



**CENTURION CANOE CLUB  
REGULATIONS  
APRIL 2009**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Paddling on Rietvlei dam is at your own risk. Rietvlei dam is situated in a nature reserve and while every effort is made to keep the hippos out of Rietvlei dam, they have on occasion been sighted in the dam. A crocodile has also been sighted on bird island. You have signed the relevant indemnities when you joined the club as a member. It is therefore your decision and your risk as to whether you will paddle. Please report any sightings to our chairman.

We share the facilities of the Pretoria Sailing Club (PSC) and have an agreement with them and the Nature Reserve as to certain conditions that need to be met. All club members must therefore be aware of and adhere to the following club regulations.

## **2. GENERAL**

### **2.1 Club site**

The Sailing Club leases a site at the Rietvlei Dam in the Rietvlei Nature Reserve, which is the property of the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality. No person shall harm or disturb any animals, bird or fish life in the Reserve.

### **2.2 Penalties**

Restrictions on the use of the site are imposed by the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality and such restrictions are embodied in these regulations. Any member who infringes a regulation and thereby incurs imposition of a penalty by the Metropolitan Municipality shall defray the full cost of such penalty. In addition such a member shall be subject to such disciplinary measures as the Executive Committee of CCC may, at its discretion invoke, including expulsion from the Club.

### **2.3 Suggestions/Complaints**

Suggestions/complaints of any nature should be lodged in writing with the Secretary of CCC for attention of the Executive Committee.

### **2.4 Communication**

It is the responsibility of all members to keep their e-mail address and cell phone nr(s) current with the Secretary as this is the main communication channel with all club members.

The Secretary is the only entry point for all communication.

## 2.5 Membership

The canoe year stretches from 1 April to 31 March. It is the responsibility of every member to renew in time.

The renewal fee and/or new member's fee must be paid in full. No credit or terms will be accepted.

If there is more than one member per family (eg husband, wife and children under 18) then only one payment needs to be made to the PSC and Friends of Rietvlei.

Friends of Rietvlei cards will be made available to the members once received from them. This card entitles the holder, one adult and two children under the age of 18 years two days free access to the following nature reserves:

- ↳ Groenkloof
- ↳ Wonderboom
- ↳ Rietvlei.

### Current membership

Renewal of membership must take place **NOT LATER** than 31 March.

On payment of this renewal fee, which includes affiliation to GCU (Gauteng Canoe Union) and CSA (Canoeing South Africa) each member will be issued with:

- ↳ a CCC membership card, and
- ↳ one set of GCU numbers (your GCU nr consists of four digits).

Should an existing member not renew by 31 March, the following will occur:

- ↳ membership will lapse, and
- ↳ member will lose boat rack facility.

Should above-mentioned member wish to continue with his/her membership the member:

- ↳ will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list,
- ↳ has to pay a fine equivalent to the joining fee of the Yacht Club, and
- ↳ has to pay the full renewal fee.

## **New membership**

On payment of the annual membership fee, which includes affiliation to GCU (Gauteng Canoe Union) and CSA (Canoeing South Africa) each new member will be issued with:

- ↳ a CCC membership card,
- ↳ white gate access card
- ↳ one set of GCU numbers for their boat,
- ↳ regulations booklet (Centurion Canoe Club Regulations dd April 2009),
- ↳ CSA Safety Booklet.

New members will only receive above-mentioned once they have attended the 'New members Meeting' for the full duration thereof.

Membership cards are not transferable and these may on no account be passed on to non-members, or any other third party.

Gate access cards may not be loaned to non-members under any circumstances.

## Pro-rata membership

Should a new member wish to join the club after 30 September, the fee structure will be as follows:

- ↳ 50 % discount on the annual membership fee, and
- ↳ the full joining fee to the Yacht Club and Centurion Canoe Club.

If a member terminates his/her membership and wants to rejoin in the next canoe year he/she will not be eligible for pro-rata membership.

## 2.6 Coaching

The Club will endeavour to assist paddlers with coaching at a nominal fee. For new members this is highly recommended in preparation for their Basic/River Proficiency.

