

PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS
DO NOT RETURN WITH THE APPLICATION



NKFF ACTIVITY POLICY STATEMENT

A. GENERAL POLICY

CLUB ACTIVITIES ARE COOPERATIVE ADVENTURES AMONG PARTICIPANTS. THE GROUP IS COLLECTIVELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ACTIVITIES, AND EACH PARTICIPANT IS INDIVIDUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR JUDGING HIS OR HER OWN QUALIFICATIONS AND FOR HIS OR HER OWN SAFETY. BY PARTICIPATING IN A CLUB ACTIVITY, YOU RELEASE THE CLUB, ITS MEMBERS AND OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, TRIP COORDINATORS AND FELLOW PARTICIPANTS FROM ANY LIABILITY FOR INJURIES DUE TO ANY NEGLIGENT ACT OR OMISSION OR TO ANY INTENTIONAL ACT INTENDED TO PROMOTE YOUR SAFETY OR WELL BEING.

B. HAZARDS

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THAT MANY IF NOT ALL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES EXPOSE YOU TO VARIOUS HAZARDS, KNOWN AND UNKNOWN. INJURIES AND DEATHS OCCASIONALLY OCCUR DUE TO THESE HAZARDS. *FOR EXAMPLE, STREAM WADING HAZARDS MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: BOULDERS AND OTHER OBSTACLES, STRAINERS, UNDERCUT BANKS, STEEP BANKS, VERY FAST CURRENT, HIGH WATER, COLD WATER AND OTHER HAZARDS, MOSTLY IN REMOTE AREAS. AN EXAMPLE OF BOATING HAZARDS MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: CHANGING WEATHER CONDITIONS, COLD TEMPERATURES, NATURAL AND MANMADE OBSTACLES, HIGH WAVES, ROUGH WATER AND OTHER HAZARDS. SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS MAY CHANGE AN OTHERWISE EASY ACTIVITY TO A LIFE-THREATENING SITUATION ON ALMOST A MOMENTS NOTICE. FOR EXAMPLE, FLY-CASTING OR FLYFISHING HAZARDS WOULD INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO BEING HIT OR HOOKED BY A FLY BEING CAST OR BEING SEVERELY SUNBURNED. EVEN FLY-TYING IS NOT WITHOUT HAZARDS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN FLY-TYING YOU MUST HANDLE CERTAIN NATURAL MATERIALS WHICH COULD CONTAINS BACTERIA, FUNGI, AND/OR PARASITES AND/OR YOU COULD BE STABBED OR CUT BY SOME OF THE TOOLS USED.*

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR LEARNING TO RECOGNIZE THE HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACTIVITIES YOU CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN, AND FOR LEARNING AND PRACTICING TECHNIQUES TO AVOID THESE HAZARDS. *FOR EXAMPLE, WATERCRAFT USERS ARE SPECIFICALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ACQUIRING SAFETY AND RESCUE SKILLS COMMENSURATE WITH THE LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY OF THE BODIES OF WATER TO BE FISHED. WADING SKILLS REQUIRED IN THE RIVERS YOU INTEND TO FISH SHOULD ALSO BE LEARNED. FLY-CASTING SKILL CAN ONLY BE DEVELOPED BY PRACTICE.*

DON'T ENDANGER YOUR LIFE AND THE LIVES OF OTHERS BY TRYING TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES BEYOND YOUR ABILITY. *FOR EXAMPLE, WADING IN HIGH, VERY FAST CURRENTS OR WADING WITHOUT A WADING STAFF OR WADING WITHOUT PROPER FOOTWEAR (CLEATED AND/OR FELT-SOLED BOOTS).*

REMEMBER -- THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE SKILLS FOR MOST PERSONS OCCURS WHEN YOU GRADUALLY INCREASE THE LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY IN AN ACTIVITY OVER A PERIOD OF TIME. *FOR EXAMPLE, MOST GOOD WADERS DEVELOP EFFECTIVE WADING HABITS BY VERY GRADUALLY WADING IN STREAMS THAT ARE MORE DIFFICULT OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS.*

