



British Rowing Regulations

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. These Regulations set out the general regulatory provisions that apply to participation in Rowing under the jurisdiction of British Rowing.
- 1.2. They operate alongside the British Rowing Safeguarding Regulations, Disciplinary Rules, Rules of Racing, Complaints Policy, Club Dispute Resolution Procedure, Club Affiliation Terms and Conditions, Membership Terms and Conditions, and all other applicable British Rowing rules, regulations, procedures and policies in force from time to time (collectively, the “**Regulatory Framework**”).
- 1.3. These Regulations establish the general cross-cutting regulatory provisions that apply across British Rowing’s regulatory structure, including matters relating to participation, competition, membership, affiliation, compliance, health and safety, enforcement and interpretation, except where expressly governed by another applicable British Rowing regulation, rule, policy or procedure.

2. APPLICATION

Participants

- 2.1. All individuals, clubs, associations and other organisations involved in any capacity, including on an employed or voluntary basis, in the sport of Rowing in England under the jurisdiction of British Rowing, whether or not they hold an active membership with British Rowing. Including:
 - i) Each Member of British Rowing;
 - ii) Each coach;
 - iii) Any person acting as an umpire;
 - iv) Any person acting as a rowing club officer, including holding any role within a rowing club or its committee;
 - v) Any person who is a member of an Affiliated rowing club;
 - vi) Any person who is a member of the British Rowing World Class Programme (“**WCP**”) and any person who has represented Great Britain for rowing within the last three years;
 - vii) All those who take part and anyone working within the sport, whether in a paid or voluntary capacity, and whether as an employee or on a self-employed basis or otherwise;
 - viii) All Members of British Rowing (including all members of affiliated British Rowing clubs) involved in competition and/or training camps outside of the United Kingdom. Individuals travelling abroad shall remain subject to these Disciplinary Rules during the period from their departure until their return to the United Kingdom; and
 - ix) All individuals, clubs, associations, and other organisations involved in any capacity, including on an employed or voluntary basis, either directly or indirectly, in the sport of Rowing, whether or not they hold an active membership with British Rowing.

- 2.2. Participation, Affiliation and Membership under British Rowing jurisdiction are conditional upon compliance with applicable British Rowing rules, regulations, procedures and policies.

3. REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 3.1. British Rowing has authority, in accordance with its Articles of Association, to regulate participation in Rowing within its jurisdiction and to issue, maintain and enforce the Regulatory Framework as it considers necessary for the proper governance, administration, safety and integrity of the sport.
- 3.2. British Rowing may exercise powers under the Regulatory Framework to determine and regulate membership, affiliation, eligibility, registration, participation and competition status, including granting, refusing, imposing conditions upon, suspending, restricting, withdrawing or terminating any such status.
- 3.3. British Rowing may issue directions, requirements and restrictions where reasonably necessary for regulatory, safety, governance, compliance or integrity purposes.
- 3.4. British Rowing may exercise its functions through the Board, committees, employees, officers, Regional Rowing Councils, panels, or authorised persons.
- 3.5. British Rowing may take interim or emergency action, including suspending activity, imposing restrictions or varying requirements, where reasonably necessary to protect safety, integrity or regulatory order.
- 3.6. British Rowing shall determine interpretation and application of the Regulatory Framework, except where otherwise expressly provided.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES OF RACING

- 4.1. All Participants and Affiliated Entities participating in Competitions conducted under the jurisdiction of British Rowing must comply with the Rules of Racing.
- 4.2. Compliance with the Rules of Racing is a condition of participation in any Competition under British Rowing jurisdiction.
- 4.3. Any breach of the Rules of Racing may result in action under the applicable disciplinary procedures.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 5.1. All Participants and Affiliated Clubs, and Affiliated Competitions must comply with British Rowing's applicable health and safety requirements. This includes:
 - i) having due regard to guidance, or advice issued by British Rowing relevant to the operation of the Club or Competition e.g. relevant guidance within RowSafe;
 - ii) compliance with any safety requirements under the Rules of Racing;

- iii) compliance with any safety directions or requirements issued by British Rowing
- iv) taking reasonable steps to ensure participation is conducted safely; and
- v) cooperating with British Rowing in relation to safety matters, including incident reporting and risk management processes.

