Informed Consent Letter for Youth Programs

Congratulations on considering kayaking for your child. Ecomarine has been running successful ocean kayaking programs since 1981. Kayaking is a water based activity and is subject to the conditions experienced on the ocean. The goal of all our programs is for every participant to enjoy being in an ocean kayak.

Some programs involve tipping over in the kayak and exiting. All our participants must wear Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices. We combine both beach and on water activities with our youth programs. Programs are run in calmer conditions, but conditions may change unexpectedly. Courses will be cancelled by the Instructor due to weather conditions beyond our safety protocol. This decision can be made any time before and during a program. We regret in advance for the inconvenience this may cause.

All our Instructors are Paddle Canada certified. Each Instructor has been specifically trained and has experience with leading groups on the water. Instructors may recall a group or individual off the water if conditions dictate. Some of our criteria are:

1. Unsafe paddling conditions (wind and waves, thunder storms, lightning)
2. Behaviour challenges (participants not following Instructors' directions)
3. Program not appropriate for particular participants

Every effort is made by Ecomarine and its Instructors to provide a wonderful program. Kayaking has its risks. Ecomarine has never had a serious injury in any of its programs. Even though the possibility for serious injury and death is inherent with everyday life, we are obliged to inform you that your child is to be involved in an activity with increased risks. These risks, whether perceived or real, are a necessary ingredient to any outdoor program. Our experience has shown that our programming and training has reduced these risks to where they are manageable. Every Instructor is trained to deal with any situation that may arise. If you see something that concerns you while you are at our facility, then please bring this to the attention of the attending Lead Instructor or myself. We are sure that your child will have an enjoyable experience with Ecomarine so that we may see you and your family for decades to come.

Thanks for enrolling your child in our programs.

Happy Paddling

Chris Ladner
Owner (and Paddle Canada Certified Instructor Trainer)

ecomarine
paddlesport centres

Granville Island | Jericho Beach | English Bay

INFORMED CONSENT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK

Youth Consent Form - To be completed for participants under the age of 19.

This *Consent and Acknowledgment of Risk* form is an agreement between the custodial parent/guardian of the minor participant named below and Ecomarine Paddlesport Centres (Ecomarine). The choice to participate in any Ecomarine program is made freely and with understanding of the associated benefits, risks and responsibilities. This is not a waiver and signing this form DOES NOT waive your child's legal rights. **Please initial the two boxes (below right) to indicate that you and the participant named have read each section and sign below to confirm that you understand and agree to the following terms.**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The activities offered at Ecomarine are designed to pose appropriate challenges for participants. The enjoyment and educational benefit derived from outdoor activities is, in part, a result of risks inherent in these activities. The benefits of participation include developing self-confidence, leadership, teamwork and interpersonal skills, exposure to outdoor recreation activities, and nature education. While Ecomarine strives to manage risk, it is neither possible nor desirable to eliminate all risk.

In consideration of (**print participant's name**) _____, for whom I am the custodial parent or legal guardian, being allowed to participate in any Ecomarine program, I understand that:

I UNDERSTAND

X_____
Initial

- Ecomarine offers outdoor activities which include, but are not limited to: flat water and ocean kayaking; stand up paddle boarding; and instructional courses.
- Outdoor activities include inherent risks that may be different or greater than those risks normally assumed at home, work or school. These risks include but are not limited to- slipping; insect or animal bites; immersion in cold water; hypothermia (cold exposure); hyperthermia (heat exposure); uneven terrain; stream crossings; unpredictability of weather and ocean conditions; psychological and physical reaction to extreme natural forces and conditions; collision with exposed or unexposed hazards including vessels; loss or damage of personal property; injury; permanent disability; or fatality.
- Communication and emergency response times may be significantly longer than in urban settings.
- I may contact Ecomarine in advance if I have questions about the risks described above or pertaining to any other aspect of the program.

I agree that participation in Ecomarine activities requires the Participant to:

I AGREE

X_____
Initial

- Share the responsibility for the safety of their self and others during all activities.
- Follow all instructions and directions of Ecomarine Instructors/Guides. Failure to do so may result in removal from the program.
- Assume the above risks and accept responsibility and costs for all damages and loss resulting from their participation, including all evacuation costs.

I, as the custodial parent/legal guardian of the Participant, am not relying on any oral, written or visual representation or statements by Ecomarine or any other inducement or coercion to go on the program, and I want the Participant to attend Ecomarine's program.

I agree that this Agreement shall be governed exclusively in all respects by and interpreted solely in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia.

Signed by Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian:

_____
Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian's Printed Name

X _____ _____
Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature Date

ecomarine paddlesport centres
1668 Duranleau St., Vancouver, BC, V6H 3S4
604.689.7575 | school@ecomarine.com | ecomarine.com