

Kent Water Classification – May-26

9b.5.3 Water based activities: Classification of waters

9b.5.3.1 All waters used for Scout activities must be classified as follows:

Water class C	Safe inland waters which are less than 100m wide where flow causes little effect (including swimming pools).
Water class B1	Sheltered inland waters and other sheltered waters where currents and tides create no real danger.
Water class B2	The sea up to one mile from the shore but excluding more dangerous waters close inshore; more sheltered parts of estuaries; large inland lakes and lochs; inland waters British Canoeing Grade 2.
Water class B3	The sea up to three miles from the shore but excluding more dangerous waters close inshore; busy commercial ports, exposed parts of estuaries; inland waters British Canoeing Grade 3.
Water class A	Open sea more than three miles from the shore, and other dangerous waters close inshore; inland waters British Canoeing Grade 4 and above.

The National Directory of Waters is available online at scouts.org.uk/waterways.

99b.5.4 Water based activities: Activities on class C waters

9b.5.4.1 Approval and Standards

All water activities on class C waters (excluding swimming – see POR 9b.5.8, 9b.5.9, 9b.5.10, SCUBA and motorised activities) must be:

- a. approved by the relevant Lead Volunteer
- b. delivered to the standards contained in [Class C Waters \(FS120623\)](#).

Waterways Directory

[England | Scouts](#)

This directory provides an indication of the classification of waters in the United Kingdom in normal summer conditions.

- Current conditions must be considered before use and appropriate risk assessment undertaken
- Water levels can rise and fall rapidly, so it is strongly advised that local knowledge is sought.
- Special care should be taken on weirs and if in doubt about the classification then they should be portaged.
- Water grading gives no guarantee that an access agreement is in existence. There are several problems concerning river access.
- Where access agreement is in force it must be observed by members of The Scout Association, unless the permission of every individual landowner over whose water it is proposed to paddle has been obtained.
- Any waters not listed here should be assessed individually in accordance with the water classification definitions in POR taking expert advice as required.
- The Scout counties or areas concerned have provided the information contained in this directory. If an area of water is not listed in this directory, please contact the local Scout County or area for up-to-date advice

Kent Waterways Directory

Kent C Class Waters			
Name / Location	Water	Notes	Advisories
• River Darent; To the tidal barrier;	River	Access permission required	
• River Eden:	River	Access permission required	
• Royal Military Canal; all Water	River		
• Barton's Point; Canal Only	River		
• River Medway; from the bridge below Leigh barrier to Eldridges Lock	River		
• Ramsgate Harbour: Inner Marina when gates are closed	Sea	Access permission required	
• Ham Road Lake Faversham; Basin & Southwestern arm to lake widening	Open Inland		

Kent B1 Class Waters			
Name / Location	Water	Notes	Advisories
• Moat Park; all water	Open Inland		
• Barton's Point; Main Lake	Open Inland		
• Bough Beech Reservoir; all water	Open Inland		
• Chipstead Lake; all water	Open Inland		
• Conningbrook Lake; all water	Open Inland		
• Denge Marsh Gravel pit; all water	Open Inland		
• Dover Harbour; Inshore of main entrance within yellow buoys	Sea	Access permission required	
• Folkestone Harbour; all water	Sea		
• Ham Road Lake Faversham; Main lake area	Open Inland		
• Haysden Lake; all water	Open Inland		
• Leybourne Lake; all water	Open Inland		
• Ramsgate Harbour; Inner Marina when gates open, Outer Harbour inside East & West Pier's.	Sea	Operating in accordance with any restrictions issued by the Port Authority Access permission required	
• Redlands Lake (River head); all water	Open Inland		

• River Medway; Eldridges Lock to Halling.	River		
• River Medway; Sun Pier to a line south from Hoo Marina to the Strand			Tidal and river traffic advisory
• River Medway; Local area of the strand Leisure Park, from slipway, out to the point on Nor Marsh, East to Horrid Hill.	Sea		
• River Rother; all water	River		
• River Stour; From A28 Sturry bridges to (Sandwich Toll bridge) Historical Boat Yard Car Park	River		Be aware of tides
• River Thames; South of mooring buoys from Worcester causeway to Everards Slipway at Greenhithe	Sea		Tidal and River Traffic advisory
• Stonar Lake; all water	Open Inland		
• Martello Lake (West Hythe), All water	Open Inland		
• St Andrews Lake (Halling) , all water	Open Inland		
• Walpole Bay, Margate (tidal pool), low water only	Sea	Only accessible at low water when not covered by sea	

Kent B2 Class Waters			
Name / Location	Water	Notes	Advisories
• Costal; Up to one mile from shore	Sea		
• Ramsgate Harbour: all water	Sea		
• River Medway; Halling to Sun Pier (Chatham). Outside of main shipping channel	Sea		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochester Bridge Hazard • Tidal and river traffic advisory
• River Medway; Main Shipping Channel from Darnet Fort	Sea		
• River Thames; County Boundary to Mucking flat point	Sea		

Kent B3 Class Waters			
Name / Location	Water	Notes	Advisories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offshore; From one to three miles offshore 	Sea		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dover harbour/Port; unpowered craft prohibited outside yellow buoys marking the bathing area near the beach. 	Sea	Powered craft must obtain permission from Port Control to enter, leave, for movements outside yellow buoys, or to close within 2 miles of Eastern or Western entrances.” Details at doverport.co.uk	Access permission required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Thames; Line from Mucking flats to Lower Hope point 	Sea		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Medway; Main Shipping Channel from Darnet Fort 	Sea		

Kent A Class Waters			
Name / Location	Water	Notes	Advisories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costal; Over 3 miles offshore 	Sea		