



Martlet Kayak Club

294-295-Madeira Drive Brighton BN21DX
www.martletkayakclub.org.uk



1. Members are required to read and familiarise themselves with these rules, which must be followed at all times. They are intended for the safety of all Club members and form the basis of the agreement by which members are allowed to use the Club facilities and equipment.
2. Any member who feels these rules are unfair, incorrect or need amending should raise their reasons at an MKC Committee meeting. The MKC Committee can by majority vote change rules as required.
3. Members must not suffer from any disability or medical condition, which will render them unfit for strenuous exercise. Should a medical condition exist, this will not necessarily preclude membership/participation, but it must be declared. Should there be any doubt advice should be sought from a doctor.
4. Conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy and asthma, or any other conditional that could affect a member's physical condition must be declared at the beginning of every Club event or session to the member in charge.
5. Personal boats will either be used by the Club or sold if the annual boat storage is not paid.
6. Members must be able to swim at least 50 meters.
7. Only Club members can use Club facilities, boats and equipment unless authorised by the Committee (see notes below.)
8. Everyone must wear a Buoyancy Aid on the water at all times.
9. Canoeing Helmets must be worn whenever there is a risk of a blow to the head e.g. Polo, Surfing, White Water paddling, waves dumping on the beach etc. If a Club instructor deems the wearing of helmets necessary, members must conform.
10. Members may only go afloat with the express permission of an authorised person. (In most cases this will be the person responsible for opening the Club or the coach/instructor who is running the session.)
11. Novices and paddlers of basic experience should stay on the beach opposite the Club and must stay close inshore and in sight. (As a rough guide this means paddlers below 3 star standard.) This rule applies to all ages.

12. No one may paddle offshore unless they can roll in anger or they are part of a group well versed and practised in deep water rescues.
13. Out of regard for the key holder who opened the Club, members going afloat should let the key holder know where they are going, what they are doing and when they intend returning. Everyone going afloat must sign the board and rub off their name when they return. Those authorised to paddle off to the Pier, Marina etc. should only do so when they know for sure what time the Club is closing and they must return in good time.
14. When going afloat members should be especially aware of the dangers of offshore winds. If in doubt, ask one of the Club coaches about the tides, winds and the sea conditions.
15. A list of members who are BCU qualified coaches will be published and be available in the Club arch.
16. No one may take boats or equipment away from the Club without the permission of the equipment officer or the committee.
17. Key holders who open the Club have a duty of care. They have a responsibility towards the safety of members going on the water. If they are unhappy about any aspect of safety (e.g. their own, the paddlers competence, poor weather or sea conditions) they must have the strength of mind to refuse to let members go afloat.
18. Minors under the age of 12 can only be admitted as members when a parent or guardian is also a member (this can be a social membership).
19. Club members under the age of 16 (minors) must have an accompanying adult who takes parental responsibility for them when not on the water. Adults with parental responsibility for minors must stay for the whole of the Club session as this will help to minimise key holder or coach workload.
20. Key holders who are unhappy about a minor wanting to attend a session without parental supervision should refuse and ask them to give a copy of these rules to their parents/guardians.
21. Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st.
22. Any person wishing to join the Club before and up to 1st September will pay the full membership subscription. After that date a 1/3 of the year's subscription will be levied for membership (no deferred payments scheme will be available) up to the next financial year. On some occasions the committee may allow someone to join late in the membership year and allow this to go towards next year's membership.
23. To be a Club member the membership fee must be paid.

- 24. All renewals to be made (by whichever method) by April, if this is not satisfied the person is no longer a member.
- 25. All Members are allowed to attend and participate in MKC Committee meetings but will not have voting rights.

NOTES:

- A. The term 'Member' includes members of affiliated groups and members paying on a deferred basis. Other people may use Club equipment on specified occasions e.g. open days when this has been organised by the committee and involves a qualified instructor.
- B. Visiting canoe Clubs may also use the arch facilities: changing rooms, shower etc. at the discretion of the key holder.
- C. Only MKC members are covered under BCU third party insurance.

**MKC Committee
January 2009**

Signed

Junior Co-ordinator.....

Chairperson