

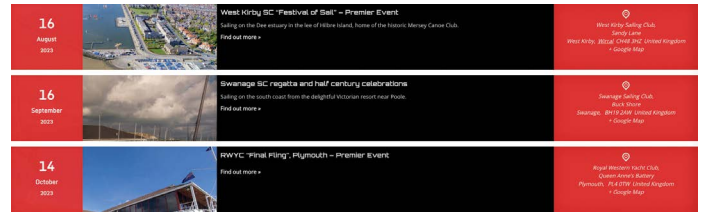
Calendar time

It is the time of the year when competition committees are pulling together their 2024 calendars, some of which will be much more user friendly than others. Google your discipline of choice and you may or may not find out what is on. Are there still events for canoe lifeguards or kayak surfers?

Those with fewer events find it easier to present the information clearly. Wild water racing gives each event with date, name and location prominently, followed by several solid lines of text which you ignore if not of interest and there is more detail if you want it, having scrolled through quickly. International Canoe sailing is similar, the date, a photo, the title, a line of description, the full address and more detail just a click away. If you are in North Wales and want to see a WWR or IC event it is easy to find out what is on offer.

Polo presents a large and extensive grid. However, the individual boxes no longer give the location, simply repeating the division from the top of the column. If you want to watch polo in Coventry you are stumped. In earlier days you could see which divisions were playing where. If you are a Division 3 Southwest player you can no longer see where your fixtures will need you to go.

Probably the most perverse is the marathon calendar, which also includes sprint regattas. Events are sometimes run over both days of a weekend but the base calendar splits the weekend with most of the week blank and the information of interest down the edges. Only four events can be fitted in each rectangle so you may have to click to find others. The title is usually longer than the box allows, so, if it is not obvious, you will need to get the rest of the title, which adds the postcode, a description and birthday greetings if appropriate, a further click adding a map if the postcode does not mean enough to you. Some events need a further click to find out whether they are marathon or



International Canoe sailing.

Polo grid calendar.

sprint. The full flat water calendar on the sprint pages is easier to read but does also present a lot of irrelevant junk, especially in the off season.

The easiest to use is the slalom calendar, where you pick the division of interest or the full calendar. Each event is clearly laid out with about a dozen lines, starting conspicuously with the date, location and division. More information is available if you need it. There is a separate grid calendar with just date, division and location so that you can see almost at a glance what is on at Pinkston and when.

There are also some disciplines that presumably have their information hidden away in chat groups or gave up after 2019, the last events being promoted, but have failed to take down the site. You may know there is an X page or there are details on the SCA website for members but potential newcomers may not make the effort to find out.

Wild water racing.

Marathon, including sprint.

Sprint including marathon.

Date	Prem	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3	Div 4	Extreme Slalom	Open	Special
12 August			Pinkston	Pinkston	Pinkston			
13 August			Pinkston	Pinkston	Pinkston			
19 August			Grandtully					
20 August			Grandtully					
26 August		Grandtully	Grandtully					
27 August		Grandtully	Grandtully					
28 August								Summer bank holiday (Eng & Wales)
2 September	Holme Pierrepont		Cardington	Cardington	Cardington			
3 September		Holme Pierrepont	Cardington	Cardington	Cardington			
9 September			Washburn	Marple	Marple		Washburn	Separate Open event for plastic boats
10 September			Washburn	Marple	Marple		Washburn	Separate Open event for plastic boats

Slalom event and grid calendars.