



Code of Conduct

CRCats will:

- Ensure all coaches and volunteers hold appropriate qualifications and PVG checks
- Adopt national policies and codes of good practice in relation to child welfare, including appointing a designated Child Welfare Officer
- Ensure relevant SCA Guidelines are followed including appropriate Risk Assessments and coaching ratios
- Ensure that club officers and volunteers always act responsibly, equitably and set an example
- Ensure that the club's safety procedures are understood and followed by all staff, coaches and volunteers

Our Coaches will:

- Act as a role model for our paddlers at all times.
- Arrive at the venue in sufficient time prior to the start of the session.
- Inspect the activity area, take the necessary steps to minimise health and safety risks.
- Inform a member of club committee as soon as possible of any incident or injury and complete the accident/ incident report form
- Consult the club committee if they wish to prevent attendance at further sessions by an individual, for example due to unruly or disruptive/dangerous behaviour
- Ensure any club equipment used is in good repair. Inform the club committee of any replacement/ repairs required
- Ensure that the venue is left clean, tidy and secure at the end of each session
- Ensure children are supervised at all times. In circumstances where a child has not been picked up from a session the coach must remain with the child and take the appropriate steps to ensure the safety of the child until the parent or carer arrives.
- Be aware of club Child Welfare and Wellbeing Policy
- Plan and coach sessions in a way appropriate to the age and ability of the paddlers in order to promote enjoyment and skill progression
- Assist paddlers to gain a greater understanding of the rules, safe practices and appropriate behaviour. Promote the values of fair play to all children
- Ensure coaches have the appropriate course administration prior to the start of all sessions; emergency contacts, medical details, Accident/Incident Report forms, First Aid Kit
- Refrain from direct social media contact and messaging with paddlers - communication should, where practical, be with parents / carers
- Do not 'friend' paddlers on social media
- Report any wellbeing or child protection concerns immediately to the club Wellbeing Officer or directly to a relevant authority (Social Work or Police)
- Do not share personal information about paddlers and ensure any training videos are deleted after that session

Paddlers should:

- Have fun!
- Uphold the same values away from sport as you do when engaged in slalom
- Anticipate your own needs; respect your kit, be organised and on time, and say "Thank You"
- Offer support or help to younger or less experienced paddlers
- Inform your coach of any other coaching you are receiving – important particularly for children in relation to proportionate and age appropriate training load
- Offer to help at events – judging is a valuable skill and helps 'pay back' to your Club
- Avoid destructive behaviour and leave the site as you find it
- Never engage in any illegal or irresponsible behaviour
- Never accept lifts in cars without the prior knowledge and consent of your parent / carer
- Don't respond if someone seeks private information, unrelated to paddling e.g. home / school life. If unsure or concerned speak to someone you trust
- Do not send 'Friend Requests' to coaches on social media. They are your coaches
- Speak out immediately if anything that has happened to you or a fellow club mate makes you concerned or uncomfortable (tell parents/carers and/or the Club Welfare Officer)

Parents / Carers should:

- Meet the people who are coaching your child and ensure you understand everyone's role
- Take an active interest in your child's participation and communicate with the club and coach in order to understand what training your child is participating in and why
- Understand that the Team Manager is responsible for Child Welfare when away from home
- Inform your child's coach of any special needs that should be taken into consideration during your child's training and competition
- Provide any necessary medication that your child needs for the duration of any trips
- Get involved with the club and help out at events. CR Cats is a small club and parental participation is very important, rewarding and usually good fun!
- Emphasise your child's enjoyment rather than an over-emphasis on winning. Never force your child to take part
- Encourage your child to learn the rules and compete within them if you wish
- Discourage arguing with officials – everyone is a volunteer and doing their very best. Publicly accept officials' judgements
- Help your child to recognise good performance; not just results
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performances of all paddlers
- Never punish or belittle a child for making mistakes
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport. Use positive language
- Encourage and guide your paddler to accept responsibility for their own performance
- UNDERSTAND WATER SPORTS CARRIES AN 'ASSUMED RISK' Support your child bankside and if you are not present ensure the coach or other volunteer has your contact detail
- Report any concerns you have about your child, or that of another to the Club Welfare Officer.

Treat others with the same respect and fairness that you wish to receive - respect diversity, and treat paddlers, parents, carers and coaches with kindness and respect.

Any concerns can be reported to the Club Child Welfare Protection Officer Nigel Thacker (Mobile 07989 350310) or Danielle Leeson (Mobile 07368 401683), or a coach/helper.