



Maidenhead Junior Regatta

Maidenhead Rowing Club, River Road, Taplow, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 0AT
Website: <https://www.maidenheadrc.org.uk/index.php/regatta-home>

Sunday 19th May 2024

Event Safeguarding Statement

The Organising Committee of the Maidenhead Junior Regatta believes that the welfare and wellbeing of all participants are paramount, whether as competitors or as spectators. The Organising Committee is committed to ensuring its 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, have 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 Maidenhead Junior Regatta in a safe environment;
- are protected from abuse while attending/participating at Maidenhead Junior Regatta or outside of the activity.

The Maidenhead Junior Regatta Committee will promote this Event Safeguarding Statement and procedures widely and compliance is mandatory for everyone involved in this Regatta. Failure to comply 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.

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 understand 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 the Event Safety Adviser is 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 is 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 – the Event Welfare Officer is responsible for receiving and managing any

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concerns/reports with the appropriate bodies (British Rowing, Local Authorities, the NSPCC and/or the Police).

Dawn Davies has been appointed the Event Welfare Officer for Maidenhead Junior Regatta 2024. She can be contacted using the mobile number / email 07793 232963 / welfare@maidenheadrc.org.uk. These contact details will be posted on the competition website, and in addition Dawn can be contacted via any event official during the event itself. To report an allegation or concern, please contact the Event Welfare Officer.

The only volunteers who may have substantial, unsupervised access to children are listed below. These volunteers will be asked to provide the date and number of their enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Where no such disclosure exists, the Committee will require one to be produced before the event:

- Members of the First Aid providers
- The Event Doctor (should one be present)
- The Event Welfare Officer.

Responsibility of clubs

It is a condition of entry to Maidenhead Junior Regatta that any crew that includes junior athletes must have a named coach or responsible adult. The named coach or 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. If a substitute coach or responsible adult comes to the competition, they must contact Crew Registration and register their mobile telephone number.

Each named coach or responsible adult is responsible for the welfare, safety and appropriate supervision of their crew or entered athlete and is always expected to know the whereabouts of all their athletes during the competition.

All participants and coaches must abide by [British Rowing's Rules of Racing and Codes of Conduct](#) as well as the British Rowing Safeguarding Policy, which can be found on [British Rowing's Safeguarding webpage](#). Coaches should be familiar with [British Rowing's RowSafe](#) advice on Competition Safety Plans and Safety Rules, Chapter 4.2, page 48. The sections in this chapter on 'Expectations', 'Participating Clubs' and 'Coaches' are particularly relevant. Everyone is expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and conduct at all times.

Coaches and adults responsible for junior crews racing at the regatta are expected to ensure that boating conditions are suitable for their crews and that all their crew members wear appropriate clothing for the prevailing weather conditions, accepting that they may be delayed on the water before the start of their race. In the event of rough conditions, coaches must assess whether their crews can boat and race safely, particularly when an inexperienced steers or cox is involved.

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

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their safe recruitment and participation. Please see British Rowing'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 eg sole supervision of other juniors or lifting heavy equipment.

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

Reporting structure for concerns or allegations at [competition]

If a concern or allegation is reported to the Event Welfare Officer either by or concerning a child the reporting procedure is laid out in Appendix A. Similarly the reporting procedure for an adult at risk is laid out in Appendix B.

Medical provision

All medical staff will be sent a copy of this Policy Statement and be given the contact details for the Event Welfare Officer.

In an emergency the Race Committee/Safety Advisor/Welfare Officer should contact the emergency services using 999.

Security

Volunteers and officials may be briefed on exercising vigilance for anything suspicious eg someone unknown to the crews hanging around or tampering with equipment; people taking pictures near the changing facilities etc.

Missing Persons

If a child should go missing for more than 20 minutes, this should be reported to the Event Welfare Officer, Crew Registration or the Event Safety Adviser via any official together with the child's description. The following procedure will be applied:

- Officials must ensure that all other children continue to be supervised appropriately while a search for the child concerned is carried out.
- The initial report must be reported to the EWO.
- The EWO will request all available officials to conduct a search of the surrounding area allocating each individual to a specific area.
- Radio communication should convey a description of the child but not their full name.
- All those searching should be told to report back within a short time, dependent on the size of the area being searched.

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- If the child cannot be found after a search of the immediate surroundings, the child's parents/carers should be contacted to advise them of the concern and reassure them that everything is being done to locate the child.
- A note should be made of the circumstances in which the child has gone missing and where he/she was last seen. A detailed physical description of the child should be prepared, including their hair and eye colour, approximate height and build and clothing he/she was wearing, as this will be required by the police.
- The concern should be reported to the police if the search is unsuccessful, no later than 20 minutes after the initial missing person report if the search is ongoing.
- Police guidance should be followed, further action recommended should be taken and close contact with the police maintained;
- All officials involved, the parents, searchers, and police must be informed if at any stage the child is located

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 medical staff and the Event Welfare Officer shall be checked.

Photography and Publicity

The OC recognises that, at a sports event such as Maidenhead Junior Regatta, many parents, supporters and members of the public will wish to take photographs, and all participants should be aware of this.

The OC will take all reasonable precautions to protect children against of the possible inappropriate use of films or photographic images. Anyone who suspects that inappropriate photography or filming is taking place should report this to the Event Welfare Officer via any official. Any person suspected of inappropriate photography or filming will be asked to surrender any film or delete any images and asked to leave. If they refuse to comply with a reasonable request, the matter may be reported to the police.

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 welfare guidance documents webpage.

Organising Committee Maidenhead Junior Regatta February 2024