

The Common Adventure Model for Recreational Activities

Basic Definition - A Common Adventure is two or more individuals working cooperatively for common goals, sharing expenses and responsibilities as equitably as possible.

Key Elements

- Shared Responsibility for a successful event - no autocratic leadership
 - The trip initiator (the person identified as contact on our website) simply gets the ball rolling. The rest of the group is expected to help plan for the success of the trip, from the arrival at the put in until the trip has ended and everyone is safely on their way home.
 - There is no designated "leader" or "guide" who makes all the decisions for the group. Rather, leadership is fluid and group decisions are made democratically.
 - There are no paid instructors. Any instruction or advice provided by any member of the group is given in a spirit of cooperation.
 - Shared responsibility does not prevent an individual with expertise from taking needed action such as providing first aid or organizing a rescue.
- Shared Expense - low cost and non-commercialized
 - Members of the group pay their own share of the expenses.
 - The activity does not produce income for any group member.
 - The activity does not produce income for the Bluff City Canoe Club,
 - Fees paid such as launch or boat rental fees do not benefit any group member or the Bluff City Canoe Club.
- Personal Responsibility for Risk
 - Individuals are responsible for their decision to participate,
 - Advice may be requested from others about the skill and equipment required for an activity but the responsibility for a prudent choice remains with the participant.
 - All participants are expected to observe conventional risk management practices such as wearing a PFD and not using alcohol or other intoxicants when on the water. Throw ropes, paddling helmets or other equipment may be needed for some activities.
 - Members of the group do not hold one another or the Bluff City Canoe Club liable for accidents.

Additional Details

- Purpose - Meetups using the Common Adventure model provide a means for getting people together for activities that might not have been possible if they had tried to do it alone.
- Who can participate
 - Meetups posted on the Bluff City Canoe Club website are primarily for members of the club and their guests.
 - Non-members may contact the initiator to discuss available capacity and whether they have the necessary skill and equipment to participate as a guest.
 - It is expected that repeating participants will join the Bluff City Canoe Club.
 - Joining the Bluff City Canoe Club is easy. Information can be found [here](#).
 - Occasionally, meetups are posted with an invitation to non-members. These meetups are a good way to get acquainted.
- A more complete discussion of the Common Adventure Model can be found [here](#).