

White Water Safety Rescue

Core Principles

The following core principles are good practice guidance and should be considered in this light as opposed to fixed rules.

C.L.A.P.

This works well for the dynamic risk management process, for example during a trip, an event or session and the situation changes. The original safety regime may no longer be adequate; CLAP will help devise a new strategy to accommodate the needs of the group or session.

Communication Signals should be agreed in advance.
KISS (**K**eep **I**t **S**hort and **S**imple)

Line of Sight – of each other and where the river is going. Always endeavour to have your fellow paddlers in your line of sight. Ideally every paddler should have two attainable eddies between themselves and the river going out of sight.

Avoidance is better than cure. - Create an atmosphere of mutual support within your group.

If you want to walk, walk!

Clean Rope principle

Self, team, victim, equipment

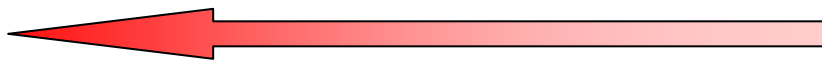
S-R-T-R-G

Position of Maximum Usefulness – When protecting a rapid, paddlers should position themselves so as to cover the highest risk. This usually means covering the problems that are most likely to occur, rather than the most dangerous hazard.

Prioritising Principles

Self - Team - Victim - Equipment

High
priority



Low
priority

This principle for prioritisation in the rescue situation is useful in helping rescuers to remember that their first priority is to themselves, then to their team, then the victim and lastly to equipment.

Shout

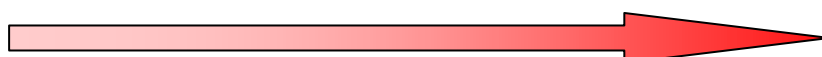
Reach

Throw

Row

Go

Lower risk



Higher
risk