

## **Performance Planning for Paddlesport Coaches**

### **Time / Audience**

This 3-hour module is aimed at Paddlesport Instructors and Coaches wishing to develop their ability to improve a performer's development.

### **Introduction**

This module intends to develop a vocabulary in coaches to understand how to articulate a three-phase breakdown of the performer's needs. Firstly, the accurate breakdown of the type of paddling in focus; secondly, complete a performance profile of a paddler and thirdly, to the construction of a development plan to move the paddler accurately forward in the desired context. This ambition is not a narrow one and might be based purely on a desire to be a 'better' paddler physically, skilfully or mentally or it may have competitive intentions. For instance, it could be based on a future holiday trip for which fitness is an issue, a first attempt at a slalom event, or the Exe decent, or it may be that the jump to the next class of water needs a stronger mental attitude which at the moment is lacking. The detail will be closely aligned to chapters 2 and 18 of the coaching handbook.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this workshop, participants should understand:

- The accurate science-based description of the activity in focus, i.e. DW long distance, 24-hour aerobic and endurance event;
- Terminology in the context of physiological profiling;
- Terminology in the context of skill based profiling;
- Terminology in the context of psychological or mental profiling;
- Periodisation and its application in improving performance;
- Some of the age and gender issues when improving performers;
- The key issue of prioritisation or targeting weaknesses.

## Notes

The ability of a coach to accurately profile a paddler and then, using a judgment based on priority and ambition, to create a development plan underpinned by training and sports science principles, is invaluable to the coaching world. This module will identify the basic vocabulary necessary to complete the above using sports science and accurate terminology based on current best practice.

The level of this module is intended to be the initial attempt of a coach to assess and plan for the development of a paddler. The emphasis in this short module is to describe the type of activity involved in accurately assessing the profile of the performer matched against the activity and develop a coherent development plan or schedule to allow for improvement. This is the initial step in organising performance development.