



Blue Chip SUPer Club:

The Blue Chip SUPer Club is owned and operated by Brian Johncey trading as Blue Chip SUP and the day to day running of the club is guided by the members.

A) Membership conditions: qualification, general conduct and conflict of interest provisos

1. Qualification:

- a) Any person who undertakes to behave in the best interest of SUPing shall be eligible for membership regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.
 - b) **Election qualification:** Candidates for election to membership shall make written application to the Secretary of the Club on the form provided.
 - c) **General membership entry restrictions:** The power of election shall rest solely with the owner of the Club who may refuse membership only for good cause including but not limited to:-
 - i. *A person who has a conflict of interest with the Blue Chip brand or Club.*
 - ii. *A person who has shown conduct or character likely to bring the Blue Chip brand or Club or sport into disrepute.*
 - iii. *A person who has been expelled from, or refused membership of;*
 - *Paddle UK (British Canoeing)*
 - *Thames Sailing Club, shall not be eligible for membership.*
 - iv. *Appeal against refusal may be made to a committee of founding members via the SUPer Club Secretary.*
2. **Acceptance:** The Club owner may decline to accept renewal of membership, from any person, only for good cause including but not limited to conflict of interest, conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal of renewal may be made to the General Committee via the SUPer Club Secretary
 3. Members must be able to swim a distance of 50 metres without the aid of a lifejacket / buoyancy aid.
 4. Applicants must be 18 years or over to qualify as a club member:

B) Safety

1. We advise all Members to take out personal insurance to cover their paddling activities
2. The Blue Chip SUP Club is an entirely voluntary club; by participating in any club activities you accept personally responsibility for your own actions fitness and health whilst taking part.
3. The club and its members shall not be liable for your actions whilst on or off the water.
4. You accept personal liability and personal responsibility whilst joining any club activity.
5. We recommend that you abide by advice relating to your own safety and that of others whilst participating in any club activity.
6. We recommend you have your own liability insurance and possess all relevant licences to participate in any club activity.
7. Membership of the club gives you access to club activities; the club accepts no liability for damage or injury however caused whilst participating in club activities.
8. Whilst the club members may offer advice and support to its members it offers no liability for such advice.
9. I hereby accept full responsibility for my own actions and safety whilst taking part in any club event or activity, I am free to remove myself from any activity or event if I have concerns for my own abilities to take part and fully accept liability for my own safety and actions during any such activities.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

10. A paddle "**Route Planner**" will be chosen by the collective paddle group as a whole.
11. The sole and only responsibility of the "Route Planner" is for planning the paddle logistics/route/schedule and no more whatsoever on any account.
12. The paddle group as a whole accepts a collective responsibility for all other matters regarding the activity you are registering/taking part for; including safety and makes collective judgments taking into account dynamic risk assessments prior to and throughout the paddle.



13. As a participant of a Club Paddle; it is your sole responsibility to make a judgment as to your personal capability to safely take part in the paddle given your physical condition and skills ability on the day of the paddle and it is your responsibility to voice any concerns whatsoever to the other participants and to remove yourself from the paddle.
14. The paddle Route Finder and or other paddlers will have fully charged communication devices with them (UHF, VHF, mobile phone)
15. Members retain sole responsibility for their own safety at all times.
16. **Caution is advised when the flow exceeds** the following: -
 - a) 60 m³/s for night time or reduced visibility paddling
 - b) 90 m³/s for day time paddling
17. **Once the water temperature drops to 12° or less**, suitable protective clothing should be worn. Protective clothing includes:
 - a) either a wetsuit (minimum of a “1.5mm wetsuit long john”) or a “drysuit”.
 - b) neoprene boots & gloves; a hat

C) Night Paddles:

1. **Lights:** Members must conform to accepted after dark river user conventions as used by other established rowing and kayaking clubs. Bright white lights that are visible 360°. These may be 2 lights each shining 180° mounted at the bow and stern of the board. Lights should be tethered to the board to avoid them being lost overboard. No flashing lights. Make sure the board is visible from the side and stern.
2. Only experienced adult paddlers
3. Night paddles will have limited numbers which will depend on the particular route
4. A dynamic risk assessment will be made prior to the paddle
5. A paddle Route Finder will be appointed at the start of each paddle session
6. The paddle route finder will give a safety briefing prior to setting off
7. We advise taking rehydration on the paddle
8. A first aider and trained water rescue paddler must be part of the paddle group
9. The paddle Route Finder and or other paddlers will have a fully charged communication devices with them (fully charged UHF, VHF, mobile phone)
10. Suitable reflective clothing must be worn
11. We advise extra dry clothing available