## 2.7 Entry to Club

To gain entrance to the Club, members must show their CCC Membership card on demand. Having entered the main gate, members and their guests shall proceed directly to the Club site and shall not enter any other part of the Reserve for any reason whatsoever. Motor vehicles shall only be parked in the designated parking area and vehicle access to any other part of the Club shall be for the sole purpose of delivering or removing boats from allocated boat racks. **Casual parking on the top lawn (next to the boat racks) or roadways adjacent to the sailing boat shelters is strictly prohibited. The speed limit in the Reserve is 30 km/h.**

## **2.8 Damage**

A member shall be held responsible for any damage which he/she or his/her guests may cause to the property of PSC or CCC or to the property of other members. The Club shall in no way be responsible or liable for any damage to or loss of property at the Club, or for any injury sustained by a member or any of his/her guests.

## **2.9 Conduct and Dress**

Members shall at all times within the boundaries of the Club dress and conduct themselves in a seemly manner. The Executive committee may at its sole discretion invoke disciplinary action against any member whose conduct is deemed to be improper and/or contrary to good sportsmanship.

## **2.10 Fishing**

No fishing is allowed from any part of the Club grounds or from any boat.

## **2.11 Animals/Pets/Firearms**

No animals/pets or firearms may be brought into the Reserve.

## **2.12 Visitors**

The guests of any member are the responsibility of the member in terms of observance of the Club regulations. A guest may not visit the Club more than once a month and shall be admitted only if accompanied by and hosted at the club by a member.

Members may sign their guests in at the gate by giving the guard their name and vehicle registration number.

## **2.13 Swimming**

No swimming is allowed unless you capsize while paddling.

## **2.14 Power boats**

Power boats, other than the Club's Committee Boat and Rescue Boats, are not allowed. No more than three such boats shall be allowed without prior permission or in cases of extreme necessity.

## **2.15 Overnighting**

Members may not remain overnight at the Club unless special permission has been given via the Executive Committee by the Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality.

## **2.16 Littering**

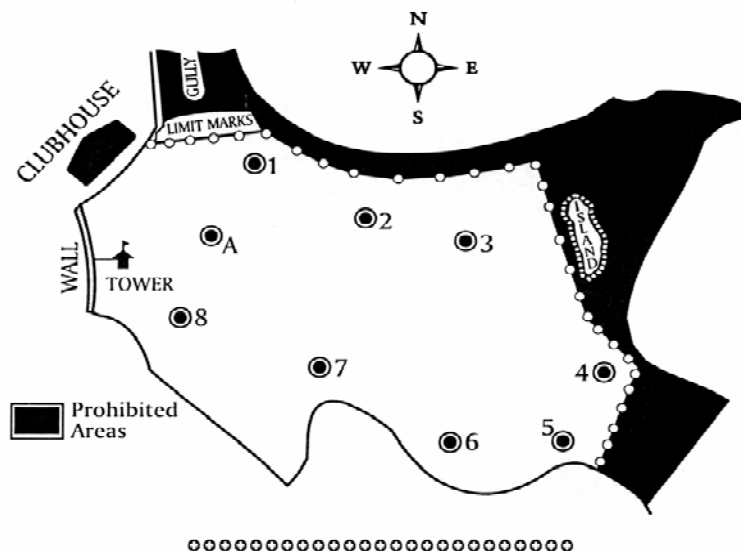
Members shall ensure that no litter is left lying around the Club or thrown into the water.

