



Team Leaders and paddlers are reminded that, should the weather conditions on the regatta course be inclement, it may become necessary to introduce the mandatory wearing of Buoyancy Aids/Life Jackets for some or all paddlers. At which time it will be compulsory, while afloat, for those competitors to wear a Buoyancy Aids/Life Jackets that conform to the standard BS EN ISO 12402-5.

**Whenever buoyancy aids are compulsory, for defined classes of paddlers (or all), an Orange flag will be displayed on the flag pole by the Finish Tower.**

BC Sprint Racing Competition Rules and the Terms and Conditions of Participation at national regattas require all boats must remain buoyant when filled with water as detailed in BC Canoe Sprint Handbook.

Safety requirements are essential, especially the need for adequate buoyancy in all boats. Additional buoyancy must be securely fitted and visible in all boats, this will be checked at Boat Control. The Safety Rules in the Terms and Conditions of Participation in BC Canoe Sprint Handbook states; *“Boats must have sufficient buoyancy to float level with the water while supporting the crew when capsized. Boats inherent buoyancy must be supplemented by additional and visible fixed flotation material or by the provision of sealed bulk heads”*. Buoyancy will be checked, both systematic and random inspections. Competitors can be disqualified or incur penalty points, if found to have paddled in a boat with insufficient buoyancy.

**Team Leaders should ensure that paddlers have the correct buoyancy fitted in their boats and always bring Buoyancy Aids/Life Jackets to a national regatta.**

## **ELECTRIC STORM**

In the event of an electric storm, paddlers will be required to leave the course immediately, using the Scoreboard side of the lake. An announcement will be made and the umpire boats will ring a bell or sound a klaxon. Racing will not recommence until it is deemed safe by the Competition Committee.

**The Competition Committee may at their discretion, cancel or postpone racing in the event of unsuitable weather condition.**

**No refund of race fees will be made if, all or part of the competition is cancelled for whatever reason.**

## **Epilepsy;**

For information and guidance on canoeing and epilepsy go to the British Canoeing link: <http://www.brtishcanoeing.org.uk/about-canoeing/safety-guidance/canoeing-with-epilepsy>

## **Weil's Disease/Leptospirosis;**

If anyone capsizes and you think you may have an infection or flu-like symptoms go to your doctor and tell them you are a canoeist and there may be a risk of Weil's Disease/Leptospirosis that must be swiftly diagnosed and treated. Please report any cases to British Canoeing via this link: [Incident Reporting Online Form \(britishcanoeing.org.uk\)](#)