



# WELFARE PLAN 2023

The Organising Committee of Wallingford Regatta believes that the welfare and well-being of all children is of utmost importance. All children, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, or ability have equal rights to safety and protection. All suspicions, concerns and allegations of 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 a point of contact for any concerns or allegations. Their contact number will be posted in the boating area throughout the duration of the competition. The Regatta operates a network of radios spread along the course. In the event of an emergency please contact the nearest Regatta Official, who will report the incident to the Welfare Officer or the Chairman of the Organising Committee by the nearest available radio link.

## REGATTA WELFARE OFFICER

The Regatta Organising Committee has appointed **Ben Townsend** (mobile: 07971 169865) as Regatta Welfare Officer.

## REPORTING STRUCTURE

If you have any concerns regarding the welfare of children at the Regatta, these should in the first instance be raised with the Welfare Officer. If the concern is considered a serious issue it will be discussed with the Chairman of the Organising Committee and the Chairman of the Racing 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 the Thames Valley Police. If it is a minor issue then the Welfare Officer is able to take the appropriate action without consulting the Chairman of the Organising Committee or the Chairman of the Racing Committee.

## CONDUCT

All coaches, competitors and other participants should abide by the Rules of Racing and conduct themselves in accordance with the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy. Clubs and schools are expected to have and implement their own child protection and welfare policies.

## MISSING PARTICIPANTS

If a child is believed to be missing it should in the first instance be reported to the Welfare Officer or the Chairman of the Organising Committee who will notify the Welfare Officer. The Welfare Officer will advise both the Chairman of the Racing Committee and the Chairman of the Organising Committee, if he has not previously been notified. The coach/ team manager of the missing child will be made aware of the situation. The Welfare Officer will be responsible for organising a search for the missing child and, if necessary, contacting the Thames Valley Police.

## VOLUNTEERS



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This Welfare Plan will be made available to all volunteers who are also asked to read the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy. If there are any queries prior to or at the Regatta they should contact the Welfare Officer.

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

## PHOTOGRAPHY

All official photographers will have to register with the Organising Committee before attending the event. 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 appropriate action.

## DISTRIBUTION OF DATA

All competing clubs, umpires and race officials will receive a copy of this Welfare Plan, the Safety Plan, and a set of Competitor Instructions. These documents are available on the Regatta Website.