**2018 Mountaineers Sea Kayak Summit**

**Saturday, February 10, 2018 | 9am-4pm**

**Tacoma Program Center**

**MORNING Session – Current Issues for Mountaineers Sea Kayaking**

Introductions / Overview 9-9:30am

1. Olympia Welcome, Introductions, Agenda overview
2. Sara Ramsay introduction and Program Center update:  
   [Sara has PC support responsibilities that include Sea Kayaking. She will explain her new role as well as Club initiatives of interest to the summit.]

Old Business - No old business topics (from previous summits) are on this year’s agenda.

New Topics 9:30am-12pm

1. Incident Management course minimum standards/standardization - Discussion: 45 minutes
   * Last year, Olympia & Tacoma branches offered to draft a curriculum and propose it to the group.  Discuss whether minimum standards are desired, if so propose required content.
2. Intermediate Leadership - Discussion: 30 minutes  
   OUTCOMES:
   * Based on recommendations from last year's summit, Tacoma is working to establish a separate leader badge for SK 4 & 5 trips.  Tacoma is piloting and can give an update.
   * Is a separate leader badge for SK 4&5 trips desirable club-wide?
3. Trip Leadership: 45 minutes
   * Last year's summit agreed we should discuss progress on Leader training and requirements at the upcoming summit.  Tacoma has developed Leader course materials.  Larger topic is supporting and developing leaders. Seattle (Tom Unger) – is working on way to help address leader requests for improvement. Focus would be on skill building, not a badge.
   * Discussion: What are we seeking in leader development? Tech skills vs group management skills?
4. Leader 1st Aid Training: 30 minutes
   * Requirement or recommendation?  Should we add a 1st aid requirement for leaders? Should we facilitate 1st aid training opportunities for leaders?

**LUNCH 12-1pm – Opportunity to socialize, continue discussions, break.**

**AFTERNOON** – **the** **Future of Mountaineers Sea Kayaking 1-4pm**

1. Developing a Vision for an improved and growing program - Discussion: 90 minutes

* Progressive Education potential: Sara to explain possible club investment opportunities
* What is required to make this program grow to meet the expectations of a growing membership?
* What community are we trying to create? High level or all levels?
* What is our focus? An advanced community of skilled paddlers or plenty of easy beginner paddles?
* Accelerating Leader Development
* Improving retention of course participants

1. Growing the Program: are we unnecessarily impeding member participation?  - Discussion: 90 minutes  
     
   Some Mountaineer activities have tended to add more and more requirements for equipment, training, courses, etc in the interest of safety, but excessive requirements can discourage participation. Also, while SK has fewer training requirements, our activity typically requires significant equipment purchases to even begin. To be more welcoming to potential new paddlers, can we relax some requirements on some activities? For example, many leaders routinely require dry suits and full length kayaks even on easy warm summer days.]

* Increasing listed trips: [Tacoma is focusing on getting more trips listed. What are the impediments and how can we all increase our offerings?]
* Facilitating Equivalency – [These are people who want to paddle with us and typically have higher skills than Basic Course students.]
  + - Seattle experiment with an accelerated "bootcamp" summer courses;
    - "mentor to equivalency" for people with significant prior experience but lacking some necessary skills/knowledge;

Extra topics: (if additional time)

1. Safety incidents
2. Intermediate Course progress and challenges