

Burleigh Fire Dragons Club Inc.

Code of Conduct

This code of behaviour has been developed in an attempt to ensure that differences of opinion between club members remain as a simple disagreement, and that such differences do not affect the enjoyment other paddlers gain from their involvement with BFD and/or the sport of Dragon Boating.

BOAT BEHAVIOUR

- **The sweep is in charge of the boat on the water. Listen out for, and respond quickly to their instructions as your safety could be at risk.**
- **Listen carefully to instructions from the coach, and always follow them to the best of your ability. If in doubt, ask them to repeat the instructions.**
- Be courteous at all times, and support your team by supporting your teammates.
- **Respect other paddlers and their paddling skills, regardless of their experience.**
- Constructive criticism is only acceptable when made in the spirit of helping others hone their technique.
- Respect all people who have taken on positions of responsibility in the club. This includes the management committee and the coach. They have been elected to do a job and they need your support to help build a winning team.
- Coaches are responsible for running training sessions. In the absence of a coach, the team Captains, or other nominated paddlers are to run the session.
- Only those paddlers nominated by the coaches should be calling instructions in the boat.
- Mentors chosen by the coaches are responsible for training new members in our paddling technique and boat safety, so leave it up to them.
- Paddlers are responsible for their own and their partners safety.
- Keep paddles on the water at all times when in the boat.
- In case of a capsized we use the buddy system, the back seat paddlers are also to ensure the safety of the sweep.
- Following a capsized; you must stay with the boat at all times.

RACE DAY BEHAVIOUR

- Paddle by the rules.
- Respect the Team Selector's decision. Approach the Team's Captain if there are any problems with the selected team.
- Never argue with a regatta official. If you disagree with them, discuss your feelings with the Team Manager, and it is their decision on what action, if any, should be taken.
- Control your temper. **Any abusive behaviour** towards the officials, coaches, selectors, other teams, or paddlers, **is simply not acceptable.**
- Be a good sport. Applaud the achievements of all teams, not just ours.
- Treat all paddlers, as you would like to be treated.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit. All other paddlers are there for this reason, so please don't spoil it for them.
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all paddlers, regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.