

Good practice guidance for British Canoeing Awarding Body Instructors, Coaches and Leaders

British Canoeing Awarding Body Instructor, Coach and Leader qualifications are well respected throughout the world, due to the robust training and assessments that take place through a regulated framework of verification and standardisation. Once a qualification is gained, it is important to remain up to date with current practices, have appropriate processes in place, hold the relevant insurance, as well as maintain safeguarding and first aid training.

Below are good practice guidelines we would encourage anyone with responsibility for paddlers on the water to consider:

QUALIFICATIONS

Do you hold the relevant British Canoeing Awarding Body qualification? BCAB offer a full suite of qualifications and awards that enable you to coach and lead in a variety of environments. Have you got appropriate insurance cover and operating procedures for the activity you are responsible for?



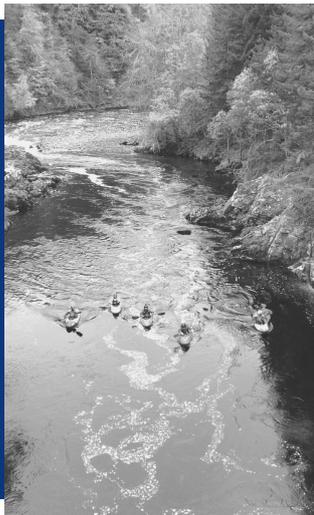
MITIGATE RISKS

Consider individual paddler capabilities and what you are asking them to do. Adopting a progressive approach can allow you and the paddler to settle in and gain confidence, understanding limitations, as well as providing appropriate and agreed challenges. Avoid the risk if it is considered that you or the paddler(s) have not got the appropriate ability.



UPDATED

Keeping up to date with current practices can involve working with other experienced coaches or leaders, as well as attending workshops or courses. Consider skill fade and how you might want to engage in continual professional development.



SKILLS / ABILITY

Checking skills/ability at the initial stages will allow you to gauge competence and confidence of the individual, providing you with information to consider appropriate practices and environments to use.



RISK ASSESSMENTS

Undertake appropriate risk assessments considering the environment, paddler(s), your own ability and equipment.



DOCUMENTATION

Maintain good management of documentation. For example, logging paddles and venues used, paddler personal information, risk disclosure forms, accident and incident recording.