C. DECISION MAKING

YOU ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS AT ALL TIMES:

1. THE DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY CLUB ACTIVITY.
2. THE DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ACTIVITY UNDER THE CONDITIONS EXISTING AT THE TIME YOU BEGIN THE ACTIVITY.
3. THE DECISION AS TO WHAT EQUIPMENT TO USE AND TAKE WITH YOU FOR YOUR SPECIFIC ACTIVITY.
4. THE DECISION WHETHER TO AVOID ANY HAZARDS OR DIFFICULT SITUATIONS. *FOR WADING FISHERMEN AND WATERCRAFT USERS THIS INCLUDES THE DECISION TO SCOUT, WALK OR PORTAGE AROUND ANY RAPID OR FAST WATER.*
5. THE DECISION WHETHER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY RESCUE OPERATION, OR RECOVERY OF EQUIPMENT.
6. THE DECISION TO TERMINATE OR TO CONTINUE AN ACTIVITY AT ANY TIME.

D. RESCUE

ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS USUALLY ASSIST EACH OTHER WHEN SOMEONE APPEARS TO NEED ASSISTANCE, BUT ONLY AS LONG AS THEY CAN DO SO, IN THEIR OWN JUDGMENT, WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT RISK TO THEMSELVES OR OTHERS. SOME MAY CHOOSE TO ACCEPT GREATER HAZARDS TO ASSIST A FELLOW PARTICIPANT THAN OTHERS. HOWEVER, ACTIVITY PARTICIPANTS AND THE COORDINATOR ARE UNDER NO LEGAL DUTY TO ASSIST ANYONE. IN OTHER WORDS, ALTHOUGH YOU ARE NOT **LEGALLY** OBLIGATED TO ASSIST ANYONE, NO ONE IS **LEGALLY** OBLIGATED TO ASSIST YOU EITHER.

E. OTHER PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. NOTIFYING THE ACTIVITY COORDINATOR WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE ACTIVITY YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND.
2. ASKING THE ACTIVITY COORDINATOR ABOUT HIS OR HER TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE, IF THESE CONSIDERATIONS ARE SIGNIFICANT TO YOU.
3. INFORMING THE ACTIVITY COORDINATOR OF YOUR SKILLS, EXPERIENCE, AND TRAINING.
4. NOTIFYING THE ACTIVITY COORDINATOR OF ANY MEDICAL PROBLEMS YOU MAY HAVE PRIOR TO EACH ACTIVITY, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES YOU'VE ATTENDED WITH THAT ACTIVITY COORDINATOR.
5. NOT BRINGING UNEXPECTED GUESTS TO THE ACTIVITY.
6. BRINGING APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR ACTIVITY AND MAKING SURE IT IS IN GOOD REPAIR.
7. OBSERVING GOOD SAFETY PRACTICES.
8. BEING AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTY OF THE ACTIVITY YOU WANT TO UNDERTAKE AND THE EXISTING CONDITIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, WADING FLY FISHERS BEING AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTY OF THE RIVER OR STREAM THEY WANT TO FISH, AND ALSO BEING AWARE OF THE EXISTING CONDITIONS AND HOW THEY MIGHT CHANGE. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE WHEN WADING THE TAIL WATERS OF FLOOD-CONTROL OR POWER-GENERATING DAMS.
9. SHARING THE OPTIONAL GROUP RESPONSIBILITIES.
2. FAMILIARIZING YOURSELF WITH THE LOCATION OF YOUR ACTIVITY. FOR EXAMPLE, CONTACTING THE NKFF ACTIVITY DIRECTOR TO FIND OUT IF CLUB MAPS ARE AVAILABLE OR CALLING LOCAL FLY SHOPS OR CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE NEAR THE AREA OF THE ACTIVITY.
3. DETERMINING THE RENDEZVOUS PLACE AND TIME AND INFORMING ALL PARTICIPANTS OF THE **ACTIVITY ITINERARY**.
4. RESPONDING TO PARTICIPANT INQUIRIES TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ACTIVITY, YOUR TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE, AND THE PARTICIPANT'S TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE. IT IS **NOT** YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DETERMINE WHETHER A PARTICIPANT IS QUALIFIED FOR THE ACTIVITY OR ACTIVITY, BUT YOU HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REFUSE A PARTICULAR PARTICIPANT ON ANY REASONABLE GROUNDS.

