



Bedford Rowing Club – Head Races

WELFARE PLAN

The Organising Committee of Bedford Events believes 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 or harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

A Welfare Officer for the competition will be appointed annually and will act as the point of contact for any concerns or allegations.

Bedford Events Welfare Officer:

The Event Organising Committee has an Event Welfare Officer, who can be contacted via Race Registration on race day.

Reporting structure:

If you have any concerns regarding welfare of children at the event these should, in the first instance be raised with the Welfare Officer. If the concern is considered to be a serious issue then it will be discussed with the Chair of the Organising Committee and the chair of the Race Committee, a decision will be made by them as to the most appropriate course of action. This may include contacting the British Rowing Child Welfare Officer, or in extreme cases Bedfordshire Police. If it is a minor issue then the Welfare Officer is able to take the appropriate action without consulting the other members of the welfare committee and will be reported back to the Chairman at a later date.

Conduct:

All coaches, competitors and other participants should abide by British Rowing's Rules of Racing and any byelaws for the Event. Attention should be paid to the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy.

Medical Provision:

First Aid and general medical provisions are available to all coaches, competitors and other participants. These facilities will be located adjacent to the Schools' boathouse, and also at Bedford Rowing Club. In case of an emergency please contact the emergency services as well as advising the Event officials of the problem.

Security:

All volunteers have been advised to be vigilant and to report anything suspicious to the Welfare Officer.

Missing Participants:

If a child is believed to be missing it should in the first instance be reported to the nearest Event volunteer or the Welfare Officer. The Welfare Officer will then advise both the Chair of the Race Committee and the Chair of the Organising Committee of the situation. The coach/team manager of the missing child will be made aware of the situation. The Welfare Officer will be responsible for organising the search for the missing child and, if necessary, contacting Bedfordshire Police.

Volunteer Vetting and training:

Any volunteer that will be responsible for looking after children will be DBS checked through British Rowing. All volunteers will be provided with a copy of this welfare plan and asked to read the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy. If they have any queries, they should contact the Welfare Officer.

Photography:

Given the nature of the event it is not possible to control all photography taking place at the Event. Volunteers are advised to report any suspicious photography to the Welfare Officer who will take the appropriate action.

Distribution of data:

All competing clubs, umpires and race officials will receive a copy of the welfare plan, the safety plan, a set of competitors' instructions. In addition, these documents will be available on Bedford Rowing Club's website.