

British Rowing Masters Championships

Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy in accordance with British Rowing

Safeguarding and Protecting Children guidance WG3.4

The Organizing Committee of the British Rowing Masters Championships recognise their Duty of Care to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to provide a safe environment for all those attending the regatta in whatever capacity.

The Committee believe that the welfare and well-being of all children attending the regatta whether as competitors or as spectators, is paramount. All children, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability, have equal rights to safety and protection. All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

The Chairman and Committee will appoint a Welfare Officer for the competition annually and he/she will act as the point of contact for any concerns or allegations. Their contact number will be posted in the boating area and they can be contacted via any Regatta Official during the event.

The Regatta Welfare Officer is Heidi Hackett who is also the Safety Adviser and can be contacted via any Regatta Official or First Aiders.

The British Rowing Masters Championships expects clubs and schools to have their own up-to-date child protection and welfare policies and these are implemented.

Whilst this regatta is by its very nature aimed at athletes over the age of 27, there is still the need for crews/coaches to take responsibility for young people working with the crews e.g. coxes and to ensure that they know of their whereabouts throughout the regatta.

1) Reporting structure:

The first point of contact is the Welfare Officer.

The Welfare Officer may then contact the Chairman of the Organizing Committee if needed.

The Safety Advisor should be kept up to date with any incidents.

The overall responsibility for decisions / disciplinary procedures lies with Chairman of the Organizing Committee, after consultation with the Welfare Officer and the Safety Advisor.

A matter should be reported to the police when appropriate.

The Welfare Officer will be responsible for reporting the incident to the British Rowing Child Protection Officer.

2) Awareness:

All personnel dealing with minors in rowing should be aware of the British Rowing information on *Safeguarding and Protecting Children*.

All Officials should be aware of dealing with minors appropriately using the *Row Safe* document.

The Safety Advisor will be aware of the Welfare Policy and Safety plan.

3) Medical Provision:

All the Medical staff will be sent the Welfare Policy and be given the contact details for the Welfare Officer.

In an emergency the Race Committee / Safety Advisor / Welfare Officer may contact the emergency services using 999

4) Appropriate level of Security:

Volunteers and Officials may be briefed on being vigilant for anything suspicious e.g. someone unknown to the crews hanging around or tampering with equipment; People taking pictures near the changing facilities.

5) Missing persons:

If a person has been missing for more than 30 minutes contact the Welfare Officer and/or the Safety Advisor. This may be performed via any official.

6) Access to young people or their contact details:

The Entries Secretary and Registration personnel do not hold any contact details for young people and do not need to be CRB checked. CRB disclosures of medical staff and the Welfare Officer shall be checked.

Any personnel having contact unsupervised with minors in an enclosed environment (if they have not had CRB Checks performed) should work in pairs.

WG 2.5 and 2.6 (Self declaration forms) or WG 2.4 (reference for officials / volunteers) may be used.

7) Photography:

A copy of the British Rowing advice on photography (WG 5.1) will be held in the Regatta Marshals' Cabin.

Official photographers will be asked to register their contact details with the Organizing Committee.