

In accordance with the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Guidance: Guidelines for Rowing Competitions (WG 3.4)

Welfare Statement

The Organising Committee of the Henley Masters Regatta believes that the welfare and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults is paramount. All children and vulnerable adults, 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.

A competition Welfare Officer will be appointed annually and will act as the point of contact for any concerns and allegations. Their contact number will be posted at the registration desk and will be available from Race Control.

The Welfare Officer for the 2023 event is JANET HOPE BROWN (07779 706043) deputised by Jeremy Dobbin (07904 948948). Alternatively they can be contacted via any Race Official stationed around the course or boating area or via the Registration Desk.

Welfare Plan

1. Reporting structure

The first point of contact is the Welfare Officer. The Welfare Officer may then contact the Chairman of the Organising Committee if needed, via Race Control. The Safety Adviser should be kept up to date with any incidents. The overall responsibility for decisions lies with the Welfare Officer. A matter should be reported to the police when appropriate. The Welfare Officer will be responsible for reporting any incident to the British Rowing Child Protection Officer.

2. Awareness

The Welfare Statement and Plan will be made known to all event volunteers at the pre-event briefing. A clear notice regarding contacting the Welfare Officer will be available from the Registration Desk. All personnel dealing with minors in rowing should be aware of the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy (updated 2013) accessed via: <https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/safeguarding/>

All officials should be aware of dealing with minors appropriately using the Row Safe guidelines. See <https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/policies-guidance/rowsafe>.

3. Medical provision

The Welfare Statement and Plan will be forwarded to medical staff covering the event. This will include the contact details of the Welfare Officer. Medical provision will be located in the boating area, adjacent to the registration tent. In an emergency Race Control/Safety Adviser/Welfare Officer may contact the emergency services using 999.

Via BROE all crews are required to provide regatta day contact details. 1x are asked to confirm whether they are attending the regatta alone and also asked to provide emergency contact details - ideally for someone also attending the regatta - in case of accident/ illness. In instances where this is not possible entrants are informed that they may need to abide by the guidance of the onsite medical team.

4. Appropriate level of safety & security for young people

Adults with responsibility for children or crews including vulnerable adults racing in the event are expected to ensure that boating conditions are suitable. Adults, coaches & parents are also reminded of the need for suitable clothing for the event, bearing in mind the likely weather conditions e.g. sun exposure / heat, rain or cold. Visiting crews are responsible for the welfare and safety of their young or vulnerable adult coxes. In this situation it is the crew & coach who must make the assessment of whether their crew can safely boat and race in the conditions presented.

Visiting crews need to make their own arrangements for changing facilities. There are none provided on site but they are available at UTRC.

Volunteers and officials with the visiting crews and the hosting club should be vigilant for anything suspicious e.g. someone unknown to the crews hanging around or tampering with equipment.

5. Missing persons

If a person is reported missing Race Control must be notified in the first instance. They can be contacted via the mobile numbers above, or on radio via any official or the Registration Desk. The Safety Adviser and Welfare Office should also be notified, the former being the alternative point of contact should the Welfare Officer, or their deputies not be immediately contactable. Announcements can be made via Race Control as necessary (see Event Safety Plan for guidance). If the individual remains missing for more than 30 minutes the Welfare Officer should, based on the specific circumstances, consider reporting the incident to the police.

6. Access to young people or their contact details

Personal details on all competitors e.g. date of birth are collected via BROE during the registration process and submitting admin is asked to provide consent for the processing of any personal data collected via this process. Any hard copies of this data e.g. entry forms will be destroyed within 12 weeks of the event, having first allowed for any queries to be raised from the BROE results submission process. The crew contact details entered on BROE will be used to contact the adult responsible for any junior involved in an incident or in case of an emergency. It is therefore incumbent upon the person entering the crew to ensure that a usable contact number is included in the entry. If necessary these details can be updated on the day by advising the Registration desk.

Any personnel having unsupervised contact with juniors in an enclosed environment, if they have not had CRB checks performed, should work in pairs.

7. Basic training

All personnel working unsupervised with children should be familiar with the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children policy and the information it contains on good practice.

8. Photography

A link to British Rowing's advice on photography (Safeguarding and Photography WG 5.1) <http://www.britishrowing.org/upload/files/Association/Welfare/BritishRowingWG5.1.pdf>.

All competitors in the event may be photographed by amateurs, or professionals who sell their photographs, and these photographs may be used for identification or publicity purposes. The Regatta cannot prevent this, as the banks and the area surrounding the course are open to the public.

Janet Hope- Brown

Welfare Officer

07779 706043