5.2. Compliance with safety requirements is a condition of participation.

Participants

5.3. Participants must:

- i) take reasonable responsibility for their own safety both on and off the water; and
- ii) ensure that their conduct does not unreasonably place others at risk.

Affiliated Clubs

5.4. Affiliated Clubs must:

- i) promote and maintain a positive safety culture;
- ii) adopt and maintain an appropriate Club safety policy;
- iii) provide, so far as reasonably practicable, a safe environment for Participants and others involved in Club activities;
- iv) appoint at least one Club Rowing Safety Adviser (or equivalent designated safety lead);
- v) communicate appropriate safety rules and expectations applicable to Club activities;
- vi) support appropriate safety education and training for Club members;
- vii) complete any safety audits or compliance requirements required by British Rowing;
- viii) maintain oversight of safety risks arising from Club activities;
- ix) encourage the reporting of incidents, hazards and safety concerns; and
- x) take appropriate action where safety requirements are not complied with.

Affiliated Competitions

5.5. Affiliated Competitions must:

- i) undertake and maintain appropriate risk assessments;
- ii) implement appropriate safety plans and operational controls;
- iii) promote and communicate safe practices during Competition activities;
- iv) appoint a Competition Rowing Safety Adviser (or equivalent safety lead); and
- v) take account of relevant safety advice in relation to the Competition.

Regional Rowing Council

- 5.6. Regional Rowing Councils should:
- i) support and promote safe participation within their region;
 - ii) support Affiliated Clubs and Affiliated Competitions in relation to safe practice;
 - iii) promote safety education and training;
 - iv) review safety provision for Competitions within their region and provide feedback where appropriate;
 - v) maintain engagement with navigation authorities and other relevant stakeholders to support safe operation; and
 - vi) appoint a Regional Rowing Safety Adviser (or equivalent designated safety lead).
- 5.7. British Rowing may take certain steps (such as safety inspections or safety audits), impose safety requirements, conditions, restrictions or suspensions where reasonably necessary to protect Participants or ensure safe participation. Such powers will normally be exercised following escalation from a Club, Competition or Regional Rowing Council, or where British Rowing otherwise becomes aware of a material safety concern requiring intervention.
- 5.8. For the purposes of this section, safety matters will ordinarily be managed at Club or Competition level in the first instance. Where appropriate, Regional Rowing Councils may also provide support. British Rowing will only become directly involved where escalation is required due to seriousness, ongoing risk, or inability to resolve the issue locally.
- 5.9. Failure to comply with applicable safety requirements, or serious, reckless, deliberate or repeated failures to manage safety risks appropriately, may result in action under the Regulatory Framework, including suspension, withdrawal of approval or affiliation, or other proportionate measures..
- 5.10. The application of this section will be supported by British Rowing operational procedures, including triage and case management processes, which determine the appropriate level of intervention in each case.
- 5.11. The obligations set out in this section are intended to support the safe participation and operation of Rowing activities and apply in addition to, and not in substitution for, any obligations arising under applicable law, including health and safety legislation, occupiers' liability obligations and other duties of care. Compliance with these Regulations does not remove or limit any responsibility of Participants, Affiliated Clubs, Affiliated Competitions or other persons to identify, assess and manage risks arising from their activities.
- 5.12. Any serious, reckless, deliberate or repeated failure to comply with applicable safety obligations, whether arising under these Regulations or otherwise in connection with Rowing activities, may constitute a breach of the Regulatory Framework and may result in action under the applicable regulatory processes.

6. COMPETITION COMPLIANCE

- 6.1. All Competitions organisers must comply with the Regulatory Framework, including the Rules of Racing and applicable safety requirements.

