

**PARKS AND WATERFRONT COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 7:00 P.M., Live Oak Community Ctr, Fireside Room

**Minutes – Final**

The Commissions may discuss any items listed on the agenda, but may take action only on items identified as Action.

1. **Call to Order** (Chair).
2. **Roll Call** (Secretary). Present: Avellar; Diehm; Hurtado; Lee; Kawczynska; Ranuzzi; Wozniak; Absent: Abshez; Cox.
3. **Land Acknowledgement:** The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley's residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.
4. **Action: Approval of Agenda** (Chair). (M/S/C: Kawczynska/Wozniak/U): Ayes: Avellar; Diehm; Hurtado; Lee; Kawczynska; Ranuzzi; Wozniak; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez; Cox.
5. **Action: Approval of Minutes** for September 13, 2023 (Chair).\* (M/S/C: Kawczynska/Diehm/U): Ayes: Avellar; Diehm; Hurtado; Lee; Kawczynska; Ranuzzi; Wozniak; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez; Cox.
6. **Public Comment.** Bay Area Kayak Polo Club: Sam Reifsnyder, Alicia Pozos, Lorelai, Alberto Godoy, Marcos F, Alex Izmailou, Peter Hargreaves, Oscar Megorady; b) Tony Wright, Parking & Safety; Jim McGrath, Waterfront Plan, c) Lori Hines, Community & Pollinator garden.
7. **Chair's Report.** Ribbon-cutting at Aquatic Park Boat Club (Kawczynska); Sept 23 Open House for Draft WSP (Kawczynska); ribbon-cutting at Ohlone Park Playground (Diehm); final Movie-in-the-Park (Wings of Life) at Shorebird Nature Center (Diehm); Shoreline Coastal Cleanup with 700-1000 people (Wozniak); Lack of public trash cans in District 3 (Ranuzzi); Issue of electric bikes in San Pablo Park and grass (Avellar).
8. **Director's Report** (Ferris): PRW Divisions: Recreation; Parks; Waterfront; Capital; Budget. Update was provided.
9. **Discussion: Update on the Public Arts Project at Aquatic Park** (Cox). Update was provided by C. Kawczynska.
10. **Discussion/Action: Possible Parks Tax Increase Ballot Measure** (Wozniak). Discussion was held. Public comment: a) Jim McGrath; b) Kelly Hammargren.

- 11. Discussion/Action: Proposed Ohlone Greenway Improvement Project**  
(Ferris).\*\* Update was provided. It was M/S/C to send a note of support to Council (Kawczynska/Diehm/C): Ayes: Avellar; Diehm; Hurtado; Kawczynska; Lee; Ranuzzi; Wozniak; Noes: None; Abstain: Lee; Absent: Abshez; Cox.
- 12. Discussion/Action: Feedback on Draft Waterfront Specific Plan**  
(Diehm/Kawczynska).\* Discussion was held. Public comment: Gordon Stout. It was M/S/C to appoint the following 4 speakers for the November 2, 2023 Council Special Meeting discussion of the draft Waterfront Specific Plan (Abshez, Diehm, Kawczynska). Ayes: Avellar; Diehm; Hurtado; Kawczynska; Lee; Ranuzzi; Wozniak; Noes: None; Absent: Abshez; Cox.
- 13. Discussion/Action: Update on the Waterfront Specific Plan (WSP) process**  
(Ferris/ Abshez). See link at <https://berkeleyca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/WSP-DRAFT-2023-09-22.pdf>. Update was provided by Ferris.
- 14. Information: Recent Council Reports.\***
- 15. Future Agenda Items:** Inclusionary Playgrounds (Cox); Public Art (Lavvorn); Priorities for parks capital projects FY2023-24; PRW Commission Workplan 2023; Parks Development Fee; Citywide Accessibility Plan; Berth Fee Waivers for community service organizations; Locations for Dog Parks
- 16. Communications.** Memo to Council re: PRW Comm subcommittee re: WSP, 9/19/2023 (Kawczynska); Ltr to Council re: Taplin Item for San Pablo Park Pool funding to State, 09/13//2023.
- 17. Next PRW Commission meeting:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023 (in-person).
- 18. Adjournment:** 10:06pm.

- \* document is attached to agenda packet and on the commission website.  
\*\* document will be provided at the meeting.

- Commissioners in attendance: 7 of 9 appointed.
- Public in attendance: 22
- Public speakers: 14

Approved minutes submitted by:




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Roger Miller, Secretary, Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

## Case for an Increase in the Parks Maintenance Tax

In 1997, voters approved the current version of the Park Maintenance and Landscaping Tax. Because of prior budgeting practices, the Parks Tax did not cover the 3 parks West of I-80, all located in the Waterfront (Cesar Chavez, Shorebird and Horseshoe). The three Waterfront parks comprise 40% of the total City Park acreage of 250 acres, but are funded separately by the much smaller Marina Fund. Currently, the funding per acre for Waterfront parks is 10% of other City parks.

Over the next 17 years, due to costs rising faster than revenues, parks staff positions were cut. In addition, the shortage of funding for minor and major maintenance led to deteriorating playground equipment and other facilities.

In 2014, voters overwhelmingly approved a Parks Tax increase of 17%, which allowed the addition of staff positions that were previously cut, increased the minor maintenance funding to \$0.45M/yr and tripled the major maintenance/capital funding to \$1 million/yr. However, the City parks West of I-80 were still covered by the Marina Fund, which did not have a cost escalator to keep up with inflation.

### THE BENEFITS OF AN INCREASE IN THE PARKS TAX

#### **A. Unfunded Capital Liabilities and Grant Funding**

In 2016, Measure T1 was approved by the voters generated a one-time allocation of \$100 million to fix existing City infrastructure, including parks. With the completion of the T1 bond program and the failure of the recent Measure L infrastructure bond, this Golden Era for our parks and open space is dying. The annual \$1M of the Parks Tax reserved for capital funding is insufficient to address the \$60M in unfunded park capital needs. Although there are several upcoming state and federal grant funding opportunities, the Parks Department does not have the capital resources to raise the required matching funds that these grants require.

#### **B. Urban Forest**

A healthy urban forest can help mitigate Climate Change by cooling urban spaces and mitigating the Heat Island Effect. While a small portion of Berkeley has tree

coverage greater than 40%, many areas, such as in West and South Berkeley, the tree coverage is less than 10% coverage. Much of Berkeley's urban forest consist of non-native trees, which are often not a suitable habitat for the native insects that birds feed on. A more biodiverse urban forest would help the insect species to thrive and native birds that feed on them.

