



National Coasteering Charter

In 2011 in Bristol, over 80 Coasteering Providers gathered under their own volition from different parts of the UK to agree a way forwards, a plan, made by coasteers, for coasteers.

The plan? To vote to form a body to represent coasteering providers, supported and endorsed by the HSE (via AALS), the RNLI, the MCA and RoSPA. It was felt that coasteering was both a growth activity and a niche activity that didn't fit neatly into other NGB's, and the coasteering Providers wanted to 'steer our own ship'.

In practice, steering our own ship meant firstly to understand the overall goal of the NCC, which is "To Promote Safe Coasteering".

We decided to form the National Coasteering Charter (NCC), write a constitution, have 2 representatives from each Coasteering Region within the UK, that represent their region at national level, organising regional meetings and conveying messages back and forth between their region and national meetings – essentially sharing accidents, incidents, themes and learnings from those themes to help make coasteering safer for the providers and clients.

Simultaneously it led to the initial 2 documents that define both how to operate coasteering, and how to train coasteering guides – now at version 3.

Since then, the NCC are the 'go to' place for coasteering advice, guided by their documentation, its membership and the expertise of the volunteers on the NCC committee. Coasteering as an activity has grown with over 150 providers plus now in the UK. It is also seen internationally as setting the standards.

Bi-annually, the NCC organise a National Coasteering Symposium (the most recent having been the 12th and 13th Nov in Dundee, Scotland). Members and non-members are welcomed to join us and experience a range of great coasteering workshops and discussions for CPD purposes and to share practice and learn the most up to date information and skills.

The NCC have given industry support to members with different challenges – from access to safety. It has also



upheld environmental standards when required and promoted the use of the WiSE Scheme to help sustain amazing coasteering for future generations.

Most recently it has created a coasteering guide training and assessment scheme to help maintain the standards of the activity.

Having seen the progress made by the NCC, AIM have fully supported this by being at recent symposiums to chat and answer questions about insurance, offering informal support that has been gratefully received.

If you want to become a member (individual or provider), a regional representative or more, and be part of the conversation to help shape the future of coasteering, check out nationalcoasteeringcharter.org.uk and/or go to your regional meeting (your regional rep contact details are on the [NCC website](#)).



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