



## ROSS REGATTA 2023

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August

### Ross Regatta Safety Plan

#### Location

**Address:** Ross Rowing Club, Rope Walk, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7BU

**OS Grid Reference for cars & trailers:** SO 598 245

**Latitude & Longitude:** Lat 51.918327 Long -2.5850384

**What3Words:** valued.mildest.mattress

#### Contact details

Tim Davies, Chairman	<a href="mailto:chairman@rossrowingclub.co.uk">chairman@rossrowingclub.co.uk</a>	07785 246721
Elisabeth Angier, Regatta Secretary	<a href="mailto:regatta.secretary@rossrowingclub.co.uk">regatta.secretary@rossrowingclub.co.uk</a>	07808 922053
David Sykes, Safety Advisor	<a href="mailto:safety@rossrowingclub.co.uk">safety@rossrowingclub.co.uk</a>	07579 775116

#### Introduction

The Regatta will be held on the River Wye from approx. 900m upstream to 100m downstream of the Rowing Club steps. The racing will be over 550m on Sunday and 750m on Monday.

There will be approx. 50 events on each day, Sunday and Monday, in two Divisions (a.m. and p.m.) for adult and junior rowers.

There will be competition at Junior and Masters level.

All crews are required to steer a course.

Racing will be in fine boats, two lanes head-to-head racing over 550m/750m.

Ross Rowing Club works to provide a safe environment in accordance with British Rowing's 'Row Safe' Regulations, although competitors, coaches and clubs are specifically reminded that:

- Every adult attending the event, including those competing or officiating, is personally responsible for their own safety
- Competitors, together with their coaches, shall decide whether or not they are competent to compete in the weather and river conditions as they find them on the day

- A 'responsible adult' shall accompany juniors competing in the event, to assist them 'in loco parentis' and assumes responsibility for their safety and welfare

## Event Organisation

Organised by Ross Rowing Club (RRC) Regatta Committee 2023

Committee	Name	Contact	email
<b>Chairman</b>	Tim Davies	07785 246721	chair@rossrowingclub.co.uk
<b>Event Welfare Safety Advisor (EWSA)</b>	Dave Sykes	07579 775116	<a href="mailto:safety@rossrowingclub.co.uk">safety@rossrowingclub.co.uk</a>
<b>Welfare Officer</b>	Sue Thompson	07443 491564	welfare@rossrowingclub.co.uk
<b>Regatta Secretary</b>	Elisabeth Angier	07808 922053	regattasecretary@rossrowingclub.co.uk
<b>Coordinating Umpires</b>	Neil Lucas	01989 565081	<a href="mailto:N968lucas@btinternet.com">N968lucas@btinternet.com</a>
	Mike Jones	07981 240897	<a href="mailto:Mikeandrose1@outlook.com">Mikeandrose1@outlook.com</a>
<b>Race Committee</b>	Bryn Hughes (Chair)		brynhughes0@gmail.com
	Mike Jones	07981 240897	<a href="mailto:Mikeandrose1@outlook.com">Mikeandrose1@outlook.com</a>
	Neil Lucas	01989 565081	N968lucas@btinternet.com
	Dave Sykes	07579 775116	<a href="mailto:safety@rossrowingclub.co.uk">safety@rossrowingclub.co.uk</a>

## Communication

**Navigation Authority/Local land owners** – Environmental Agency informed of event. No further permission or conditions required [lynn.bulbeck@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:lynn.bulbeck@environment-agency.gov.uk) & [paul.senior@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:paul.senior@environment-agency.gov.uk). Letter sent to land owners, Mr Scudamore & Mrs Brewer

**Emergency Services** – Herefordshire Emergency Services notified using 'Herefordshire Public Event Safety Advisory Group Form' (covers Hereford & Worcester Fire & Rescue, West Mercia Police, West Midlands Ambulance Service)

**Highways/Community/Other river users** – Advertised in local press & media several weeks before the event. Published on Ross Rowing Club website and social media platforms.

**First Aid** – 2 first-aiders located on river bank between Club House and Control Commission. Defibrillator and oxygen. (Additional defibrillator in boathouse).

**Third-party services** e.g. loud speaker system, on-site retailers, electrical supplies, waste water, sanitary services, food supplies. Register of retailers, facilities and utilities providers maintained by RRC Regatta Committee.

**Participants and Competitors** – Documents published on RRC website include:

- Regatta poster
- Competitor instructions
- Course map & circulation pattern
- Welfare plan & statement; downloadable welfare form for competitors/visitors
- Safety plan

- Risk assessment
- Emergency access location
- Emergency response plan

**Cancellation or curtailment of the event** – The Race Committee will monitor river and weather conditions prior to the event and should conditions have the potential to significantly increase the risk associated with participation in the Regatta, the Race Committee Chair will make the decision to abandon the Regatta. This will be communicated to all participants and relevant parties by means of a formal PA announcement/notification on website, social media and email communication.

## At the Start of the Event

**Organisers/Umpires, marshals, monitors/Safety people, 3<sup>rd</sup> party services** (rescue launches, 1<sup>st</sup> aiders) – notification of planned safety briefings to be held on the Boat House ramp before racing commences by a RRC Official

**Participants** – competitor instructions & safety documentation available on RRC website. Boats on/off protocol: RRC Official at boat check & marshals on the beach will endeavour to ensure that:

- All crews are aware of the circulation pattern and be advised of rivers hazards.
- All crews must pass through Boat Check to ensure boat integrity in accordance with BR guidelines.
- Coxes must wear appropriate buoyancy aid.
- Boating area is clearly marked.
- Care to be exercised when crossing the public footpath.
- Boats on/off areas to be checked for potential sharp hazards (e.g. broken glass) and prepared for ease of descent. Crews reminded to wear appropriate foot-wear when handling boats on/off the water.
- Blades should be safely located on the bank and not provide a hazard nor impede safe passage.
- Marshals will monitor flow of boats, crews and members of the public.

