**Safety Checklist Before you go Afloat.**

Before you launch your Oppie – you need to check the following:

1. All Buoyancy Tanks are inflated to capacity and secured correctly.
2. You have a praddle on board and it is tied on with sufficient length that you can reach overboard to use it when necessary.
3. You have two bailers on board and they are tied on with sufficient length that you are able to bail any water out overboard.
4. Centreboard must be tied on to the centreboard casing again with enough length that you can remove the board fully from the casing while remaining tied on.
5. The rudder should have a clip on it to prevent it from coming away from the boat in a capsize situation.
6. All boats must have a painter attached to their bow with a loop at the end of it for towing purposes as per class rule 4.3b
7. The mast **must** be stepped with locking clip (mast clamp) – tying it in is NOT sufficient.
8. The clip/shackle used for attaching your mainsheet to the boom needs to be either a snap shackle with a **small line attached** to the ring part to be able to open it easily with cold hands, 

**Mainsheets with a Carbine hook without a screw lock as pictured below are not suitable as these hooks can open and catch in your clothes. This can be DANGEROUS, especially in a capsize. DO NOT USE ANY OF THESE TYPES OF HOOKS BELOW.**

  

**CLOTHING:**

All children need to have the appropriate clothing on for this time of the year.

1. Wetsuit, ideally with a rash vest or base layer underneath
2. A rain & windproof jacket or a cag.
3. Rubber soled shoes with thick socks if possible.
4. A warm hat.
5. A buoyancy aid – weight appropriate.

**Please advise you child to stay out of the water before sailing commences as they will only be in wet clothing for longer and get cold faster.**