

Protocols for Operating during Covid-19

Information for Club Members and other Participants

We will be adopting the following protocols during the Covid-19 pandemic, to ensure the safety of our members, coaches / leaders / volunteers and the public.

These protocols are valid at the time of writing (**16 October 2020**).

The Club will:

- work with a maximum of 6 paddlers at a time per leader / coach (to ensure our ability to protect safety);
- discuss and agree with participants, in advance, the activity and precautions we will be undertaking;
- endeavour to maintain 2m social distance between participants from different households except in an emergency when coaches / leaders may need to make physical contact (for example, we will coach using demonstrations, explanations, practical exercises and verbal feedback without the need for physical contact; and if we are sharing open canoes will stay at opposite ends of the boat);
- ensure that we maintain appropriate social distancing and hygiene measures at venues used by other people (this may mean, for example, that we have to park considerately; change venues if our first choice is busy; queue for access to / from the water; and wipe-down surfaces that others may use);
- manage the issue and collection of club equipment; and ensure that all equipment we provide has either been quarantined for 72-hours or cleaned since it was last used by someone else; and that our coaches / leaders will have washed their hands when touching equipment since it was cleaned;
- provide sanitising gel and disinfectant wipes – and encourage participants to use them (or your own supplies) frequently – to help us maintain appropriate hygiene;
- operate in venues and conditions that are within all our capabilities, to minimise the likelihood of any incidents occurring that would require us to rescue clients using physical contact or to require the assistance of emergency services; and
- ensure that our coaches / leaders carry appropriate PPE to enable them to conduct first aid safely in the unlikely event that this is required.

We expect all our participants to:

- stay at home if you or anyone in your household has had, in the last 14 days, symptoms of Covid-19; or if you are particularly vulnerable or are not confident that these protocols will protect you adequately;
- book and pay for events online in advance; and provide us in advance with personal information to enable us to best meet your individual needs (avoiding the need to handle pieces of paper);
- meet at an outdoor venue, ideally wearing the clothes you intend to paddle in and having recently visited a toilet (since there may only be limited indoor facilities available);
- be prepared to change your clothes outdoors and to use “nature’s own toilets” if required;
- arrive in your own transport – and have your own transport available if we need to drive from our meeting place to the venue(s) where we will be paddling;
- if possible, come with another member of your household who can help you carry and fit equipment;
- provide your own equipment where possible; and handle all boats, paddles and protective equipment yourselves as far as possible (so that we share contact with equipment as little as possible);
- avoid entering the club’s equipment store – and be patient while we issue and collect club equipment;
- maintain 2m social distancing from other participants and members on the public;
- wash or sanitise your hands frequently and wipe-down any surfaces you touch that people outside your household will be touching (using your own sanitising / disinfecting materials if possible); and
- discuss with us any concerns you have about the precautions we are taking to protect ourselves against Covid-19.