

## **RCRC North of England Head**

### **SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING CHILDREN POLICY**

The Organisers of North of England Head believe 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. All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

A welfare officer/coordinator for the competition will be appointed annually and will act as the point of contact for any concerns or allegations. The Welfare Office for the event will be **Stephanie Loach**. She can be contacted on the day by radio or phone via any Race Official stationed around the course and boating areas. She will determine appropriate action to be taken, and should any incident warrant such action, will be responsible for reporting to the police and the British Rowing Child Protection Officer.

The crew contact details entered on the British Rowing Entry will be used to contact the adult responsible for any junior reportedly involved in an incident. It is therefore incumbent upon the person entering the crew to ensure that a usable contact number is included in the entry. No individual contact details for juniors will be held by the committee.

Adults with responsibility for children entered in the event are expected to ensure that boating conditions are suitable. Adults – coaches and parents – are also reminded of the need for suitable clothing for the event, given that there is the possibility of a long wait before the start; crew coaches are further reminded that in rough conditions, it is they who must make the assessment of whether their crew can safely boat and race in the conditions - particularly so where there is a junior cox. Row Safe sections 1.4, 1.7, 1.8 and 3.2 are particularly relevant.

In the event that a vulnerable participant goes missing for a period exceeding 20 minutes, the Welfare Officer should be contacted, and she will contact the police if this has not already been done.

All competitors in the event may be photographed by amateurs, or professionals who sell their photographs, and these photographs may be used for identification or publicity purposes. The Regatta cannot prevent this, as the banks and area surrounding the course are open to the public.

**Organising Committee of RCRC North of England Head  
February 2025**