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## Shropshire Paddlesport - Code of Conduct

It is the policy of Shropshire Paddlesport club that all paddlers, members, coaches, volunteers 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 and have fun. Everyone involved in the club is expected to abide by the club rules and policies.

### **Paddlers & Junior Paddlers**

- Take care of yourself – wear suitable kit for paddling.
- Other paddlers need to look after you on the water – keep them informed of your intentions.
- Take care of all property belonging to the club and of club members.
- Treat other club members with respect at all times – on and off the water – treat other paddlers as you would want to be treated.
- Control tempers and avoid behaviour which may inconvenience or upset others.
- Co-operate and listen to your coach and club official.

### **Club Officials, Coaches, members and volunteers.**

- Consider the well-being and safety of paddlers before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability, and experience of those taking part.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play)
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Follow all guidelines laid down by Paddle UK and the club guidelines and policies.
- Hold appropriate valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Never exert undue influence over performance to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play, or the use of prohibited substances.
- Encourage participants to value their performance and not just results.
- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.

## **Parents/Guardians**

- Canoeing, Kayaking and Rafting are 'assumed risk' water contact sports that may carry attendant risk. Encourage your child to read and understand the Code of Conduct.
- Encourage your child to paddle safely whilst having fun.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performance of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept officials' judgements.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Always use correct and proper language.
- Encourage and guide paddlers to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.