



**N**ational  
**O**utdoor  
**L**eaders  
**R**egistration  
**S**cheme

# **CANOEING REGISTRATION LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**NOLRS VERSION 2.2**

**October 2009**

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## Introduction

This document contains information on the minimum skills required to achieve Registration within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme (NOLRS) at specific levels within the activity of CANOEING.

Additional documents are available at [www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au](http://www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au) that provides information about the Scheme and the registration process includes:

- **NOLRS Registration Guide** - information about the registration requirements and process
- **NOLRS Re-registration Guide** - information about the re-registration requirements and process
- **Application for Registration**
- **Application for Subsequent Registration**
- **Application for Re-registration**
- **NOLRS Partnered Assessment Providers** - a guide for organisations that conduct assessment of outdoor leaders, detailing how to have their course outcomes recognised as equivalent to the skill and knowledge requirements of the NOLRS.

## What is CANOEING?

The activity of CANOEING involves organized activities where participants are led as a group in various aquatic environments (usually natural) for pleasure, challenge, experience and / or educational outcomes.

CANOEING involves single blade paddling of water craft (typically open craft) in flat, white or sea-water environments (e.g. Canadian Canoes)

It is not intended that competitive events will be captured by this registration area.

## Registration Levels and Description

CANOEING registration levels apply to Guides and Instructors who conduct CANOEING activities on flat, white water or sea environments.

*The following registration levels are available within the NOLRS within the activity of CANOEING –*

<b>NOLRS Registration Level</b>	<b>Australian Canoeing Equivalent</b>
CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water)	Flat Water Guide
CANOEING Instructor (Flat and Undemanding Water)	Flat Water Instructor
CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water)	White Water Guide
CANOEING Instructor (Grade 2 Water)	White Water Instructor
CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water)	Advanced White Water Guide
CANOEING Instructor (Grade 3 Water)	Advanced White Water Instructor

### **CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water):**

A person designated as a CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) has the skills, knowledge and experience to work autonomously within a closely defined range of skilled operations involving known routines, methods and procedures, where a small amount of discretion and judgement is required in the selection of equipment, services or contingency measures. This person may conduct activities independently only within clearly defined contexts where there are clearly defined Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and relevant documented guidelines for the activity, they are familiar with those SOPs, and where assistance is readily available should a non-routine situation arise.

A CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) leads or guides dependent participants in CANOEING activities. There is no intention of imparting skills or knowledge to participants beyond that which is necessary to enable their safe participation in the CANOEING activity. At the end of a session or program with a Guide, the intent is not for the participant to have acquired the skills to independently participate in the activity

A CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) may conduct activities only at sites which have documentation that defines the key safety features and risk management procedures for the activity. They may only work at sites that have flat and undemanding water.

A CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) does not have the ability to adequately assess the suitability of a new facility / site and its characteristics or to independently develop procedures for the conduct of CANOEING activities. They may work as an assistant with a more experienced leader in potentially non-routine or more complex activities and programs.

A CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) has the knowledge, skills and experience that enable them to:

- Plan for minimal environmental impact
- Undertake risk analysis of activities
- Interpret weather forecasts
- Guide outdoor recreation sessions
- Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy and procedures
- Facilitate groups and deal with conflict
- Respond to emergency situations
- Demonstrate simple CANOEING skills to a high standard
- Perform deep water rescues

- Guide CANOEING trips on flat and undemanding water
- Perform white water rescues and recoveries
- Apply complex inland CANOEING skills on grade 2 water

### **CANOEING Instructor (Flat and Undemanding Water):**

A person designated as a CANOEING Instructor (Flat and Undemanding Water) facilitates skill transfer or development to participants in order that they may independently CANOEING. This requires the instructor to be able to transfer required skills and knowledge, apply a variety of appropriate instructional strategies, and assess a participant's skill and knowledge acquisition during and at the end of a program or session.

CANOEING Instructors (Flat and Undemanding Water) may only work at sites which have flat and undemanding water.

A CANOEING Instructor (Flat and Undemanding Water) has the knowledge, skills and experience of a CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) as well as additional skills and experience in training and assessment. A person at this level of competence may instruct participants to enable them to:

- Guide a CANOEING session on Flat and Undemanding Water
- Apply inland CANOEING skills on Grade 2 Water
- Train small groups
- Perform white water rescues and recoveries

### **CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water):**

A person designated as a CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) has the skills, knowledge and experience to work autonomously within a closely defined range of skilled operations involving known routines, methods and procedures, where a small amount of discretion and judgement is required in the selection of equipment, services or contingency measures. This person may conduct activities independently only within clearly defined contexts where there are clearly defined Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and relevant documented guidelines for the activity, they are familiar with those SOPs, and where assistance is readily available should a non-routine situation arise.

