

## **GUIDELINES**

### **WATER BASED ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES REGISTRATION**

SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

#### **Definition**

Any activity which is associated with risk is defined as adventure.

- Any adventure in water is defined as “Water based adventure”

Water based activities are classified as Scuba Diving, Snorkeling , Skin Diving ,Body Surfing, Canoeing ,Parasailing, Kite surfing, Deep sea fishing ,Paddle Boating, Inflatable rafts, Wake Boarding ,Water skiing ,Jet skiing, Surfing, Kayaking ,Wind Surfing, White water rafting, Paddle Boarding ,Sailing , Rafting ,Rowing and Boating.

#### **01. GENERAL GUIDE LINES FOR ALL ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES**

- 1.1. The operator must be a registered business entity with the relevant government authority (DS or Registrar of companies) All such establishments should have acceptable base of operations from where all activities should commence, monitored and supervised.
- 1.2. The operator should have an insurance policy covering public liability.
- 1.3. It is obligatory to enter into indemnity/no claim agreement with all participants where specified.
- 1.4. Activities can be carried out only in areas demarcated.
- 1.5. The operation should not disturb or pollute the natural environment by
- 1.6. Operator must provide customers with verbal and written Information /Instructions on all activities where necessary such as;
  - 1.6.1. All safety equipment with demonstrations
  - 1.6.2. How to act in order to prevent accidents.
  - 1.6.3. How to act in case of any unforeseen/emergency situation
- 1.7. Adequate number of safety equipment
  - 1.7.1. First Aid kit should be available and displayed
  - 1.7.2. Good quality Safety Jacket for each client.
  - 1.7.3. Good quality Helmet for each client.
  - 1.7.4. Communication equipment
- 1.8. All employees should be provided with training in the following areas.
- 1.9. Knowledge of the environment in which the operation is carried out.
- 1.10. First Aid administration
- 1.11. To act in order to prevent accidents
- 1.12. Accident handling procedures
- 1.13. Handling a crisis situation

- 1.14. Search and Rescue procedures.
- 1.15. To guide the guests in a proper and safe manner

## **02. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR WATER BASED ACTIVITIES**

- 1.1. All vessels used to provide water sports activities should be checked annually by a Licensed Marine Surveyor for sea worthiness.
- 1.2. Activities can be carried out only in demarcated areas. The area where any water based activities would take place should be within the area for which Insurance Coverage has been obtained by the establishments.
- 1.3. The operation should not pollute or disturb the environment.
- 1.4. All boat operators (boat drivers) should be competent, qualified and certified. Particular activities. (coxswain license issued by Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA)
- 1.5. All persons/ organization/ institutions providing water based activities should maintain a register in which the name of the client, equipment hired, duration and the name of the guide, etc should be entered.
- 1.6. Any establishments providing Scuba Diving, snorkeling, skin diving, sea cruising, Dolphin & Whale watching, Sea Fishing or any other sea going activity should have their vessels equipped with the following facilities -:
  - 1.6.1. Adequate communication facilities and should be able to communicate with the mainland at all times during an excursion.
  - 1.6.2. Tools and spare parts adequate to perform any running repairs. They should include extra spark plugs, extra propellers, propeller nuts, starter-ropes, carburetor repair kits, water sand paper etc.
  - 1.6.3. The tool box should contain at least the following:- pliers, hammer, shifting spanner, locking pliers, a knife, Phillips & flat screwdrivers, a set of alkenes open-ended, ring or box spanners.
  - 1.6.4. For all propellers driven vessels and water jets should carry sufficient spare parts for emergency repairs on board.
  - 1.6.5. A GPS instruments and a marine compass
  - 1.6.6. An extra stock of fuel over and above the normal amount needed for the planned excursion. It should be at least 25% more than the projected consumption.
  - 1.6.7. Adequate anchor facilities depending on the depth of sea area should be available. An adequate number of life- jackets
  - 1.6.8. Dry food items and an adequate amount of bottled water.
  - 1.6.9. Toilet facilities.
- 1.7. Operator must provide customers with verbal and written Information /Instructions on
  - 1.7.1. All safety equipment with demonstrations
  - 1.7.2. How to act in order to prevent accidents.

- 1.7.3. How to act in case of losing the way or capsizing due to an unforeseen situation
- 1.8. Adequate number of safety equipment
  - 1.8.1. Water proof First Aid kit should be available on rafts/boats.
  - 1.8.2. certified Safety Jacket for each client.
  - 1.8.3. certified Helmet for each client.
  - 1.8.4. Specified water-sports equipment should be displayed prominently at the base of operations and a printed hand out of the above precautions should be given to such persons. Before using such equipment the clients should be made to understand the precautions that should be taken by them for their safety.
- 1.9. All employees should be provided with training in the following areas.
  - 1.9.1. Knowledge of the environment in which the operation is carried out.
  - 1.9.2. First Aid administration
  - 1.9.3. To act in order to prevent accidents
  - 1.9.4. Accident handling procedures
  - 1.9.5. Handling a crisis situation
  - 1.9.6. Search and Rescue procedures.
  - 1.9.7. To guide the guests in a proper and safe manner
- 1.10. If the operation includes diving, an adequate Oxygen supply in boats and Decompression Chamber should be available in close proximity to the location.
- 1.11. If the operation includes boating, auxiliary/ power and, on boat communication facilities should be available
- 1.12. Permanent anchors should be established in popular dividing areas.
- 1.13. If the operation includes skiing, orientation to be given prior to participation, area to be specified and if the person is below the age of 18 he/she should always be accompanied by a trainer
- 1.14. Canoeing Paths should be selected according to the condition of the water surface of the area used for the particular activity. In this regard;
  - 1.14.1. The operator should give detailed descriptions (briefing) of trails to guest beforehand.
  - 1.14.2. The operator should then carefully select the suitable Canoeing Path based on the environment he/she might encounter on the way.
  - 1.14.3. A trained **Canoeist or Kayaker cum River Guide** should accompany the clients at all times. Number of such guides should depend on the skill level of the clients / grading on the canoe path / remoteness etc.
- 1.15. Equipment requirement
  - 1.15.1. Canoes & Kayaks could be either inflatable or made out of a solid materiel and should be made according to the international specifications.
  - 1.15.2. Paddles need to be made out of an approved material on international standards.

- 1.15.3. Rafts should be made according to international specifications / standards.
- 1.15.4. All Equipment used for water activities, should be in good working order to maintain safety standards. , They should be maintained according to manufactures specifications, and stored after use to prevent corrosion or damage and checked for safety before they are hired out.
- 1.15.5. List of the equipment available for hire to clients should be displayed in a prominent place indicating the rates at which such equipments will be hired.

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