### 3. CANOEING

- 3.1 Only members or invited guests shall be permitted to canoe on the dam. Only Club approved canoes (K1, K2 and guppies) will be allowed on the dam. No other craft e.g. paddle skis may be floated on the dam at any time. Canoe Club members may use the dam for practising but may not be on the water during official PSC sailing/racing. Other boats may be used if written permission is granted by the Chairman of the canoe club.
- 3.2 As a general guideline, canoeing is not permitted from 14:00 to 17:00 on Saturdays and from 10:00 to 17:00 on Sundays during the sailing season (usually from 1 August to 31 May). If during these times regular PSC racing is postponed or cancelled, a CCC member may request temporary permission from the **PSC Race Officer** to go on the water.
- 3.3 The area leased to the club is beacons off and confined to an area directly in front of the club premises, approximately 0,65 km wide and 1,13 km long. Members shall not enter the North gully of the dam, which is reserved for fishing. Paddlers shall not enter into the river and **beyond or behind the island** at the far end of the sailing waters. (As a general rule paddlers should keep to the buoys).
- 3.4 Paddlers may only enter and exit the dam from the club premises.
- 3.5 At no time is any boat allowed closer than 70 meters from the shore, except in the fenced off PSC area. Paddlers shall not interfere with fishermen and shall give them as wide a berth as possible.

- 3.6 No paddler shall land on any shore of the dam other than at the Club site except in the case of dire emergency.
- 3.7 Paddlers must stick to the buoys at all times.
- 3.8 The tower is out of bounds to all paddlers.
- 3.9 **No boats shall be floated on the dam before sunrise or after sunset.** Boats must be off the water after sunset during all seasons. For safety reasons, canoeing at dusk and in the dark is strictly prohibited.
- 3.10 Conditions can become very treacherous when the wind starts picking up, therefore it is imperative to have sufficient buoyancy, a splash cover and a life-jacket. Conditions can become dangerous very quickly. Boats must have sufficient buoyancy at all times.
- 3.11 **Beginners and all persons under the age of 16 must wear a life-jacket at all times.**
- 3.12 All canoes on Rietvlei Dam must have a valid GCU (Gauteng Canoe Union) number on their boat.

**A PLAN OF RIETVLEI DAM**  
 Showing mark positions and prohibited areas



## 4. RUNNING ROUTE

Members shall not under any circumstances leave the Club site unless they have signed an indemnity form. Members leaving the club site must stay on the agreed running route.

- ↳ The route starts at the entrance gate to the parking area.
- ↳ Follow the tarred road over the dam wall passing to the west of the Waterworks.
- ↳ Pass to the north of the Waterworks along the fence to the storm water ditch.
- ↳ Follow the footpath up the hill along the fence.
- ↳ At the top of the first hill there is a gate that is usually open.
- ↳ 20m further there is a second gate that is always closed and sometimes locked.
- ↳ If the gate is locked, continue along the fence until the tarred road is reached and return to the gate at the parking area ( $\pm 1,5$ km).
- ↳ If the gate is not locked follow the path up the hill to the to the cement water tank.
- ↳ Follow the path to the north along the power lines up to the t-junction.
- ↳ Keep right until the fence is reached.
- ↳ Stay inside the camp and continue along the fence for approximately 60m.
- ↳ Turn right and follow the path back to the gate.
- ↳ **NB** Remember to close the gate behind you.
- ↳ Follow the path along the fence until the tarred road is reached and return to the gate at the parking area ( $\pm 2,9$ km).

Note: A gate access card is needed if you run over the dam wall.

## 5. CLUB BOATS AND TRAILER

CCC has several club boats (K1, K2 and guppies) which may be used freely by its club members on Rietvlei dam. The club boats are in the boat house in the boat racks marked 'Club boat'. Please do not take any of the boats in other racks as they are privately owned. Please look after the boats and report any problems to the club captain.

Club boats may be borrowed by club members for **FLAT water** (dam) races only. If you would like to borrow a boat for a race then please fill in the indemnity form and contact the club captain to book a boat. Your indemnity form must be handed in to the club captain before removing the boat from the premises.

Club members may make use of the club trailer to transport their boats to events. There is a cost involved per boat in order to cover the transport costs of the driver. Please contact the club captain if you would like to use the club trailer.

The driver of the trailer must fill in a Driver Indemnity Form and hand it to the club captain before being allowed to tow the trailer.

The club captain must check for the following:

- ↳ Current licence disk
- ↳ Roadworthiness
- ↳ Spare wheel

## 6. BOAT HOUSE

A member does not by virtue of his membership become entitled to store his boat in the boat house. The allocation of boat racks shall at all times be at the sole discretion of the Committee after membership and boat rack fees have been fully paid.

