

PHILADELPHIA CANOE CLUB POLICY ON TRIP PARTICIPANTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the policy of the Philadelphia Canoe Club to consider all club trips posted on our website (Philacanoer.org) as "Common Adventures." That is, all participants share the risks, and each participant is responsible for their own safety, generally, and specifically as follows:

1. All participants are equal partners, sharing the risks involved in a trip.
2. The Trip Coordinator facilitates the trip and arranges for meeting places and times.
3. The Trip Coordinator is not a guide, nor do they lead the trip or decide who should or should not attend.
4. All participants should be familiar with and follow American Canoe Association's "Top 10 Safety Tips" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDtF8j_wdOI&list=UUINlxysO2GR4rO6JGNhE0g and/or American Whitewater Safety <http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/safety:start?>.
5. All participants must decide:
 1. Whether or not to join the trip based on an honest evaluation of their personal skill.
 2. Whether or not to launch on the day of the trip based on water and weather conditions at the scene.
 3. What equipment to take on the trip.
 4. Whether or not to run, scout or portage a rapid.
 5. Whether or not to participate in a rescue.
 6. Whether or not to pass up any walk-out or take-out opportunity.
6. Dangerous water levels will cancel the trip.

Requirements (for your safety):

* **You must wear your PFD Life Jacket** while on the water and should have a whistle.

* **All participants are required to have insurance from the American Canoe Association (ACA).** Trip participants must complete the ACA Waiver and Release of Liability. Printed copies will also be available the morning of the trip. There is no cost for members who provide their ACA membership number on this form. **Non-members can purchase a one-day event membership for \$10** paid the day of the trip. **Annual ACA membership is encouraged and is \$40 for individuals** which gives you a discount on club trips and supports the paddling community.

* **Wear clothes suitable for the weather and water temperatures.** Wear a bathing suit or quick drying clothes that you can wear comfortably when wet. If the weather or water is cool, dress in layers and consider a wet suit, paddling jacket, dry-top, or dry-suit as needed. **Bring water** to stay hydrated, ideally in a bottle that can be attached to the inside of your boat.

* **Wear water shoes** or some other form of foot protection. Flip-flops are not acceptable.

Suggestions (for your comfort):

- A dry bag or waterproof container for your personal belongings.
- Drinks, snacks and lunch for all day trips.
- a secure place to carry your car keys.
- sunscreen and insect repellent.
- hat and sunglasses.
- dry clothes to change into for the ride home.