



THE PARENT'S CODE OF CONDUCT OF THE VIKING CANOE & KAYAK CLUB

Expectations for Parents

Parents play a significant role in the success of their child's sporting experience. It is important to monitor the type of support and expectations for their child. How a parent reacts to any particular situation that the athlete encounters in the sport will be mirrored by the athlete, so particularly in cases of dispute and disagreement, it is important to encourage good sportsmanship by being a positive role model to their child. *The parents' conduct towards coaches and other fellow parents, athletes and members of the Club must be characterized by courtesy, good faith and respect.*

Parents and legal guardians of athletes training at the Viking Canoe & Kayak Club are expected to:

- Support and encourage their child at all times, no matter what the outcome or circumstance.
- Understand that this is a team sport and strive to be supportive of the whole team and not just individual athletes
- Inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of the child or the health and safety of others
- Be respectful of coaching decisions and also of race officials
- Refrain from interfering with training, coaching or racing at any time or at any venue. This includes issues of concern such as their child's performance, training regime, etc. All these issues should be discussed at an appropriate and pre-arranged time and place (ie never before, during or immediately after a race or during training). Follow the "24 hour rule" . Be sure to follow the designated chain of command, i.e. if an issue with a junior coach cannot be satisfactorily resolved, speak with the head coach prior to contacting the Board.
- Contact the Board if an issue has not been satisfactorily resolved directly with the head coach
- Understand that racing development, advanced, and high performance levels are part of the developmental and competitive stream of sprint kayaking and canoeing. Training and competing at these levels require total commitment, focus and effort. This is not summer camp week over week.
- Volunteer from time to time. Parental volunteer involvement with the club at any level is necessary and heavily encouraged. The Club is a collective group of volunteers trying our best to maximize the potential in your child and in the club.
- Be pro-active in seeking regatta-related information (for example, ensuring that you are on the email distribution list, seeking confirmation from coaches, etc, and not relying solely on information coming home with athletes).

CLUB de CANOË-KAYAK **VIKING** CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB



- Respond to emails when requested, in order that decisions and appropriate follow-up can be made in a timely fashion.
- Recognize that parents are not to be involved in the decision making of race entries and crew boats.
- Understand that parents are not to instruct an athlete before or after a race as it may conflict with the coach's plans and strategies
- Reserve contact between the athlete and parents to breaks and lunch time while at regattas. It is not time to socialize between races, as the athletes need to focus and prepare themselves for the next race.
- Ensure that no other family member interferes during training or coaching.
- Pay all fees owing to the Club on time
- Acknowledge that athletes participating in Regionals, Provincials and Nationals are responsible to pay all race fees
- Acknowledge that athletes participating in Regional, Provincial and National competitions are responsible to pay for their own transportation, hotel and food expenses.