



## **Child Protection Policy**

### **Code of Conduct**

- ✓ All adults involved in the Club, be they Club officials, coaches, helpers, activity leaders, members or parents should treat each other and any children in their care with respect at all times.

Specifically the Club expects parents or guardians to:

- ✓ Arrange for children to get to any events safely and on time.
- ✓ Pick children up promptly after any event.
- ✓ Supervise children whilst changing, travelling and not in any directly supervised coaching session. If this is not possible then the parent should arrange for a suitable adult to act for them in this role.
- ✓ Not ask our coaches or adult volunteers to fulfil any of these roles as it is unfair on coaches and helpers as it places them in potentially compromising positions.

### **Photography and Filming**

- ✓ Parental consent is required for any photographs taken to either record a club event or for a local press release or for video used to record an event to be used as a legitimate coaching aid. This includes any images posted on a Club website.
- ✓ Media or professional photographers need to register with an Event Organiser and show proof of their professional identification.
- ✓ Any images used will not be linked with a child's full name or/and address information.

### **Club Officials, Coaches and Helpers**

- ✓ The Club will ensure all volunteer adults and coaches working with children have undergone a DBS check to ensure that they have no convictions that would prevent them from working with children.
- ✓ The Club will also ensure that all coaches have current coaching qualifications and First Aid certificates.
- ✓ Coaches and event organisers will consider the well-being and safety of paddlers before the development of performance.
- ✓ The Club will ensure that coaches should change in a separate area to the children where possible.
- ✓ The Club will ensure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part
- ✓ All Club activities will have an appropriate risk assessment carried out before the event. All coaches, river leaders or event organisers may choose to alter their risk assessment in response to a change in conditions, e.g. weather, water conditions, ability, safety.
- ✓ Coaches will follow current best practice when teaching or coaching children.
- ✓ Whilst the Club may authorize experienced adults, who are not coaches, to lead paddles these 'activity leaders' will be required to have completed Foundation Safety and Rescue Training and hold a current first-aid certificate, or ensure that someone in the group holds one. If leading children, 'activity leaders' also need a DBS check.
- ✓ As part of canoeing – during coaching sessions or when rescuing somebody after a capsize – it may be necessary to physically touch, hold or assist a paddler. Where appropriate, the coach or adult helper will advise a child in advance that they plan to physically assist them, but there may be occasions when no warning can be given when a coach or helper must put the paddler's overall safety first.

### **Parental Consents**

- ✓ Parents/guardians will be asked to complete a general consent form covering regular club activities such as pool sessions, summer weekly practice sessions and day river paddles. However a separate consent form will be required for any event involving overnight accommodation.

## **Club Events including Overnight Accommodation**

- ✓ For trips including overnight accommodation, separate, specific parental consent forms are required.
- ✓ The Club will endeavour, where possible, to provide both male and female adult supervision when a group of children is of mixed gender. Adults providing supervision will also be DBS checked.
- ✓ The Club will ensure that any accommodation provides separate bedrooms for boys and girls. At times, when using group accommodation, such as bunkhouses, adults may share bunkrooms with children. The club will endeavour to ensure that each room has at least one DBS-checked adult to act in a supervisory role.

## **Changing**

- ✓ Parents and children should be aware that changing facilities before and after paddling events are usually not available. Children should be prepared to change in public.

## **Travelling**

- ✓ The Club's policy is that individual Club officers, coaches or leaders should not give lifts to single children.
- ✓ As stated above, parents are expected to take responsibility for travel arrangements.

## **Training**

- ✓ The Club will ensure that at least 2 of its officials or coaches have attended regular Safeguarding training courses.

## **Reporting of concerns**

The Club will have a nominated Welfare Officer who will handle any concerns raised fairly and appropriately, in line with Club Child Protection Procedures and Canoe Wales guidelines.

## **The Nominated Club Welfare Officer is:**

**Jenny Anderson, 45 Free Street, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7BN 07816 233373,**  
[jenny\\_anderson@btinternet.com](mailto:jenny_anderson@btinternet.com)