

G18 – Code of Conduct for Parents and Carers

The policies and guidelines referenced within this document are those of British Canoeing and its Home Nation associations.

As a parent or carer you play an essential part in encouraging, supporting and influencing your child's participation in canoeing. Sometimes, despite best intentions, your behaviour can have a negative impact on your child's (or other children's) enjoyment of the sport- often without you even realising! The following helps highlight a few things to consider.

Set a good example:

- Applaud good performances of all paddlers, not just your child's.
- Behave responsibly; try not to embarrass your child.
- Show appreciation and support for the coaches, staff and volunteers.
- Publicly accept judges or official's decisions.
- Use appropriate language at all times.

As parents/carers you should:

- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy the sport.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Promote playing sport for fun.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Positively reinforce your child and show an interest in their chosen activity.
- Not place your child under pressure or push them into activities they do not want to do.
- Be realistic and supportive.
- Encourage your child to follow the rules of the sport and any codes of conduct for the activity/ club or centre.
- Teach them that they can only do their best.
- When requested, complete and return any registration, medical and consent forms and ensure you update these straight away with any changes.
- Deliver and collect your child punctually.
- Inform the coach/ organiser prior to the activity starting if your child is to be collected early or by someone else.
- Ensure your child has clothing, kit, food and drink appropriate to the activity and weather conditions.

As a parents/carer you have the right to:

- Be assured that your child is safeguarded during their participation in the activity.
- Be informed of problems or concerns relating to your child.
- Be informed if your child is injured.
- Have your consent sought for attendance on club trips or photography of your child.
- Contribute to decisions that affect your child.
- Have any concerns about any aspect of your child's welfare, listened to and responded to.

Any breaches of this code of conduct will be dealt with immediately by a "Name of Club/ School or Event" official. Persistent concerns or breaches may result in you being asked not to attend club activities or events if your attendance is considered detrimental to the welfare of young participants.

The ultimate action should a parent/guardian continue to breach the code of behaviour may be the "Name of Club, School or Event" officials regrettably asking your child to leave the session, event or club.

Signature of parent/carer:

Print name of parent/carer:

Date: