



Loughborough Boat Club

Head of the Soar

7th April 2024

Welfare Statement and Plan

In accordance with:

- a. **British Rowing Safeguarding Children, Young People and Adults Policies.**
- b. **BR Safeguarding Handbook 3, Section 7 Guidelines for Rowing Competitions.**

Welfare Statement:

The Organising Committee of the Soar Head believes that the welfare and well-being of all children is paramount. All children, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability, have equal rights to safety and protection. All suspicious, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

An Event Welfare Officer for the competition will be appointed annually and will act as the point of contact for any concerns and allegations. They will be able to be contacted throughout the day via Registration or the umpires' radio system. Their name and how they can be contacted will be included in the competitors' instructions.

This document also covers vulnerable adults.

Welfare Plan:

1. Reporting structure:

The First point of contact is the Event Welfare Officer – Kate Henry (07985 488210)

- The Event Welfare Officer may then contact the Chair of the Organising Committee if required, via Registration.
- The Safety Adviser should be kept informed of any incidents.
- The overall responsibility for decisions lies with Chair of the Organising Committee, after consultation with the Event Welfare Officer and the Safety Adviser.
- A matter should be reported to the police when appropriate.
- The Event Welfare Officer will be responsible for reporting the incident to the British Rowing Child Protection Officer.

2. Awareness:

- The Welfare statement and Plan will be posted as a document on the Soar Head website.
- A clear notice regarding contacting the Event Welfare Officer will be posted at Registration throughout the competition.
- All personnel dealing with juniors in rowing should be aware of the British Rowing information on *Safeguarding, Children, Young People and Adults with Care and Support Needs*. There is an inherent assumption that competing clubs are applying good practice regarding the management of their Junior entries throughout the event.
- The Safety Adviser will be aware of the Welfare Statement and Safety Plan.

3. **Medical Provision:**

- Medical staff will be given the Welfare Statement and Plan and be given the contact details for the Event Welfare Officer.
- In an emergency Soar Head Chair / Registration / Safety Adviser / Event Welfare Officer may contact the emergency services using 999

4. **Appropriate level of Security:**

- Volunteers and officials may be briefed on being vigilant for anything suspicious e.g. someone unknown to the crews hanging around or tampering with equipment; people taking pictures near the changing facilities.

5. **Coaches and Responsible Adults:**

All participants and coaches must abide by British Rowing Rules of Racing, British Rowing RowSafe guidelines and the local rules governing the competition. In addition, Coaches and adults with children or vulnerable adults in their care should familiarise themselves with the Soar Head Welfare Plan, in particular the Reporting Structure below. The following documents may also be referenced and are available from Registration and the website along with other competition documents:

- a. Competitor Information
- b. Soar Head Safety Plan
- c. Soar Head Risk Assessment

6. **Missing persons:**

- If a person has been missing for more than 30 minutes, contact Registration who will contact the Event Welfare Officer and the Safety Adviser. This may be performed via any official.
- All clubs have been asked to provide a primary contact number for emergency contact. These will be available to the Organising Committee throughout the day at Registration.

7. **Access to young people or their contact details:**

- Any person who will have significant access to children must hold a valid DBS check and certificate. Any person that does not hold a valid certificate must be in the supervision of someone who does.

8. **Photography:**

- The Organising Committee recognises that at a sports event such as the Soar Head, many parents and other supporters will wish to take photographs.
- A copy of the British Rowing advice on photography will be available via Registration.

Reporting structure

Individual has a concern

Recognises cause for concern, observes abuse/poor practice, receives a direct disclosure



Event Welfare Officer

All concerns should be referred to the Event Welfare Officer with minimal delay.

The incident will be recorded together with the individual reporting the concern



Decision made on action required by Event Welfare Officer



No Action Required

Decision recorded

Poor Practice

Immediate Event decision
and referral to club, school
or BR Child Protection
Officer

Suspected Abuse

Welfare Officer reports to
CSC/Police as
appropriate and informs
BR Child Protection
Officer