### 6.1 Security

- ↳ Boat racks are hired at the paddler's own risk.
- ↳ The club and committee will not be held responsible for the loss of or damage to any equipment left at the boat rack area.
- ↳ Each paddler is advised to secure his/her own boat within his/her allocated rack.

### 6.2 Fee payments

- ↳ Paddlers must ensure that they use only their allocated rack. "Squatters" will not be tolerated. Boats found in the wrong racks will be impounded regardless of whether a boat rack has been paid for.
- ↳ The correct GCU numbers must be displayed on boats stored in the racks at all times. All boats without numbers will be removed from the racks and incur a R50 handling and storage fee.
- ↳ All queries must be directed to Lorette Janse van Rensburg at [secretariat@centcc.co.za](mailto:secretariat@centcc.co.za).
- ↳ Boat rack fees must be paid up along with the current year's registration fees by NO LATER than 31 March of every year.

- ❖ Failure to settle all outstanding fees by 31 March will result in the impounding of all boats in unpaid racks, and the reallocation of such racks.
- ❖ Impounded boats must be claimed and removed from the premises by NO LATER than 30 April.
- ❖ The club reserves the right to auction all unclaimed impounded boats.
- ❖ All proceeds made by the club from the sale of impounded boats will be used for development and training.
- ❖ A sticker system has been introduced to monitor boat rack allocations. These stickers are applicable only for a specific year. A stickers showing the rack number will be issued to each paddler on payment for each rack. Additional stickers will be available from the Club Secretary.
- ❖ **These stickers are to be placed on the left side of the boat at the rudder.** Stickers must be displayed on boats stored in the racks at all times. All boats without stickers or with the incorrect stickers will be removed from the racks and incur the handling and storage fee.

### 6.3 Rules

- ↳ If a member wants to sub let/lend his boat rack to another member, that member's boat must have a sticker on with the relevant boat rack number.
- ↳ Members that want to sub let/lend his/her boat rack must inform the club secretary in writing of such an arrangement.
- ↳ Boats may not be stored in any other place on the club premises other than in a paid boat rack.

## 7. CSA RACE RULES

Just a reminder of some of the CSA rules that will be enforced at races. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**

REMEMBER SHOULD YOU NOT COMPLETE A RACE FOR WHATEVER REASON. IT IS YOUR DUTY TO NOTIFY AN OFFICIAL, YOU CANNOT EXPECT THEM TO WAIT/GO LOOKING FOR YOU WHILE YOU ARE SAFE AND ON YOUR WAY HOME ALREADY. THIS APPLIES TO ALL RACES!!!

Every paddler is required to be registered, and no paddler will be allowed onto the water if they are NOT registered. Without being registered it is impossible to tell if you are proficient to compete, and we will not take any chances, we will send you back home!!

- ↳ Every paddler must meet the requirements to race in that particular race, i.e. you must be proficient to compete in the particular grade of race.
- ↳ Every boat **MUST** have the correct 4 digit number belonging to the paddler in the boat and 1 of the paddlers in the case of a K2.
- ↳ Numbers **MUST** be clearly visible on **BOTH** sides of the boat.
- ↳ Only the 4 numbers on each side of the deck should be in front of the cockpit, no class sticker is necessary. The above numbering of your boat is very important, not only for the time-keeper, but also for your safety! If something had to happen to a paddler during a race, and someone spotted a number, we would be able to find out who the paddler is, and take necessary action. Your number is your only identity! Every paddler is supplied with 8 numbers when they register; numbers are also on sale at

the start of ALL races. There is NO excuse for having incorrect numbers, or numbers only on one side, or no numbers at all.

