

Kirkwall Kayak Club

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION POLICY

Kirkwall Kayak Club is fully committed to protecting the environment in which it operates from adverse effect due to Club paddlesport activities. It recognises the responsibility to promote good environmental practice and to protect the receiving environment in which it operates.

These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- Paddlesport, with sea kayaking in particular, are recreational pursuits which if managed responsibly should have negligible impact upon the receiving natural environment and other water users.
- Environmental considerations will be implemented as much as reasonably practicable however safety of Club Members must remain the primary concern.
- Environment protection is everyone's responsibility.
- The Club will work in partnership with the SCA and other local organisations to promote protection of the receiving natural environment and interests of other water users.

Kirkwall Kayak Club will:

1. Encourage appreciation of the local environment in which the Club operates by all Club Members and promote awareness of the importance of minimising any impact of the Club's activities on the receiving environment.
2. Respect the rights and requirements of other water users and natural features by following current good practice guidance, namely the SCA advice document "Sea Kayaking – A Guide to Good Environmental Practice" wherever it is reasonably practicable and safe to do so.
3. Observe current guidance regarding access such as that contained in the "Scottish Outdoor Access Code" and the SCA advice document "Paddlers' Access Code".
4. Act in accordance with other appropriate procedures in line with local advice as required.
5. Support and supervise its coaches, members and volunteers to adopt best practice to protect the receiving natural environment in which the Club operates.

6. Require committee, members and volunteers to adopt and abide by this Environment Protection Policy and these procedures.
7. Respond to any allegations of bad practice in line with this Policy.
8. Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Policy and procedures.

Review

This Policy will be regularly reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in guidance issues by our Governing Body, the Scottish Canoe Association or following any changes in advice from local environmental or navigational organisations.
- Following any issues or concerns raised about the protection of the receiving environment which Kirkwall Kayak Club operate in.
- In all other circumstances, at least every three years.