

BRISTOL AVON REGATTA 21 MAY 2011

To all competing clubs and regatta officials:

WELFARE STATEMENT AND PLAN

In accordance with British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children "Guidelines for Rowing Competitions" (WG 3.4).

Welfare Statement

The Organising Committee of the Bristol Avon Regatta believes that the welfare and wellbeing of all children (people under 18) is paramount. All children, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion or ability, have equal rights to safety and protection.

The Organising Committee is committed to ensuring that all suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm are taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

Welfare Plan

The Organising Committee has looked at the procedures and processes of the Regatta from the point of view of the welfare of children, whether as competitors, helpers or spectators. Most issues are covered by the Regatta Safety Plan but the Organising Committee would like to draw attention to the following specific points.

Children as competitors: all officials and competitors should treat child competitors in an appropriate way, for example when giving instructions or when launching or marshalling. Following a capsized, children being escorted to the Marina shower block must be accompanied by two adults, one of whom should if possible be a parent or coach.

Children as helpers: children will not be placed in hazardous situations.

Children as spectators: children spectating in the area by the Finish should take care when close to the river bank. Those with them should exercise vigilance.

What to do if you have a child welfare concern

If anyone at the Regatta has any concerns of any nature about child welfare, they should contact the Regatta Secretary, Julian Sondheimer. During the Regatta he can be found in the Registration tent. His mobile phone number is 07930 898149. He can also be reached by asking any official with a radio to pass a message to him.

The Regatta Secretary will immediately relay the concern to the Regatta Welfare Officer, who is Shay Brennan (who is also the Welfare Officer for Avon County RC). Shay will take overall responsibility for investigations and taking any required action. He will take responsibility for reporting any matter to the police, and for ensuring that reports are made to the British Rowing Child Protection Officer. Concerns about photography will be assessed in accordance with British Rowing Guidance Note WG 5.1.

Contact numbers for responsible adults

The Regatta Welfare Officer may need to contact a coach or other adult responsible for a junior competitor. At Registration, all clubs with junior competitors will be asked to provide a contact mobile phone number.

Missing persons

Any missing persons should be reported to the Regatta Secretary (see above).

Vulnerable adults

If any crews contain vulnerable adults, please could this be notified in advance or at Registration.