Welfare & Safeguarding Policy

Policy Statement

The Organising Committee of the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta recognises 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 safety, welfare and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults is paramount. The Committee have in place a comprehensive welfare and safeguarding policy which will be circulated prior to the event and availed on the website.

Each Team Manager is responsible for the welfare, safety and appropriate supervision of his/her Team and is expected to know the whereabouts of his/her Team at all times during the Regatta. Sufficient appropriate supervision should be in place within each team to accommodate the number of junior commentators attending the event. Any safeguarding concerns MUST be escalated to the JIRR Welfare advisor immediately.

The organising committee will designate a Welfare Advisor (WA) for the competition and he/she will act as the point of contact for any matters relating to welfare of those involved in the event in any capacity. A contact number will be included in official documentation, and the WA will also be contactable via any event official. Contact details will be distributed to all Team Managers and Coaches.

Responsibility of Teams

As Teams from each Region include a Junior Team, each junior competitor has a named Coach/Team Manager as their responsible adult. The coach/team manager, who must be over the age of 18, must be named in the entry information and a current mobile telephone number for that person must be provided. If a substitute coach comes to the Regatta he/she must contact the welfare advisor and register his/her mobile telephone number before the start of the competition.

Each Team Manager is responsible for the welfare, safety and appropriate supervision of his/her Junior Team and is expected to know the whereabouts of his/her Team at all times during the Regatta.

The Junior Inter Regional Regatta expects Teams to have their own up-to-date Safeguarding policies, and that the coaches and those responsible for the junior members are aware of these policies and actively implement them throughout the Regatta. Responsible adults should have contact details for the Parent or Gaurdian of each child in their care in order to contact them in cases of urgency.

Responsibility of Peterborough Rowing Club

The club has its own welfare policy and officer. It is not anticipated that any member or staff will have substantial unsupervised access to children. However, it is expected that they will have had some safeguarding training and will be given a copy of the Safeguarding policy. The procedures for reporting any suspicious behaviour will be highlighted to the key staff and volunteers.

Responsibilities of the Junior Inter Regional Regatta Committee

The organisation of the Regatta depends upon the help and goodwill of a large number of volunteers, the committee, appointed by British Rowing has ultimate responsibility. The only volunteers who may potentially have substantial, unsupervised access to children are listed below. These volunteers will be asked to provide the date and number of their enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS – formerly the Criminal Records Bureau) or Disclosure Scotland. Where no such disclosure exists, the Committee requires one.

- Regatta Medical / First Aid Team
- The Welfare Advisor

Photography and publicity

The Committee recognises that at a sports event such as the JIRR many parents and other supporters will wish to take photographs and all participants should be aware of this. The Committee approves photography by commercial organisations and these professional photographers will be asked to display a badge to the effect that they are permitted to take photographs. They are expected to follow British Rowing Safeguarding & Protecting Children Guidance document W.G.5.1 (displayed at the regatta).

The Committee may make appropriate use of photographs of crews and races in publicity on its website.

Safeguarding arrangements

The JIRR Committee will take the following action:

- Appoint an Event Welfare Advisor. He/she shall have undertaken appropriate recognised training and will have an appreciation of inter-agency procedures.
- Agree which commercial photographer(s) will be permitted to photograph competitors and ensure they have appropriate accreditation
- Confirm that the Regatta Medical team have enhanced disclosure criminal record or disclosure Scotland checks.
- Provide a point of contact available via phone or radio throughout the regatta.

Reporting structure

Individual has a concern
Recognises cause for concern, observes abuse/poor practice, receives a direct disclosure

Event Welfare Advisor
All concerns should be referred to the Welfare Advisor with minimal delay. Team Managers must always ensure that the Welfare Officer/Co-ordinator for the competitor's club and the Safeguarding Lead for the home region if appropriate is informed as soon as possible
Records incident on Safeguarding Referral Form (Appendix 5b) together with the individual reporting the concern

Decision made on action required

No Action Required
Decision recorded

Poor Practice
Immediate Event decision and referral to club, school or BR Lead Safeguarding Officer as appropriate

Suspected Abuse
Welfare Advisor reports to CSC/Police as appropriate and informs BR Lead Safeguarding Officer