D) Guests and non-members

1. Paddle Notification List

- a. Only “**Open Paddle**” notifications will be sent out to non-members on the Paddle Notification list. These open paddle notifications will be capped at 3.
- b. It is the sole responsibility of the non-member paddler to satisfy themselves as to the planned paddle suitability is within their capability both physically and mentally.

2. Guests

- a. Members may bring guests of any age, but the sponsoring member accepts full responsibility for their guests including safety at all times.
- b. Guests must comply with all club rules, particularly A 1 and B 1.
- c. Non-members must comply with all club rules, particularly A 1 and B 1.
- d. Guests may use club equipment if available. It is their responsibility to satisfy themselves as to its suitability and safety.
- e. Any person, using club equipment is asked to make a donation to club funds.



E) Equipment

1. Members and guests renting or borrowing club equipment or privately owned equipment are responsible for making good any damage they might cause to the equipment. Details of damage must be notified to the Equipment Officer or owner.
2. A small selection of SUP equipment will be maintained by the club to introduce people to SUPing. It is expected that club members will rapidly acquire the necessary basic equipment needed for safe paddling. The club will maintain a selection of specialised SUP equipment for the delectation of members.
3. Members SUP equipment may be stored in the club store at their own risk in accordance with rules E 4 and E 5.
4. Anyone storing equipment in the club store must label it with name and telephone number and inform the equipment officer. Anyone leaving equipment in the club store for more than three months after the expiry of their membership will have deemed to have donated the said equipment to the club.
5. A storage charge will be levied, on an annual basis, on people storing equipment in the club store.
6. At the discretion of the club officers (the committee), keys to the club store may be held by the following: -
 - i. Individuals who have been paid up members of the club for at least 12 months
 - ii. Members who have SUP board(s) stored at the Club storage facility.

DECLARATION

Each member upon joining or attending a non-member paddle shall agree to the following declaration:

1. The Club may from time to time use images/videos of club members for the purpose of publicising the club and for use in publications including publishing on the internet.
2. Upon acceptance into membership of the Blue Chip SUPer Club
3. I understand that "SUPing is an "assumed risk water contact sports" that may carry attendant risks.
4. I should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for my own action and involvement".
5. I confirm that I do not suffer from any disability or medical condition which may render me unfit for strenuous exercise. *

Our aim is for all paddlers to improve their performance and have fun. Our instructors are qualified and we support those who wish to become an instructor. As a responsible club it is the policy of Blue Chip SUPer Club that all paddlers, volunteers, instructors and parents show respect and understanding for each other and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club. Everyone involved in the Club should abide by the Club's Rules and Policies. The Club adheres to the CE policies on Equity, for the protection of young and / or vulnerable people and photography. By applying to join the Blue Chip SUPer Club you are agreeing to abide by these rules.



Blue Chip SUPER Club Code of Conduct

Paddlers

- Treat other Club members with respect at all times – on and off the water.
- Treat other paddlers as you would want to be treated yourself.
- Take care of all property belonging to the club or club members.
- Control tempers and avoid behaviour which may inconvenience or upset others.
- Co-operate and listen to your coach or Club officials.

Club Officials, Coaches and Volunteers

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of paddlers before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with performers, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Follow CE and Club guidelines and Policies.
- Hold the appropriate, up-dated qualifications and insurance.
- Encourage paddlers to value their performance and not just results.
- Never condone the use of prohibited substances.

Activities

- Club trips are held most weekends throughout the year and some evenings during the summer months. These club trips may involve:
- Competitions
- SUPolo
- Wild water
- River trips
- Surfing
- Sea trips
- Lake trips
- Occasional weekend trips
- Paddling abroad
- Visit the club's website at www.BlueChipSUPERClub.co.uk for up to date information.