

Health and Safety Policy.



BCU Participation Statement.

“Canoeing and Kayaking are assumed risk, water contact sports that may carry attendant risks. Participants should be aware and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.”

Health and Safety Statement.

MCC are committed to ensuring the health, safety and welfare of all members, coaches, volunteers and partners who may be involved with our activities. We will strive to maintain the highest standards and to comply with our legal responsibilities to achieve best practice in the minimising of health and safety risks.

As policy makers within the organisation we have responsibilities to ensure that:

- All members understand the contribution they must make towards controlling risk.
- Safe places of work and equipment are provided and appropriately maintained.
- Safe practices are identified and implemented and regularly up dated.
- Sufficient and suitable information, instruction and supervision is provided so that all members are confident to participate appropriately.
- Appropriate arrangements are set in place to ensure that there is effective communication of health and safety matters.
- Access to expert advice regards health and safety, best practice and policy changes is maintained.
- The club and its members will ensure that all participants are using and wearing appropriate and serviceable equipment for the activity.
- Responsibilities will be allocated according to seniority within club, suitability for given situation and relevant experience.

All Activities:

- Will be run to guidelines stipulated by the governing body.
- Which fall under the jurisdiction of the Adventurous Activities Licensing Authority will be licensed with an up to date provider.
- Will have in place appropriate safety measures as specified by the governing body and club risk assessments.
- Will be consistently and regularly risk assessed by participating coaching staff.
- Will have suitable insurance to protect all participants and all who may be affected by the activity.
- Will be supervised by appropriately trained coaches who are competent and experienced to deal with any situation that may arise given the environment.
- Will be regularly reviewed and feedback will be sought from participants, volunteers, members and observers to improve the quality of activity provision and content.

Responsibilities.

All club members have a 'duty of care' to each other and it is important to recognise the value of each individual participant or observer taking responsibility for his/her own actions *and* the actions or inactions of others.

A good definition of 'duty of care' is:

"The duty which rests upon an individual or organisation to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure the safety of any person involved in any activity for which that individual or organisation is responsible." (Taken from BCU information)

Those with a 'higher duty of care' have a greater responsibility depending upon the expectation placed upon them based on their skill, experience and position within the club. Below are the primary roles within the club, the areas of their responsibility and specific roles expected of them. Listed are the club members who fill each role as of Jan 2006.

Chairperson. Chris Martin

Responsible for the overseeing of all aspects of club business. Ensuring all policies are abided by and that all guidelines and recommendations from NGB's, HSE, Coaches and Advisors are adhered to.

Quartermaster. Chris Martin

Responsible for the acquisition and upkeep of equipment, the safeguarding and correct storage, transport and correct usage.

Club Head Coach. Chris Martin

Responsible directly to the Chairperson for the safe provision of paddle sport activities to members and non members and for the conduct of other coaches.

Coaches. Danny Brown

Responsible to the Head Coach for activity delivery at a site designated as suitable by an appropriate authority such as Head Coach, Technical Advisor, Governing Body.

Assistant Coaches. Neil Du Roe, Donna Hawkins

Responsible to Coach or Head Coach and would be expected to assist in any way they can.

Paddlers.

Responsible to each other.