In Berkeley, tree planting relies mainly on grant funding and volunteerism. Currently, the City is barely able to replace dead or storm-damaged trees and is making little progress in filling the 10,000 empty spaces for trees in its parks and in the public right-of-way. Additional funding is needed to create a biodiverse tree canopy throughout Berkeley and to provide matching funds for grants.

### **C. Consolidation of ALL City Parks into the Parks Tax**

For the last decade, the Marina Fund has struggled to maintain its surface and water infrastructure. With the collapse of the hospitality industry during the Covid Pandemic, a significant portion of the Marina Fund revenue disappeared and is only slowly recovering. In addition, there is \$146M in unfunded Waterfront capital needs, leaving almost no funding to address the needs of the 40% of Berkeley Parks, those West of I-80.

### **D. Leverage of Taxpayer Dollars Through Grants**

The Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department is applying for a dozen State and Federal grants that require matching funds of 12% to 50%. Obtaining such grants provides leverage of taxpayers' monies of 7/1 to 1/1.

Due to the lack of matching funds, the City is often unable to apply for large grants or must scale down its projects to fit the matching funds available. In addition, for grants with a minimal match requirement, the City is at a disadvantage compared to cities that can provide a higher percentage match, which leverages the granting agency funds.

### **Recommendation**

To address the above problems associated with the current Parks Tax, the Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission recommends that the Parks Tax be increased by ~20% or ~4ct/SF. This increase would provide ~3.5M annually, which will be used to double capital funding, increase minor/major maintenance

funding, grant matching, tree planting, and adequately maintain the Waterfront Parks.

For the average home size of 2,000 SF, an increase of ~4cts/SF would cost the average homeowner ~\$80/yr.

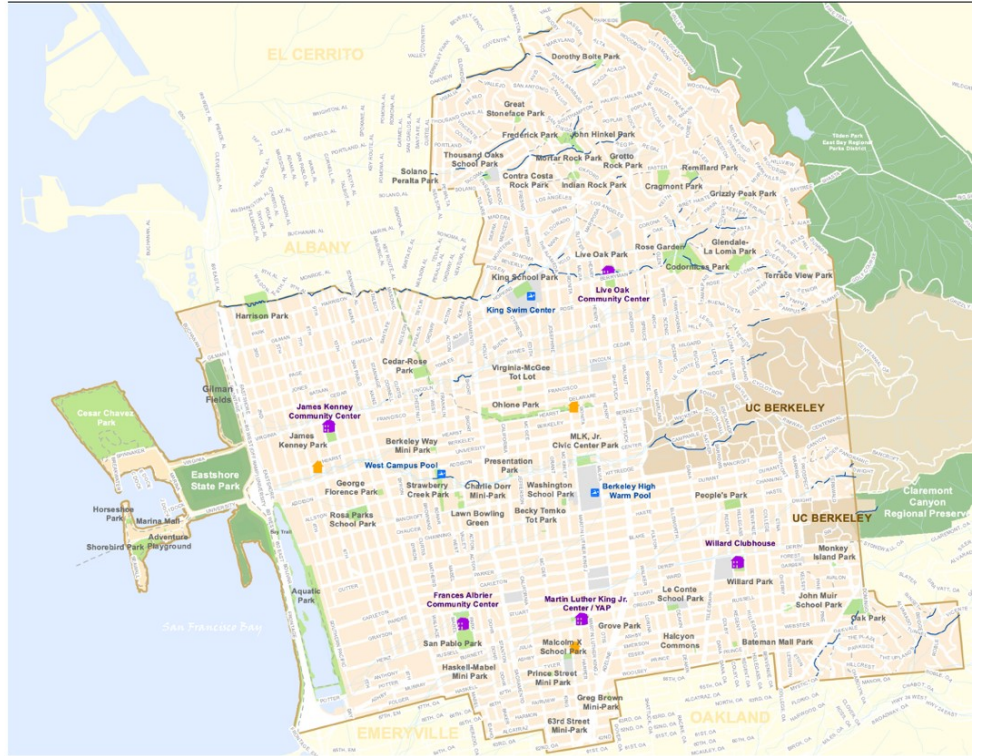
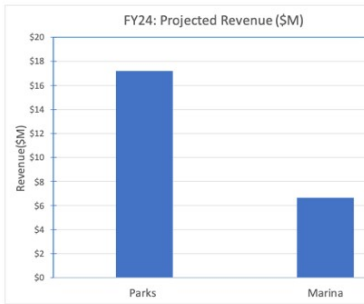
### Berkeley Parks

