

<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>Jericho Paddling Club Canoe Safety and Usage Policy</b>
<b>Date Approved</b>	11/7/20
<b>Date of Last Revision</b>	6/29/21
<b>Authorization</b>	Jericho Board

## Purpose

Jericho Paddling Club (JPC) is committed to the safety of our paddlers and equipment. This policy outlines JPC rules for safe paddling throughout the year.

## Policy

JPC expects paddlers to be aware of weather conditions and possible changes that can result in dangerous situations. Before paddling, consult weather forecasts at [Environment Canada](#) and [BigDaveWave](#) or <https://jsca.bc.ca/services/weather/> to determine conditions.

## Paddling Safety

- We recommend that paddlers always wear a PFD , however, Paddlers must wear a PFD between October 1 and April 30
- Paddling is not permitted when:
  - there is a small craft warning: winds 20-33 knots or greater and wave height 2-3 metres or higher
  - if there is any thunder or lightning or when fog limits your ability to safely navigate or be seen
  - when the temperature is zero degrees or below at the airport as per [Environment Canada](#)
- When paddling at night, ensure there are operational bow and stern lights and each member of the crew has a headlamp or similar light
- The Board recommends each canoe carry a cell phone (\*16 emergency number) or VHF radio for communication

## OC6 Safety and Usage

- Paddlers must take part in a club or coach scheduled OC-6 huli drill each year. If a paddler cannot self-recover, boat privileges will be suspended until the paddler can show they can self-recover. Individuals must provide the equipment needed for their successful re-entry after a huli (i.e. Huli strap)
- OC6 canoes are not permitted west of Jericho after dusk
- The minimum number of paddlers required for an OC6 canoe is five. In rough conditions (15 knots or more at Jericho on [BigDaveWave](#) or <https://jsca.bc.ca/services/weather/> there must be six paddlers in the canoe.

## Makani Unlimited

- To use the Makani Unlimited paddlers must:
  - be a JPC member in good standing and part of the outrigger program; paddlers outside of the JPC must gain majority board approval to use the canoe
  - complete an orientation on the Makani – ask a board member if you need one
- The Unlimited is not to be used after dusk. If the crew cannot have the canoe cleaned and back in the shed by dark “don’t take it out”
- The Unlimited can only be used if 50% of the paddlers have done an annual huli drill
- There must be a minimum of 5 paddlers in the canoe
- For races the canoe can be trailered when:
  - The trailer is fully insured
  - All JPC paddlers in the race are available and able to safely load and secure canoe to the trailer
  - At the race site, all paddlers using the canoe must be available and able to safely unload and rig
  - Only JPC paddlers can load and unload the canoe from the trailer, and rig.

## Stern Responsibilities

- The JPC Board must approve Sterns before they take on the responsibility of steering a crew
- The OC6 canoes will remain locked and only those certified steers will have keys to unlock and use the canoes, it will be up to those individuals to protect their keys and NOT loan them out under any circumstances.
- Sterns must know what to do and how to direct the crew in the event of a huli
- Before leaving the shore, sterns must do an OC-6 safety check:
  - check the integrity of the rigging straps and lashing
  - ensure there are two bailers in the canoe
  - ensure at least one paddler has a signaling device (i.e. whistle)
  - ensure there are enough PFD's in the boat and an extra paddle
  - ask new paddlers about any physical limitations or health issues
  - if paddling at night, ensure there are operational bow and stern lights and each member of the crew has a headlamp or similar personal light
- The Stern must report damage or any issues with the canoe to the Board and email the whole club, so no other crews launch the canoe

## Club Small Boat Safety and Usage

- To take out small boats, you must have an orientation and demonstrate the ability to do huli re-entry with a board designated representative
- Report any damage or problems, but do not do any maintenance on your own.
- To reduce potential damage and ensure access to all members, club OC1, OC2, surfski, and paddle boards cannot be removed from the compound by vehicle
- Club OC1, OC2, surfski, and paddle boards cannot not be taken out for more than three hours without board consent.

## Member Not In Good Standing

Members who do not abide by either / both the JPC and/or JSC policy will get one verbal or written (email) warning. If the behavior or reason for the warning is repeated, and/or there is an additional offence, the member will then be deemed a "member not in good standing". The consequences can be no access to club equipment or ejection from the club, as determined by the JPC board.

