



# Blades Junior Canoe Club

Fairwater Leisure Centre, Cwmbran, Torfaen. Telephone 01495 758868

[www.torfaen.plus.com/blades.htm](http://www.torfaen.plus.com/blades.htm)

## MISSION STATEMENT

**TO EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR LEISURE TIME ACTIVITIES SO AS TO DEVELOP THEIR PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL CAPACITIES THAT THEY MAY GROW TO FULL MATURITY AS INDIVIDUALS AND MEMBERS OF SOCIETY AND THAT THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE MAY BE IMPROVED.**

## HISTORY

The Blades Junior Canoe Club was formed in 1992 as a result of a request by a local leisure centre for the sport to be included in the range of activities for young people for their summer programme.

The club started with initial support from Torfaen Youth Service; finance being made available as start up funding to pay for the use of the local swimming pool. This funding was withdrawn as the club became established and self sufficient. The club was staffed by volunteer qualified canoe coaches who loaned their own equipment to enable young people between the ages of 11 and 18yrs to participate in the sport.

The club became affiliated to the Welsh Canoeing Association who provided liability insurance for both coaches and the club as a unit. All staff undertook a Police Record check that has subsequently been upgraded to a Criminal Record Bureau check. In addition under the guidance of Torfaen Youth Service staff have undertaken first aid training and child protection awareness training.

The young people enrol as members of the club and undertake training to the WCA Pool Blades and the BCU Star award levels. Several members have progressed to become qualified coaches in their own right and have returned to the club as adult coaches.

We work in partnership with the following organisations;

- Torfaen Youth Service
- Wye Bother Canoe Club
- Welsh Canoeing Association
- British Canoe Union

The canoe club is committed to providing the opportunities for young people to participate in the sport regardless of ability, gender, race, or sexual orientation. The club operates an equal opportunities policy and does not discriminate against any individual.