



BRITISHROWING

Event Welfare Policy Statement

British Rowing Virtual Championships
2021

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT



The Organising Committee of **British Rowing Virtual Championships (BRVC)** believe that the welfare and wellbeing of all participants are paramount, whether as competitors or as spectators and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and British Rowing requirements. It acknowledges that everyone, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, has equal rights to safety and protection and that special measures are required to protect children and young people and Adults at Risk.

All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

This Policy Statement aims to ensure that all participants:

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at British Rowing Virtual Championships in a safe environment
- are protected from abuse whilst participating at British Rowing Virtual Championships or outside of the activity.

The British Rowing Virtual Championships welfare policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in BRVC. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the event and future British Rowing competitions both virtual, indoor and on water.



Contents

Responsibilities of the Organising Committee (OC)	2
Responsibility of Clubs	3
Volunteers who are under 18 (Young Volunteers)	4
Reporting structure for concerns or allegations at [competition]	5
DBS checks, access to young people or their contact details	7
Photography and publicity	7
Live Streaming	7
Monitoring	8



Responsibilities of the Organising Committee (OC)

As part of our safeguarding policy the OC will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of participants, officials, volunteers and spectators
- ensure all personnel understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and welfare and have undertaken appropriate training
- ensure all personnel dealing with minors in rowing are aware of the British Rowing *Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy*.
- ensure all Officials are aware of the appropriate way to deal with minors/adults at risk in accordance with *RowSafe 2019*.
- ensure all members of the OC are aware of this Policy Statement and Safety plan.
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of welfare incidents/concerns of abuse and that support provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern
- ensure that confidential, detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- do their best to prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation. A designated Event Welfare Officer will be appointed annually and is responsible for receiving and managing any concern/reports with the appropriate bodies (British Rowing, Local Authorities, the NSPCC and/or the Police).

The Event Welfare Officer for **2021** will be **Katy Young**. They can be contacted via email. A contact number will be posted on the competition website and they can be contacted via any event official during the event as well.

To report an allegation or concern, please contact the Event Welfare Officer on welfare@britishrowing.org, or complete the online Safeguarding Referral Form which can be found [here](#).

No volunteer will have substantial, unsupervised access to children within their role for British Rowing Virtual Championships.

Responsibility of Entrants

It is a condition of entry to British Rowing Virtual Championships that junior athletes shall have a responsible adult present. The responsible adult, who must be over the age of 18, must be named on the entry form and a current mobile telephone number for that person must be provided.

The named responsible adult is responsible for the welfare, safety and appropriate supervision of their entered athletes.



All participants must abide by British Rowing Rules of Racing and Codes of Conduct, as well as the BR Safeguarding Policy and are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and conduct at all times. These can be found [here](#).

Any enquiries regarding participants under 18 competing out of their British Rowing age band will be referred to ‘How Much How Often’.¹

Volunteers who are under 18 (Young Volunteers)

Volunteering can be a great way for young people to learn and develop new skills and gain experience for their future employment. Young Volunteers are considered a vulnerable group and therefore measures should be put in place for their safe recruitment and participation. Please see BR's safe recruitment guide on the website for more information.

Before accepting them, the Organising Committee must ensure that Young Volunteers:

