

# Playing your part: Getting your club back up and running safely

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## Note from Andy Parkinson, CEO at British Rowing

At the beginning of the month we celebrate National Volunteer Week, so it feels highly appropriate to thank the many volunteers in clubs who have worked tirelessly to ensure that their clubs and their members are supported through this difficult period. Implementing processes to enable a return to rowing are complicated and may take time to put in place.

At the same time, some volunteers may have been affected directly or indirectly by the virus and so rowing may well not be top of their priority list right now. So, if you are a member of a rowing club, please remember to say thank you to all the great volunteers who support our sport, both in times of crisis and once we return to whatever normal looks like in the future.



## **Volunteer action plan - in development**

Drawing on the research findings and input from the Volunteer Working Group, emerging recommendations and actions are grouped in these workstreams;

- I. Attracting new volunteers.
- 2. Training volunteers and supporting clubs and competition organisers.
- 3. Acknowledging the contributions made.



## **Regional Rowing Council - Overview**





**Corporate Governance** Handbook

September 2018

TEAMWORK OPEN TO ALL COMMITMENT





#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE HANDBOOK - SECTION C – BRITISH ROWING CONSTITUTION**

British Rowing has developed a sporting democracy structure within England based on ten designated geographical areas, referred to as Regions. Each Region has a Regional Rowing Council, which has the responsibilities detailed in the British Rowing Regulations. The Affiliated Members of British Rowing (being Rowing Clubs and Competition Organisers) within each Region elect the leadership personnel of each Regional Rowing Council, and also one or more Regional Representatives for their Region. These Regional Representatives are the Members of British Rowing, with the right to vote on resolutions at General Meetings of British Rowing.

17. Regions and Regional Rowing Councils:

17.1. British Rowing has designated ten Regions within England, being:

17.1.1. East Midlands 17.1.2. Eastern

17.1.3. North West

17.1.4. Northern

17.1.5.Thames

17.1.6. Wessex & South East Coast
17.1.7. West
17.1.8. West Midlands
17.1.9. Wiltshire, Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset (WAGS)
17.1.10 Yorkshire

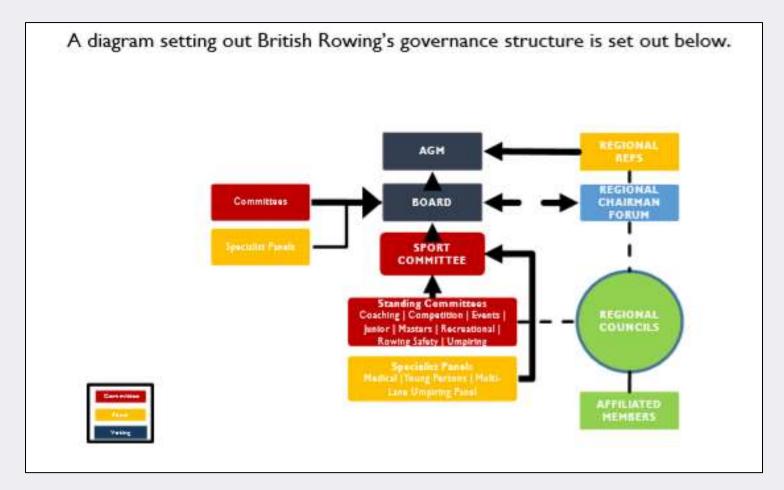
17.2. The boundaries of each Region are defined by river basins and by the location of Affiliated Members who are members of the Region. Any changes to the boundaries of a Region shall be recommended by the Regional Chair's Forum to the Board for their agreement.

17.3. A Regional Rowing Council, as further provided for in the British Rowing Regulations, shall administer each Region.

#### 17.4. Model Constitutions

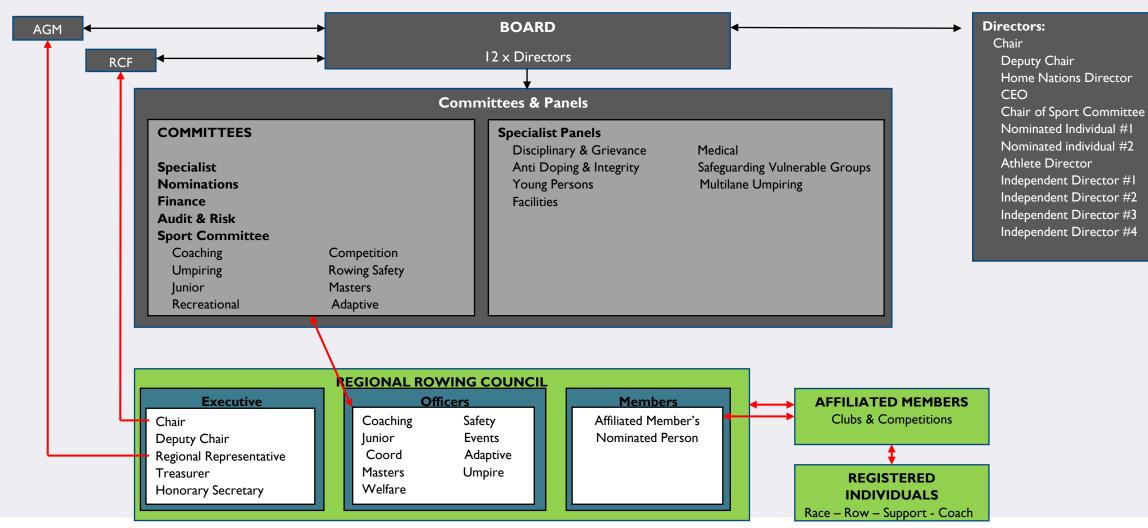
17.4.1. Model constitutions for Regional Rowing Councils shall be issued and reviewed from time to time by the Board. These shall embody the principles of transparent financial accounting; democracy and clear roles and responsibilities and accountability; and a fair and open disciplinary system. 17.4.2. The Board may also issue model constitutions for Clubs.

