

# **WELFARE STATEMENT**

## **STOURPORT BOAT CLUB HEAD**

**28th January 2024**

To all competing clubs and regatta officials:

In accordance with the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Guidance Guidelines for Rowing Competitions.

### **Welfare Statement**

The Stourport Boat Club committee believes that the welfare and well-being of all children and vulnerable adults, whether as competitors, volunteers or spectators is paramount. All people, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability, have equal rights to safety and protection. All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriate manner.

Club Welfare Officers (CWO) have been appointed for the event and will act as the point of contact for any concerns. Their contact numbers will be posted at the registration desk and will be available from race control.

### **The Welfare Officer's for the 2023 Head are:**

Bob Jones

### **Welfare Plan**

#### **1) Reporting structure:**

- In the event of any untoward incident occurring, race control should be informed immediately. Race control will contact the CWO who will take a full report.
- The CWO will then inform the Chair of the Organising Committee and together they will decide on a course of action.
- If deemed necessary, the CWO will contact West Mercia Police, NSPCC and British Rowing. Concerns will be recorded and reported within 24 hours
- The Safety Advisor (Luke Barnett) should be kept up to date with any incidents.

#### **2) Awareness:**

The Welfare Statement and Plan will be available to all junior entries and event volunteers. Contact information for the CWO's will be clearly available on the Registration desk.

All personnel working unsupervised with children and vulnerable adults should be familiar with British Rowing's Safeguarding policies and the information it contains on good practice.

All full list of British Rowing Welfare Guidance Documents can be found at Welfare Guidance Documents -British Rowing

The Safety Advisors will be aware of the Regatta Welfare Statement and Safety Plan.

### **3) Missing persons:**

- If a young person/vulnerable adult goes missing, this should be reported to Race Control immediately together with a description of the individual. This information will be forwarded to the CWO, Chair of the Organising Committee and cascaded out to all volunteers.
- All endeavours will be made to locate and reunite the missing person in question with the adult responsible for them.
- If the missing person is missing for more than 20 minutes the West Mercia Police will be informed.
- The event secretary will use emergency contact numbers to reunite separated coaches and crew members.

### **4) Appropriate level of Security:**

The event attracts junior competitors, who would usually be under the care of a parent or coach.

It remains the attending Clubs' responsibility to ensure that their junior competitors and crews are fully supervised and are competent to deal with the course and the prevailing conditions.

We expect clubs and schools to have their own up-to date child protection and welfare policies, compliant with British Rowing Safeguarding & Protecting Children Policy, and that these policies are followed. [Safeguarding-Protecting-Children-Policy-March-2020.pdf](#) (britishrowing.org)

Volunteers and Officials will be briefed on being vigilant for any suspicious activity

### **5) Medical Provision:**

Medical staff will be on site during the event and will be sent the Welfare Statement and Plan and be given the contact details for the CWOs. In an emergency Race Control / Safety Advisors/ Welfare Officers/ Coordinator may contact the emergency services using 999.

### **6) Photography:**

As the regatta takes place in open public areas, control of photography is not feasible. All helpers are briefed to respond to inappropriate photography and report such to the regatta secretary or race control.

### **7) Foul and abusive language:**

Whilst foul and abusive language is not necessarily a Welfare matter, it is certainly inappropriate where children are present.

All helpers are briefed to take note of foul and abusive language and report such to the regatta secretary or race control.

**Key External Contacts:**

**British Rowing Lead Safeguarding Officer:**

**[Iso@britishrowing.org](mailto:Iso@britishrowing.org)**

**NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 Childline: 0800 1111**