

Royal Canoe Club

Teddington

Royal Canoe Club Code of Conduct, Junior Athletes & their Parents

As **Junior members** of the Club you have an opportunity to develop both as an athlete and as an individual and to improve your sport and yourself. Therefore it is important that you represent yourself, your club and your sport appropriately by behaving responsibly. **Parents** have a responsibility to help junior members understand and follow this code.

This Code of Conduct is to ensure that all Junior Members know the standards of behaviour expected of them when involved in Club activities. This will help the volunteers, coaches and staff at the Club look after you/them and make sure that every junior member is able to enjoy paddling and their time at the Club.

The Code is to be read and followed by both Junior Members and their responsible adult, likely to be a parent or guardian.

PHYSICAL NEEDS AND SAFETY

Do not train/allow your child to train when you/they are unwell or overtired.

Juniors must wear the right kit to allow them to train. They must bring a complete change of clothes to change into after training, every time they train.

All Juniors must eat well, especially before training in the mornings. Please bring/provide a snack for training after school. You must ensure that they bring and use a reusable water bottle to every session. Good hydration is as important as good food.

You must advise your/your child's coach of any medical conditions which may affect your/their participation (these conditions can include but are not restricted to diabetes, epilepsy, colds). Please also tell us about any other issues which may prevent or hinder a Junior's enjoyment of our sport, both physical and mental. This can include things such as phobias, fears and allergies.

As safety is the Club's primary concern, any behaviour or conduct that is prejudicial to safety or others enjoyment of our sport will not be tolerated. Also behaviour which may affect the Club's good name will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, ignoring or refusing to follow a coach's instruction, using offensive language towards another paddler, coach, club member or other river user.

Juniors may only paddle in coach-led groups. Junior paddlers are not permitted to go on the water alone at any time. Juniors are only permitted to use gym equipment under adult supervision.

Juniors must never leave a coaching session without first obtaining the permission of their coach.

In the event of misbehaviour, a junior's coach will speak to the parents concerned and may follow up such conversations in writing. The Club's Welfare Officers may need to become involved either as mediators or if the behaviour contravenes a policy of British Canoeing to discuss with the Junior and their parents the way in which we can all address the behaviour.

Juniors should be dropped off and collected from the Clubroom or whichever part of the club the coach has them within their group.

Juniors must arrive on time for training sessions. If you/your child is unable to attend please advise your coach using the contact details provided.

The Club will provide all necessary equipment in the early stages. Before buying any new equipment please speak with your/your child's coach to ensure that what you are buying is suitable.

MENTAL AND SOCIAL WELLBEING

Your/your child's wellbeing is of paramount importance to us, and we ask that the Club be kept advised of anything which is interfering with your/your child's enjoyment of our sport. Concerns however small can be raised with your/your child's coach or the Club Welfare Officers. Details of our Welfare Officers can be found in the Child Protection document on the Club website.

To ensure that everyone can enjoy their time at the Club, you/your child must respect those around you equally, without regard to gender, disability, culture, race, ethnicity, sexuality or religious beliefs.

If you see anyone else treating someone in a less favourable way, speak out and report it to a coach or Club official.

Control your temper and do not act in a way which may affect, offend or upset others.

Do not engage in any irresponsible, inappropriate or illegal behaviour.

Canoeing is a competitive sport but you must not place yourself/your child under pressure to perform either in training or competition.

HELP KEEP THE CLUB RUNNING SMOOTHLY

You/your child must be on time for training sessions and events.

You/your child must take care of and respect equipment provided by the Club. If any equipment is faulty you must let your coach know so that they can organise repairs or replacement.

Never use items belonging to other Club members without their permission.

You must make sure that all equipment used is put away correctly before leaving site.

Parents and Juniors are encouraged to volunteer either on a regular or ad hoc basis. Request for volunteers for specific events are normally posted on the Club Facebook page. If you/your child would like to volunteer on a more regular basis please speak with one of the committee who will advise where help is wanted.

THE AIM IS FOR ALL PADDLERS TO IMPROVE SKILLS, ENJOY THEIR CANOEING AND HAVE FUN

I agree to take responsibility for my/my child's behaviour while participating at Royal Canoe Club. We have read and understand the Code of Conduct and agree to comply with it. We understand that failure to comply with this Code may result in action being taken by the Club, in accordance with Club rules.

Junior Member Signature
Junior Member Name
Responsible Adult Signature
Responsible Adult Name
Relationship to Junior member
Date

DISCLAIMER

The Club is only responsible for paddlers while they are on Club-led sessions (which will include events away from club premises, where the club has coaches present).

Any other activities are not covered by the Club's policies. The adult leading the activity is deemed to have assessed all risk and assumes all responsibility for the activity.