



CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater Mission Statement

Provide structure and programs to support the pursuit of excellence in competitive whitewater paddlesport in the core disciplines at all levels of participation.

Adhere to an athlete-centered approach, applying the principles of fair play, ethical conduct, equal opportunity, and personal excellence.

Implement the Sport Canada / CanoeKayak Canada-Whitewater Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model:



Ensure that athlete development is comprehensive, leading to enhanced personal growth in all areas, and positive lifetime benefits.

Maximize opportunities for all British Columbians to participate in and benefit from whitewater paddlesports.

Promote the development and education of our members as qualified coaches, instructors, leaders, officials, and volunteers.

Focus on the process, and let results be a marker of success, such as; increased participation, excellent performances at all levels, athletes regularly qualifying for the National Team, and athletes winning medals in international competition.

In order to fulfill this mission, Canoe Kayak BC- Whitewater shall act as the sole Provincial Sports Organization (PSO) for competitive whitewater paddlesports in the province of BC.

Scope of Mission

The mission of CanoeKayak BC – Whitewater is intended to be consistent with, and contribute to, the overall mission of CanoeKayak BC:

“The mission of CanoeKayak BC is to promote and develop competitive paddle sports by increasing participation, performance and growth, and encouraging personal success for everyone.”

The mission of CanoeKayak BC – Whitewater is also intended to be consistent with, and contribute to, the overall mission of the NSO, CanoeKayak Canada-Whitewater:

“CanoeKayak Canada – Whitewater leads, develops and sustains a sport system that promotes the pursuit of excellence in our competitive disciplines and lifelong participation at all levels.”

Administer the competitive sport programs of all whitewater paddlesports recognized by the NSO – i.e. the “core” disciplines – currently whitewater slalom, wildwater, freestyle, and canoe polo.

Prioritize the development and administration of *competitive* whitewater paddlesports programs, as the core mandate.

Support *recreational* participation in each discipline as a key component of the long term athlete development model.

Competitive whitewater paddlesports other than those recognized by the NSO (i.e. surf kayak) may be supported, but these shall be considered lower priority.

Focus resources on components of the LTAD that are not fully supported by the NSO – currently all except “Training to Win”.

In administering competitive whitewater paddlesports in BC, prioritize disciplines that can provide the greatest contribution in terms of meeting NSO and PSO objectives – specifically, based on their ability to provide opportunities for athletes to compete at the highest levels, thereby realizing their full potential. Prioritization is based on opportunities to compete in:

- a) Olympic Games
- b) World Championships
- d) Pan-American Championships
- e) Canada Summer Games
- f) Western Canada Games
- f) BC Summer Games

The competitive sport programs administered shall generally comply with requirements as specified by regulating organizations such as CanoeKayak Canada - Whitewater and the International Canoe Federation (ICF).

Coach/Instructor education programs shall be consistent with NSO programs, and lead to the highest level of certification available in Canada - currently the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) administered by the Coaching Association of Canada (CAC).

CanoeKayak BC – Whitewater may implement non-NCCP supplemental programs as required, but these shall be considered lower priority.

Implement suitable officials training programs, in accordance with NSO and ICF regulations.

Incorporate a multi-discipline approach (including all whitewater and flatwater paddlesports disciplines) into athlete development programs. (This is consistent with the Sport Canada LTAD; with talent identification athletes can be encouraged to specialize in disciplines most suited to them; athlete numbers and performance will increase amongst all disciplines involved, due to decreased drop-out)

Key Objectives and Goals

Implement NSO programs at the provincial level

Establish an athlete-centred organizational structure, with areas of responsibility that correspond to stages of the long term athlete development model

Implement rules and regulations governing each discipline, as promulgated by the ICF and the NSO. Establish and implement supplementary rules and regulations as required.

Establish regular schedules of competitions and events on an annual basis.

Develop and implement policies for selecting provincial teams and determining a provincial ranking.

Provide coach/instructor education opportunities, utilizing the NCCP and Whitewater Canada programs.

Provide instruction and leadership education opportunities, targeted for recreational participants

Provide officials and volunteers education opportunities and programs, in accordance with NSO, ICF, or other applicable standards

Work to increase the number of participating athletes and clubs

Work to increase the geographic distribution of athletes and clubs throughout the provincial zones.

Assist clubs with the development of programs and infrastructure.

Implement athlete development and support programs for all stages of the long term athlete development model, focussing on stages not fully supported by the NSO or other organizations.

Develop and promote safety standards and guidelines, consistent with NSO standards.

Establish regional development centres.

Send a BC Team to the National Championships annually.

Hold BC Championships annually.

Work towards inclusion in major regional multi-sport events, such as the BC Summer Games.

Liaise with funding agencies (i.e. Sport BC, PacificSport) to access all available funding and resources.

Maintain an accurate database of all athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers

Develop and maintain facilities, strategically located throughout the province to best serve the athletes. Facilities shall be developed in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Protect access to natural waterways by supporting conservation efforts, where there are clear benefits consistent with the mission.

Where possible initiate, participate in, or support environmentally sustainable projects to enhance natural or artificial waterways for the purposes of whitewater canoeing and kayaking.

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