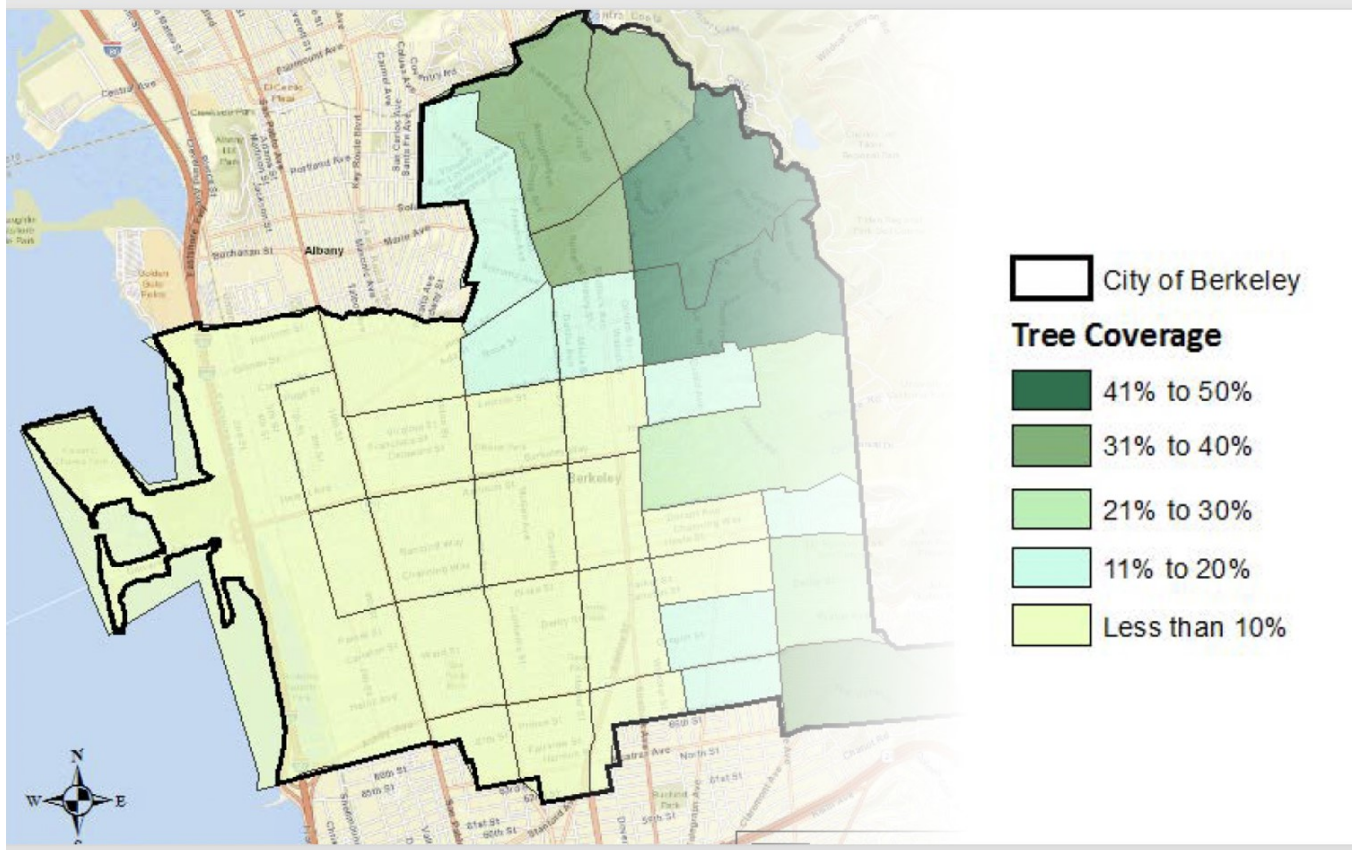
East of I80

50 parks -> 150 acres

West of I80

3 parks -> 100 acres





## Dreamland and high tide at CCP



| 2023 PRW/PW Grant Applications                 |              |                                    |             |                                          |              |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Grant Title                                    | Source/ Type | Match Required                     | Deadline    | Project                                  | Amount       |
| Clean California                               | State        | 50%- T1/Parks Tax                  | Submitted   | Tom Bates Sports Complex                 | \$2.65M      |
| USDA Urban and Community Forestry (IRA)        | Federal      | 50%- Grants/ Parks Tax             | Submitted   | Inventory, Masterplan, Tree Planting and | \$3.736M     |
| State Coastal Conservancy (SSC)                | State        | Undetermined                       | TBA         | Marina Blvd Bay Trail/SLR/ Habitat       | \$504K       |
| Clean Off-Road Equipment Vocher Project (CORE) | State        | \$21K Parks Tax                    | No deadline | Purchase of eMower                       | \$68K        |
| PROTECT Discretionary                          | Federal      | 12%- \$66K Parks Tax               | Submitted   | University Avenue SLR                    | \$560K       |
| PROTECT Discretionary                          | Federal      | 12% - \$62K Storm Water Fund       | Submitted   | Aquatic Park Tide Tube Slewing           | \$540K       |
| Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)          | Federal      | 50%-\$1.5M Storm Water Fund        | 8/30/23     | Aquatic Park Storm Drains                | \$1.5M       |
| Community Resilience Centers Program (CRC)     | State        | No Match Required                  | 9/18/23     | MLK Jr Youth Services Center             | \$3.5M       |
| Community Resilience Centers Program (CRC)     | State        | No Match Required                  | 9/18/23     | South Berkeley Senior Center             | \$3.8-6.8M   |
| RCN- Reconnecting Communities (NAE)            | Federal      | 20% - \$5M state Grant             | 9/28/23     | Santa Fe ROW Rail to Park                | \$5.5M       |
| RCN- Reconnecting Communities (RCP)            | Federal      | 50% - \$5.5M State Grant/Parks Tax | 9/28/23     | Santa Fe ROW Rail to Park                | \$5.5M       |
| Outdoor Equity Grant                           | State        | No Match Required                  | 12/14/23    | Camps and Waterfront Programs            | Up to \$750K |
| Outdoor Legacy Grant                           | State        | NA                                 | TBD         | Santa Fe ROW Rail to Park                | \$5.5M       |

## COMMUNICATION

DATE: October 11, 2023  
TO: Honorable Mayor and Berkeley City Councilmembers  
FROM: Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Commission (PRW)  
RE: Edits and Addendum to the PRW's "Report & Recommendations" Regarding the Berkeley Waterfront Area Specific Plan (WSP)

We write to reaffirm the "MEMO & RECOMMENDATIONS" that were unanimously approved by the Commission on September 13, 2023 and submitted to City Council as a Communication for Council's regular meeting on September 19, 2023. We also submit edits to the aforementioned "MEMO & RECOMMENDATIONS" that were approved by the Commission on October 11, 2023. These changes are few but substantive, and outlined below. (See PART 1.) In addition, we offer feedback to share on the Draft WSP that was released on September 22, 2023. (See PART 2.) We would like to recognize all the work staff and the consultants have done to bring the draft report before you on November 2, 2023. The items below outline our concerns and requests for further action.

### PART 1: EDITS to "MEMO & RECOMMENDATIONS"

The majority of the edits were made to address the recommendation for a Master Plan to be conducted during the WSP process that appeared in our "Memo & Recommendations" communication. But it was then decided by the PRW commission on 10/11/23 that it would be better to wait until the completion of the Waterfront Specific Plan to undertake a Conceptual Plan specifically for Cesar Chavez Park. Those changed texts are detailed below:

In the Table of Content section IV, **Original text:** "A Comprehensive Master Plan and Landscape Plan for Cesar Chavez Park should be included in the Specific Plan"

**Changed text:** "A Future Conceptual Plan and Landscape Plan for Cesar Chavez Park should be completed in the near future."

Page 4, IV, **Original text:** "A Comprehensive Master Plan and Landscape Plan for Cesar Chavez Park should be included in the Specific Plan."

**Changed text:** "A Future Conceptual Plan and Landscape Plan for Cesar Chavez Park should be completed in the near future."

