

# JIRR Trials March 2023

## **Welfare Plan**

### **Introduction**

The Northern Rowing Council believes that the welfare and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults present at events it organises is paramount. Children and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability have equal rights to safety and protection.

All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm must be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

### **Welfare Officer**

The organising committee will appoint a *Welfare Officer* for the competition. He or she will be suitably experienced and familiar with the British Rowing guidance. He or she will be present in or close to the club house for the duration of the event and available at all times in person or by mobile phone.

He or she will be on the list of key people and mobile numbers to be issued as an appendix to the safety plan and placed on the event web page about a week before the event.

### **Reporting structure**

Visiting clubs and those helping with the event on the day will be advised that should they have any concerns regarding welfare at the event they should, in the first instance, be raised with the *Welfare Officer*.

On the day, the *Welfare Officer* will discuss as appropriate any issues arising with the Chair or other officials of the organising committee plus the Chair of the Race Committee if the issue raised affects the running of the event as a whole.

If it is a minor issue then the *Welfare Officer* may be able to take the appropriate action without consulting others, but should report all such actions back to the Chair as soon as feasible.

Should the matter be serious, then the *Welfare Officer* may need to contact the British Rowing child welfare officer or the local police immediately, as per British Rowing guidance.

### **Conduct**

All visiting clubs through their coaches or other club will be asked in advance to abide by British Rowing Rules, the Rules of Racing, the Row Safe safety guidance and the Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy document, all available on British Rowing's website.

## **Medical provision**

First aid will be provided at the event and based in the club house or another obvious place for the duration of the event. In case of a serious emergency the club will contact the emergency services direct.

## **Security**

The host club will ask its helpers and members generally to be vigilant and to report anything suspicious affecting welfare to the *Welfare Officer* or another race official; competitors and coaches will be asked to do the same.

## **Missing participants**

Should a junior competitor or other child be reported missing at an event, the *Welfare Officer* should be informed and, unless agreed otherwise, will be responsible for initiating the search for the missing child and, if appropriate, contacting the police.

## **Photography**

Given the nature of the events (occurring outdoors in public areas) it is not usually possible to control photography taking place. However, the host clubs will brief helpers to report any suspicious photography to the *Welfare Officer* who will take the appropriate action.

## **Availability of information**

The host clubs have published alongside this welfare plan a risk assessment, a safety plan, a course map, start and finish plans and instructions to competitors, which will all support the general welfare of juniors and vulnerable adults.

## **Prepared by:**

Pauline Higgins  
NRC Junior Co Ordinator  
Email: [ghiggins20@aol.com](mailto:ghiggins20@aol.com)