

Club Code of Conduct



It is Brecon Canoe Club's expectation that all paddlers, volunteers, coaches/leaders and parents show respect and understanding for each other and conduct themselves accordingly in their involvements with the Club. These guidelines¹ are intended to ensure the well-being of all our paddlers, who should be treated as individuals and able to enjoy themselves and learn in a safe and welcoming environment.

While involved with the Club and its activities, everyone should...

- Abide by the Club Rules² and Policies³.
- Avoid any behaviour that is irresponsible, abusive, inappropriate or illegal – or could bring the Club into disrepute – including:
 - swearing or insulting others;
 - bullying, harassing or intimidating others;
 - disrespecting or criticising others publicly, in person or online;
 - using alcohol or drugs that may impair your skills; and
 - smoking in close proximity to others, unless they've agreed that you may do so.

Feel Safe:

- Foster a friendly, kind and inclusive environment where everyone can have fun.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.

Speak Out:

- Share any concerns you may have with a Club representative (via your parents if appropriate) – especially if you feel that you or others have been treated poorly or unfairly.

Play Fair:

- Celebrate the success, effort and achievement of others.
- Support and motivate others to do their best.
- Treat paddlers, coaches, organisers, officials and parents with respect, honesty and fairness, regardless of their backgrounds or any competitive rivalries.
- Develop positive relationships with coaches, leaders, instructors and others who are there to help paddlers improve their skills.
- Be open to listening to others, even if you have differing views and experiences.
- Accept that there is no such thing as failure – learn from mistakes and take feedback on board.
- Be a role model of fair play and sportsmanship.
- Most importantly, have fun and enjoy participating.

Show Respect

- Be respectful of others and welcome diversity.
- Listen to advice you receive from coaches and officials.

Be Responsible

- Observe instructions from those responsible for supervising and managing your safety.
- Arrive on time with a positive attitude and a willingness to join in.
- Bring the appropriate kit including food and drink when appropriate.
- Respect your surroundings and the property of others.
- Take good care of your own, the Club's and others' equipment and clothing.
- Inform someone in authority if you need to leave early.

Take Care of Yourself

- Take care of yourself and of others' wellbeing: your wellbeing comes before results.
- Being fit and healthy includes your mental, emotional and physical health.
- Inform your coach or activity leader of any injuries.

PTO for additional guidelines for Parents/Carers and for Coaches, Leaders, Officials and Volunteers

¹ Adapted from Canoe Wales' [Young Paddlers Code of Conduct published Aug 2023](#), with elements from British Canoeing Templates [T3 - Club Code of Conduct updated 21 Mar 2021](#) and [T2 – Junior Code of Conduct updated 22 Mar 2021](#)

² See [Brecon Canoe Club Rules \(as adopted by the Trustees on 25 Sep 2017\)](#)

³ Full list of Club policies to be added in due course.

While involved with the Club and its activities, Parents/Carers should...

- Be prepared to assist your children in getting ready, carrying boats, storing equipment and getting changed at the end of a session.
- Be prepared to remain onsite in case your children need to leave the water during a session.
- Support and encourage your and other children's involvement and help them to enjoy the sport.
- Help your children to recognise effort, not just achievement.
- Not force your child to take part in sport; or punish or belittle them for making mistakes.
- If you disagree with the judgements of a coach or official, raise your concerns through the appropriate channels rather than a public challenge.

While involved with the Club and its activities, Club Coaches, Leaders, Officials and Volunteers should...

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of paddlers before the achievement of results; and encourage paddlers to value their efforts and not just achievement.
- 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 appropriate standards of behaviour and appearance (including well-maintained personal equipment).
- Follow British Canoeing and Club guidelines and policies⁴ – including for coaches, instructors and leaders, the [British Canoeing Code of Conduct for Coaching Workforce \(dated March 2022\)](#).
- Hold appropriate, up-dated qualifications and insurance.
- Never condone the use of prohibitive substances.

⁴ Full list of British Canoeing policies and guidelines to be added in due course.