### **Corporate Governance Handbook** (pg3)

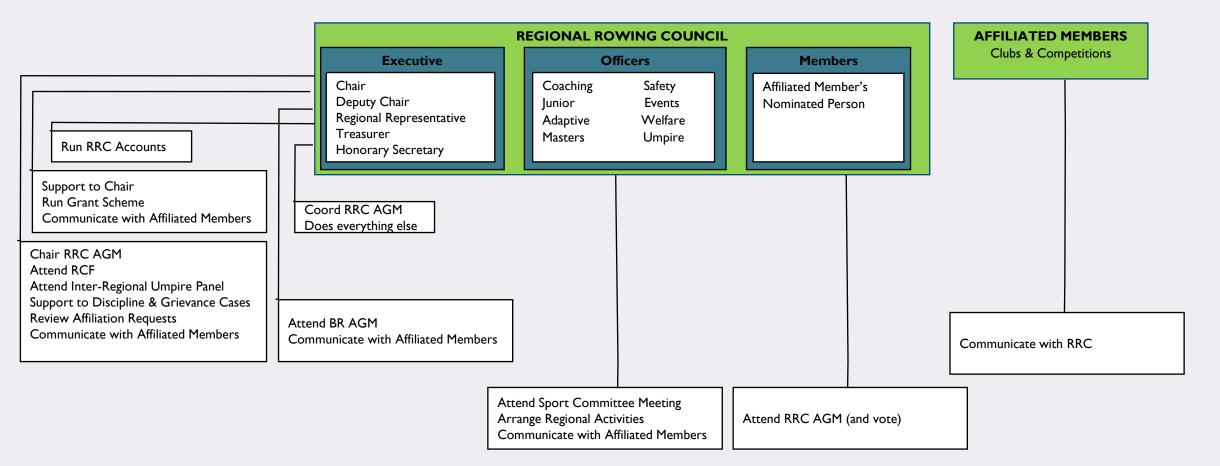




## **Regional Rowing Council Interactions**



## **Regional Rowing Council Activities**







## **Safe return to rowing at Maidenhead** Nick Steel (Club Captain) 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020



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#### Maidenhead Rowing Club



**Maidenhead Rowing** Club aims to provide a friendly, safe and supportive environment for Members of all ages and ambitions to pursue the sport and fellowship of rowing to the best of their ability.

EAD

ROWING CLUBO

## **Principles-based approach**



#### **Key principles**

- 1. Follow Government, British Rowing, & Environment Agency guidance
- 2. Cautious, safety-led, risk-based approach
- 3. Build on existing safety & safeguarding protocols
- 4. Additional Health risk management via Risk Assessment
- 5. Phased process, learning & adapting



#### Maidenhead Rowing Club



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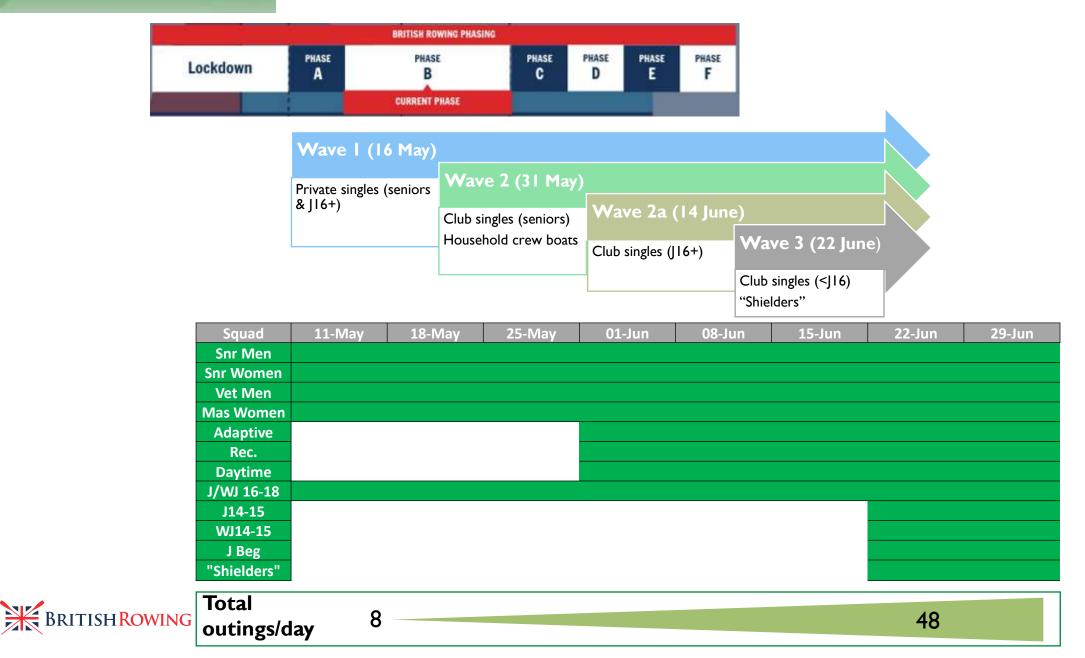






