

# i-SAFETY

You will see there is an “I-SAFETY” sticker on your ski that highlights points you should consider each time you go for a paddle. The significance of the “I” is that safety is a personal responsibility. The highlighted points are:

- ⊙ Should I be wearing a buoyancy aid?
- ⊙ Have I told someone where I am going?
- ⊙ Have I assessed the conditions?
- ⊙ Have I inspected all my equipment today?
- ⊙ Am I visible & wearing the appropriate clothing?
- ⊙ Paddler assumes all risk to self & others.

Below are some more safety points taken from the [www.SurfSki.info](http://www.SurfSki.info) website that you should consider:

1. Be aware of the conditions, particularly of wind and waves. Offshore winds are DANGEROUS. The sea looks calm and inviting close to shore but you can be blown rapidly out to sea and find yourself unable to paddle back.
2. Use a sunhat - and tie it to your PFD (personal floatation device) so you don't lose it. Apply and re-apply plenty of sunscreen. Thanks to the disappearing ozone layer, this is becoming a major issue; sun damage to skin is cumulative and irreversible. (Note: sunscreen on your hands makes them slippery. Wash them with soap - ideally - or sand and water in the sea before paddling.)
3. Be alert to waves breaking. You never want to be between your ski and the shore. If you fall out coming in on a wave, try to ensure that you fall off on the side nearest the wave. If a breaking wave hits the ski and you're in the way, the ski will break you. So if you do fall out on the wrong side, duck under the ski - dive under the water and let the ski roll over the top of you.
4. Watch out for other skis and swimmers, a rider-less ski being tumbled by a wave leaves a six-metre-wide trail of destruction.
5. Wear appropriate clothing. Dehydration, hypothermia, sunburn and sunstroke can all take you unawares when you're having fun.

For more safety information and news on products and events visit: [IconSurfcraft.com](http://IconSurfcraft.com).