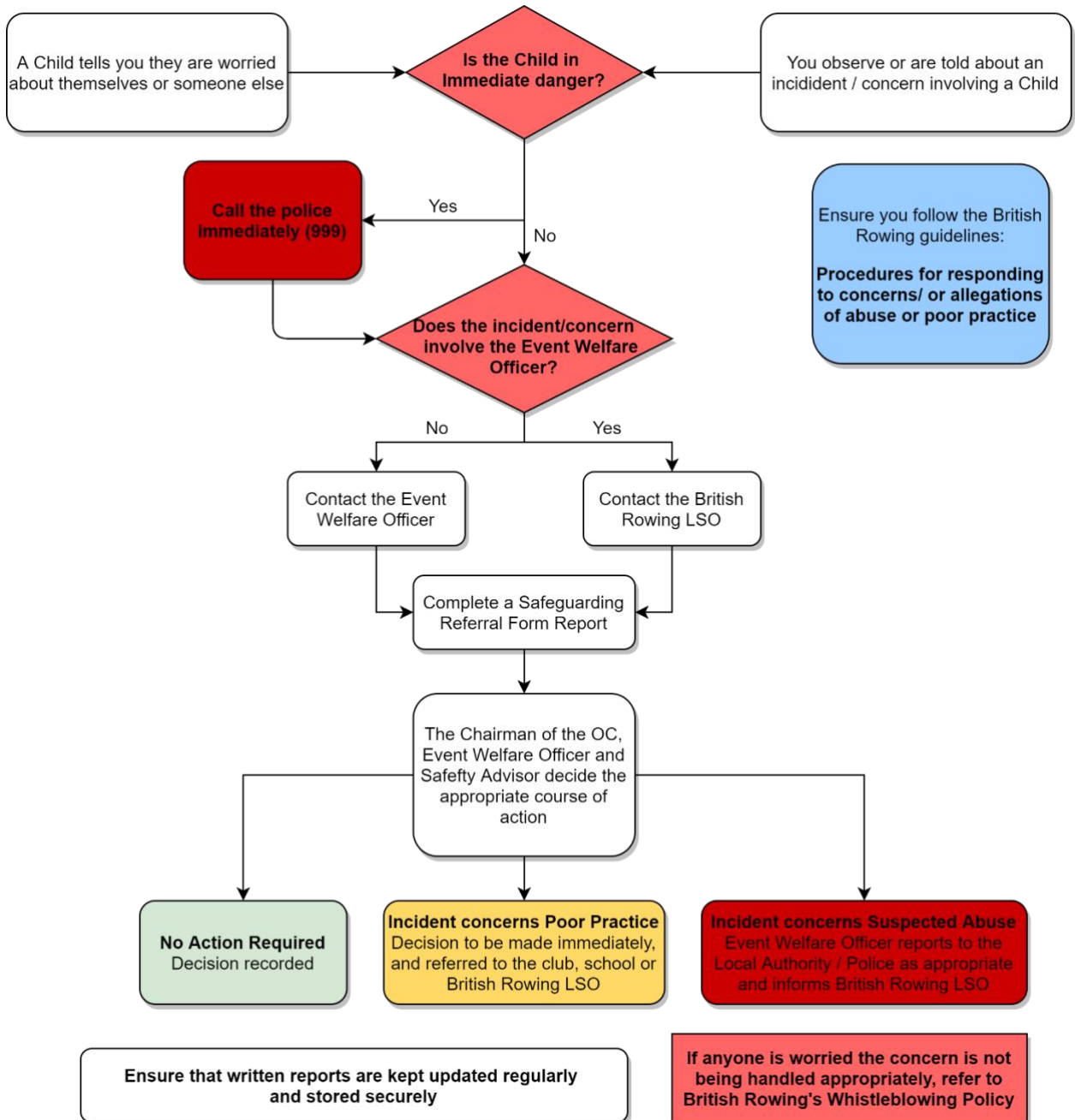
- agree to the British Rowing Codes of Conduct;
- provide written agreement from their parent/carer that they may carry out the responsibility they have been assigned;
- are supervised at all times by at least one adult (including an Official) who holds a DBS check and has undergone appropriate Safeguarding training;
- know their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding, and how to report any concerns they have or become aware of;
- are not given responsibilities that may put someone at risk of harm e.g. sole supervision of other juniors or lifting heavy equipment.

The OC should ensure that appropriate liability insurance is in place to cover young volunteers.

