

# **2009 USA CANOE/KAYAK CODE OF CONDUCT**

## **ATHLETE PLEDGE**

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the USA Canoe/Kayak (USACK) Code of Conduct (the "Code"), which offers a guide to my conduct as a member of the USA National Team (the "Team"). I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my selection to the Team.

### **As a Member of the Team, I hereby promise and agree that I:**

- will abide by all published rules related to the Team selection procedures as approved by USACK;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) or the International Canoe Federation rules;
- am not currently serving a doping violation and/or do not have a pending or unresolved doping charge;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;
- will not participate or assist in any gambling or betting activities associated with any event related to my sport or my participation;
- am eligible to compete under the rules of International Canoe Federation;
- should I be chosen for an international team that requires a passport, I am in possession of a valid USA passport, that will not expire prior to six months following the conclusion of the international competition;
- will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my teammates to attain peak performance;
- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- will respect members of my Team, other teams, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- will follow my Team's written rules, including by way of example, written rules regarding curfew, required attendance at team meetings and prohibitions on the release of confidential team information;
- am aware that USACK sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for the Team and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USACK apparel at all official Team functions and events;
- will not conceal or cover-up any USACK sponsor, supplier or licensee brand or other identification appearing on my USACK apparel;
- will abide by the rules of the International Canoe Federation concerning allowable trademark identification on clothing and equipment worn or used in competition or on visible body tattoos.
- agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USACK under conditions authorized by USACK and give event organizers and USACK the right to use my name, picture, likeness, and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success of the team on which I compete; in no event may USACK or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
- will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USACK apparel or equipment or the use of the USACK logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of the USACK;
- understand that if I require legal representation because of I am accused of a doping violation or am accused of criminal misconduct, or if for any other reasons I require the services of an attorney, I will be personally responsible for payment of such legal fees and expenses;
- will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my teammates, USACK and the United States; and
- will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for my sport, my country and the Olympic Movement.

**ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

I may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman,  
toll free at 888.ATHLETE (888.284.5383) or [John.Ruger@usoc.org](mailto:John.Ruger@usoc.org)  
for further information regarding my rights under this Code  
that are not answered by USACK.

**PARTICIPANTS' AFFIRMATION**

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures  
stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
USA CANOE/KAYAK  
NGB Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
CANOE/KAYAK  
Sport

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION  
(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name (Parent/Guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship (Parent or Guardian)