

## **Advanced Surf Safety and Rescue Training Syllabus**

### **Course Philosophy**

This award is designed for advanced surf paddlers operating in a moderate to advanced surf environment and is suitable for those seeking their Advanced Surf Kayak Leader Award or wanting to learn the principles of safe, advanced surfing and rescue techniques.

### **Course Aims**

This course aims to provide the participant with advanced rescue skills and techniques required to surf safely and to be able to assert a variety of surf rescue techniques in a variety of moderate to advanced surf environments.

The award has two purposes:

- To provide the surf paddler with the necessary skills which will enable them to ensure the safety of themselves and others in a moderate to advanced surf environment;
- To provide the paddler with the appropriate rescue skills which can be used to help themselves and/or others in difficulty in a moderate to advanced surf environment.

### **Course Prerequisites**

- British Canoeing Foundation Safety and Rescue Training course;
- Have the personal surfing ability of the Surf Kayak Leader Award;

- A First Aid certificate is not a prerequisite. However, the holding of a 16-hour First Aid certificate is strongly recommended;
- Students need to have a confident surf swimming ability. During the course, students will be required to swim approximately 150m in surf;
- Prior experience. Provide evidence of a minimum of 20 sessions in moderate to advanced surf conditions;
- Experience of managing paddlers in a surf environment;
- Aged 16 and over.

## **Craft**

Students can attend the course in any suitable craft complete with end tails and buoyancy or an appropriate ski and leash.

## **Equipment**

In addition to their own Personal Protective Equipment it is recommended that those operating in an advanced surf environment carry the following equipment (this requires to be made available to all students during the training course):

- Throw line – Floating high visibility rope, minimum length 20m, minimum diameter 8mm;
- Knife;
- Quick release tow line;

- 3-5 metres of climbing webbing plus a large HMS screwgate karabiner;
- Whistle;
- First Aid Kit, insulating/duct tape, spare clothes, food and warm drink;
- Survival Bag;
- Mobile Phone and other means of attracting/getting attention/help;
- Repair Kit.

### **Venue and Duration**

Rescues discussed and encountered during the training programme are intended to be used in any surf environment including advanced surf environments; the Venues for the training will enable the best learning opportunities for students. These are likely to include sheltered water venues and various breaks. The duration will be a 1-day course.

### **Staffing and Ratios**

A British Canoeing Level 5 Surf Coach with a current A5, or British Canoeing Level 5 Surf Coach with specific training and assessment, can direct the Advanced Surf Safety and Rescue course.

Ratios: 1 Course Director to 4 students. 2 Course Directors for 5-8 students.

## Risk Disclosure

All participants need to be aware of the risks associated with their involvement in rescues and rescue training. The course director will endeavour to make participants aware of these by introducing and employing coaching methodologies to minimise the risks for all involved.

## **Course Content**

### **A. Risk assessment and safe practice**

- A1. Environmental awareness
- A2. Management
- A3. Safety equipment
- A4. Safe paddling, etiquette, injury and incident prevention

### **B. Beach Based Rescue**

- B1. Coach a swimmer to shore
- B2. Rescue a swimmer using a throw line (packed and unpacked)
- B3. Walk in rescue of a swimmer from the water

### **C. Boat Based Rescues**

- C1. Rescue a capsized paddler using a deep water rescue from a kayak and a ski (to include low volume and finned surf kayaks)
- C2. Rescue an unconscious paddler from their boat
- C3. Rescue a conscious, entrapped paddler from their boat
- C4. In a kayak/ski approach and shepherd a swimmer to shore

- C5. In a kayak/ski approach and transport a swimmer to shore
- C6. Recover an unaccompanied boat to the shore
- C7. Recover an upright, but incapacitated paddler to the shore
- C8. Recover an abandoned paddle to the shore
- C9. Self-rescue
- C10. Rescue a swimmer from a rip

#### **D. Swimmer to Swimmer Rescues**

- D1. Rescue an injured/tired swimmer
- D2. Rescue an unconscious swimmer
- D3. Principles of deepwater EAV
- D4. Use of rescue aids