

Safeguarding Policy and Plan for Juniors

Policy

The Organising Committee of The Metropolitan Regatta believe that the welfare and wellbeing of all children is paramount. All children, 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 appropriately. A welfare officer/coordinator for the competition will be appointed annually and will act as the point of contact for any concerns or allegations. Their contact number will be posted in the boating area throughout the duration of the competition and will also be known to and contactable via any official of the Regatta.

Plan

The welfare officer of the regatta is Mr Ben Helm, he will be contactable at for the duration of the Regatta by any official over the radio net or by mobile telephone should it be more appropriate. His telephone number is 07771 790884. He will be determine appropriate action and will be responsible for reporting any incidents to the British Rowing Child Protection Officer and where appropriate to the Police. He will also inform the Chairman of the Regatta Committee of any incidents.

All coaches and other adults responsible for the care of junior members of their clubs are expected to ensure their welfare and security. The park will not be closed to the general public.

If any junior is found to be missing during the Regatta the Child Welfare Officer should be informed immediately via any official of the regatta, even if the those responsible for the missing junior have already contacted the police. There will be an immediate public announcement that said participant should present themselves immediately to any official of the Regatta, said official will then inform the CWO or Chairman so that they may reunite carer and child.

The announcement will be repeated every five minutes. If after 20 minutes of the initial announcement the child has not been found the police will be called by either the CWO or the Chairman of the Regatta if the CWO is handling other duties. We will follow this procedure regardless of the views of the carer. A description of the junior will then be broadcast on the public address system and over the Regatta radio net with a request for all those in park who may have seen the junior to contact the nearest official. On arrival the police will be directed to the location of the CWO. If the carer has any concerns after the child is found to be missing they may call the police at any time.

If any child is reportedly involved in an accident the Regatta will immediately contact the crew contact details entered on the British Rowing Entry Form to contact the adult responsible for any junior reportedly

involved in an incident. It is therefore incumbent upon the person entering the crew to ensure that a usable contact number is included in the entry. Any change in these details must be supplied to the regatta who will acknowledge receipt. This information will be kept at Race Control.

None of the Regatta's staff or volunteers will have direct unsupervised contact with juniors working at the competition. Juniors that are working for the regatta are there with their own organisation and will be under the supervision of that organisation's own responsible adults. All such juniors will also be made aware of the Regatta's CWO and contact details.

All those attending the Regatta may be photographed by amateurs, or professionals who sell their photographs and these photographs may be used for identification or publicity purposes. The Metropolitan Regatta cannot prevent this, as the park is open to the public. Notwithstanding this statement no cameras whether as stand alone or as part of any device may be used in the vicinity of or in any changing rooms or changing tents being used by juniors. Any contravention of this rule should be brought to the attention of any regatta official to be escalated to the Child Welfare Officer.