

Spotter Safety

You are an important part of the OWS Safety team performing vital duties on shore, assessing water quality, delivering the briefing, recording swimmers in and out of the water and being the link between those in the reservoir and the Activity Centre staff.

Equipment

You will be given a case containing a whistle, klaxon, the sign in/out sheet, Hi viz jacket, additional swim caps etc. Can you also get two radios from the office (one for you and one for the Kayaker), the swimmers in the water sign and the briefing board.

Specifically you are responsible for the following:

Before your session

- View Practise safety drill video on website to familiarise yourself with protocols (www.midsussextriclub.co.uk)
- Read the OWS Risk Assessment and Emergency Action Plan (EAP) available on the website

On the day

- Look for signs of Green Algae on waters edge and if concerned consult Activity Centre staff
- Put out Yellow 'swimmers in water' sign
- Record Dutyman team at the top of the sign in sheets
- Refer swimmers to briefing board and read condensed safety briefing as provided.
- Familiarise yourself with the radio controls and do periodic radio checks between the shore staff and the kayaker.
- Mark attendance on sign in sheet
- If new or inexperienced swimmers identified offer swim float and assign swim buddy
- Be in suitable position on the shore to view swimmers and watch for anyone in trouble
- If weather deteriorates with likelihood of lightening, with Kayaker and use of the klaxon & whistle usher swimmers out of the water
- When swimmer exits water, mark in the out column
- Generally ensure pontoon area is safe
- Ensure everyone is safely out of the water by the end of the session
- In the event of an emergency follow the protocols in the EAP
- When all swimmers are clear of the water secure and return all equipment

**Return sign in sheets to Ricci Lennon or Julie Williams
Many Thanks for being the MSTC Safety Spotter**

Kayak Safety

You are an important part of the OWS Safety team performing vital duties in a kayak on the water. You will patrol the swimming area, keeping alert and watching for hazards and swimmers in difficulty. You will keep in radio contact with the Spotter to ensure everyone remains safe. For the majority of the summer there will be two kayaks on the water and it is important they work together to cover the entire swimming area (see patrol plan).

Guidance (for competitions) suggests there should be a ratio of one safety craft per 20 swimmers; swimmers should be reachable within one minute and be no more than 50m from the safety craft. We will aim to match these requirements during training sessions. As such the patrol pattern must take place within the swim area and kayakers separate out to gain maximum coverage.

Equipment

Please collect the Kayak, paddle, buoyancy aid, float and radio (office) and a whistle

Specifically you are responsible for the following:

Before your session

- View Practise safety drill video on website to familiarise yourself with protocols (www.midsussextriclub.co.uk)
- Read the OWS Risk Assessment and Emergency Action Plan (EAP) available on the website

On the day

- Patrol in accordance with the attached plan
- Ensure swimmers remain in the designated swim area and swim in a clockwise direction
- Ensure sailors/rowers do not encroach in the swim area.
- If a swimmer is in trouble, follow the EAP
- In the event of a casualty evacuation or deterioration in weather, in consultation with the Spotter who will sound a continuous klaxon, use the whistle & hit side of kayak with paddle to alert swimmers & usher out of the water
- Follow the last swimmers back to the slipway at the end of the session, secure and return all equipment.

Many Thanks for being the MSTC Safety Kayaker

JP/JW/19