- ↳ Boats must have sufficient buoyancy in front/back of boat
- ↳ KAYAK JACKETS are compulsory at ALL river races - DO NOT leave yours at home!!
- ↳ NO advertising except race sponsors may be displayed on the boat from the front of the cockpit forward!!
- ↳ Club Colours must be worn at all races, NO club colours will result in a 10 minute penalty.
- ↳ Most importantly, OBEY OFFICIALS AT ALL TIMES; remember they have given up their day and their race in order to enable you to race. Listen to officials at all times, they are there for your safety. (Abuse of an official or not listening to an officials instructions is a serious offence and will not be tolerated)

## 8. CSA RIVER CLASSIFICATIONS

The intention of the river classification is to provide four steps in proficiency, applicable from a novice to a relatively experienced paddler. Loosely put, there must be four distinct, discernable levels of “graduation” that cover, for example:

- ↳ A novice learning to paddle on a dam, lagoon, marina, or still water/flat water (FW).
- ↳ A novice learning to handle typical South African rivers, with small to moderate rapids, weirs, tree-blocks, sandbanks, eddies and the like (CR rated Rivers). A good example – Upper Umgeni.
- ↳ A moderately experienced paddler learning to master bigger rivers, with more challenging obstacles, such as higher volumes of water, bigger rapids with significant drops, stoppers, waves and holes, rapids that require significant manoeuvring, bigger weirs and strong currents and eddies (BR rated rivers). Good example – Dusi, Fish.
- ↳ An experienced paddler ready to tackle technically difficult and potentially dangerous rivers, with demanding high-grade rapids, serious water flow and hydraulic features, rapids with difficult lines that require substantial handling skills and rough water experience to be safely enjoyed (AR rated rivers). Good example – Umkomaas, Lowveld Croc.

It is imperative to note that the difficulty grading of any stretch of water can be significantly affected by unusually high or low water levels, as well as factors such as cold, rain, sleet, wind, mist and fog. The presiding safety officer is entitled to revise the river grading appropriately, and apply restrictions to entry, in these circumstances. For this exercise, the rating are based

on “normal” or “average conditions” during the popular racing season.

**FW** - Flat water, no discernible flow e.g. Marina da Gama, Midmar Dam or Victoria Lake.

**CR** - Flowing gently, some small rapids (class 1 and 2), and possibly reed channels and/or tree blocks e.g. Albert Falls weir to Bluegums (Umgeni) or Klip from Henley to Confluence.

**BR** - Steady flowing water, with some technical spots that require significant manoeuvring, but seldom exceed class 3 rapids. e.g. Campbells farm to Dusi Brige (Umsindusi), Breede, Barrage to Parys (Vaal).

**AR** - Technical, continuous wild water, with up to class 4 or 5 rapids, usually inaccessible, may containing technically difficult obstacles such as weirs e.g. Tugela, Umko, Lowveld Croc.

**X** - Extreme, for very competent plastic kayak paddlers only e.g. Thrombosis Gorge, Deepdale to Hella-Hella or Ndedema Gorge.

A complete list of the ratings of all rives can be downloaded from the CSA website at

<http://www.canoesa.org.za/Safety/rivers.htm>.

Notwithstanding these river section ratings the following races have an A Class rating: Berg Marathon, Fish Marathon, Vaal Marathon, 50 Miler, Dusi Marathon, Drak Challenge, Orange River Marathon.

And, the following races have an A+ Class rating: Lowveld Croc Marathon, Umkomaas Marathon, Tugela Marathon, Ithala Challenge, Bushmans to Weenan Road, Hella-Hella to Josephines Bridge, Josephines Bridge to Riverside.

## **10. CSA SAFETY REGULATIONS BYELAW**

- 10.1 The Safety Standards set by CSA, published in the CSA Safety Booklet and amended from time to time, shall be binding upon all paddlers taking part in events run under the auspices of CSA.
- 10.2 The wearing of kayaking jackets is compulsory at all CSA sanctioned flat water events and on all classes of river.
- 10.3 Exceptions to this rule will be provided for where it is considered that kayaking jackets are either not appropriate. e.g. at sprint events and SA and Provincial Marathon Championships etc when safety boats are provided or not necessary e.g. at K4 events and on certain dices and marathon events. Unions that have events that they wish to be exempt are to apply to the CSA Safety Chairman for exemption.
- 10.4 Paddlers of small cockpit boats, e.g. white water boats and plastic boats, must wear kayaking jackets and helmets at all times.
- 10.5 The Provincial Safety Officer may exempt all paddlers, in open cockpit boats, from wearing kayaking jackets when water is very low. A report on all incidents when this exemption has been made must be submitted to the CSA Safety Officer on a monthly basis.

