

# Chester Sailing and Canoeing Club

## Sailing Safety Guidance

Chester Sailing and Canoeing Club regard the health and safety of Members and all those who come in contact with our activities as of foremost concern.

**It is the club's policy to take all reasonable steps to prevent personal injury or damage to property: to promote and assist the well-being of all Members and to avoid damage to the environment. The realisation of these objectives is viewed as the joint responsibility of all Members.**

**However Members are reminded that the primary responsibility for safety lies with the individual participant, and that personal competence developed through training and experience in a range of conditions is the single most important factor in the achievement of adequate safety standards.**

The following safety procedures have been agreed by the Sailing Committee:

- 1. Buoyancy Aids** An adequate personal buoyancy aid must be worn by all Members at all times while afloat.
- 2. Protective Clothing** It is recommended that appropriate clothing is worn by Members at all times whilst afloat. The wearing of a dry suit or wet suit is suggested for the Spring and Frostbite Series and at other times when the weather is cold. Bare feet are not allowed; the use of wet boots or old trainers is recommended.
- 3. Buoyancy** Each craft shall have its designed buoyancy maintained in satisfactory working order.
- 4. Recreational Sailing** Sailing and other waterborne activities are only permitted between sunrise and sunset, unless appropriate lights are displayed. Members are reminded that safety boat cover is unlikely to be provided other than at Club racing and training times and Members going afloat at any time do so at their own risk. It is recommended that another craft be on the water to give assistance as necessary (buddy sailing).
- 5. Young Members** Young Members should be able to swim wearing sailing clothes and personal buoyancy. No Young Member is to sail at times when safety boat cover is not available, unless accompanied by an experienced adult sailing Member. No sailing may take place unless another craft is on the water to give assistance as necessary (buddy sailing).
- 6. Third Party Insurance** All Members keeping their craft on Club premises or participating in waterborne activities organised by the Club shall insure their legal liability in respect of any claim arising from the use or ownership of their craft for a sum of not less than £2,000,000.00.
- 7. Safety Boats** Safety boat cover will be provided during Club racing and training. Members are reminded that the OOD or Senior Instructor is the person responsible for safety and Members must carry out instructions given by this Officer or their assistant. Members using safety boats should comply with the Sailing Safety Boat Policy.
- 8. Other River Users** Members are reminded of the River Dee By Laws and the River Dee Courtesy Code which has been adopted by the Club.
- 9. Risk Assessment** A Risk Assessment of sailing activities has been carried out and all members should familiarise themselves with this document.

Parents and Guardians of Junior Members are warned that, while safety boat cover will be provided during Club racing and training, Members (including Junior Members) sail at the Club at all times at their own risk, and that there is unlikely to be safety boat cover at other times.