

Minimum Safety Cover Requirements

At all club venues – Paddlers who are at least 2 star and FSRT standard can paddle without coach cover provided they are in a group of at least 3, one of whom must be over 18. They must inform someone on land at the centre that they are paddling.

The following guidelines apply to all other paddlers and have been derived from the BCU Terms of Reference for Coaches Document.

-Collingwood Dock within polo pitches, Crosby Small Lake and the polo pitches at Crosby Lake are rated as 'Very Sheltered Water'.

-The rest of Crosby Lake, provided wind force not exceeding Beaufort 3- gentle breeze (wind speed 8-12 mph, small twigs move) , the rest of Collingwood Dock, Stanley Dock, Bramley-Moore Dock, Salisbury Dock, Trafalgar Dock, the canal between Trafalgar Dock and West Waterloo Dock and West Waterloo Dock itself are rated as 'Sheltered Inland Water' as per BCU definitions.

- Crosby Lake when wind force is Beaufort 4 –moderate breeze (wind speed 13-18 mph, small branches move) is rated as Moderate Inland Water.

-Crosby Lake when wind force is Beaufort 5 - fresh breeze (wind speed 19-24 mph, small trees sway) is rated as Advanced Inland Water.

The coach in charge must of course use their own judgement regarding the guidelines below, taking into account the prevailing and predicted weather conditions and the particular group they are leading.

Activity	Paddlers	Location	Recommended minimum level of coach competence	Ratios coach :paddlers
Polo, general paddling	Anyone of less than 2 star and FSRT ability, including novices.	Swimming Pools	May be run by Club Official (includes qualified Polo referees) with cover from Pool Lifeguard. Where both pools are being used there should be an official or coach for each pool.	1:8
Polo, general paddling	Anyone of less than 2 star and FSRT ability, including novices.	All areas rated as Very Sheltered or Sheltered Inland Water	BCU UKCC Level 1 under Direct supervision of a Level 2 or above coach. or BCU UKCC Level 1 unsupervised with site specific training, valid 1 st aid, appropriate DBS declaration, over age 18.	Kayaks 1:8 Open boats (single paddler) 1:6 Open Boats (2 paddlers) 1:12
General paddling	Anyone of less than 2 star and FSRT ability including novices.	All areas rated as Moderate Inland Water	BCU Level 3	Kayaks 1:6 Open Boats (single paddler) 1:5 Open Boats (2 paddlers) 1:10
General paddling	Anyone of less than 2 star and FSRT ability, but not including novices.	All areas rated as Advanced White Water	BCU Level 3	Kayaks 1:4 Open Boats (solo or tandem) 1:4)