- 6.2. Competition organisers are responsible for ensuring proper conduct of Competitions, including compliance with eligibility, safety, governance, and administrative requirements.
- 6.3. British Rowing may impose conditions on Competitions, including conditions relating to safety, eligibility, governance, welfare, administration or conduct.
- 6.4. British Rowing may approve, refuse, suspend, restrict, postpone or withdraw approval for any Competition where required under the Regulatory Framework.
- 6.5. Such powers may be exercised before, during or after a competition.
- 6.6. Nothing in this section limits the operation of the Rules of Racing, which shall govern the conduct and technical regulation of competitions.

7. MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY

- 7.1. Participation in any Rowing activity is subject to satisfaction of the Eligibility Requirements, Membership Conditions, Affiliation Conditions and the Regulatory Framework.
- 7.2. British Rowing may determine categories of membership, affiliation, registration and participation, including applicable rights, obligations and conditions.
- 7.3. Affiliated Clubs must maintain such governance arrangements, constitutional requirements and operating standards as British Rowing may require under the applicable Affiliation Terms and Conditions.
- 7.4. All rights are conditional upon ongoing compliance with the Regulatory Framework.
- 7.5. No individual may participate unless Eligibility Requirements are satisfied.
- 7.6. All coaches of under-18 Participants must hold the required Coach Membership and comply with safeguarding and training requirements.
- 7.7. British Rowing may refuse, suspend, restrict or terminate participation, membership or Affiliation status where requirements are not met.
- 7.8. Where participation occurs without eligibility, British Rowing may impose consequences including disqualification, removal of results, suspension or restriction of future participation.

Fees and Charges

- 7.9. The Board may determine, approve and publish from time to time such membership, affiliation, registration, competition and other fees and charges as it considers appropriate.
- 7.10. In determining fees and charges, the Board shall consult such bodies and persons as it considers appropriate.
- 7.11. Members, Affiliated Clubs, Affiliated Competitions, Registered Individuals and any other person or organisation required to pay a fee or charge under the Regulatory Framework must do so in accordance with the applicable Membership Conditions, Affiliation Conditions, Rules of Racing or other applicable requirements published by British Rowing.

- 7.12. Failure to pay any applicable fee or charge may result in suspension, restriction, termination or refusal of membership, affiliation, registration, participation rights or other privileges until the outstanding amount has been paid.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BRITISH ROWING REGULATIONS, RULES AND POLICIES

- 8.1. Participants and Affiliated Entities must comply with the Regulatory Framework, including:
- i) Safeguarding Regulations
 - ii) Disciplinary Rules
 - iii) Rules of Racing
 - iv) Complaints Policy
 - v) Club Dispute Resolution Procedure
 - vi) Club Affiliation Terms and Conditions
 - vii) Membership Terms and Conditions
 - viii) Health and Safety requirements
- 8.2. Participants must also comply with equality, diversity and inclusion requirements and related policies as issued from time to time.
- 8.3. Failure to comply may result in action under the Regulatory Framework.

9. DUTY TO COOPERATE

- 9.1. Participants must provide information, records or documents reasonably required for regulatory, disciplinary, safeguarding, safety or compliance purposes.
- 9.2. Participants must cooperate fully with any regulatory, safeguarding, disciplinary or compliance process.
- 9.3. British Rowing may monitor, review and audit compliance with the Regulatory Framework.
- 9.4. Failure to cooperate may result in action under the Regulatory Framework.

10. DUTY TO COMPLY WITH DIRECTIONS

- 10.1. Participants must comply with all lawful directions, restrictions, interim measures or requirements issued under the Regulatory Framework.
- 10.2. Failure to comply may result in regulatory or disciplinary action.

11. REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT

- 11.1. Where a Participant or Affiliated Entity fails to comply with the Regulatory Framework, British Rowing may take any action available under the applicable rules, regulations, procedures or terms and conditions.
- 11.2. Such action may include:
- i) imposition of conditions;
 - ii) suspension, restriction or withdrawal of membership, affiliation, eligibility or participation rights;
 - iii) refusal of entry to Competitions;
 - iv) disqualification or removal of results;
 - v) suspension or removal of eligibility or registration;
 - vi) safeguarding referral;
 - vii) disciplinary referral;
 - viii) remedial or corrective requirements;
 - ix) any other measure available under the Regulatory Framework.
- 11.3. British Rowing may exercise one or more regulatory measures simultaneously where appropriate.
- 11.4. British Rowing may impose interim or protective measures where necessary to protect safety, integrity or regulatory order. Such action is without prejudice to any other action available under the Regulatory Framework.