H. OPTIONAL GROUP RESPONSIBILITIES

THE GROUP MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS. WHICH OF THESE SUGGESTIONS IS ADOPTED ON THE ACTIVITY IS SOLELY A GROUP DECISION, AND IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY PARTICULAR PERSON.

1. OBTAIN INFORMATION AS TO THE CONDITIONS AT THE LOCATION OF THE ACTIVITY. YOU MAY WANT TO CALL LOCAL FLYSHOPS ABOUT THIS.
2. OBTAIN KNOWLEDGE OF ANY HAZARDS YOU MAY ENCOUNTER DURING YOUR ACTIVITY, AND ANY EFFECTIVE MEANS FOR HANDLING ANY EMERGENCIES THAT MAY ARISE.
3. CONSIDER EQUIPMENT FOR SAFETY, SURVIVAL, FIRST AID, AND ANY OTHER EQUIPMENT APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR PARTICULAR ACTIVITY.
4. KEEP GROUP COMPACT ENOUGH FOR COMMUNICATION, BUT NOT SO COMPACT AS TO INTERFERE WITH EACH OTHER.
5. CONSIDER DIVIDING A LARGE GROUP INTO SMALLER GROUPS, AND POSSIBLY USING THE "BUDDY SYSTEM".

F. ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITY COORDINATOR

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS ARE VOLUNTEERS AND THEY RECEIVE NO PAY. THEIR FUNCTIONS ARE TO NOTIFY THE GROUP ABOUT THE LOCATION AND TIME OF THE ACTIVITY, TO COORDINATE RIDES TO AND FROM THE ACTIVITY LOCATION OR TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE DIRECTIONS, MAPS AND PLANNED ITINERARIES, IF NECESSARY, AND TO RESPOND TO INQUIRIES ABOUT THE ACTIVITY TO THE BEST OF THEIR OWN KNOWLEDGE. HOWEVER, YOUR ACTIVITY COORDINATOR MAY NEVER HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE ACTIVITY, IN PARTICULAR UNDER THE CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED ON THE ACTIVITY DAY. INDEED IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO CANCEL THE ACTIVITY OR TO SWITCH LOCATIONS; WHICH COULD BE TOTALLY UNFAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS.

YOUR ACTIVITY COORDINATOR MAY NOT HAVE HAD ANY ORGANIZED OR FORMAL TRAINING IN THE SAID ACTIVITY, SAFETY SKILLS, FIRST AID, OR CPR. IF YOU PREFER TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES ONLY WITH A ACTIVITY COORDINATOR WHO HAS HAD ORGANIZED OR FORMAL TRAINING IN THESE AREAS, OR WHO HAS HAD A LOT OF EXPERIENCE, **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** TO ASK HIM OR HER ABOUT HIS OR HER TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE. **IT IS SOLELY YOUR DECISION** WHETHER THE ACTIVITY COORDINATOR'S QUALIFICATIONS ARE SATISFACTORY TO YOU. BEAR IN MIND THAT YOUR ACTIVITY COORDINATOR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR JUDGING YOUR QUALIFICATIONS OR FOR YOUR SAFETY DURING THE ACTIVITY, OR ANY TIME.

G. ACTIVITY COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. FINDING A SUBSTITUTE COORDINATOR IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE ACTIVITY **AND NOTIFYING ONE OF THE ELECTED OFFICERS OR DIRECTORS OF THE CHANGE.**

