



Abingdon Rowing Club

Club Safety Policy

Abingdon Rowing Club believes that nothing is more important than the health, safety and welfare of our members, volunteers, affiliates and the people affected by our activities.

As a Club we are committed to providing a safe environment for everyone using our facilities and attending any club events. We expect all our members, affiliates and volunteers to abide by the Club constitution and byelaws and to take responsibility for their own health and safety. All members, affiliates and volunteers are reminded that they also have a duty of care for the safety of all others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. Affiliated clubs and organisations using our facilities are reminded that they are expected to implement their own health and safety policies and procedures and undertake their own risk assessments.

We believe that harm is not an inevitable consequence of our activities and that incidents that cause harm can be avoided. We will strive to provide an environment in which the sport can be practiced safely and enjoyably by our members. We will guide and lead our members in a way that fulfils these aims.

We recognise that our members have primary responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others. The Club expects its members to respect its safety rules which are available to read and download on the club's website. Compliance with these rules by all individuals will help to prevent harm. The Club is also committed to learn from the incidents it becomes aware of and will share this information to help others in the sport to learn too. We are committed to make appropriate use British Rowing's Incident Reporting System.

Abingdon Rowing Club is committed to continual improvement in all matters related to health and safety, and everyone is encouraged to suggest ideas that will improve our health and safety implementation. We recommend levels of training dependent on age and ability. In practice we support our policy by complying with Row Safe, British Rowing's Guide to Good Practice in Rowing and in particular by committing to:

- Undertake regular, recorded risk assessments of the club premises and activities.
- Create a safe environment by putting health and safety measures in place as identified by these risk assessments.
- Undertake an annual British Rowing safety audit and act on any gaps that may be identified in this audit.
- Ensure that all members are given the appropriate levels of information, coaching and training to ensure their health, safety and enjoyment both on land and on the water.
- Ensure that all members, affiliates and volunteers are aware of, understand and follow the club's health and safety policy, constitution and bye-laws.
- Appoint a competent club member as Club Safety Advisor.
- Ensure that normal operating procedures and emergency operating procedures are in place and known by all members.
- Provide access to adequate first aid facilities.
- Report all safety incidents and near misses to British Rowing by using the online incident reporting system.
- Identify, share and implement lessons learned and good practice, including with our affiliated University clubs.
- Ensure that the implementation of the policy is reviewed regularly and monitored for effectiveness at least annually.

As a Club member, affiliate or volunteer, you have a duty to:

- Take reasonable care for your own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by your acts or omissions.
- Co-operate with the club on health and safety issues.
- Correctly use all equipment provided by the club.
- Not interfere with or misuse anything provided for your health, safety or welfare.
- Report all incidents and near misses, challenge unsafe behaviour and conditions and share best practice.

Club Safety Advisor

Members are invited to refer safety-related questions and concerns to the Club's Safety Advisor by email using the address safety@abingdonrc.org.uk