

Marlow Regatta Safety Plan 2011

Marlow Regatta complies with the **British Rowing's Row Safe: a guide to good practice in rowing**. Competitors and Officials must comply with this guide at all times. The guide applies to both Saturday and Sunday Regattas. These notes are distributed to, and must be read by, every person taking part in the event, whether they be competitors, coaches, organisers, marshals, umpires or safety personnel.

Two Safety Advisers have been appointed, one each for activities on land and water.

The Two **Paramedic Units** will be in attendance, positioned near the Enclosure and Boathouse. During 2K racing on Saturday, three safety boats will be positioned along the length of the course, and a further two positioned in the return lane. On Sunday (1K course), just two safety boats will be on the course, with two in the return lane. All these units will have radios. No practising is allowed on the Lake on either day of racing, before or after racing.

In the event of an incident, the casualty should be taken to a **Paramedic** unit, or their aid should be sought by the fastest route. All Officials will have radios. Officials will always be on duty in the Finish Tower, acting as Timekeepers along the course, in the Registration Tent in the Competitors area, but at times direct contact may be quicker.

In the case of a **waterborne** incident, every Official will know that it is their first duty to react to a safety issue. Crews must also place the safety of their own members and those of other crews at the top of their priority list. The Safety Boats must be alerted by voice, waving, loud hailer and/or radio and racing stopped until the incident is cleared. Race control is the central command point. Casualties should be brought to the disembarkation raft, where Paramedics will be waiting. In extreme cases, the Paramedic ambulance may take casualties to Wexham Park Hospital, Post Code: SL2 4HL, Tel. 01753 633000 or an Ambulance summoned.

In the event of very bad water conditions, the Race Committee (including Safety Adviser) will meet to decide on the suspension of racing, whereupon the Suspend Racing Procedure will be enacted. (see below)

In the event of all serious incidents, the Safety Adviser (Mike Parsons/Charles Hill) and/or Regatta Chairman (Peter Blaseby) must be kept informed. If necessary, they will take control. All Key Officials will have Radios. Nevertheless, telephone numbers are:-

The appointed **Safety Advisers** are:

Land	Charles Hill (tel. 07810 362026)
Water	Mike Parsons (tel 07545 093094)

The emergency mobile phone number is: **07767 690898, Peter Blaseby, Regatta Control**

Police URN reference number to be mentioned if calling police is **362 120511**

Suspension of racing

If at any time the Race Committee decides that is if unsafe to continue racing, then the following procedure will be followed.

1. Radio messages will be sent to all officials, saying that racing is to be suspended, and to await further instructions.
2. All radios to be switched to channel 4, the emergency channel
3. No further crews will be allowed to boat, and all rafts cleared to receive crews.
4. Race committee Chairman will announce, by radio, which lanes are to be used to return crews to the pontoons. This will depend upon the prevailing conditions.
5. All umpire boats and safety boats to remain where they are to monitor / assist crews returning to pontoons. At least one boat should move to the 1,000m position.
6. Crews already at the start, or in the return lane beyond the 1,000m point will enter the course and return (at a paddle), to the pontoons using the designated lane(s).
7. Crews between the entrance to the return lane and the 1,000m point, will enter the course at this point, under control from the Marshal and return to the pontoons by the designated lane, taking care to avoid crews returning from the start, by giving way.

8. Umpire and safety boats, will follow last crews, (or any in trouble) back to pontoons.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN 2011

1. RAISE THE ALARM:

The first observer of an incident should raise the alarm

a) If you do not have a radio or loudhailer, notify the nearest regatta personnel who does or use a mobile phone to alert Regatta Secretary.

b) If you have a radio or loudhailer, alert race control stating clearly

"Emergency alert, emergency alert" and provide a **brief incident report**, including where known:

- **What has happened.**
- **Where**
- **Number of casualties**
- **Severity of injuries.**
- **Any support required.**

c) As soon as the incident is reported, all stations on the radio network must minimise the radio traffic.

Absolute priority to be given to Race Control and those responding to the incident.

If you have a radio, listen out and make sure that Race control has heard and is responding.

2. LIFE SAVING:

Proceed to take **any** immediate life-saving measures within your competence. However remember that it is counter productive for rescuers to get into difficulties which could hamper the rescue operation.

3. TAKE CONTROL:

The first radio equipped race official to arrive at the scene of an incident is to take initial control. Do not assume that others are dealing with the incident just because there are a lot of people about. Do not overcrowd the site, but do check that the occurrence is being managed. As soon as immediate life saving measures are in hand, Race Control is to be notified (by radio/loudhailer/mobile phone) by providing an update to the earlier incident report.

4. PREVENT FURTHER ACCIDENTS:

Race Control to stop racing and control crews as appropriate.

5. SAFETY ADVISER.

Race Control will send the safety adviser to any serious incident. Once he has arrived on site and been briefed, the Safety Adviser becomes the controller for the incident and will co-ordinate the work of the emergency services on site. The Safety Adviser will: summon additional emergency support via radio, or telephone as follows:

- a. For medical assistance: alert the medical adviser and on site ambulance via radio or mobile phone.
- b. For serious land based incidents contact emergency services (999) by telephone.

For incidents with mass casualties contact 999 and contact the nearest A&E dept at Wexham Park Hospital, SL2 4HL, 01753 633000

6. DOCUMENT:

The British Rowing Incident Report Form is to be completed by those involved in the incident and the safety adviser as soon as safely possible, as well as the British Rowing Regatta Medical Return where incidents require transfer to hospital or involve significant injury.

7. FAILURE OF RADIO COMMUNICATION

1. If radio communications fail during an incident, regatta personnel will alert Race Control via loudhailer, or failing that mobile telephone, using the list of numbers of key personnel provided to all race officials.

- 2 . If radio communications fail during the regatta, the Chairman of the Race Committee and Safety Adviser will agree a course of action, which may be to suspend the regatta until the problem is resolved.