

# PADDLER LEVELS

Different names for the 6 different levels of paddlers.

**Initiation** - New to the sport. Has paddled a few times.

**Basic** - Dedicated beginner after a few months, or somebody with a few year's experience that paddles less frequently (1-2 times per week in season).

**Medium** - Paddling enthusiast who is on the water 2-4 times per week during the season.

**Advanced** - Highly trained and fit athlete but may have lower skill level in the surfski than an expert. Often are converts from other sports such as cycling, swimming, triathlon, etc.

**Expert** - Highly trained and skilled paddler who is on the water 4-7 times per week during the season. Usually is the best paddler in a given region or country (unless you live in South Africa or Australia).

**Élite** - Paddlers winning or finishing on the overall podium in the world's biggest events. Example: Hank McGregor, Sean Rice, Jasper Mocke, Dawid Mocke, Walter Bouzan, Clint Robinson, Cory Hill.

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