

CACW Club Champion Role Description

An Introduction to Clear Access, Clear Waters



Inland waters are beautiful places to enjoy the great outdoors whether it's for health, fitness, social time, family time, to protect the environment or for mental wellbeing, but the law is so unclear that they simply cannot be enjoyed in many parts of England and Wales. It's essential this natural resource so vital for our sport is not lost and closed off to the majority of the population.

The Clear Access Clear Waters (CACW) campaign is asking for clarity of rights over access for this generation and future generations to come, whilst protecting the places we paddle from harm.

So What's a Clear Access Clear Waters Club Champion?

A CACW Club Champion is someone who is passionate about championing the case for fair, shared, sustainable open access on water, a lover of the outdoors who cares for and wants to protect the natural environment.

You'll have a direct hand in championing the campaign locally and it's likely that you will get involved in delivering community based events to protect the places we paddle including paddle clean ups and managing the Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) Floating Pennywort.

Together we can make more of an impact than on our own.

Role Purpose:

We are looking for you to act as an ambassador for both the CACW campaign and your club, by raising the profile of the campaign, your club and the benefits of paddlesports in your local area. As part of the role you'll start by reviewing current CACW activities within your club. You'll be developing CACW club activities that reflect the needs and wants of the club members in line with the campaign along with developing and building positive relationships with the wider community.

What will you do?:

- Carry out an assessment of existing club provision, knowledge and awareness of the CACW campaign, access and environmental matters.
- Complete the planning template, including actions and programmes which improve the provision of CACW initiatives in your club.
- Implement the plan with the support and guidance of British Canoeing

Your plan might include:

- Engaging MP's, councillors and other dignitaries by representing the campaign at relevant local events
- Making representations to your MP on key consultations
- Carrying out regular waterways paddle cleanups
- Supporting partners to manage INNS such as Floating Pennywort
- Improving physical access and protecting historical access routes
- Promoting local CACW activities via local media activities

Skills and Abilities:

Whilst you'll have an understanding of the CACW campaign, you will be keen to gain more knowledge about protecting the environment and access issues. We hope you will be able to:

- Motivate and inspire others
- Be confident and effective in communication
- Build relationships with a range of groups including MP's, councillors, relevant stakeholders and other groups with similar beliefs.
- Record data from events and write light touch reports
- Gain more knowledge about protecting the environment and access issues
- Organise and, work with others, to deliver community based events

What Support and Training Will You Receive?

You will enjoy being part of a national group of CACW Champions who are passionate about securing access to our most treasured outdoor spaces for future generations. You will be supported by a British Canoeing team member, who will help guide you through using the information and templates provided by British Canoeing

You will also be supported by:

- Regular correspondence from the British Canoeing CACW team, including E-newsletters and updates;
- A CACW Champion e-Resource Pack
- Access to online support resources/Facebook - this is a great way of sharing your achievements
- Access to incentives
- CACW Champion club webinars to share knowledge and ideas between our volunteers
- Access to CACW podcasts

How Will You Know if You Have Succeeded?

The aim of the CACW campaign is to seek fair shared sustainable open access on water, by improving the environment in which we journey as paddlers and raising the awareness of environmental and access issues.

Your local waters will be cleaner with less plastic pollution; less invasive species; less sewage pollution, your MP **or** councillors will be engaged and your community will be aware of the great environmental activities your club has achieved. The ultimate goal will be improved access and healthy blue spaces for everyone to enjoy sustainably.

Commitment:

This will vary depending on the size of the club and how active the club is. On average the CACW Champion might be expected to give 1-2 hours per week including attendance at relevant meetings

So, in summary...

With support and resources provided by British Canoeing, you will, as a CACW Club Champion

- Review the current CACW activities within your club and opportunities to link to the local community

- Develop a club plan to champion CACW
- Work with other club members to:
 - Carry out regular paddle clean ups
 - Help manage Invasive Non-Native Species
 - Improve access
- Act as an ambassador for the club and CACW campaign, engaging MP's, councillors, other dignitaries and representing the campaign at relevant local events
- Promoting local CACW activities via local media activities



How to Become a CACW Club Champion:

If you are interested in becoming the CACW Club Champion for your club please contact:
access@britishcanoeing.org.uk