

# FGPC OUTRIGGER WINTER PADDLING SAFETY POLICY



## Winter Season restrictions apply from 15 October to 1 April

- PFDs are mandatory. They are to be worn at all times and properly fitted and secured.
- Outriggers cannot go out with less than 5 paddlers. Dragon Boats must have 12 paddlers, not including steersperson, coach or drummer.
- It is mandatory for all teams, and all small boat and private boat paddlers, to log out and sign back in the binder on the shelf in the boathouse.
- All outrigger crews must participate in a documented Wet Huli Drill while observed by a designated FGPC staff member at least once each year. It is the crew's responsibility to co-ordinate their annual drill with the club manager. These drills must be completed by October 15th.
- All crews going beyond the Johnson Street Bridge are required to have at least one GPS-enabled emergency radio kit on board. These are available through the boathouse.
- No crews or individual paddlers are permitted beyond V23 before dawn and after dusk.

## **DAYLIGHT PRACTICES**

Only experienced crews may train and paddle in open water (beyond Work Point and Ogden Point) during the winter months using extreme caution. Experienced crews training in open water must have at least one other experienced outrigger crew accompanying them.

## **DARK PRACTICES**

- Experienced outrigger crews must conduct their practices in the area between the Outer Harbour (Work Point) and Tillicum Bridge during dark hours.
- All other crews may not train beyond V23.
- Experienced small boat paddlers may not go beyond Work Point; recreational and novice small boat paddlers may not go beyond V23.
- The steersperson is responsible for putting the correct lights on the bow and stern. Do not use headlamps as they destroy night vision and confuse fellow mariners on the water.

## **STEERSPERSON**

Boat safety is the responsibility of all members of the crew; however the steersperson is the "captain" of the boat and is ultimately responsible for his or her crew's safety and the safety of the equipment. The steersperson should verbally review the Huli procedure with crews before leaving the dock. Whenever possible, crews should train together for added safety.

The steersperson is responsible for ensuring that following safety equipment is functional and on board:

1. 4 bailing buckets
2. Huli straps and/or ladder if required by your crew
3. Orange safety canister clipped to the back wae
4. Extra paddle

### **NO BOAT WILL LEAVE THE DOCK WHEN ...**

There is ice on the waterway.

The temperate is 1°C or lower.

Environment Canada has issued a Wind and/or Weather Warning

Any exceptions require permission from the club manager or lead staff person.