

NEWCASTLE OUTRIGGER CANOE CLUB

CODE OF CONDUCT

Newcastle Outrigger Canoe Club. (NOCC) is committed to providing its members with a safe and enjoyable environment in which they can participate in the sport of outrigger canoeing. The code of conduct minimum standards are no way intended to diminish the enjoyment for any member, but to ensure that all members have the opportunity enjoy the sport to the same level.

In light of this commitment, this document outlines the Code of Conduct minimum standards, which NOCC members must abide by.

In addition, these standards seek to ensure that the rules, guidelines, laws and regulations of Australian Outrigger Canoe Racing Association Inc. (AOCRA), NSW Maritime Safety (or relevant local authority) and any specific regatta race rules are adhered to by NOCC members at all times.

These standards are applicable when members are at or traveling to & from training or regattas, staying in accommodation associated with a regatta or attending a function associated with a regatta, etc.

All members are bound to these standards and any breaches may require the member to come before the NOCC Management Committee.

Code of Conduct – Minimum Standards – All NOCC members are bound to:

General

- Be aware of and abide by the rules, guidelines, laws and regulations of AOCRA, NSW Maritime Safety (or relevant local authority), the NOCC Risk Management Policy and any specific regatta rules.
- Refrain from any behaviour that may bring NOCC, AOCRA, a regatta organisational committee, sponsors or outrigger canoeing in general, into disrepute.
- Not engage in any illegal doping practice as defined by the Australian Sports Drug Agency.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all outrigger canoe paddlers regardless of their age, gender, ability, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion.
- Refrain from any form of harassment and/or abuse towards all outrigger canoe paddlers and/or officials.
- Be fair and considerate in your dealings with other NOCC members, coaches, Management Committee and AOCRA / regatta officials.
- Refrain from aggressive, physically distressing or sexually provocative behavior towards all outrigger canoe paddlers, especially those under the age of 18.

Membership Responsibilities

- Assist in club activities, such as open days, corporate days, fundraising activities and the hosting of regattas.
- Assist in all club fundraising activities to an equal & fair share as stipulated by the NOCC Management Committee.
- Ensure all annual membership forms and subscriptions are submitted by the due date as stipulated by the NOCC Management Committee. Failure to do so will result in the member voiding their NOCC & AOCRA memberships and insurance. Therefore, until the situation is rectified, the member cannot train or race in NOCC equipment or make any claims resulting from an accident or injury should they continue to train on their own craft during this period of non-insurance.
- Respect and abide by the decisions of the NOCC Management Committee and AOCRA officials and in the event of disagreement or dispute, raise the matter in an appropriate forum and situation.

Training and Racing

- Make every effort possible to develop their own paddling abilities, in terms of technique, teamwork, tactics, stamina, skill and understanding of the art of outrigger canoe paddling.
- Make every effort to understand the dynamic of the ocean and to learn and respect the traditions of outrigger canoe paddling.
- Follow the instructions of NOCC coaches, provided those instructions do not contradict the spirit of this code.
- Strive for the best possible performance at every training session and regatta.
- Support and encourage all NOCC members at all training sessions and regattas.
- Refrain from the promotion of disharmony, dissent or their own personal agenda amongst the crews or club as a whole.

Equipment

- Respect NOCC, AOCRA and club members privately owned equipment and assist when required in the maintenance of said equipment to ensure it is always in good working order.
- Assist in the preparation of NLMOCC equipment for training, transportation to & from regattas, and for racing at regattas.
- The following are the basic rules for use of club equipment;
 - Club Canoes are not to be used in broken surf conditions ie Beach surf.
 - Club canoes are to be paddled only. They are not to be used with motors, sails or kites attached.
 - All damage to equipment is to be reported to the committee ASAP.
 - All NOCC owned equipment including canoes, trailers and other support item are not to be modified without prior approval of the committee.
- Members not abiding by the rules laid down will be restricted from using the club equipment.

Coaching – In addition to the above minimum standards, NLMOCC coaches are bound to:

- Ensure a safe training & racing environment for all members, taking note of each member's skill level.
- Provide appropriate training methods as to advance a member's skill level and enjoyment in the sport.

- Ensure that all members are abiding by the aforementioned minimum standards while training and racing, providing education and guidance when required.
- Provide an annual training program in accordance with AOCRA's policy. This program is to outline the training sessions for the season. This program is to be made available for all members to peruse. Each training session is to be kept in a logbook detailing the following items
 1. Time & date
 2. Attending paddlers
 3. Direction/location
 4. Weather conditions
 5. Type of & duration of the session
 6. Any incidents or injuries.
- Ensure that race crews are chosen using selection criteria that is fair, justifiable, unbiased, transparent and consistent. This selection criterion is to be made available for all members to peruse.
- Ensure that appropriate coaching qualifications are maintained.

Management Committee – In addition to the above minimum standards, the NOCC Management Committee members are bound to:

- Ensure that all NOCC members are provided a safe club environment whilst members are on the club beach area, training & racing in NOCC equipment and at regattas.
- Ensure that the appropriate AOCRA, memberships and insurances are maintained for NOCC members, the Management Committee and equipment
- Ensure that appropriate procedures, applications, licences, insurances, etc. are obtained when hosting a regatta, open or corporate day.
- Ensure that all members receive the code of conduct and it is also clearly displayed at the club site for members to peruse.
- Provide a fair, impartial, justifiable and consistent forum when dealing with matters that may arise. These matters may result in the enforcement of penalties, suspension and/or cancellation of membership as deemed appropriate by the Management Committee.

The NOCC Management Committee, with due consultation with NOCC members, may deem it necessary to adapt the code of conduct minimum standards as the need arises.