

# CLUB RULES



## Introduction

The General Committee shall be empowered to draw up rules for the safe conduct of canoeing activities and shall include the following:

## Paddling

1. Members should never paddle in a group less than 3.
2. No Junior members may canoe alone.
3. Groups should always contain at least one Club competent paddler for the environment not exceeding the ratio for that environment.
4. Junior members of a group must always be accompanied by an adult competent paddler or in some cases may paddle unaccompanied by an adult as long as each junior member of the group is themselves a club competent paddler.
5. When large groups are paddling in the same location (more than 9 members), a Club competent paddler will have overall responsibility for the safety of all members on the water.
6. A *Club Competent Paddler* is any full member who holds a relevant canoeing coaching award (BCU Level 2 Coach) or through their experience alone is approved as a *Club Competent Paddler* by the General Committee. The General Committee will maintain a list of members who are considered *Club Competent Paddlers*.
7. All members must comply with the Rules of third party organisations including event holders and other facilities in/at which the club participates.
8. Members who act outside these rules do so as individuals and not as members of the Club.

## Equipment

9. No Junior member may take a boat from its storage area unless a responsible adult is present.
10. Buoyancy jackets must be worn for all kayaking and canoeing activities.
11. When using a spraydeck, a release system that ensures immediate disengagement from the cockpit rim must be in place.
12. Persons taking part in any canoeing with a spray deck fitted must be able to demonstrate their ability to remove the deck in an emergency. Junior Members must be able to perform a satisfactory capsized drill with the spraydeck before one is used on open water (canal, river, sea pool, etc.)
13. When the activity requires, a helmet must be worn. They must be correctly fitted and adjusted.

## Courses

14. Club courses will be run by BCU qualified Coaches.
15. All Coaches will be cleared in line with the Club's adopted Child Protection Policy.
16. All Coaches will hold a current First Aid Certificate.

## Medical Conditions

17. Members must inform the officer of the day, or Coaches of any medical condition that could affect their ability to paddle.

## Behaviour Policy

18. All Members of the Club will be expected to behave in an acceptable manner and follow the Club's adopted Policies.
19. No action should be taken that could cause concern or offence to other Club Members or the general public.
20. Members should avoid changing in public view.
21. Inappropriate behaviour should be reported to the Committee and could result in exclusion from the Club.

