



North Somerset Paddlesports Club

Code of Conduct

North Somerset Paddlesports Club is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable environment for all members, coaches, volunteers, and visitors. This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected from everyone involved in the club.

It applies to all members, whether participating in training, competitions, social activities, or representing the club in the wider community. By joining the club, members agree to uphold these standards.

1. General Behaviour

- Treat all members, coaches, officials, volunteers, and the public with respect, fairness, and courtesy.
- Act in the best interests of the club and the sport of paddlesport at all times.
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every person regardless of age, ability, gender, race, religion, culture, or sexual orientation.
- Refrain from using inappropriate, offensive, or abusive language and behaviour.
- Uphold the good name and reputation of North Somerset Paddlesports Club.

2. Safety

- Always follow the instructions of coaches, leaders, and officials.
- Wear appropriate safety equipment (including buoyancy aids and helmets where required).
- Use equipment responsibly and return it in good condition.
- Report any damage, defects, or safety concerns to the Equipment Officer or Safety Officer.
- Avoid behaviour that could endanger yourself or others on or off the water.

3. Commitment to Training and Development

- Attend training sessions regularly and punctually.
- Listen to coaches and make an effort to improve skills, teamwork, and personal development.
- Encourage and support fellow paddlers, particularly new and younger members.
- Inform coaches if unable to attend booked sessions.

4. Children and Young People

- Parents/guardians are encouraged to support their child's involvement in the club in a positive way.
- Children and young people may paddle without a parent present only where:
 - Parental consent has been given.
 - The child has signed up to the event via WebCollect.
 - Any medical information has been declared and recorded.
 - Pick-up and drop-off arrangements are confirmed with leaders on arrival.
- Bullying, harassment, or discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated.

5. Coaches, Leaders, and Volunteers

- Display high standards of behaviour and conduct at all times.
- Place the welfare and safety of participants above winning or personal gain.
- Encourage enjoyment of paddlesport, fair play, and respect for others.
- Hold appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with training and safeguarding requirements.



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- Maintain professional boundaries with all members, especially children and young people.

6. Club Property and Facilities

- Treat club boats, paddles, and equipment with respect.
- Report any breakages or losses promptly.
- Help maintain a clean and safe environment at all club venues and waters used.
- All club PPE will be maintained, checked and be within its recommended lifespans

7. Social Media and Communications

- Use social media responsibly when representing or referring to the club.
- Do not post content that may be harmful, discriminatory, or damaging to the reputation of the club or its members.
- Respect confidentiality of members and club business.

8. Breaches of the Code

- Breaches of this Code of Conduct will be taken seriously.
- Minor breaches may be dealt with informally by a coach or committee member.
- Serious or repeated breaches may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or termination of membership, in accordance with the club's constitution.

Review

- Reviewed: August 2025
- Next Review: April 2026