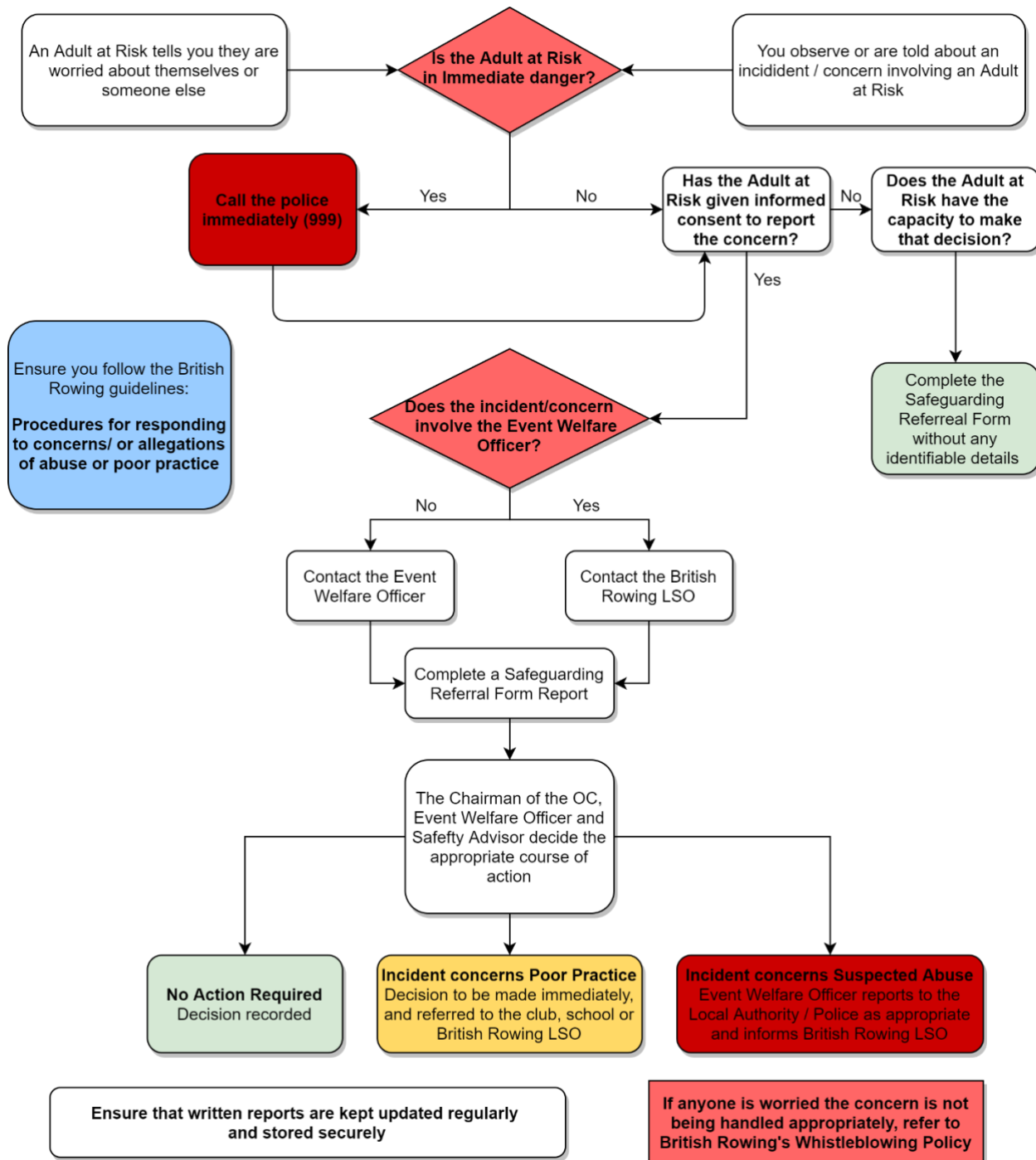
¹ Welfare Guidance 3.2 <https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/safeguarding/guidance-documents/>

Reporting structure for concerns or allegations at British Rowing Virtual Championships

Reporting procedures concerning a child:



Reporting procedures concerning an adult at risk:





DBS checks, access to young people or their contact details

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

Only British Rowing staff members shall have access to the identification documents submitted, including those of participants under the age of 18.

Photography and publicity

The OC recognises that at a sports event such as the British Rowing Virtual Championships many parents and other supporters will wish to take photographs and all participants should be aware of this.

The OC may approve 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. The OC will provide the professional photographers with a copy of British Rowing Photography Policy which they are expected to sign and follow.

A copy of the British Rowing Photography Policy will be available on the British Rowing webpage: <https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/safeguarding/guidance-documents/>.

Live Streaming

The purpose of any live streaming must be to promote a positive image of rowing, and its competitors, officials and spectators. Live streaming should promote the inclusivity and diversity of rowing, and it is important that we reduce any opportunities which could be open to misinterpretation or abuse.

The OC will ensure that any company engaged for the purpose of livestreaming provides the Event Welfare Officer with an up-to-date safeguarding policy which also takes into consideration:

- Positioning of cameras: this must respect the dignity of any individual
- Promote safety: cameras should be redirected away from incidents to avoid any footage which could later be kept and used for the purpose of cyber-bullying



In accordance with British Rowing's Online Safety and Social Media Policy², competitors using a webcam to contribute to live-streaming should ensure:

- your location cannot be identified;
- use of language and body language is respectful and appropriate for spectators of any age;
- the location is a communal or outdoor space such as a study or dining room and never a bedroom or other private space;
- you are appropriately dressed with full rowing kit;
- unwanted or inappropriate imagery and personal items (such as family photographs) are not visible. Remember that mirrors (or even windows) can display items or family members you are not expecting to be seen;
- no family members, particularly children are visible.

At the British Rowing Virtual Championships there will be no live streaming of junior competitors.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- changes in legislation and/or government guidance;
- as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and British Rowing;
- as a result of any other significant change or event.

July 2021

² Welfare Guidance 5.4 <https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/safeguarding/guidance-documents/>