RULES FOR THE USE OF CANOES

ON THE DEPARTMENTAL SITES: *LAC DE GURSON*, *GRAND ETANG DE LA JEMAY*E AND THE *GRAND ETANG DE SAINT ESTEPHE*

Under certain conditions the *Conseil départemental de la Dordogne* (Dordogne Regional Council) makes canoes available free of charge. The activity, referred to as “canoeing”, is not supervised and is practised independently under the exclusive responsibility of the canoer.

1. In accordance with Article A322-3-1 of the [French] Code of Sport, in order to be able to practice the activity of canoeing, **the canoer shall declare that he or she is capable of swimming at least twenty-five meters and of being underwater. In the event of the canoer not having legal capacity (due to being a minor or being under protective supervision etc.) his or her legal representative (mother/father/guardian) shall alone declare the said capability.**
2. With regard to **minors**, the following rules shall be respected:
* A canoe and its accessories (paddles, lifejacket) may only be borrowed from the age of **six upwards.**
* **Minors aged from 6 to 14** may only take a canoe out on the water if accompanied (in the canoe) by an adult. The said adult shall be legally responsible for the said minor.
* **Minors aged 15 to 17** inclusive may only take a canoe out on the water if accompanied to the reception area by a legal representative who gives express, written permission for the said minor to navigate alone. The said adult shall be legally responsible for the said minor.
1. The organiser reserves the right to refuse to lend a canoe if the potential canoer shows any sign of physical or mental impairment (risky behavior).
2. In compliance with the above rules, it is compulsory to complete the statements and authorisations issued by the organiser.
3. It is essential to respect the following rules of navigation:
* Closed shoes (Art. A 322-47 of the [French] Code of Sport) and a lifejacket compliant with current norms shall be worn when canoeing.
* The activity shall only be exercised within the permitted geographic limits and with respect for prohibited areas which may either be dangerous or reserved for other activities (supervised swimming, fishing etc.) cf map.
* Landing a canoe on the riverbank elsewhere than in the boarding area is prohibited. Diving from a canoe is prohibited.
* A canoeing session is limited to thirty minutes.