

Birmingham Canoe Club

Code of Practice for Coaches, Club Officials and Volunteers

The essence of good ethical conduct and practice is summarised here. All coaches, officials and volunteers must:

- Consider the well-being and safety of all participants, especially children, which takes priority over the development of their performance.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, maturity, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Develop appropriate working relationships with participants, especially children, that are based on mutual trust and respect. Coaches and officials should be acutely aware of the power a coach develops with participants.
- Clarify from the outset what is expected of participants (and parents) and what they can expect from us.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport, and not bring the sports of canoeing and kayaking into disrepute with the wider public.
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the BCU and the club.
- Never exercise influence over participants to obtain personal benefits and rewards.
- Encourage participants to accept responsibility for their performance, behaviour and kit.
- Report accidents to the club chair.
- Not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst at a club event.
- Coaches should hold up to date recognised BCU coaching qualifications.
- Co-operate with other specialists (i.e. public officials and paramedics).
- Coaches, officials and volunteers must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, and treat everyone equally within the context of the sport. They must oppose discriminatory behaviour and behaviour that causes discomfort or upset to others (for example intimidation, making disparaging remarks, harassment or intimacy). Participants with all levels of ability and pace of development are to have fair access to the club, its kit and events.