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) leads or guides dependent participants in CANOEING activities. There is no intention of imparting skills or knowledge to participants beyond that which is necessary to enable their safe participation in the CANOEING activity. At the end of a session or program with a Guide, the intent is not for the participant to have acquired the skills to independently participate in the activity

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) may conduct activities only at sites which have documentation that defines the key safety features and risk management procedures for the activity. They may only work at sites that have up to grade 2 water.

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) does not have the ability to adequately assess the suitability of a new facility / site and its characteristics or to independently develop procedures for the conduct of CANOEING activities. They may work as an assistant with a more experienced leader in potentially non-routine or more complex activities and programs.

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) has the knowledge, skills and experience that enable them to:

- Plan for minimal environmental impact
- Undertake risk analysis of activities

- Interpret weather forecasts
- Guide outdoor recreation sessions
- Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy and procedures
- Facilitate groups and deal with conflict
- Respond to emergency situations
- Demonstrate simple CANOEING skills to a high standard
- Perform deep water rescues
- Guide CANOEING trips on grade 2 water
- Perform whitewater rescues and recoveries
- Apply inland CANOEING skills on grade 2 water

### **CANOEING Instructor (Grade 2 Water):**

A person designated as a CANOEING Instructor (Grade 2 Water) facilitates skill transfer or development to participants in order that they may independently CANOEING. This requires the instructor to be able to transfer required skills and knowledge, apply a variety of appropriate instructional strategies, and assess a participant's skill and knowledge acquisition during and at the end of a program or session.

CANOEING Instructors (Grade 2 Water) may only work at sites which have up to grade 2 water

A CANOEING Instructor (Grade 2 Water) has the knowledge, skills and experience of a CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) as well as additional skills and experience in training and assessment. A person at this level of competence may instruct participants to enable them to:

- Apply inland CANOEING skills on Grade 2 Water
- Train small groups
- Perform whitewater rescues and recoveries

### **CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water):**

A person designated as a CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) has the skills, knowledge and experience to work autonomously within a closely defined range of skilled operations involving known routines, methods and procedures, where a small amount of discretion and judgement is required in the selection of equipment, services or contingency measures. This person may conduct activities independently only within clearly defined contexts where there are clearly defined Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and relevant documented guidelines for the activity, they are familiar with those SOPs, and where assistance is readily available should a non-routine situation arise.

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) leads or guides dependent participants in CANOEING activities. There is no intention of imparting skills or knowledge to participants beyond that which is necessary to enable their safe participation in the CANOEING activity. At the end of a session or program with a Guide, the intent is not for the participant to have acquired the skills to independently participate in the activity

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) may conduct activities only at sites which have documentation that defines the key safety features and risk management procedures for the activity. They may only work at sites that have up to grade 3 water.

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) does not have the ability to adequately assess the suitability of a new facility / site and its characteristics or to independently develop

procedures for the conduct of CANOEING activities. They may work as an assistant with a more experienced leader in potentially non-routine or more complex activities and programs.

A CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) has the knowledge, skills and experience that enable them to:

- Plan for minimal environmental impact
- Undertake risk analysis of activities
- Interpret weather forecasts
- Guide outdoor recreation sessions
- Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy and procedures
- Facilitate groups and deal with conflict
- Respond to emergency situations
- Perform deep water rescues
- Guide CANOEING trips on grade 3 water
- Perform a comprehensive range of white water rescues and recoveries
- Apply inland CANOEING skills on grade 3 water

### **CANOEING Instructor (Grade 3 Water):**

A person designated as a CANOEING Instructor (Grade 3 Water) facilitates skill transfer or development to participants in order that they may independently CANOEING. This requires the instructor to be able to transfer required skills and knowledge, apply a variety of appropriate instructional strategies, and assess a participant's skill and knowledge acquisition during and at the end of a program or session.

CANOEING Instructors (Grade 3 Water) may only work at sites which have up to grade 3 water.