Page 5 A, **Original text:** "Accordingly, the Specific Plan should include a comprehensive Master Plan, including a Landscape Plan...and the number of sheltered areas."

**Changed text:** "Accordingly, a Conceptual Plan for the Park, including a Landscape Plan that will increase the Park's biodiversity, scenic attraction, and the number of sheltered areas, should be completed in the near future. ...and programs should be included in the future Plan."



Page 5 Section C, **Original text:** "...areas should be a key design principle of the Park Master Plan and Landscape Plan."

**Changed text:** "...areas should be a key design principle of the future Conceptual and Landscape Plan."

Page 6 Section F, **Original text:** "These concepts should be reevaluated as part of a Master Plan for the Park."

**Changed text:** "These concepts should be reevaluated as part of a future Conceptual Plan for the Park."

**Original text:** "The Master Plan for the Park should also facilitate uses and amenities (including temporary and pop-up uses and amenities) in, or proximate to the Park..."

**Changed text:** "A Plan for the Park should facilitate uses and amenities (including temporary and pop-up uses and amenities) proximate to the Park ..."

Page 9 Section IX, **Original text:** "The Specific Plan (including the recommended Master Plan for Cesar Chavez Park) should become the primary land use regulatory document and 'zoning' for the Waterfront Area."

**Changed text:** "The Specific Plan should become the primary land use regulatory document and 'zoning' for the Waterfront Area."

## **PART 2: ADDENDUM to "MEMO & RECOMMENDATIONS"**

### **PROCESS**

1. **Ensure Public is Informed and Included in the EIR Process.** We request that a detailed description of the upcoming steps of the EIR be posted to the city's website, including how and where the public can provide questions and input on the initial Scoping Process.
2. **Add Critical Data on Pier/Ferry and 199 Seawall Dr.** During the WSP public process both the pier/ferry and 199 Seawall Dr. projects were not allowed to be discussed. Critical economic data for the WETA ferry, including economic feasibility studies, were not discussed, aren't included in the draft plan, and should be added. This includes how a ferry might impact the economic, environmental and recreational use of the Waterfront. In addition, development at 199 Seawall Dr. (the former Hs Lordships) has not been brought forward for public review.
3. **New Uses that Significantly Increase Marina Activity Must Lead with a Viable Parking Plan.** As a planning document for a regional recreational resource involving diverse specialized activities, the WSP must recognize that access for most recreational users requires parking, and will continue to require parking into the foreseeable future. Any new use that compromises low-cost all-day parking must be evaluated in terms of reduced access to recreational resources, particularly water-related activities which form the core unique public value of the waterfront.

## CONTENT

The commission requests that additional information be added to the pending WSP Draft document on the following topics:

1. **Diversity Representation.** Describe the current richness of diversity representation at the Waterfront and provide specific ideas how to increase it, a key goal of the planning process.
2. **Document the Value of Existing Non-Profit Groups.** Add detailed descriptions and baseline data on existing non-profit groups that serve the south side, including Cal Sailing, Cal Adventures, Dragon Boats, Pegasus Voyages, Open Water Swim Clubs and other nonprofit recreational groups; include services provided and number of people served (for the members and general public).
3. **Evaluate the Economic Value of and Goals to Support Shoreline Fishing.** The Waterfront has historically served a diverse population of fishers, providing sustenance and economic benefit. Shoreline fishing is estimated to bring a total consumer surplus in the millions of dollars and is a valued water sport.
4. **Ensure Transparency on Events and Concerts in Cesar Chavez Park.** If large scale events and concerts are still being considered at Cesar Chavez Park, we would like to be able to review detailed information about the permit process and fee structure; document the process for evaluating possible impacts to the environment, thresholds and criteria used, including potential noise and light pollution, and how these impacts will be anticipated and mitigated. It is suggested that notification of pending large scale events and concerts be reviewed by the PRW commission and other relevant commissions, during a publicly-noticed meeting, in advance of an approval.
5. **Document Biological Resources and Plan to Align with California's 30x30 and Biodiversity Initiatives.** Enhance the document with species list from eBird, iNaturalist, or equivalent source; acknowledge biodiversity declines and solutions; provide suggestions how to support example selected species, including threatened, resident and migratory; shift the narrative away from non-native ("adaptive") species and set minimum goals for native species vegetation by location.
6. **Utilize Latest Science to Reduce Light Pollution.** Add lighting guidelines as outlined by recognized leaders on minimizing light pollution such as the [International Dark-Sky Association](#), to ensure environmental stewardship and no net gains in light pollution.
7. **Ensure PRW Commission's Advisory Role.** The Commission's "listening session" on 7/13/22 (200 attendees) was an important vehicle for the public to express their concerns about process and proposed vision for Cesar Chavez Park. We request that the Commission be actively engaged and asked to be part of the EIR Process.
8. **Expand on Visions for Seawall Drive.** The draft plan doesn't detail potential developments along Seawall Drive. Add a more comprehensive description of the options, including increased opportunities for fishing and other water- and land-based activities.

9. **Describe the Input and Involvement of Indigenous Peoples.** Identify potential reparative and restorative actions at the Waterfront, in support of the Resolution adopted by the City Council on October 11, 2022, the “Land Acknowledgement Recognizing Berkeley as the Ancestral Unceded Home of the Ohlone People.”
10. **Expand Inclusion of Public Art.** The Waterfront provides many locations that can provide opportunities, including possible promenades, that make it an ideal setting for art installations that are inspirational and educational, and address environmental issues. Smartly curated public art that does not impose on the natural surroundings, could also be a major attraction for locals and tourists alike and could include modest-sized performances and art festivals—fulfilling another goal of the WSP.

# Bay Area Kayak Polo Club

## Application for Berth Fee Waiver

by Bay Area Kayak Polo Club (BAKPC)

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To Whom It May Concern,

We the Bay Area Kayak Polo Club (BAKPC), would like to request a berth fee waiver in return to providing community service at the Berkeley Marina. Please find below the required information for the application of a berth fee waiver, as required by City Council Resolution 66,544 – N.S.

