

## **Ponteland Junior Head - 23 March 2024**

### **Welfare Plan**

#### **Introduction**

Ponteland Junior Head is organised by Tyne Amateur Rowing Club (the 'club' hereafter). The club believes that the welfare and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults present at competitions and events it organises is paramount. Children and vulnerable adults, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability have equal rights to safety and protection.

The club is committed to taking all suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm seriously and will respond to swiftly and appropriately when any such matters are reported to it through one of its officers.

#### **Welfare Officer**

The Organising Committee will appoint a Welfare Officer for the competition. The person appointed will be suitably experienced and familiar with the range of British Rowing guidance applicable to the task and 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.

The name of the person appointed as Welfare Officer for the day will be on the list of key people with their mobile numbers to be issued and placed on the competition web page - see [www.tynerowingclub.org/pages/ponteland\\_junior\\_head\\_153682.cfm](http://www.tynerowingclub.org/pages/ponteland_junior_head_153682.cfm)

#### **Reporting structure**

Visiting clubs and those helping with the competition on the day will be advised that should they have any concerns regarding welfare of any person 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 competition 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 of the Organising Committee 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, but again should inform the Chair of the Organising Committee, in outline if not in detail.

#### **Conduct**

All visiting clubs through their race entry administrators as given on BROE (the online entry system) will be asked in advance to abide by British Rowing Rules, the Rules of Racing, the RowSafe safety guidance and the Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy document, all available on British Rowing's website at [www.britishrowing.org](http://www.britishrowing.org).

## **Medical provision**

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

## **Security**

The 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.

## **Weighing of coxes**

Arrangements will be made at the club for the weighing of coxes. This will be done in accordance with British Rowing's Weighing Rowers and Coxes - Guidance of November 2022 (as set out in the Appendix 2 to this document).

## **Photography**

Given the nature of the competition (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 club has published alongside this Welfare Plan a Risk Assessment, a Safety Plan, a Course Map and a Instructions to Clubs and Competitors document, which will all support the general welfare of juniors and vulnerable adults, especially whilst on the water if competing.

## **Pre-race contacts on welfare issues:**

Laura Gilbert  
Club Welfare Officer (not necessarily the Welfare Officer on the day)  
Email: [clubwelfare@tynearc.com](mailto:clubwelfare@tynearc.com)  
Mob: 07961 879183

and

Izzy Friedlander  
Chair of the Organising Committee  
Email: [vicecaptain.events@tynearc.com](mailto:vicecaptain.events@tynearc.com)  
Mob: 07940 318370

## Appendix

Extract from:

### British Rowing Weighing Rowers and Coxes - Guidance

As issued November 2022

#### *Weighing lightweight rowers or coxes in Competition*

1. No subjective comments concerning the weight or body composition of any member should be made by anyone, and those conducting/present should always be sensitive to the feelings of athletes and how they may respond to any comments concerning their body.
2. When weighing takes place, it should be done in an area where no other individuals can see or hear the measurements except the person taking the measurements, with another appropriate adult present if the athlete is J18 and under.
3. For accuracy and consistency, the same scales should be used every time for taking weight measurements, as different models and makes can vary in their results.
4. Anyone registered to cox at a Competition or entering a weight-restricted category has to accept, before the entry is submitted to the Competition, that they are consenting to being weighed.
5. Lightweight rowers or coxes, at their request, can be weighed at a Competition without being told or shown their weight. This may be relevant to individuals who have or have experienced eating disorders and who do not wish to know their weight.
6. Anyone who is concerned that a rower or cox has an eating disorder should raise this as a safeguarding concern with the individual's club, or with the Event Welfare Officer.

The full document is available at:

[www.britishrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/British-Rowing-Weighing-Rowers-Guidance.pdf](http://www.britishrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/British-Rowing-Weighing-Rowers-Guidance.pdf)

See also:

[www.britishrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/British-Rowing-Safeguarding-Handbook-3-Club-training-and-competition-guidance-Covid-guidance-template.pdf](http://www.britishrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/British-Rowing-Safeguarding-Handbook-3-Club-training-and-competition-guidance-Covid-guidance-template.pdf)

for a coverage of wider safeguarding issues at competitions

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