

Sheffield Canoe Club Code of Conduct

It is the policy of Sheffield Canoe Club that all paddlers, volunteers, coaches and parents show respect and understanding for each other and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club. The aim is for all paddlers to improve performance and have fun.

Code of Conduct for all Paddlers:

- Always wear a buoyancy-aid and helmet whilst paddling.
- Treat all club equipment with care and put equipment back where it lives after use.
- Treat other club members with respect at all times, on and off the water, treat other paddlers as you would want to be treated yourself.
- Control tempers and avoid behavior which may affect or upset others.
- Always follow the instructions of coaches and other club officials.
- All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants, regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- The use of illegal substances is not permitted on club premises.
- Pay membership fees and other fees promptly and when requested to.
- No unauthorised swimming.
- Bullying and/or harassment will not be tolerated in the Club. If you feel you have a case of this, please report it to a coach or welfare officer.

Club Officials, Coaches and Volunteers:

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of paddlers before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with paddlers, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Display consistently high standards of behavior and appearance.
- Follow British Canoeing and club guidelines and policies.
- Hold the appropriate, up-dated qualifications and insurance.
- Encourage paddlers to value their performance and not just results.

Parents/Guardians:

- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to do anything they do not wish to.
- Never punish or belittle a child for loosing or making mistakes.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy the sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.

Other Guidelines:

- It is not recommended to paddle alone.
- Educate yourself about the risks associated with paddling and how to stay safe.
- Make sure someone else knows where you are whenever you go paddling.
- Dress appropriately for the conditions in which you will be paddling.
- Know the symptoms of Weil's disease (Leptospirosis) and the precautions you should take to reduce the risk.