A CANOEING Instructor (Grade 3 Water) has the knowledge, skills and experience of a CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) as well as additional skills and experience in training and assessment. A person at this level of competence may instruct participants to enable them to:

- Instruct CANOEING skills on grade 3 water
- Train small groups
- Perform a comprehensive range of white water rescues and recoveries

## **CANOEING Skill, Knowledge and Experience Requirements**

### **CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water):**

Critical aspects of a CANOEING Guide (Flat and Undemanding Water) experience, knowledge and skills include:

- Ability to respond to emergency situations relevant to a CANOEING activity in range of aquatic environments and situations.
- Application of risk analysis principles in a CANOEING context
- Ability to identify, and plan for, basic requirements of a CANOEING activity (i.e. equipment, food, Water, clothing)
- Maintenance of a participant's physical and emotional safety during kayaking sessions in a diversity of situations (eg, different participant groups, different learning outcomes)

- Ability to plan, guide and evaluate CANOEING sessions at a number of different locations to suit available resources, environmental limitations and different types of participant groups with differing needs and activity aims
- Establish and maintain positive group dynamics
- Knowledge of environmental impact issues associated with CANOEING and methods to minimise impact
- Types of canoes, characteristics, equipment and technology
- Monitor and review minimal impact practices
- Legislation, rules, codes of practice and quality standards
- Methods/procedures/techniques in regard to operational, maintenance and repair, reporting and recording, selling and merchandising
- Safety in regards to hazards, precautions, hazard prevention/minimisation strategies, risk management strategies, first aid and medical emergency procedures
- Deep water rescue techniques
- International river grading system
- Communication systems on rivers and other water bodies
- Hydrology
- Equipment usage in rescue situations
- First aid knowledge and skills appropriate to the location
- Selection and use of equipment for trips
- International river signals
- Personal paddling skills to a high level of technical correctness
- Swimming ability in paddling gear
- Use of rescue equipment
- Stowing and waterproofing gear
- Interpretation of International river signals
- Navigation skills
- Group management

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of four (4) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of six (6) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session) at least two (2) different locations.

### **CANOEING Instructor (Flat and Undemanding Water):**

Critical Aspects of a CANOEING Instructor skills and knowledge include CANOEING Guide skills and knowledge **PLUS** the following:

#### *Knowledge:*

- Of activity location and it's suitability for the conduct of the instructional session
- Industry Guidelines, codes of practice, recommended staff/participant ratios
- Relevant legislation impacting upon the instruction or conduct of CANOEING (eg occupational health and safety, land and Water management authorities, local government)

- Theories of instruction applicable to a range of ages and learning abilities
- Of participants abilities and needs , in order to adapt the instructional session
- Safety procedures during the conduct or instruction of CANOEING skills on flat and undemanding water

*Ability to demonstrate and / or teach the following:*

- Rescue competencies to effectively deal with emergencies whilst instructing CANOEING on flat and undemanding water
- Instructional techniques to adapt sessions to meet a variety of learning abilities
- CANOEING skills to demonstrate and correct technique

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of four (4) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session; at least three sessions must be instructing) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of six (6) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three (3) hours per session; at least three (3) sessions must be instructing) at different locations.

### **CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water):**

Critical aspects of a CANOEING Guide (Grade 2 Water) experience, knowledge and skills include:

- Ability to respond to emergency situations relevant to a CANOEING activity in range of aquatic environments and situations.
- Application of risk analysis principles in a CANOEING context
- Ability to identify, and plan for, basic requirements of a CANOEING activity (i.e. equipment, food, Water, clothing)
- Maintenance of a participant's physical and emotional safety during kayaking sessions in a diversity of situations (eg, different participant groups, different learning outcomes)
- Ability to plan, guide and evaluate CANOEING sessions at a number of different locations to suit available resources, environmental limitations and different types of participant groups with differing needs and activity aims
- Establish and maintain positive group dynamics
- Knowledge of environmental impact issues associated with CANOEING and methods to minimise impact  
Monitor and review minimal impact practices
- Types of canoes, characteristics, equipment and technology
- Legislation, rules, codes of practice and quality standards
- Methods/procedures/techniques in regard to operational, maintenance and repair, reporting and recording, selling and merchandising
- Safety in regards to hazards, precautions, hazard prevention/minimisation strategies, risk management strategies, first aid and medical emergency procedures
- Deep water rescue techniques
- International river grading system
- Communication systems on rivers and other Water bodies
- Hydrology
- Equipment usage in rescue situations

- First aid knowledge and skills appropriate to the location
- Selection and use of equipment for trips
- International river signals
- Personal paddling skills to a high level of technical correctness
- Ability to roll a canoe in Grade 2 Water
- Swimming ability in paddling gear
- Use of rescue equipment
- Stowing and Waterproofing gear
- Interpretation of International river signals
- Navigation skills
- Group management
- River reading skills

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of four (4) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of six (6) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session) at least two (2) different locations.

