be made for all storage BEFORE boat is brought to the Club.
5. Contact [boats@sebagocanoclub.org](mailto:boats@sebagocanoclub.org) for questions about boat storage.

## LAKE SEBAGO

### ACA Camp at Lake Sebago and Sebago Canoe Club Cabin - New Fees and Rules for 2016

As a member of Sebago Canoe Club (and the American Canoe Association), you have access to the American Canoe Association's lovely private camp on the shores of Lake Sebago, in Harriman State Park. The ACA camp is a great place to paddle, and people from all over the metro area come to spend a few hours, paddle, go hiking, take a swim, and go home again or possibly stay overnight.

All members of our Brooklyn club are encouraged to join the ACA and ACA membership is required if you wish to visit the camp or you must be a guest of an ACA member. You can receive a discounted rate as a member of a Paddle America Club (PAC). You will pay \$30 for an individual (\$40 for a family) when you become an ACA member and note that you are a member of Sebago. When you receive your ACA card, you get all the benefits of membership in that nationwide organization, including use of the ACA camp. Visit [americancanoe.org](http://americancanoe.org) to purchase or renew your membership.

To get to the camp, take the New York State Thruway north to Exit 15A, Sloatsburg/Suffern. Take Route 17 north to Seven Lakes Drive. Turn right and go exactly 3.2 miles. After you have passed the entrance to Harriman State Park, the ACA camp will be down the first road on your left. The sign says SB2: ADK and Nawakwa. If you are on Seven Lakes Drive and you see the lake on your left, you have passed the entrance to the camp

You MUST SIGN IN and PAY ACA CAMP FEES at the Pavilion at the top of the hill each and every day you are there. NO PETS of any kind are allowed in the ACA camp.

There is a day usage fee at the camp: \$10 for each adult and \$5 for each child, up to a maximum of \$20 per family. These are the fees for ACA members. If you bring a guest with you, and s/he is not an ACA member, even if s/he is a Sebago member the fees are \$15 for an adult and \$5 for a child. Why more? The additional fee is for insurance while your guest is in the camp itself or on the water.

If your guest is going to come with you several times in a season, you may decide to purchase ACA membership for them instead of paying the higher non-member fees. An individual membership costs \$40, and a family can join for \$60. You can find information at [americancanoe.org](http://americancanoe.org), at the Pavilion, or from the camp director, Linda Peterson, in cabin C-25 up the hill.

If you find yourself at the camp frequently, you may purchase a season pass instead of paying every day you visit. It costs \$65 for an adult, \$50 for a senior (over 65), \$30 for a child (under 18), or \$150 for a family, and is good from May 1 through October 15. You can get an application at the Pavilion, from the camp director, or you can download one at: [aca-atlanticdivisionblog.com/aca-camp-at-lake-sebago/season-pass/](http://aca-atlanticdivisionblog.com/aca-camp-at-lake-sebago/season-pass/). Remember, you must still sign in to the camp every day, even if you have a season pass.

If you plan to spend the night at the lake, you have several options. Like some other area clubs, Sebago Canoe Club has its own cabin, and you can have the key if you are a senior member. You can still use the cabin as a conditional member, but you must be there overnight with a senior member. You must make a reservation to spend the night at the club's cabin. This is to ensure that there is room for you, as there are sometimes classes at the lake that take up all six beds! (See below for additional rules on Sebago cabin reservations \*)

There are three bedrooms: two rooms with two twin beds each and one room with a queen-size bed, plus there is a single bed in the main room. You should bring all bedding with you, as none is provided except a mattress. There is a refrigerator, a stove and oven, a microwave and electricity, but no running water in the cabin. Toilets and showers are available in a camp facility that is close by.

Fees for using the Sebago Canoe Club cabin overnight are \$10 per person for Sebago members, with a maximum per family of \$20 each night. Non-members pay \$10 per day whether they are sleeping in the cabin or just using it for the day, with a maximum per family of \$25 each day/night. A family consists of 2 adults and 2 children under 18 years of age. Non-Sebago members are required to pay a \$10 equipment usage fee per person. You must pay your fees in the box in the cabin, using the envelopes provided.

Remember to SIGN IN at the CABIN, noting your dates of arrival and departure. The fees and sign-in are IN ADDITION to fees and sign-in for the ACA CAMP. You MUST PAY your ACA CAMP day usage fee separately from your payment for using the CABIN. We cannot do it for you.

If the cabin is full, or if you are interested in having your own space, the ACA camp has several facilities that can be rented for a night, a weekend or a few weeks. These include four rental cabins and a tent site. Complete information on what is available and how to reserve can be found at [aca-atlanticdivisionblog.com/aca-rental-cabins-at-lake-sebago](http://aca-atlanticdivisionblog.com/aca-rental-cabins-at-lake-sebago). Make reservations as early as possible. There are also several motels in the area.

Whether you visit for a day or a week, take advantage of your access to Lake Sebago. It is an incredible resource, just one hour away from the city. You will meet people from all over the world who have lots in common with you: paddling and love of the outdoors. The camp has been around since the Great Depression, and many families have been paddling and roughing it there for generations. Visitors often say they feel like they are in the Adirondacks when they are there.

If you have any questions, if you are a senior member and you would like a key to the cabin, or if you want to make reservations, please contact the cabin steward, Linda Peterson, at [surenoproblem27@yahoo.com](mailto:surenoproblem27@yahoo.com)

\* Sebago Cabin Reservation Rules:

- No one can reserve the cabin exclusively for their group. You have to be ready to share with anyone who may show up.
- You may not make a reservation any earlier than April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- You may reserve a bed in advance, but you may not reserve a bed for more than three weekends during the current season with only one of those weekends being a major holiday weekend (Memorial Day, Labor Day, Fourth of July weekend); nor can you reserve for more than three non-weekend weeks in that season. A weekend is defined as Friday at 5:00 pm until Sunday at 5:00 pm or any part thereof. A non-weekend week is defined as Monday at noon until Friday at noon, or any part thereof. Payment is required at the time the advanced reservation is made. You may use PayPal to pay for your cabin stay.
- For more spur-of-the-moment plans, members may reserve a bed for the following weekend starting the previous weekend unless that space is already reserved. Members may reserve a bed for the following non-weekend week starting the previous Monday unless that space is already reserved. All reservations must be cancelled before 5:00 pm on the Thursday of the reservation or else you will be billed for the unused beds. This is to ensure that the cabin is used to full occupancy whenever possible.

- No member, including those with approved cabin reservations, can deny reasonable use of cabin facilities to other members and their guests. This includes the living room and kitchen areas, refrigerator and freezer space, cooking facilities and outdoor area. All cooking activities are to be conducted in a timely manner to accommodate any other members who may wish to use the cabin facilities including cooking, kitchen, and refrigerator. All lights and sound must be lowered after 10 pm by request of any member who is also residing in the cabin.
- All users of the cabin are expected to follow reasonable standards of behavior as arrived at by common consent of the other residents at that time. The Cabin Steward may be appealed to for help if conflicts arise.
- Exceptions to these rules are allowed at the sole discretion of the Cabin Steward on an individual basis as per reasonable requirements reviewable by the Sebago Board of Directors. Violations of any of these rules may result in termination of your cabin privileges by the Cabin Stewart, as reviewable by the Sebago Board. Paid fees will not be refunded pending Board review.