Please do not hesitate to ask questions should you have any.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Truly,

Sam Reifsnyder, BAKPC Member and Coach

Peter Hargreaves, BAKPC Member and Coach

Alexander Izmailov, BAKPC Member and Coach

# Applicant Information

## Mission Statement

Our BAKPC association is committed to promote the sport of kayak polo here in the Bay Area. Being the only kayak discipline that incorporates teamwork, ball skills and strategy, kayak polo provides a unique way for people to get out and active while fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the beautiful waterfront environment the Bay Area has to offer. Our commitment is especially directed towards those who do not otherwise have access to watersports in the Bay or might not have the financial means to pursue such passion, including youth and under-represented communities.

## Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Statement

The BAKCP organization prioritizes among all other goals the inclusion of any member, regardless their nationality, religious affiliation, sexual preferences, gender identification and political opinions.

Members will not under any circumstances discriminate or harass other members on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, political opinion, pregnancy, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran.

Members who display attitude or behavior which go against the above mentioned BAKPC's stated philosophy of inclusion, will be unconditionally lifted from their membership.

### A) Name and Address of Organization

Bay Area Kayak Polo Club (BAKPC)

5364 Boyd Avenue

Oakland, CA, 94618 – 0000

Website: <https://www.bayareakayakpolo.com/>

### B) Name, address, and telephone number of person responsible for business affairs of the group

Samuel Reifsnyder

2890 Treat Blvd, Unit 44

Concord, CA, 94518

(949) 372-9945

[samreif@mac.com](mailto:samreif@mac.com)

### C) Type of Organization

The Bay Area Kayak Polo Club is a non-profit IRS 501(c)(3) educational and charitable organization committed to promoting the sport of kayak polo in the Bay Area and across the state of California.

**EIN: 21-5731455**

#### D) Number of members in organization

There are approximately 60 members of the Bay Area Kayak Polo Club. Our youth program comprises 25-30 members, depending on seasonal participation.

#### E) Level of participation of members

Our club has been a regular presence at the Berkeley marina since 2013. Most of our members consistently meet every Sunday morning at the Berkeley Marina between 10am and 2pm. Our more trained members will also train multiple times during the months preceding competitions. Our club fosters both recreational and competitive members. We also, provide seasonal training camps for beginners and our youth members. These typically take place during the weekends at the San Leandro High School pool and last for 6 weeks each season (total of 24 weeks).

Most of our members regularly volunteer their time to support our club and its initiatives. A few examples are the following:

- Coaching during our beginners and youth training camps
- Maintenance, repair and procurement of kayak polo boats and equipment (paddles, personal flotation devices, polo balls, polo net, etc.)
- Outreach events and initiatives

We take pride in having several of our top athletes be part of the USA Kayak Polo National Team. This past year we have had a total of 7 athletes partake in the 2022 World Games held in Alabama and in the 2022 Kayak Polo World Championships held in France, more than any other club in the country! Each of our more experienced athletes and members can boast more than 20 years of experience in the sport including other paddling disciplines.

#### F) Age-level of members of organization and/or participants

The age distribution of our members spans across a wide range. Our Youth Program currently held in the San Leandro Highschool Pool is quite successful, with over 25 kids ranging in ages between 9 to 17. Our more experienced members range from 16 to 65 years old.

#### G) Contribution to the community including hours of service (if applicable) and activities

During the 2022 calendar year our members volunteered over 200 hours towards community services for our seasonal youth training camps at the San Leandro High School Pool. Typically, between 20-30 kids and teens will participate at our training camps.

An additional 200 hours have been volunteered to help organize and host youth and senior tournaments such as our yearly Cup of the West Tournament, which attracts adult and youth teams from both the US and Canada. Last year our tournament attracted 12 teams of which 6 were youth. Each team averages 7 players.

The skills that we teach during our training camps do not stop at kayak polo but also carry onto other kayaking disciplines such as sea kayaking, whitewater, slalom, etc., which are also very popular in the Bay Area.

Below is an estimate of the value of our community service compared to value of berths.

| Service                                                | Quantity | Value per Unit<br>Quantity | Value of Service | Ratio of Community<br>Service |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Youth Training Camps, and<br>Youth Tournaments (hours) | 400      | \$ 50.00                   | \$ 20,000.00     | 4.2                           |
| Bay Area Kayak Polo Club<br>(berth feet per year)      | 40       | \$ 120.00                  | \$ 4,800.00      |                               |

### H) Reason and justification for request

To achieve our mission of promoting our sport of kayak polo here in the Bay Area we are asking for the permission to obtain a berth fee waiver for kayak and equipment storage. Since a few dockage areas in shallower water are currently empty we would like to propose the Berkeley Waterfront Commission with a win-win opportunity that would put to good use the currently underutilized docks for outreach and recreational water activities provided by our club.

We envision placing a roughly 25'x40' floating dock on the West side of the N dock for storing kayaks and gear, and for easy access to the water (see Figure 1). This storage dock would be mostly funded via our clubs' finances and crowd funding initiatives. As such, the City of Berkeley would not need to incur in significant overhead costs (limited mainly to the allocation of the proposed area).

This would greatly expand our ability for a more robust outreach, while creating a beneficial public service in our community. We realize that for people from under-served communities it can be challenging to haul their kayaks to the marina or for some to even buy a relatively expensive kayak and paddling equipment. By providing a small hub where club kayaks and gear are provided and can be stored for club members, we believe we can bring down these obstacles and reach out more effectively to a wider group of our under-served community.



Figure 1. Aerial view of the location for the proposed berth site on the West side of the N dock.

**I) Time period/duration for use of Marina (indefinite or specified period)**

A berth fee waiver is requested for the 2023 calendar year.

**J) Copy of bylaws (if any)**

Please See Appendix A.

**K) List of completed and planned community projects**

The following are the planned community projects for the year 2023:

- Youth Winter Session 2023 (100 volunteered hours)  
Our members will be volunteering to train our youth winter session.
- Cup of the West 2023 – April 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 20223 (200 hours)  
Our members will be volunteering in providing logistical support for the organization of this event. Free tryouts will be available to the public.
- Spring Youth Session 2023 (200 hours)  
Our members will be volunteering to train our youth Spring session.



- Summer Youth Session 2023 (200 hours)  
Our members will be volunteering in training our youth Summer session.
- Fall Youth Session 2023 (200 hours)  
Our members will be volunteering in training our youth Summer session.

Total hours: 900 hours.

Estimated value: \$45,000

## L) Financial statement

Please see Appendix B.

# Appendix A – BAKPC Bylaws

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*Drafted: 11/6/2018*

## ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of the organization is “Bay Area Kayak Polo Club”, also referred to as “Bay Area Kayak Polo”.

## ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

### **Section 1. Nonprofit Purpose**

This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

### **Section 2. Specific Purpose**

Bay Area Kayak Polo Club (BAKPC) provides opportunities for beginning kayakers of all ages to learn kayak polo. This includes but is not limited to:

- youth and adult classes
- pool sessions
- gear purchase and maintenance
- scholarships for travel and tournament entry

It also provides an organization structure for intermediate and advanced athletes to practice and compete. BAKPC occasionally hosts local tournaments and periodically hosts the Kayak Polo National Championships.

### **Section 3. Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Statement**

The BAKCP organization prioritizes among all other goals, the inclusion of any member, regardless their nationality, religious affiliation, sexual preferences, gender identification and political opinions.

Members will not under any circumstances discriminate other members on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, political opinion, pregnancy, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran.

Members who display attitude or behavior which go against the above mentioned BAKPC’s stated philosophy of inclusion, will be unconditionally lifted from their membership.

## ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

### **Section 1. Membership Eligibility**

Application for voting membership shall be open to any current resident of the Bay Area. Membership is granted after completion and receipt of a membership application and annual dues.

### **Section 2. Annual Dues**

The amount required for annual dues shall be \$50 each year, unless changed by a majority vote of the members at an annual meeting of the full membership. Continued membership is contingent upon being up-to-date on membership dues. Annual dues will be collected by the treasurer by January 1st of each year. A membership card will be issued and a list of members who are current on their dues will be also kept by the treasurer. Dues will go towards goal repair, maintenance and purchase of club gear, and club fees such as club ACA membership and Meetup.com fees.

### **Section 3. Rights of Members**

Each member shall be eligible to cast a vote in association elections.

### **Section 4. Resignation and Termination**

Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the secretary. Resignation shall not relieve a member of unpaid dues, or other charges previously accrued. A member can have their membership terminated by a majority vote of the membership.

## ARTICLE IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Section 1. General Powers**

The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have control of and be responsible for the management of the affairs and property of the Corporation.

### **Section 2. Number, Tenure, Requirements, and Qualifications**

The number of Directors shall be fixed from time-to-time by the Directors but shall consist of no less than two (2) nor more than five (5) including the following officers: the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

### **Section 3. Quorum**

The presence of an in person majority of current members of the Board of Directors shall be necessary at any meeting to constitute a quorum to transact business, but a lesser number shall have power to adjourn to a specified later date without notice. The act of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these by-laws.

## ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

The officers of this Board shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. All officers must have the status of active members of the Board.

### Section 1. President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership. The President shall have the following duties:

- a. He/She shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee.
- b. He/She shall have general and active management of the business of this Advisory Board.
- c. He/She shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Advisory Board are brought to the Advisory Board.
- d. He/She shall have general superintendence and direction of all other officers of this corporation and see that their duties are properly performed.
- e. He/She shall submit a report of the operations of the program for the fiscal year to the Advisory Board and members at their annual meetings, and from time to time, shall report to the Board all matters that may affect this program.
- f. He/She shall be an Ex-officio member of all standing committees and shall have the power and duties usually vested in the office of the President.

### Section 2. Secretary

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board, and all meetings of members, and assisted by a staff member, will act as a clerk thereof. The Secretary's duties shall consist of:

1. He/She shall record all votes and minutes of all proceedings in a book to be kept for that purpose. He/She in concert with the President shall make the arrangements for all meetings of the Advisory Board, including the annual meeting of the organization.
2. Assisted by a staff member, he/she shall send notices of all meetings to the members of the Advisory Board and shall take reservations for the meetings.

### Section 3. Treasurer

The Treasures duties shall be:

1. He/She shall submit for the Finance and Fund Development Committee approval of all expenditures of funds raised by the Board, proposed capital expenditures (equipment and furniture) , by the staff of the agency.
2. He/She shall present a complete and accurate report of the finances raised by this Board and at each meeting of the members, or at any other time upon request to the Board.
3. He/She shall have the right of inspection of the funds resting with the Bay Area Kayak Polo Club including budgets and subsequent audit reports.
4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to assist in direct audits of the funds of the program according to funding source guidelines and generally accepted accounting principles.

## **Section 5. Election of Officers**

Any member may nominate themselves or another member for a position on the Board. The election shall be held at the annual meeting of the Advisory Board. Those officers elected shall serve a term of two (2) years, commencing at the next meeting following the annual meeting.

## **Section 6. Removal of Officer**

The Advisory Board with the concurrence of 3/4 of the members voting at the meeting may remove any officer of the Board of Directors and elect a successor for the unexpired term. No officer of the Board of Directors shall be expelled without an opportunity to be heard and notice of such motion of expulsion shall be given to the member in writing twenty (20) days prior to the meeting at which motion shall be presented, setting forth the reasons of the Board for such expulsion.

## **Section 7. Vacancies**

The Nominating Committee shall also be responsible for nominating persons to fill vacancies which occur between annual meetings, including those of officers. Nominations shall be sent in writing to members of the Advisory Board at least two (2) weeks prior to the next meeting at which the election will be held. The persons so elected shall hold membership or office for the unexpired term in respect of which such vacancy occurred.

# ARTICLE VII. INDEMNIFICATION

## **Section 1. General**

To the full extent authorized under the laws of the California, the corporation shall indemnify any director, officer, employee, or agent, or former member, director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or any person who may have served at the corporation's request as a director or officer of another corporation (each of the foregoing members, directors, officers, employees, agents, and persons is referred to in this Article individually as an "indemnitee"), against expenses actually and necessarily incurred by such indemnitee in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding in which that indemnitee is made a party by reason of being or having been such member, director, officer, employee, or agent, except in relation to matters as to which that indemnitee shall have been adjudged in such action, suit, or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of a duty. The foregoing indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which an indemnitee may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, resolution of the Board of Directors, or otherwise.

## **Section 2. Expenses**

Expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit, or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit, or proceeding, if authorized by the Board of Directors, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the indemnitee to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such indemnitee is not entitled to be indemnified hereunder.

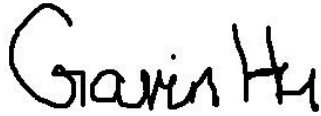
## **Section 3. Insurance**

The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a member, director, officer, employee, or agent against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power or obligation to indemnify such person against such liability under this Article.

