



# **SAFETY PLAN & INSTRUCTIONS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY**

## **FOR OFFICIALS**

### **AT**

## **EVESHAM ROWING CLUB EVENTS**

### **Radio Protocol**

**A separate radio protocol covering the regatta has been produced and all involved in delivery of the event will be briefed on the day around radio protocol.**

### **Safety Instructions**

1. In the event of an accident, the first duty is to the safety of the competitor or any person in difficulty
2. An accident off the water may require racing to be stopped to allow incident attendance or casualty recovery. If in doubt stop racing.
3. The nearest umpire or marshal is to report any incident immediately giving clear concise details of the incident over the radio – keep it brief – full details can be sorted later.
4. The Co-ordinating Umpire will ensure First Aid and the Safety Advisor are all aware. Once a Safety Boat is called for by an official, the Rescue Boat Coordinator ( RBC ) is in charge of casualty recovery. The nearest safety boat, in line of site, will immediately respond unless the RBC decides there are over-riding safety reasons for calling another Safety Boat to the incident. An RBC will be available by radio at all times whilst boats are afloat at an event.
5. The Safety Advisor will record as much detail of the Incident and report this back to the Club, Region and BR (dependent on severity), after the event.
6. Capsized crews should stay with their boat until the Safety Boat arrives unless instructed otherwise. Capsized crews can if they wish get back in their boat and complete the course/race if they wish. However, they will not be allowed to race again until BR's capsizе procedure has been followed (showering etc), dry kit has been obtained and first aid has authorised it.
7. First aid will check all involved in the incident. Any competitor that has been in the river will not be allowed to race again until all standard capsizе procedures have been followed, he / she has obtained dry kit and he / she has been cleared to do so by First Aid.

8. Any person with a spinal injury should not be moved. If they are in the water then they should be supported until the Emergency Services arrive.
9. In the event that the Emergency Services are summoned, the Safety Advisor shall send a responsible person to be stationed at the car park gate to prevent traffic leaving the site, and to allow the Emergency Vehicle clear access along the single-track lane. The person will then meet the Emergency Vehicle and direct it to the designated area in the club car park. If the Emergency Vehicle is directed to another access point on the course the nearest official shall ensure access. Course maps are annotated with access points and which access points are to be used for major incidents. The default access point is Evesham Rowing Club itself.
10. If the weather is inclement and there is danger of an Emergency Vehicle becoming stuck in mud, the Emergency Services should be advised at the time of the 999 call and arrangements made to meet the casualty at the club ( if appropriate to move them ).
11. Should, after consultation with the Emergency Services, Helicopter evacuation become necessary, then the Safety Advisor will organise the clearing and suspension of traffic movement in the West end of Abbey Meadows to allow landing.
12. Racing, if suspended following an incident, will not resume until the Coordinating Umpire and Safety Advisor are satisfied that it is safe to do so. Following suspension of racing a decision to re-start will be made by the Co-ordinating Umpire and Safety Advisor only. Both must agree it is safe to restart. In the absence of agreement racing will remain suspended.
13. Should the weather become inclement to an extent that this adds extra risk either on or off the water this must be reported to the Chief Umpire and the Safety Adviser. They will immediately assess the situation and take any action they consider to ensure the safety of all. This may include suspension and cancellation of racing. All will be advised to seek suitable shelter if conditions demand it. Following suspension of racing a decision to re-start will be made by the Co-ordinating Umpire and Safety Advisor only. Both must agree it is safe to restart. In the absence of agreement racing will remain suspended.
14. All electric storms must be reported. In these circumstances, the Chief Umpire and Safety Advisor will take any appropriate action to ensure all seek appropriate shelter as quickly as possible.
15. All Marshalls on the landing stage should be aware of the Stop / Go sign in operation for competition boats crossing the racing lanes. Marshalls should not release boats from the landing stage, to cross the racing lanes, until the Marshall on the Stop / Go sign has determined it is safe to cross and changed the sign to green. Boats may not cross the racing lanes when the Stop / Go sign is signalling red. All landing stage marshals' should also ensure that the landing stage is only used by athletes , coaches and those directly involved in assisting with boats on/off. No unsupervised children or children under the age of 12 should be on the landing stage.
16. Welfare an Safeguarding- The organising Committee of the regatta 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 and as such a separate welfare and safeguarding policy has been produced for the event.

*Andy Woodward*

**Evesham Rowing Club Safety Adviser**

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