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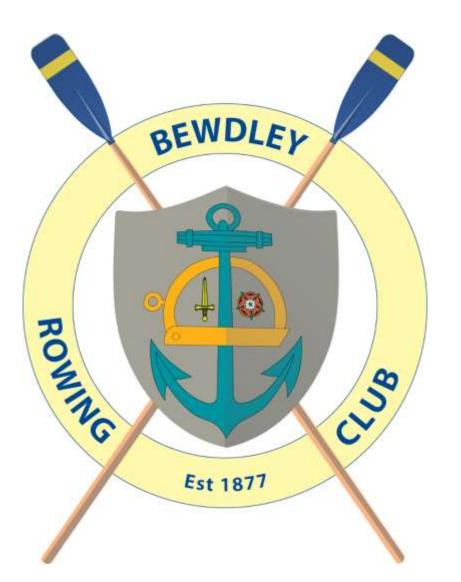
## Safe Return to Rowing



### Volunteers enable ...







## Volunteering at Bewdley Rowing Club







My volunteering started like many others on the tea tent at the regatta and taking drinks to the umpires along the course.

When I realised I was into rowing for the long game this quickly turned into helping out wherever I could.

Cleaner Bar Work Committee Member Cox Ergo Monitor

to start...



#### Then as well as those:

Ladies Rep Coach Membership Secretary Club Admin Vice Captain Captain Regatta Secretary

Oh and rower!

My volunteering doesn't stop there, I'm also Regional Coaching Rep for West Mids

I'm not the only volunteer at Bewdley there's plenty more and we all know how important volunteers are to keep a club running, without them most clubs couldn't exist.

## During lockdown and the return to rowing



We have loaned out our ergos and some free weights on a rota basis. I created a spreadsheet and contacted members to tell them when it was time to pass the ergo on.

The ergos are still on loan and will continue to be until the gym is allowed to be opened up again.







#### Phase 1 Private singles were allowed back on the water, via a booking system. Providing they were paid members of both the club and British Rowing, had signed a declaration form and could competently get themselves on and off the water.

#### **Phase 2** Allocated club singles to competent scullers who followed the same rules above.

#### Phase 3

Scullers who require assistance getting on and off the water via a member of the same household, plus doubles with members of the same household. All following the same rules above.



All club facilities closed in March and remain closed. Sculling boats were moved out of the boathouse on to the patio in a controlled manner and continue to be racked outside to avoid needing any access to the facilities.

#### Social distancing rules are in place

Sanitizer stations have been set up along with various instruction posters.

Members bring their own washing equipment to clean the boats after use, we are not sharing boats currently.

Policy Committee have regular Zoom meetings and keep in contact via a WhatsApp group.

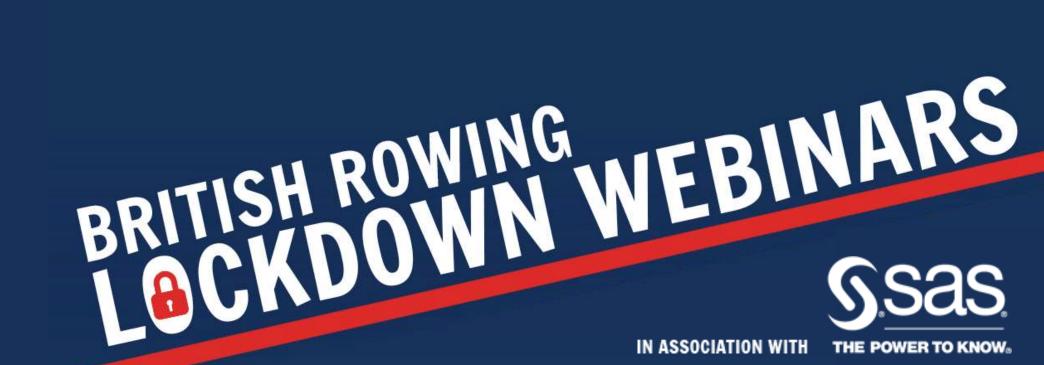
Constant commination is sent out to the membership via email and Facebook

Following the latest government update, we are looking at ways in which we can open up our bar again.





## **Questions?**





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Thank you!

