



BCU Coaches may operate at the club base at Barrow Docks according to their coach remit only if they are a listed Responsible User (or another RU is on site) and they have had a coach induction to the site.

General guidelines for use approval for the docks.

Each individual will be considered according to their skill and experience but below is set out the general principles according to level of skill / qualifications.

- 1) Coach + 5 * leader – at the leader’s discretion.
- 2) Level 3 coach / 4* - wind to force 4, moderate waves to about 40cm.
- 3) Level 2 coach / 3* - on shore wind producing waves of about 40cm with calm lee shore.
Off shore or N-S wind producing wave of about 30cm .
- 4) Level 1 coach / 3* - as for 3) above.
- 5) Level 1 coach / 2* - slight to moderate (on shore) wind with waves about 30cm
- 6) 2* paddlers – not leaders but helpers and general independent paddling as agreed with coach.

Where * star tests are referred to this indicates the standard of the individuals paddling not that they must hold this award.

Group size and management (novice and junior paddlers)

When considering size of a paddling group the main considerations are weather conditions (including water temp.), abilities of group members, and purpose of the session.

ALWAYS EXPECT AND BE PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED

Keep in line of sight. If paddlers leave the main group they should do so in groups of 3 or more and be equipped and able to rescue each other. If there are a large number of paddlers the leader should nominate other suitable paddlers to oversee sub groups (eg. tail end paddlers). During time trials with novices a boat should be positioned to help if needed.

With beginner groups of 6 boats there should be 2 paddlers able to carry out rescues.

Correct and careful deployment of assistants not only gives a safer paddling environment but gives the group members more confidence resulting in a more productive experience.

Parental consent – Assumed if a family club member or parent has signed junior members membership form. (Non- club juniors will have consent form from attending organization)

Medical declaration – ask new participants to inform you of any relevant conditions, give them opportunity to do this in private. If medication is needed to be carried on the water ensure participant + group leaders know where it is.

Non-swimmer – Up to the coach. All leaders need to know who are weak and non - swimmers. (A non-swimmer can be confident in the water with a BA on, this can be practiced at the pool.)

Disruptive behaviour – remove from the water / site, report to chair + welfare officer. Cancel session if unsafe to leave disruptive person unattended.

Child protection – Report any concerns to welfare officer.

Carol Stringer - 01229 586289 - 07929756870