

21 September 12

Dear TDU Chair

I am writing this letter in response to a resurgence of discussions on Irish internet based message boards about the low brace turn and the lack of official action or written proposals made to improve the syllabi since these discussions began 4 years ago.

Bearing in mind the developments in Instructor training and Instructor CPD's over the last 4 years with more emphasis in the training process to connectivity, transfer of energy and effective use of momentum, I would like to make the following proposal to the Training and Development Unit.

That the 'Low Brace Turn' be removed from Level 3 and Level 4 Kayak Skills Awards. I believe the reference to 'breaking in' and 'breaking out' covers the ability to cross an eddy line using a combination of appropriate strokes and edge control which best suits the individual, the equipment and the environment.

That the 'Low Brace Turn' be removed from the Level 2 Kayak Skills Syllabus and replaced with the text 'Turning on the move'.

In the notes for level 2 kayak skills awards section of the syllabus I suggest the following text:

'Turning on the move'

'The kayak should be moved at good speed through a series of turns. The turns should be induced by applying a combination of strokes and edge control appropriate to the kayak and the participant. The kayak should continue moving throughout the series of turns without stopping or significantly slowing down. '

The above changes, using the proposed text, should satisfy the needs of all stakeholders in the award scheme including the EPP group who endorse our awards.

I hope the Training and Development Unit will consider this matter and the above proposal at its earliest convenience. I look forward to hearing the Training and Development Units response.

Please feel free to post this letter on the appropriate internet message boards if you feel it is of benefit to the award scheme.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benny Cullen', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Benny Cullen  
Development Officer  
Canoeing Ireland