

Steering Level, Paddle Location and Progress Guide.

Skill Level	Skills Required	Where and When	How to Achieve
No Level	Never steered	Sheltered water with a level 2 or 3 steerer present	Request instruction
1. Entry Steerers	Basic control Limited knowledge of waterways and other conditions	Able to steer training sessions in green areas Able to steer sessions in other areas with a level 2 or 3 steerer present	Steer a minimum of 5 sessions with a level 2 or 3 present Demonstrate ability to steer straight Demonstrate basic understanding of water rules and no-go high risk areas.
2. Proficient Steerers	Proven ability to control and right capsized canoe Proven ability to command crew Thorough knowledge of waterways and conditions	Independently steer sessions in level 1 or 2 water Able to steer level 3 water with level 3 steerer present	Level 2 steerer has: - Steered at least 10 times - 5 times in rough conditions - 3 times at night - righted 3 capsizes Strict adherence to waterway rules Consistent clear communications
3. Advanced Steerers	All level 2 skills Proven ability to control and right canoe in open and rough water Extensive knowledge of local conditions	Able to steer in all conditions	Level 3 steerer has: - Steered at 10 times in open water - 7 times in rough water - 3 rightings in rough conditions Ability to steer canoe in moderate surf

Notes:

Additional expectations may be added to levels as the framework is clarified and developed, e.g. Level 2 is required to race competitively; risk management, reporting hazards and incidents, running training sessions, getting a Day Skippers Certificates, etc.

All steerers are expected to model and encourage good paddling technique, club rules and values.
Where possible, keep up to date with local and national water authorities, their guidelines and certification processes.

Within a level there will be steerers who have recently attained it and there will be others with lots of experience, possibly wanting to move to the next level. A personal log of trips and experiences done will assist moving on to another level.

Assisting and leading club meetings, events, gear transportation and gear maintenance will improve communication and knowledge.
Members ownership, involvement and feedback for the process will ensure it is done effectively and reasonably.