## **RULES FOR NEW PADDLERS**

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Paddlers participate in an MTL kayaking event at their own risk and accept all responsibility for their own safety.

We are happy to have new people join our paddles, but we ask that you comply with the following safety rules:

- We recommend that beginners take at least one lesson before joining us. LL Bean and Collinsville Canoe and Kayak charge a reasonable fee for this. You can access their web sites for more details.
- All paddlers are responsible for providing their own kayak and gear and for getting their kayak
  on & off their vehicles. If you don't own one, you can search online for places where you can
  rent for the day.
- Per DEEP regulations, all must have a PFD and whistle.
- All paddlers need to be self-sufficient and be able to get in and out of their kayak on their own. It is also recommended that you have a bilge pump, and for Level 3 paddles (possible choppy water), a spray or deck skirt.
- You must notify the paddle leaders if you need to leave the group and head back to shore; it is strongly recommended that you try to find someone to accompany you back.
- We have provided a link to "paddle levels" to help you determine the difficulty of a paddle.

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