**EWSA** – Monitor conditions. Advise on starting, suspension, alteration or abandonment of the event.

## During the Event

**Organisers** – Radio communication protocol will be explained at pre-race briefing with specified channels for Emergency, Umpires and General use. Key contact mobile numbers are included in the Regatta documentation and will be held at Start, Finish, Control Commission, Registration, First Aid, Notice Board and in Umpires Pack.

**EWSA** – Monitor conditions and incidents or occurrences during the event. Advise on the starting, suspension, alteration or abandonment of the event. Any incidents shall be reported to the Regatta Race Committee Chair to action as required.

## Post Event

**Participants/Officials** – any feedback or comments on the competition/event safety cover after the event should be sent to: [regattasecretary@rossrowingclub.co.uk](mailto:regattasecretary@rossrowingclub.co.uk). Post event debrief meeting will be held for RRC Regatta Committee within 1 month for feedback of any key issues.

**Participants** – describe any plans after the event to review safety for the event.

## Documentation

- Safety Plan (this document)
- Risk assessment
- Emergency access points
- Emergency response plan
- Competitor instructions
- Course map & circulation pattern
- Welfare plan & statement
- Marshalling instructions
- Radio protocol
- Safety Launch Equipment

## Safety Monitor

Dave Sykes, EWSA and RRC Safety Officer, will be in attendance throughout the Regatta and will be available via radio to help the coordinating umpire with safety issues. Other positions of cover by RRC Officials:

- Car park & trailer park
- Access road
- Riverside towpath
- Boats on/off
- Control commission
- Registration
- Start
- Finish
- Club house

## Safety Boats

All drivers are trained to nationally recognised RYA Level 2 Powerboat (or equivalent). Safety boats located at steps, bridge and ferry.

RRC has 3 tin-fish type coaching launches. These also carry safety equipment and perform rescue functions should the need arise. They can alert the rescue services, assist in boat and crew recovery to the bank, and evacuate 1-2 (max. 2) people at any one time who are injured or deemed to be at high risk. Neither the nature of the river nor the risk analysis warrant the need for a large launch capable of rescuing a whole crew from a large boat.

A list of equipment carried on board is included in the documentation.

**Launch Protocol** – Drivers and passengers must be seated. Driver and spotter will wear buoyancy aids. Driver to have engine kill-cord attached. Safety kit on board (blue box, throw lines, paddle, grab lines on gunnels, deployable boarding ladder).

## Accident & Emergency Procedures

**On Water & Off Water** – in case of accident or emergency the first duty is to the safety of the individual in difficulty

**Water-based incident** – the nearest Umpire radios to 'All Points & Safety Launch'. A marshal will be situated at each of Start, 250m, 500m and Finish. A safety launch will be situated one at the Bridge, one at the Club House. In case of capsize, the competitor/s will disembark from the safety launch Club house/Steps.

**Land-based incident** – controlled initially by those in immediate attendance until the Safety Officer and/or Qualified First Aider assume responsibility.

## First-aid Cover

- Provider –
- Qualifications – Registered 1<sup>st</sup> Aiders
- Location – on the towpath between Club House and Control Commission
- Number of people – 2 qualified 1<sup>st</sup> Aiders
- Equipment – defibrillator, oxygen, advanced 1<sup>st</sup> aid skills
- Availability – 8.30am – 5.30pm Sunday and Monday

There is an additional defibrillator located on front wall of the Boat House.

## Emergency Services

- Nearest A&E – Hereford Hospital, HR1 2ER
- Travel time – approx. 30 minutes
- Ambulance response time – subject to W. Midlands Ambulance Service Response
- Emergency access point – Club House HR9 7BU; Homs Road Car Park HR9 7DE
- Who will meet & guide Emergency services – RRC Regatta Official

## Emergency Equipment

A list of equipment for the Safety Launches is provided with this pack.

**Pre-Boating Safety Checks** – onus is on the competing crews/clubs to present their boats at Boat Pairing, ensuring that they confirm with the rules of racing. Boat pairing will take place before each race as per British Rowing regulations. No crew should Boat On until they have passed through Boat Pairing with their opposition.

## Welfare Plan & Statement

Please refer to document included with this pack.

## RRC Regatta Safety Plan approved by:

<b>RRC Official</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>RRC Chairman</b> (Tim Davies)	.....	.....
<b>RRC President</b> (Jeremy Picton-Turbervill)	.....	.....
<b>RRC Director of Rowing</b> (Jack Westley)	.....	.....
<b>Chair, Race Committee</b> (Bryn Hughes)	.....	.....
<b>Safety Officer</b> (Dave Sykes)	.....	.....
<b>Welfare Officer</b> (Sue Thompson)	.....	.....

## Reference documents

- HSG195 – The Event Safety Guide
- British Rowing’s Rules of Racing
- RowSafe, RowSafe +, RowSafe Further Guidance
- British Rowing Welfare Guidance – WG 3.4
- <http://www.movable-type.co.uk/scripts/latlong-gridref.html>
- <http://www.britishrowing.org/news/2012/december/12/safety-basics-interactive-risk-assessment-module>