



### **GUIDELINE UPON SIGHTING OF SHARK WHILE ON WA SKC GROUP PADDLE**

Individual paddler upon sighting of a threatening shark should signal to fellow paddlers immediately, using two whistle blasts and the come-to-me signal.

Group paddlers should respond by:

- Rafting up (joining kayaks together to form a large mass) as quickly as possible to support the paddler who has seen the shark – this presents a surface shape to the shark that is less similar to its usual prey than the shape of a single kayak;
- Remaining still;
- Keeping limbs well out of the water;
- If shark sighted is of a size >2m length, the trip leader should consider contacting the nearest sea rescue organisation by VHF radio on CH 73 to advise of the observation, to allow them to alert others in the area.

Once it is clear that the shark is no longer in the area or has not been seen for 10-15 minutes:

- Trip Leader should determine whether to continue the planned paddle route or return to shore.

Following a shark sighting, do not:

- Make splashing noises on the water, such as hitting paddle blades on the surface