### **Proficiency and race qualification**

- 10.6 New paddlers are required to complete the Basic Proficiency test before being permitted to enter any race. They are then required to complete a minimum of three flat water races or club time trials before completing the River Proficiency test.

- 10.7 The three flat water races or dices may be replaced by trips co-ordinated by the paddler's club Safety Officer. This is to be done at the discretion of and under the strict control of the signing Safety Officer.
- 10.8 Before the paddler enters any river races, the paddler must do his/her River Proficiency test. On successful completion of the test, the paddler will be awarded a CR river competency rating, which will entitle the paddler to enter any CR river race.
- 10.9 The paddler progresses at his/her own pace through various grades of river difficulty as follows:
- ↳ After successfully completing a total of six races (either C or B grade races) the paddler is upgraded to AR competency level and may enter an A grade event.
- 10.10 All testing is to be done by the Club or Union Safety Officers or their designated assistants. The tests as set out in the CSA Safety Booklet are to be strictly adhered to and conducted in a formal and responsible manner.
- 10.11 The signing Safety Officers are to monitor the new paddlers progress through the six races prior to the attaining of an AR rating and to advise on a balance of events graded from easy to difficult. If the Safety Officer is not satisfied with the paddler's progress they may intervene via their Union to delay the attaining of the AR status until the required skills have been acquired by the paddler.
- 10.12 AR rated paddlers must have completed a minimum of three A Class races before being permitted to enter A+ Class races.

- 10.13 A paddler will never lose their AR rating. After an absence of three years a BR rated paddler will lose their race credits and have to complete the necessary races as described in point 10.9.
- 10.14 Only whole races count not each leg separately.

## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

### **GCU Email List**

There is a GCU mailing list that you can join. This is a discussion forum on all paddling related matters in Gauteng.

To subscribe to the GCU email list, send a blank email to: [Gpkayak-subscribe@list.sapaddling.com](mailto:Gpkayak-subscribe@list.sapaddling.com) or [sakayak-subscribe@list.sapaddling.com](mailto:sakayak-subscribe@list.sapaddling.com)

This is the best way to keep up-to-date with news, events, rules and everything else relevant to paddling.

(If you want to unsubscribe, send a blank e-mail to [gpkayak-unsubscribe@list.sapaddling.com](mailto:gpkayak-unsubscribe@list.sapaddling.com))

### **Useful Websites**

#### **Centurion Canoe Club**

<http://www.centcc.co.za>

GCU: The union's website has usefull information such as:

- Canoeing calendar
- Directions to races
- Race results

<http://www.gcu.co.za>

#### **Canoeing South Africa**

This is the governing body of canoeing and has all kinds of usefull stuff, as well a a monthly wallpaper that you can download.

<http://www.canoesa.org.za>

## **SA Paddler**

When you are registered with CSA you automatically receive the SA-paddler magazine. They also have a nice website.

<http://www.sapaddler.co.za>

## **WHERE TO GET EQUIPMENT**

There are no canoeing shops in Pretoria. In Jhb there are several though.

### **Canoe and Kayak World**

<http://www.canoekayak.co.za>

Telephone: (011) 807 8111

Fax: (011) 807 4447

e-Mail: info@canoekayak.co.za

Address: 76 Bevin Rd (cnr Wessels)  
Rivonia

### **Kayak Racing**

<http://www.kayakracing.co.za/>

Telephone: (011) 452 1724

Fax: (011) 452 2811

e-Mail: malcolm@kayakracing.co.za

Address: 5 Mpande Road,  
Sebenza, Edenvale

### **Canoe Concepts**

<http://www.canoconcepts.co.za/>

Telephone: (011) 477 0784

Address: No 19 5th Street  
Albertskroon

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