12. ALLOCATION

- 12.1. Where a matter falls within multiple parts of the Regulatory Framework, British Rowing may determine the appropriate process.
- 12.2. British Rowing may direct that matters be dealt with under safeguarding, disciplinary, complaints or dispute procedures as appropriate. British Rowing may reallocate any matter to the regulatory process it considers most appropriate where the circumstances indicate that another part of the Regulatory Framework applies. Matters may be referred externally where required.
- 12.3. British Rowing's determination of process allocation is final for regulatory purposes.

13. INTERPRETATION

- 13.1. British Rowing shall determine the interpretation and application of these Regulations unless otherwise specified.

14. COMMENCEMENT AND AMENDMENT OF THESE REGULATIONS

- 14.1. These Regulations take effect on the date specified by British Rowing and operate alongside the British Rowing Rules of Racing, Safeguarding Regulations, Disciplinary Rules, Complaints Policy, Club Dispute Resolution Procedure, and British Rowing Affiliation and Membership Conditions.
- 14.2. British Rowing may amend these Regulations from time to time. Any amendment shall take effect on the date specified by British Rowing.

15. GOVERNING LAW

- 15.1. These Regulations are governed by the law of England and Wales.

APPENDIX 1 - DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

The following words shall have the meaning set out opposite them:

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| Affiliation | The status of being affiliated to British Rowing in accordance with the applicable affiliation requirements. |
| Affiliated Club | A club affiliated to British Rowing in accordance with the applicable affiliation requirements. |
| Affiliation Conditions | The applicable British Rowing affiliation terms and conditions in force from time to time. |
| British Rowing | British Rowing means the National Governing Body for rowing in England. |
| Affiliated Entity | Any club, competition or organisation affiliated to British Rowing |
| Club | means any rowing club |
| Coach | any person providing coaching, instruction, supervision or training in Rowing, whether paid or voluntary head coaches, assistant coaches, ad-hoc rowing coaches, school rowing club coaches |
| Competition | means any race, regatta, head, competition operating under British Rowing jurisdiction. |
| Competition Entry | The formal registration or submission of an individual, crew or club to participate in a Competition. |
| Disqualification | The removal of an individual, crew or club from a Competition or the invalidation of results for breach of applicable rules, regulations or eligibility requirements. |
| Disciplinary Rules | the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures of British Rowing in force |

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| Eligibility Requirements | The conditions, criteria or standards determined by British Rowing from time to time which must be satisfied in order for an individual or entity to hold membership, affiliation, registration or participate in rowing activity under British Rowing jurisdiction. |
| Membership Conditions | The applicable British Rowing membership terms and conditions in force from time to time. |
| Member | An individual that holds an active British Rowing Membership, registered via the JustGo website (Race, Coach, Umpire, Community, Row, Scottish and Overseas, Day Ticket), and in accordance with any Membership Terms and Conditions. |
| Participant | a person with involvement in the sport of Rowing within the United Kingdom, applicable to the individuals / groups of individuals set out in section 2. |
| Participation | Any involvement in rowing activity under British Rowing jurisdiction, including training, competition, coaching, officiating, administration or competition organisation. |
| Regulatory Framework | The rules, regulations, procedures, policies, codes, standards, terms and conditions issued by British Rowing from time to time. |
| Rowing | means the sport of rowing and includes classic rowing, beach sprints, coastal rowing and any other category of rowing that is governed by British Rowing. It does not include ocean rowing or indoor rowing where it is carried out in commercial gyms or home environments by non-Members of British Rowing |
| RowSafe | the British Rowing safety guidance document in place and as updated from time to time. |
| Rules of Racing | the British Rowing Rules of Racing in force from time to time. |
| Safeguarding Regulations | The Safeguarding Regulations and Procedures of British Rowing in force |