

RIVER DEE COURTESY CODE

February 2013

General

1. That all boats take action to avoid conflict or collisions and if there is the risk of a collision that they move to the right of the river or **STOP!**
2. All users should be safety conscious and take special care to ensure that collisions are avoided. All craft to maintain a look out in the direction of travel and take action to avoid a collision. If stationary, boats must continue to keep a look out so that they can alert or take avoiding action from an approaching craft.
3. Boats under power should give way to non powered boats. Due regard should be had for the difficulties of navigation experienced by larger craft and other users should also consider giving way to maintain safety.
4. When overtaking slower craft, pass in a safe and appropriate manor if the river ahead is clear to do so. If the river ahead is not clear, slow down or stop until it is safe to progress.

Powered Boats

5. Powered boats (not assisting in coaching) should keep to the right hand side of the river at all times.
6. Powered craft (not assisting in coaching) to adhere to the river bye-laws and speed limit.
7. Powered craft (not assisting in coaching) to ensure that their wash is kept to an absolute minimum when passing close to other craft.

Powered Coaching Boats.

8. When passing man powered boats in the same direction of travel, if it is clear and safe to do so, pass on the opposite side of the river even if this is the left. Then return to a safe navigation position maintaining an even and progressive speed to clear the craft. If it is not safe, remain on the right side of the river and offer an appropriate wash.
9. When passing man powered boats in opposite directions of travel. Remain on the right of the river and reduce the size of wash appropriately. (this could include to plane at speed)
10. Use of megaphones for coaching must only be used between the hours of 9am and 8pm (all days). In the section between the Groves to the Red House aim to keep this to a minimum.

Canoe , Rowing, Sailing and other non powered craft.

11. All non powered craft should give way to all other non powered craft. If in the likely hood of a collision **both parties** should take appropriate avoiding action or **both STOP!**
12. Prior to turning a craft round, crossing the river or starting in motion, boats must check that the river is clear in close proximity and that other boats are at a safe distance.
13. When turning, boats must ensure they are upstream of a bend with a clear sight of down stream traffic and sufficient space for upstream traffic to take action. Key locations are: Earls Eye, Red House bend, Heronbridge and Ecclestone. At Crook of Dee, check the upstream side is clear prior to turning. Progressing to the upstream side of this bend is not required.

14. Unless part of an agreed event, bends should be negotiated at a reduced speed to allow safe passage. This could include stopping if to avoid a collision.
15. At the Heronbridge start line (pumping station), keep waiting to a minimum to maintain a clear bend. Avoid stopping and turning in the area of the pumping station.
16. For all training activity using the river. When heading out, please make note of other users and volume of boats on the water. If the river is likely to be busy look to adjust speeds or the types of training session to reduce risks or the potential for a collision. Key locations are, the Mile Straight, Sandy Lane, Earls Eye, The Groves.
17. During works on the river, additional guidance may be produced. In areas of works avoid stopping or turning to maintain a safe working area.
18. Prior to events, additional information may be produced. During events take appropriate action and care to allow the event to continue unheeded. If this requires actions contrary to the code of conduct, proceed with extreme care to avoid a collision.

Canoes.

19. Heading upstream, canoes keep close to the bank. This should aim to be the right bank but it is accepted practise that canoes may travel on the left in some locations. To avoid a collision a canoe should either move right or stop in a safe location. Locations to expect canoes on the left bank are: Groves, Heronbridge, Road Bridge, Ecclestone bend and between the Crook of Dee and Blue Bridge.
20. Heading down stream, canoes should keep to the right hand side of the river at all times.

Rowing

21. Rowing boats should keep to the right hand side of the river.
22. At the Groves, turning and approach to landing stages should follow the one way system. Head down stream on the right side of the river, turn at the suspension bridge, head up stream on the right side of the river. When it is safe to do so cross to the exit pontoons.
23. Boats should be launched pointing upstream and move to the right side of the river when it is safe to do so. If launching down stream follow the one way system via the suspension bridge.
24. When the river is busy, crews avoid side by side rowing.
25. That coxes of rowing boats have appropriate experience to control the boat and crew they are responsible for, related to the conditions.
26. Rowing craft to proceed with caution between the Red House and Sandy Lane car park when sailing is in progress and at Earls Eye when canoeing is taking place.
27. All hard rowing to stop at the kissing gate / Dee Lane

Sailing

28. Sailing boats to be aware of the direction and path of other users and take action to avoid collisions.

Training in the dark

29. A solid white light on the bow and a solid red light on the stern should be on display during the hours of darkness. No flashing lights. Use of lights on sides of boats or arms should be avoided if possible.