

Egham Amateur Regatta - Welfare Policy and Plan

Updated 15/05/18

General:

The organising committee of Egham Regatta believes that all persons participating in rowing, including children & vulnerable adults, whether attending as competitors, coxes, coaches, umpires, marshals and spectators have the right:

- To enjoy safe participation in rowing
- To be treated as individuals at all times
- To express their views and to be listened to and believed
- To be treated with respect and to receive support for their individual needs
- To enjoy an environment free of discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, marital status, occupation or political opinion
- To participate free from the threat of abuse
- Not to have to endure insult, abuse, including verbal abuse, bullying, neglect or physical abuse
- To enjoy an environment free of sexual harassment and sexual abuse
- Not to be exploited
- To be treated in accordance with British Rowing guidelines.

Juniors & Vulnerable Adults:

Egham Regatta strives to ensure that:

- The Regatta is a safe environment and
- That any allegations or concerns of harm to juniors or vulnerable adults involved in the event are taken seriously and responded to quickly and appropriately.

A Welfare Officer has been appointed for the event and will act as the point of contact for any allegations or concerns.

Her contact details will be available at Race Control and will be made known to all race officials.

Alcoholic beverages will not be served to Juniors (under the age of 18 years) from any of the regatta catering points and no Junior is allowed to serve alcohol at such areas. Similarly, alcohol should not be consumed by Juniors around the areas of the regatta. Any Junior competitor observed in breach of this policy may be prohibited from taking any further part in the regatta and the matter will be referred to their relevant club/school.

Welfare Plan

Welfare Officer:

The Welfare Officer has been nominated as **Mr Howard Lawes** who is DBS checked

He will be available throughout the duration of the event and will be contactable by any race official via the radio network or by mobile phone where this is deemed more appropriate.

Their details will also be posted at official points around the regatta (Race Control Tent, Boating Marshalls tent etc)

He will determine appropriate action to be taken.

Should any incident warrant such action, the Welfare Officer will be responsible for reporting to the police and the British Rowing child protection officer.

Security:

Given the nature of the event and the fact it is undertaken and located beside a public park and the River Thames, it is not possible for the event organisers to take responsibility for security at the Regatta, or to control who has access to the towpath, car park and boating areas.

All officials will be briefed to report any suspicious behaviour, but competing clubs/schools are advised to brief their coaches and competitors on their own policies, to adopt their own diligence and also to report any concerns to the regatta Welfare Officer.

Supervision:

Adults with responsibility for children at the Regatta are expected to oversee children or vulnerable adults in their charge and to provide their contact details to the organisers.

Adults – coaches and parents – are also reminded of the need for checking that all equipment used is safe and suitable for use. Namely, that all racing boats conform with Row Safe (such as having securely fitted bow balls, heel restraints, etc), that a coxswain is correctly wearing an appropriate lifejacket and that their crews are appropriately briefed on the Regatta Safety Plan and Navigation Rules.

Adults should also supervise that juniors have suitable clothing for the event and weather conditions on the day; crew coaches are further reminded that in rough conditions, it is they who must make the assessment of whether their crew can safely boat and race in the conditions – particularly so where there is a junior coxswain. Row Safe sections 1.4, 1.7, 1.8 and 3.2 are particularly relevant.

Lost / Missing Procedure:

In the event that a participant goes missing for a period exceeding 30 minutes, the Welfare Officer should be contacted and they will contact the police if this has not already been done.

The Crew contact details entered on the British Rowing Entry Form will be used to contact the adult responsible for any junior reportedly involved in an incident. It is therefore incumbent upon the person entering the crew to ensure that a usable contact number is included in the entry. No individual contact details for juniors will be held by the committee.

Photography:

All competitors in the event may be photographed by amateurs or professionals who sell their photographs. Egham Regatta cannot prevent this, as the river banks and the nearby park are open to the public. Officials and competitors **must** be aware of this.