### **CANOEING Instructor (Grade 2 Water):**

Critical Aspects of a CANOEING Instructor skills and knowledge include CANOEING Guide skills and knowledge **PLUS** the following:

#### *Knowledge:*

- Of activity location and it's suitability for the conduct of the instructional session
- Industry Guidelines, codes of practice, recommended staff/participant ratios
- Relevant legislation impacting upon the instruction or conduct of CANOEING (eg occupational health and safety, land and Water management authorities, local government)
- Theories of instruction applicable to a range of ages and learning abilities
- Of participants abilities and needs , in order to adapt the instructional session
- Safety procedures during the conduct or instruction of CANOEING skills on grade 2 water

#### *Ability to demonstrate and / or teach the following:*

- Rescue competencies to effectively deal with emergencies whilst instructing CANOEING on grade 2 water
- Instructional techniques to adapt sessions to meet a variety of learning abilities
- CANOEING skills to demonstrate and correct technique
- River reading skills to select appropriateness

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of four (4) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session; at least three sessions must be instructing) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of six (6) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three (3) hours per session; at least three (3) sessions must be instructing) at different locations.

### **CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water):**

Critical aspects of a CANOEING Guide (Grade 3 Water) experience, knowledge and skills include:

- Ability to respond to emergency situations relevant to a CANOEING activity in range of aquatic environments and situations.
- Application of risk analysis principles in a CANOEING context
- Ability to identify, and plan for, basic requirements of a CANOEING activity (i.e. equipment, food, Water, clothing)
- Maintenance of a participant's physical and emotional safety during kayaking sessions in a diversity of situations (eg, different participant groups, different learning outcomes)
- Ability to plan, guide and evaluate CANOEING sessions at a number of different locations to suit available resources, environmental limitations and different types of participant groups with differing needs and activity aims
- Establish and maintain positive group dynamics
- Knowledge of environmental impact issues associated with CANOEING and methods to minimise impact  
Monitor and review minimal impact practices
- Types of canoes, characteristics, equipment and technology
- Legislation, rules, codes of practice and quality standards
- Methods/procedures/techniques in regard to operational, maintenance and repair, reporting and recording, selling and merchandising
- Safety in regards to hazards, precautions, hazard prevention/minimisation strategies, risk management strategies, first aid and medical emergency procedures
- Deep water rescue techniques
- International river grading system
- Communication systems on rivers and other Water bodies
- Hydrology
- Equipment usage in rescue situations
- First aid knowledge and skills appropriate to the location
- Selection and use of equipment for trips
- International river signals
- Personal paddling skills to a high level of technical correctness
- Ability to roll a canoe in Grade 3 Water
- Swimming ability in paddling gear
- Use of rescue equipment
- Stowing and waterproofing gear
- Interpretation of International river signals
- Navigation skills
- Group control
- River reading skills

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of four (4) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house'

or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of six (6) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session) at least two (2) different locations.

### **CANOEING Instructor (Grade 3 Water):**

Critical Aspects of a CANOEING Instructor skills and knowledge include CANOEING Guide skills and knowledge **PLUS** the following:

#### *Knowledge:*

- Of activity location and it's suitability for the conduct of the instructional session
- Industry Guidelines, codes of practice, recommended staff/participant ratios
- Relevant legislation impacting upon the instruction or conduct of CANOEING (eg occupational health and safety, land and Water management authorities, local government)
- Theories of instruction applicable to a range of ages and learning abilities
- Of participants abilities and needs , in order to adapt the instructional session
- Safety procedures during the conduct or instruction of CANOEING skills on grade 3 water

#### *Ability to demonstrate and / or teach the following:*

- Rescue competencies to effectively deal with emergencies whilst instructing CANOEING on grade 3 water
- Instructional techniques to adapt sessions to meet a variety of learning abilities
- CANOEING skills to demonstrate and correct technique
- River reading skills to select appropriateness and aid in hazard identification
- Ability to roll a canoe in grade 3 water

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of four (4) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three hours per session; at least three sessions must be instructing) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of six (6) CANOEING sessions (minimum of three (3) hours per session; at least three (3) sessions must be instructing) at different locations.