

Halifax Canoe Club

Trips Away from/outside of Home Waters – Coach & Leader Remits

Club trips outside of Home Waters are to be undertaken in line with current **BC Coach and Leader Terms of Reference**. These are available online at:

<http://www.canoe-england.org.uk/media/pdf/BCU%20TERMS%20OF%20REFERENCE%20V4-1.pdf>

Coaches and Leaders should ensure that they are aware of the remit(s) that they can operate within and ensure that where relevant trip organisers are aware of the remit(s) they can operate within.

For activities where the Trip Organiser is not the person taking the lead on the water, the Trip Organiser should ensure they are familiar with the relevant coach or leader requirements and remit for the trip, and ensure that suitable coaches/leader are running the activity in line with these Terms of Reference.

This document provides only a brief summary of the key points from the BCU Terms of Reference, and the full document must be consulted.

Coaches, Leaders and Trip organisers requiring further clarification or confirmation of their current remit(s) should contact the Club's Coaching Officer.

Activities on '**Home Waters**' have been risk assessed and fall under a separate Club **Home Waters Risk Assessment** and the **River Conditions Policy**, a brief summary of which is given at the end of this document.

Terms of Reference Key Points

Coach or Leader requirements

The level of coach or leader required to run the trip will depend on the nature of the water to be paddled on a Club trip and the craft being used.

Additionally the ratio of paddlers to coaches or leaders varies according to nature of the water being paddled (environmental conditions) and the level of qualification of the coach or leaders

The appropriate qualifications and coach/leader to paddler ratios are set out in the **BC Coach and Leader Terms of Reference** on the above link. Of particular relevance to club trips are:

- Page 3 and 4 – setting out the coach/leader qualifications and ratios.
- Page 12-14 – setting out definitions of each coaching/leading environments

Coaching verses Leading

BCU Terms of Reference make a distinction between Coaching and Leading.

The **4 and 5 Star Leader Awards** provide a remit to lead a group of *competent* paddlers in the relevant environment. Competent is defined as paddlers who do not require coaching to be in/on that environment.

An appropriate **Coaching Award** does provide a remit to introduce people to and develop skills in the relevant environment.

Trips on Home Waters

Home Waters are defined as below the Double Weir down to the egress steps at the bottom of the slalom course, as well as the sections of canal from Luddendenfoot to Salter Hebble. Coaching and leading remits for these are set out in the clubs Home Water Policy and Risk Assessment. **This exists to enable club paddling on very familiar water in normal river levels**

The current versions of the Clubs Home waters Policy is available in the policy section of the club website at <http://www.halifaxcanoe.org.uk/club-policies/>

Within the provision of the Home Water policy it is possible for coaches to undertake a circular trip from the club up the canal and down the river Calder from below the double weir. (Egress the canal immediately before bridge 4, follow the footpath across the field and bridge to access the river below the double weir.) Before undertaking a circular trip coaches must be familiar with the crossing points between the canal and river and seek advice from the club's Coaching Officer if required.

Other club trips from the club either joining the Calder **above the double weir** or on the river **downstream of the white water** course are outside of Home Water. Therefore these **must be under the supervision of a suitable qualified BC coach or leader** as set out in the current BC Coach and Leader terms of reference with an appropriate trip risk assessment.