

What is the Youth Forum?

The Youth Forum is a new initiative from Paddle UK, looking to engage with young people from across the paddling community, and wider sport space. The Youth Forum will make sure that diverse lived experiences are at the heart of our delivery as an organisation, and that the voices of young people are captured in our delivery.



You'll be able to get involved in topics and areas including:

- safeguarding and welfare
- volunteering
- accessibility and inclusion
- media and communications
- sustainability and environmental campaigns

Expressions of interest are now welcome until **11:59pm on Sunday 11th August 2024**, and you can apply online by following the link below.

What are Youth Forum members expected to do?

Youth Forum members can be in post for up to three years, and are invited to attend regular monthly meetings, which run for an hour each. However, each month we'll be looking at a different area, so you can make the decision about what areas of work you want to get involved with.



You will be asked to provide input and guidance on key areas of work, as well as working with your networks, friends and peers to gather the insights and opinions of other young people you know. As well as inputting into meetings, you will have the opportunity to lead discussions and share Chairship of some of the meetings, so that you can really get involved in some of the topics that are important to you.

In a nutshell, as a member of the Youth Forum, you'll be expected to work with us to identify opportunities to improve our delivery, and create solutions to connect with more young people.

Who are we looking for?

Anyone between the ages of 14 and 21 can apply to join the Youth Forum, and you don't need to be a member of Paddle UK or a paddler.



We're looking for independent (members who are not paddlers) and non-independent (members who are paddlers) members to help us understand more about how we can engage with more young people both inside and outside of the paddling community.

Applicants should have the following skills:

- Strong communication skills, and an ability to work as part of a team
- Able to problem solve, and be creative with solutions
- Able to gather information and insight from others, and present it
- Be adaptable and think critically
- Able to ensure everyone's views are heard and respected

Everyone has skills they can bring to the table, and we want to hear from you!

What do you get out of the Youth Forum?

Paddle UK is committed to making sure you get the most out of your time on the Youth Forum, and supporting you to develop your skills. You'll get to work as part of a big team to create positive change and impact, all while ensuring youth voices have a meaningful platform.



You'll have the chance to work with other young people and peers from all kinds of sporting backgrounds, and learn from others. You'll also get to learn more about areas that you're interested in, and contribute to improving them.

As a key Paddle UK volunteer, you'll get an inside look at some of our big events and initiatives, including the Big Paddle Clean Up, the Inclusion Advisory Group, and even some of our competitions and events. Volunteering as part of Paddle UK's Youth Forum could also help open up future opportunities with other sports and organisations!

Ready to apply? Click [HERE](#) to submit your expression of interest!