



British Rowing

Affiliation

Terms and Conditions

June 2026

[Version 1.0]

British Rowing Club Affiliation

Terms and Conditions

These Terms & Conditions set out the requirements that must be met where a rowing club:

- i) makes an application for British Rowing affiliation for the first time; or
- ii) makes an application for affiliation to be renewed.

For the avoidance of doubt, entities eligible to apply for affiliation, and which are subject to these Terms & Conditions, include clubs (including stand-alone clubs, school rowing clubs, and university rowing clubs) and competitions.

By applying for or renewing affiliation, the club confirms that it understands, accepts, and agrees to comply with all requirements set out below. Affiliation is conditional on compliance. Failure to comply may result in:

- i) disciplinary action against the club and/or its members, officers or persons acting on its behalf, including (but not limited to) suspension or termination of affiliation; and/or
- ii) refusal by British Rowing to affiliate the club in future years.

Where a club applies for affiliation for the first time, approval is subject to the requirements below and approval by the relevant Regional Rowing Council based on the club's principal location.

1. First-Time Affiliation Applications Only

For those entities submitting any application for British Rowing Affiliation for the first time, the club confirms:

- i) It has completed the official application form and paid the applicable subscription fee.
- ii) It has a designated boating base or confirmed permission from a host club to use facilities and/or equipment.
- iii) It has completed the British Rowing Safety Audit, approved by the relevant Regional Rowing Safety Advisor.
- iv) It has ensured that committee members have reviewed all current British Rowing Rules, Regulations and Policies and will continue to do so periodically.
- v) It will act in compliance with any additional information requirements requested by British Rowing, including membership numbers, safety audits, insurance confirmation, fleet/boat registration, and racing colours.

2. Core Affiliation Obligations (Applicable to All Affiliated Entities)

By applying for British Rowing affiliation for the first time, or by renewing affiliation, the club acknowledges and agrees that:

2.1 Governance

- i) All members, officers, officials, coaches, volunteers, and any person acting on behalf of the club (including competition organisers and officials) are subject to and must comply with the Rules, Regulations and Policies of British Rowing, including the Articles of Association, Code of Conduct, Safeguarding Regulations, Disciplinary Rules, and all other applicable policies as updated from time to time.
- ii) The club is responsible for implementing, maintaining and enforcing compliance with British Rowing Rules, Regulations and Policies within its organisation. The club must take all reasonable steps to ensure that individuals participating in its activities are aware of and comply with the British Rowing Rules, Regulations and Policies.
- iii) British Rowing shall have authority to investigate and take action under the appropriate procedures where its Rules, Regulations and Policies are breached or suspected to have been breached by the club or any member, officer, official, coach or participant (adopting the definition set out within the British Rowing Disciplinary Rules) or person acting on its behalf.
- iv) The club and all persons acting on its behalf will cooperate fully with British Rowing in any investigation, safeguarding matter or disciplinary process.
- v) All activities conducted under the club's name, or on its behalf, must comply with British Rowing safety, welfare, regulatory and governance standards. Participation in any rowing activity organised by or on behalf of the club is conditional upon such compliance.
- vi) Participation in any activity organised by or on behalf of the club constitutes acceptance of, and agreement to be bound by, the British Rowing Rules, Regulations and Policies, and subjects the individual to the applicable safeguarding and disciplinary procedures.

2.2 Operational Responsibility and Accountability

- i) The club acknowledges that it may be held responsible for breaches of the British Rowing Rules, Regulations and Policies by its members, officers, officials, coaches, volunteers and any person acting on its behalf, and may be subject to action under the applicable safeguarding and/or disciplinary procedures.
- ii) The club must ensure that appropriate governance, financial controls and oversight arrangements are in place to manage its activities, including (where applicable) the proper handling of funds, assets and resources.

2.3 Safety, Insurance and Equipment

- i) The club must have due regard to the British Rowing RowSafe Guide and comply with all mandatory safety requirements.
- ii) The club must maintain adequate and appropriate insurance and accepts responsibility for its equipment and for liabilities arising from its activities.

- iii) Where applicable, the club must maintain fleet and boat registration, including identification of private and club-owned craft.

2.4 Club Roles, Safeguarding and Reporting

- i) Where applicable (i.e. in the context of affiliated clubs) the positions of responsibility, such as safety officer, treasurer and club captain, shall be maintained at all times.
- ii) The club must appoint at least one Welfare Officer (or equivalent role for competitions where applicable) and ensure that this role is maintained at all times without exception.
- iii) All safeguarding matters involving children and/or Adults at Risk must be reported to British Rowing as soon as reasonably possible, and no later than 48 hours via the British Rowing reporting system.
- iv) All matters that fall outside the scope of the Club Dispute Resolution Procedure must be referred to British Rowing. Where there is any uncertainty, the matter must be referred.

2.5 Records and Transparency

The club must maintain accurate records of all Club Disputes (or equivalent internal disputes) and their outcomes and provide these to British Rowing upon request and as part of the annual renewal process.

2.6 Ongoing Obligation

These obligations apply on an ongoing basis throughout the period of affiliation, not only at the point of application or renewal.

3. Annual Information Requirements

The club must provide annual information to British Rowing, including:

- i) Safety Audit confirmation
- ii) Membership numbers (rowing and non-rowing, where applicable)
- iii) Names of all Coaches at the affiliated Club
- iv) Insurance confirmation
- v) Records of disputes handled internally during the preceding year

4. Enforcement and Liability

Failure to comply with these Terms & Conditions may result in:

- i) Disciplinary action against the club and/or its members, officers or persons acting on its behalf, including suspension or termination of affiliation; and/or

- ii) Race entry / race participation restrictions; and/or
- iii) British Rowing refusing to affiliate the club in future years.

Affiliated entities are responsible for ensuring that all persons acting within or on behalf of the organisation comply with British Rowing Rules, Regulations and Policies. British Rowing has authority to investigate, adjudicate, and impose sanctions in accordance with the relevant procedures.

British Rowing reserves the right, at its discretion, to refuse, suspend, or terminate affiliation where a club fails to meet or maintain the required standards set out in these Terms & Conditions or the Rules, Regulations and Policies of British Rowing.

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