



Buoyancy Aid Exemption Form Jan 2020 (Updated April 2022)

Whilst Norwich Canoe Club is an amateur sports club it endeavours to operate in a professional manner and provide a safe environment for all of its members to enjoy the sport of canoeing. Water presents different hazards subject to the, weather, flow, temperature, the potential time spent in it and potential hidden hazards such as weed. The risks of cold shock, hypothermia and drowning are clear and present. One thing that can make a critical difference to survival if capsized (especially in cold weather periods) is the wearing of a buoyancy aid.

However it is common practice amongst flat water canoeists to not wear buoyancy aids once they have progressed to Division 6 standard. The wearing of buoyancy aids is mandatory at all times for Norwich Canoe Club paddling members ranked in Division 7 or lower.

The Norwich Canoe Club policy for the wearing of buoyancy aids by its junior paddling members is as follows:

- Junior members who are under 18 and ranked Marathon Division 6 and above must wear a Buoyancy Aid unless the Head Coach or Coach-in-charge views that they have the level of competence so that the risk of capsizing is low and the parent or person legally responsible for the junior has given their consent.
- The Head Coach or Coach-in-charge can offer their view of a junior's paddler's ability however the Club will only allow a junior to not wear a buoyancy aid if the parent or person with legal responsibility for the junior has given their informed consent.
- Please return the form to the Club where it will be kept in the BA exemption file. The Club will then act in accordance with your instructions.
- Please note that despite your instructions that Norwich Canoe Club reserves the right to insist on juniors wearing buoyancy aids and whistles. This could also be the case for races and events that juniors attend where the wearing of a buoyancy aid may be mandatory.

Buoyancy Exemption Page 2

Name of Junior
DOB
Telephone No
Email
Name of parent or person with legal guardian
Signed to say you have read the attached leaflet
Date
Senior Coach Signature
Date

The activities of Norwich Canoe Club have “assumed risk”. Paddlers and people with parental or legal responsibility for paddlers should be aware of and accept these risks. Paddlers should accept responsibility for their own actions and involvement. To the extent permitted by applicable laws, Norwich Canoe Club accepts no liability for any direct, indirect, incidental, special or consequential loss or damage to anybody (whether arising in contract, tort including negligence or otherwise) arising out of or in connection with any of its activities except for personal injury or death of any person caused by negligence.

Norwich Canoe Club, Whitlingham Boathouses Foundation, Whitlingham Lane, Trowse , Norwich
NR14 8TR
Registered Charity 1197922
Contact: info@norwichcanoeclub.co.uk