In attendance:

Peter Hargreaves

*President*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gavin Hu". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Gavin Hu

*Secretary*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth Andrew Irvine". The signature is highly stylized and cursive.

Kenneth Andrew Irvine

*Treasurer*

# Appendix B – Financial Statement

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## 2022 Bay Area Kayak Polo Budget

| <b>Revenue</b>                                               | <b>Date</b> |                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| GoFundMe fundraiser                                          | 9/8         | \$2,589.69        |
| Pool fees collected from participants                        | 3/28        | \$3,275.00        |
| Cup of the West Registration fees                            | 4/12        | \$3,013.00        |
| <b>Revenue Subtotal</b>                                      |             | <b>\$8,877.69</b> |
| <br>                                                         |             |                   |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                              |             |                   |
| New nets for Berkeley goals                                  | 10/17       | \$158.90          |
| Purchased used polo boat for youth program (Lettmann Strike) | 7/18        | \$1,356.00        |
| Three replacement facemasks for club helmets                 | 7/5         | \$96.00           |
| Shoreline Venue Rental Fee for Cup of the West               | 4/12        | \$1,700.00        |
| Pool Rental for youth sessions                               | 4/1         | \$1,672.08        |
| Banner printed for Cup of the West Tournament                | 4/1         | \$142.08          |
| PVC for goal repair                                          | 3/31        | \$368.68          |
| ACA club membership renewal                                  | 1/24        | \$145.00          |
| Tax filing fees                                              | 1/6         | \$80.00           |
| Stickers and Medals for Cup of the West                      | 3/30        | \$95.62           |
| <b>Expenses Subtotal</b>                                     |             | <b>\$5,814.36</b> |

# Berkeley Marina Kayak Development Program Proposal

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## About us

Bay Area Kayak Polo Club (BAKPC – [Website](#))

We are a non-profit organization committed to promoting the sport of Kayak Polo here in the Bay Area. Our club is comprised of a several dozen members, all of whom bring a wide range of different social and cultural perspectives.



Kayak Polo, also known as Canoe Polo, is a dynamic, full-contact sport that combines elements of water polo, basketball, and kayaking. Kayak Polo is played by two teams of five players on a rectangular pitch that can be in open water or in a swimming pool. Matches are played over two halves of 10 minutes with the aim to score into a goal which is suspended above the water at each end of the pitch. Each player has in their own 10-foot-long kayak.

Kayak polo combines boating and ball handling skills with a contact team game, where tactics and positional play are as important as the speed and fitness of the individual athletes. The game requires excellent teamwork and promotes both general canoeing skills and a range of other techniques unique to the sport. The blades of a polo paddle have thick rounded edges to prevent injury. Paddles are also very lightweight and designed with both pulling power and ball control in mind. Nose and tail boat bumpers, body protection, helmets and faceguards are all compulsory.





Kayak polo develops **teamwork and life-long relationships and is a safe sport** that is good for core strength and balance. Kayak polo makes you a better paddler and it is FUN!

Our club consistently ranks among the top teams in North America. Several of the players that you may see playing while strolling along the Marina are regulars on the USA National Team.

The common thread linking us together is our passion for Kayak Polo!

Who can play? Anyone! Kayak Polo is a sport that is **played at all levels regardless of age, gender, and cultural/social background**. We are always looking forward to making new friends and growing our Kayak Polo community here in the Bay. In addition, we are actively trying to expand our youth program. There are only a few youth teams playing the sport in the United States and only one team in the Bay Area. We want to change that!



# Our Mission

## Equal Access to the Waterfront

Both of our associations are committed to promote the sport of kayaking here in the Bay Area, which we believe is a fun way to get people out and active while fostering a sense of appreciation for the beautiful waterfront environment the Bay Area has to offer.

As part of our credo, we believe that everyone should have **equal access to the various recreational water activities** the Bay provides.

Therefore, both of our clubs are committed to **share our enthusiasm, skills, and knowledge with the local community**, especially with those who do not otherwise have access to watersports in the Bay or might not have the financial means to pursue such passion, including **youth and under-represented communities**.

Whether kayaking is practiced for leisure or competition, it is **good for the soul, body, and the environment**: it improves **fitness, strength, and flexibility**; it can be **peaceful and meditative**, or very **exhilarating**; it is **socially enriching**; and it helps foster a **love for nature and strong conservation ethics**.



# Our Youth Program

Knowing well the positive impact that kayaking has had on our lives over the years, we recognize the importance behind developing a robust youth program, where kids from any background can come to **socialize and build lifelong friendships, while staying active and healthy.**

A fantastic way to get kids more involved in the various water sports offered by the Bay is to funnel their natural urge to play into a team water sport, such as Kayak Polo. Being a team sport, Kayak Polo offers a suite of values for a **balanced mindset** (in and outside of the water). Such values include **self-discipline**; **cooperation with a common goal**; **leadership and mentorship**; **effective communication**; and **gaining a sense of community.**

In our youth program kids can begin **as early as 9 years old.** Every year we organize spring and summer training sessions for local schools, where both new and experienced kids come together to have fun.



At the end of the training season, we organize a mini tournament, during which three to four teams play against each other. The tournament ends by giving out awards to the various teams and by presenting individual awards based on the skills demonstrated throughout the training season.

There is already a successful Youth Program in the San Leandro High School pool with **over 15 kids ranging in ages between 9 to 17.**

We have attached a few photos and some video links ([vid1](#), [vid2](#), [vid3](#) and [vid4](#)) for you to look at of the kids paddling there. One of the kids is only 8 years old.



In addition, either one to two times a year we will organize a larger international tournament with both adult and youth divisions. This represents a great opportunity for our youth teams to **compete and interact with other kids from other countries**. At the end of these tournaments, we organize a food party for all youth division teams. Here kids can interact and have fun outside of the competition.



One of our future goals will be to provide regular training sessions throughout the year. Thus, allowing for kids to spend more time in the water to further develop their paddling skills.

In addition, we currently are in the process of setting up several youth programs across the Bay Area, with the intent to support more youth teams, and thus increase the number of local tournaments during the year.

## Kayak Team to Compete in Polo Tournament in Texas

The East Bay Rhinos Youth Kayak Polo Program – the only youth kayak polo program in the United States – offers San Leandro middle school and high school students a safe and fun water sport.

And this October, three San Leandro youths will compete with adults from around the United States at the US Kayak Polo Nationals in Austin, Texas.

