

Canoeing Policy of the Rensselaer Outing Club

Created 9/30/2015 by Brent Meixell

General

- Minimum of two canoes per trip, three preferred.(buddy boats)
- Must have gone on a trip with a current canoeing leader
- current certification in WFA and CPR
- Club canoes are not to be used on rivers above flood stage or rivers rated above Class III (class IV are allowed to be run by personnel with appropriate certifications and experience).
- Class of trip should be increased due to severity of weather and water conditions.

Classification of Trips

Easy (Beginner):

- Beginner trips on flat water, Class I, moving water or on lakes (such as: Mohawk River, Lake George, Lower Kayderoseros, Grafton, Beaver River-flat section)

Moderate:

- White water trips on Class II water, overnight canoe treks, or inclement weather.(such as: Upper Hudson, Farmington(Riverton- Satan's Kingdom), Housatonic, Sacandaga River)

Difficult:

- white water up to Class III, unfamiliar rivers, multi day canoe trips involving portaging, and/or long distance paddling. (such as: Upper Hudson Gorge)

Classification of Leaders

Assistant Leader:

- Aware of rescue techniques of swimmers and equipment, and their limitations.(Canoe-over-Canoe rescue, ...)
- Able to demonstrate, and teach basic strokes: (power stroke (forward and reverse),rudders(stern, bow, crossbow), draws and pries, J-stroke,C-stroke, sweep (forward and reverse), stern pry)
- Aware of proper care of equipment in use, storage, and transportation. ###Leader:
- perform all of the tasks of assistant leader as well as:
- Able to perform rescues in the class of water they are in.
- Able to read a river, and teach river reading skills
- Able to perform and teach whitewater maneuvers (Ferrying (front and back), eddy turns, peel outs, coming to shore(upstream end first)).
- Able to scout rapids
- Developed a "river sense"
- Aware of limitations of the group

Recommended Equipment on trips

Easy (Beginner):

- Canoes, paddles, PFDs, first aid kit, ropes/roof racks, foam pads, dry bags, duct tape, booties, gloves, guide book, map, compass (and the ability to use), extra food, extra (dry) clothes,Throw bag, trash bags

moderate:

everything from above, plus:

- helmets, floatation, wrap kit (rope, caribiners, webbing, prusiks), overnight gear (reference backpacking policy)

Difficult:

everything from above, plus:

- other experienced paddlers for safety boaters for white water trips