Tacoma 2017 starting point

**Incident Management course minimum standard**

At the last summit, we discussed sharing of IM course outlines with the possibility of integrating this into the SK Minimum Standard. Attached is a proposed starting point from Tacoma SK Committee. Any specific questions should be directed to Michael Everett.

First is listed a course outline. Secondly is the abbreviated text that might fit into the SK Minimum Standard, already in minimum standard format.

Outline

Incident management outline. Clinic should be at least a full day on-water. Recommend at least 4 hours additional discussion. May be combined with other clinics in a multi-day presentation. Tacoma adds tidal currents with IM.

Off-water discussion and on-water practice.

Incident avoidance better than incident management. This should be stressed.

Planning (trip planning clinic or similar)

Training; recommend clinics to improve paddling abilities in different situations.

Equipment and suit, keep in working condition.

Packing (so you can reach what you need on water without going into large hatches). Clean back decks so tow lines don’t get caught.

Paddling (Follow CLAP acronym; Communication, maintain Line of sight, Avoid dangerous situations, Position yourself for maximum usefulness). Stay in a group. Don’t take chances with bad consequences.

Risk assessment plot discussion (water, land, equipment, group, weather).

Incident management; SAFER acronym (Stop, Assess the situation, Formulate a plan, Execute the plan, Reassess the situation).

Don’t paddle where you aren’t comfortable swimming or performing a rescue.

Most common incidents, and how to manage them

Examples of common problems; Seasickness, cuts, dehydration, “shore-break” requirement, hypothermia, hypoglycemia, broken rudder, lost hatch cover, drysuit seal tears, sunburn, stuck skeg, broken footpeg, leg pain (sciatica), broken back band, punctured boat, etc.

Towing discussion and on-water practice; Contact tows, short tows, long tows, toggle tows (swimmer), back deck carries (swimmer), never tow in surf.

VHF Radio use. Covers weather channels, may-day, pan-pan, securite’, and vessel traffic system communication.

Rescues (on water)

Self-rescues (paddle float, re-enter and roll, scramble, +/- sling with paddle float)

Assisted rescues (seal launch to back deck, heal hook, bow/stern presentation (Eskimo rescue), paddle across two boats, paddler between two boats, scoop, hand of god)

Appropriate kit for different conditions (first aid, signaling, clothing, repair).