In 2017, Mr. Peter Hargreaves, music teacher at Bancroft Middle School and Washington Elementary School, began coaching a small group of San Leandro students in the fundamentals of kayak polo, including how to paddle, score a goal, and roll the

kayak. Since then, the program has expanded to include their first mini tournament, which was held this past July, and their first all-girls team, which launched earlier this month.

“Kayak polo has been my passion since my days at UCLA and I’m thrilled to share this experience with the next generation,” said Hargreaves. “We strive to make kayaking more accessible to students of diverse backgrounds in San Leandro, with the ultimate goal of expanding this program throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.”

The East Bay Rhinos Youth Kayak Polo Program currently offers three seasons per year with

all gear and instruction provided to students on a sliding scale. As a volunteer-run organization, the program is dependent on the

“Our vision is to get enough participants to form a league.

— Peter Hargreaves

generosity of local organizations, parents and other individual sponsors in order to run this program.

“Thanks to the generosity of donors, our program has been

subsidized to date, with no student turned away for lack of funds,” Hargreaves said.

The group’s priority at the moment is to expand the program to be able to form a league consisting of four all-girl teams and four all-boy teams (40 students in all) and is seeking donations to purchase additional gear to form a league.

“Our vision is to get enough participants to form a league and to provide kayak polo instruction year-round,” said Hargreaves. Currently, the program owns 16 sets of functional gear but will require 20 sets of gear to form a league. The program recently received a \$500 grant from



San Leandro non-profit Lou’s Dugout, which will be used to purchase additional gear.

If you know of a teen interested in learning how to play kayak polo, or simply want to learn more about this sport, visit <https://www.bayareakayakpolo.com/youth-classes> for a list of

upcoming classes, financial aid information and a video of our teens in action. Donations are accepted via Paypal at [paypal.me/bakpc](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/show?me=bakpc) or send a check payable to Bay Area Kayak Polo to Peter Hargreaves, c/o Bancroft Middle School, 1150 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577.

# Extending Beyond Our Borders

We take pride in having several of our top athletes be part of the USA Kayak Polo National Team. This year we have had a **total of 7 athletes** partake in the 2022 World Games held in Alabama and the 2022 Kayak Polo World Championships held in France, **more than any other club in the country**. Each of our more experienced athletes and members can boast more than 20 years of experience in the sport including other paddling disciplines.

Aside from a giving us a great sense of achievement, we believe more importantly that having a consistent presence on the international stage allows our athletes to get **exposed to the many cultures from foreign countries**.

Over the years many of our top athletes have cultivated strong **friendships with other kayakers from other countries**. These interactions foster a strong sentiment of **international belonging** that **transcends geographical borders** and stimulates an overall sense of **global citizenry**.



For these reasons, we deem that training our teen members to debut on the international stage represents a unique and life-changing opportunity for them to cultivate several of these important values.

With the sport being on track to become part of the Olympics soon, we think that by investing our resources in building a network of youth teams across the Bay we can serve as a **regional incubator for promising young athletes that will part of future National Teams**.

On the left: National Team coaches and BAKPC members Peter Hargreaves (#6) and Sam Reifsnnyder (#5) with Marco Forquet (#3) at his first 2022 World Championship in France.

# Testimonials

## Marcos Forquet

The Berkeley Kayak Polo Club has had a huge influence on my life for the better and continues to do so. I've been with this club from my youth (when I was 12). Now I am 21. It has been a safe place and a tight nit community where I can play a sport and have an outlet. I love this community and I know others do too.



## Lorelei Izmailov, (9 years old)



I love kayak polo! It's so much fun! You meet new freinds, play and at the same time exercise. Also you get to travel and play in tourne-ments. Kayak polo is a good sport to play. -Lori

### **Svetlana Platonova, (20+ years kayaking)**

With 20+ years of exploring kayaking I've tried it all. Polo is very appealing to me due to its uniqueness of being a team sport. Nothing builds up friendship as well as working together, winning, or losing as a team. Bay Area Kayak Polo club has welcomed me with unconditional support on and off the water when I've moved to the Bay Area, and 10 years later I'm still finding myself enjoying our weekly sessions, learning new skills, and meeting new people.



### **Mary Anne King, (20+ years kayaking)**

Kayak polo changed my life and showed me how much joy one can experience doing watersports. It combines teamwork, agility, speed, technical ability, personal training, and play with a special appreciation for our local water bodies (especially marinas). It is a wonderful way to introduce people to kayaking. The sport led me to amazing connections with the local, national and international paddling community, to playing on the USA national team, and to a foundation in paddling that I continue to be grateful for and build on. Much of what I now incorporate into my teaching and coaching as an American Canoe Association L3 sea kayaking instructor came from the mentorship and coaching I received, very generously, through kayak polo.



### **Alberto Godoy, (Rhino Youth Kayaker)**

Kayak Polo is a sport where I can be in the water. I made new friends because of Kayak Polo and now we are a great team that works together to improve and make each other better as a player and a person.





**Shane Washburn, (Parent)**

I have been lucky enough to be part of the Rhinos Kayak Polo team for about three years. The first couple of years my son was mentored into the sport by the generous coaches and team members. He learned new skills and self confidence in a new and unfamiliar sport. Seeing my son enjoy this sport and with the inviting team members I too have joined in playing with the Rhinos. The team has taught me new skills and encouraged me to join in a tournament they held called the Cup of the West. Even as an adult I learned new insights into teamwork and the power of international competition.

Kayak water polo is unfamiliar to the public and can level the playing field for new players. If spectators are unfamiliar with the sport new players are less intimidated. The best part is being able to enjoy the water in a kayak with a friendly inclusive group of people.

**Sergio Perez, (Parent)**

As a parent, I have been amazed by the unique skill set this sport provides. My son and all his teammates are having a blast.

I love that they are outdoors, powering in a kayak all while having tons of fun, smiling ear to ear.

I feel fortunate and grateful that the Rhinos are led by great coaches. Their dedication, patience, leadership, and passion are always on display. I cannot thank them enough. They deserve good things and storage space for the team would be such a gift as it is sorely needed.

I am proud of the Rhinos as a team and organization! I am deeply thankful to the Rhinos organization and strongly advocate for the city of Berkeley to assist them with storage. I believe this unique opportunity is something the city of Berkeley should do and more importantly will be proud of.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Sergio Perez, a proud Rhinos parent