



BRITISH ROWING

Code of Conduct

April 2025

British Rowing Code of Conduct

British Rowing is the governing body of rowing (both indoor rowing and rowing on the water) in England. British Rowing is responsible for the development and growth of rowing and setting the standards for those participating in the sport at every level.

British Rowing Values

This Code of Conduct sets out the expected behaviours for all participants based on British Rowing's values:

- Teamwork - collaborating, leading and contributing towards a safe, honest, equitable and transparent community with integrity and trust.
- Open to all - commitment to an accessible and inclusive sport enabling anyone to participate in a supportive sport with dignity considerate of emotional and physical wellbeing and health.
- Commitment - everyone giving their best, striving for continuous improvement with respect for the rules, pride, contributing and sharing positive aspects of rowing.

Expected Standards of Behaviour

For Everyone

All individuals must:

- Obey British Rowing Regulations, Rules, Values and Policies, including the British Rowing Safeguarding Policy, Anti-doping and Integrity Policies as well as those of their own Club, Event, Competition or relevant organisation;
- Behave appropriately at all times and never in a way which might bring rowing into disrepute;
- Challenge the behaviour of others which is inappropriate, in breach of British Rowing Regulations, Rules or Policies or might bring the sport into disrepute;

- Act equitably towards others and not allow any form of discrimination or victimisation to go unchallenged;
- Respect the rights and dignity of others;
- Only enter into intimate relationships with those with whom there is no power imbalance and neither individuals is in a position of trust towards the other; and
- Condemn cheating, competition manipulation and the use of any form of prohibited substance.

Coaches, Instructors, Officials, Umpires and Volunteers

Anyone in a position of authority should lead by example conducting themselves with honesty, integrity and competence.

In addition to the behaviours outlined above applicable to everyone, Coaches, Instructors, Officials, Umpires and Volunteers must:

- Conduct appropriate risk assessments prior to being involved in any rowing activity, ensuring the environment is as safe as possible in accordance with British Rowing's RowSafe guidance;
- Report any behaviour which concerns them or might be in breach of this Code or British Rowing's Rules, Regulations or Policies;
- Observe appropriate boundaries and relationships with those they are in a position of trust with avoiding sexual intimacy with anyone they coach/instruct or in the period immediately following the end of a coaching relationship;
- Follow best coaching practice being clear about the services offered, any costs involved and the right of athletes to seek advice from other coaches or experts;
- Only assume responsibility for a role which they are qualified for and never mislead anyone as to their level of qualification or competence; and
- Create and maintain an environment which is positive, happy and promotes best safeguarding practice and British Rowing values of teamwork, inclusivity and commitment.

In addition:

Parents should never force a child to participate in rowing or place undue pressure on them to compete, participate or attend a rowing activity. They should conduct themselves with integrity, honesty and dignity respecting all others within the rowing community in particular volunteers, umpires and officials encouraging fair play and sportsmanship.

No one should be under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst participating in rowing, coaching, officiating, assisting others in rowing or any other physical activity in any rowing club premises which might lead to any unacceptable behaviour particularly when in charge of children.

Adults should be aware that they are role models to those younger than them and behave in a positive, dignified and sportsmanlike manner at all times.