



Axe Vale Canoe Club (AVCC)

Contact us at: info@axevalecc.co.uk

Website: <http://www.axevalecc.co.uk/>

Affiliated to Paddle UK and
Quality Mark accredited



Club Code of Conduct

It is the policy of Axe Vale Canoe Club that all paddlers, volunteers, coaches and parents show respect and understanding for each other and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club. The aim is for all paddlers to improve performance and have fun.

Everyone involved in the Club should abide by the Club Rules and Policies, otherwise their club membership may be revoked. All our leaders and coaches are volunteers who do support the club for enjoyment of participating in the sport.

AVCC will not tolerate any form of harassment, including:

- Sexual Harassment
- Racial Harassment
- Sexuality harassment
- Disability harassment
- Vilification discrimination.¹

Members and Paddlers

- **Protect:** Take care of all property belonging to the club or club members. Help ensure that your, the clubs and other members equipment is clean and put away where it came from at the end of sessions. Help ensure the club house & changing rooms are clean at the end of sessions.
- **Respect:** Treat other club members with respect at all times — on and off the water — treat other paddlers as you would want to be treated yourself.
- **Behaviour:** Control tempers and avoid behaviour which may inconvenience or upset others. The club includes members from 11 to 70+, including vulnerable youths and adults; language or action, during club activities, which causes distress or offence to other people will not be tolerated.
- **Listen:** Co-operate and listen to your coach or club officials.

On the Water

- **Prepare:** Do you have skills and ability (including rescues) for this trip? Do you have necessary equipment (buoyancy, footwear and helmet)? Ask leader if unsure? Take care and accept help lifting boats and using any slipways/access/egress.
- **Ask:** **Check** with leader before entering water at start and after break/ portage. If you want to try something ask first, so we can arrange any safety cover.
- **Group:** **Stay** with the group for the duration of the trip/session. Remember the whole group: look out for others welfare, e.g. cold/tired.
- **Behaviour:** **Maintain** line of sight with a leader during trip (they are responsible for our safety).

¹ Humiliates, intimidates, and incites hatred towards, contempt for, or ridicule of a person or a group

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- **Listen: Follow** leader's instructions including to Portage a feature if asked to. In the event of capsize/ incident be prepared to listen to the leader follow instructions and assist.

Club Officials, Coaches and Volunteers

- Consider the well-being and safety of paddlers before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with performers, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Follow British Canoeing and club guidelines and policies.
- Hold the appropriate, up-dated qualifications and insurance.
- Encourage paddlers to value their performance and not just results.
- Never condone the use of prohibitive substances.

Parents/Guardians

- Help your child to recognise good performance.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Never punish or belittle a child for making mistakes.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy the sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Set a good example by applauding good performances of all paddlers.

Complaint or Grievance Policy

- If any club member wishes to raise a Complaint or Grievance, it should be reported in writing to the Club Secretary. Where the matter relates to the Club Secretary, the Complaint should be submitted to the Club Chair (who shall then fulfil the role of Club Secretary throughout the rest of this process).
- When reporting a Complaint, specific details and evidence about the Complaint or Grievance, must be included so the club committee can undertake an investigation in line with Paddle UK policy (further details on PUK website).