

## How do I care for my paddle?

- **Assemble your paddle as soon as you remove it from the bag and leave the bag in a clean, dry location e.g. vehicle. This will help prevent sand/grit entering the bag and/or paddle parts. Avoid taking your bag onto the beach or a location where it is subject to sand, dirt and other grit.**
- Make a habit of separating your paddle into half when storing between paddles.
- Always rinse your paddle thoroughly with fresh water after each use and wipe dry with a soft cloth. Ensure the adjustment mechanism is always clean of sand, dirt and other grit.
- Metal adjustor – ensure tight before paddling as the lever can loosen if not closed when stored. When washing with fresh water ensure the lever is moved from open to close position several times to allow water to penetrate and flush lever parts. Disassemble and lubricate metal parts with marine grease if the lever becomes tighter to move.
- Always store your paddle in its protective carry bag.
- Frequently check your paddle for chips, cracks or other damage. Lightly sand small edge chips to prevent the edge catching on objects and propagating the chip.
- Avoid storing or leaving your paddle sitting in direct sunlight.
- Avoid using your paddle to push off of objects.
- Do not place excessive force on your paddle when entering/exiting your kayak by bracing it against an object. Use the paddle to propel, not a mechanism to brace with.
- Do not load other equipment or supplies on top of your paddle at any time.