

Codes of Conduct

Welfare Guidance v0.1

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| Responsibility of | All participants in rowing, in whatever capacity |
| Responsible group | Lincoln Head Race Organizing Committee |
| Purpose | Guidance for rowing activities |
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British Rowing Codes of Conduct, adopted by the Lincoln Head Race Committee

1. Introduction

These British Rowing (BR) Codes of Conduct, are applicable to all those participating in rowing or working within any Lincoln based rowing Competition.

Reports or complaints should be made in the first instance to the Competition Welfare Officer, who can be reached through Registration at any competition run by the Lincoln Head Race Committee. Complaints and concerns relating to safeguarding or protection of vulnerable groups may also be sent directly to the Child Protection Officer at BR. In this instance the BR Case Management Group will decide the level of investigation.

Including:

2. Rights of individuals
3. Code of conduct for participants and competitors
4. Code of conduct for Coaches, Team Managers, Parents and Guardians involved in rowing
5. British Rowing code of conduct for rowing coaches
6. British Rowing code of conduct for coaches of juniors (additional)

2. Rights of individuals

All participants in rowing, including children, competitors, coxes, coaches, umpires, marshals and spectators have the right:

- to enjoy safe participation in rowing
- to be treated as individuals at all times
- to express their views
- to be listened to and believed
- to receive support for their individual needs
- to be treated with respect
- to enjoy an environment free of discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, marital status, occupation or political opinion
- to participate free from the threat of abuse; to include, verbal abuse, bullying, neglect or physical abuse
- not to be subject to humiliation, shame or insult
- to enjoy an environment free of sexual harassment and sexual abuse
- not to be exploited

- not to be pressurised in to competing
- to adequate rest and recovery
- not to compete when ill or injured
- to be treated in accordance with BR guidelines

3. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARTICIPANTS AND COMPETITORS

At all times, when practicing, training or competing at clubs, competitions and events, participants and competitors should:

- follow the rules and procedures of their club when not engaged in competition
- adhere to BR rules and guidelines
- act in accordance with the rules of the competition or event
- study in advance, understand, and follow the rules, regulations and guidelines of the competition/event with regards to safety, emergency procedures, boating, marshalling, and cancellation
- follow the directions of marshals, umpires and officials of the competition/event
- accept the decisions of officials of the event
- not take banned substances
- act in a sportsmanlike way during training and competition
- treat other competitors, coaches, other water users and officials of clubs, competitions and events with respect
- avoid swearing at or shouting at others
- not threaten others nor engage in acts of verbal or physical abuse or other types of abuse.
- respect the rights, dignity and worth of other participants, and not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, marital status, occupation or political opinion
- keep to competition timings, or inform the relevant person if they are going to be late.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES, TEAM MANAGERS, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS ATTENDING THE COMPETITION

The rights of all children attending the competition should be recognised; and

Coaches, Team Managers, Parents and Guardians should:

- ensure that children have fun when practicing, training and competing in rowing
- promote the health, safety and well-being of children first and foremost
- not over emphasise winning
- listen to, respect and take into account children's views about participation, and recognise their right to determine their participation
- encourage children participate for their own intrinsic enjoyment, not for the enjoyment or ambition of their parents
- encourage children to take responsibility for their own actions, performance and behaviour

- not force children to participate in the sport
- not allow their children to compete when ill or injured.

Coaches, Team Managers, Parents and Guardians should encourage long term participation in rowing; and

They should:

- ensure that the level and type of participation is appropriate to their child's stage of development
- encourage children to play and experience a broad variety of sports, particularly younger children
- promote individual progress, skill and development before winning in age group competition, to help promote long term participation of children in the sport
- avoid placing undue pressure on children
- ensure that the ability and performance of each child in sport is not excessively linked with their own perceptions of self-worth.

Coaches, Team Managers, Parents and Guardians should support their child's involvement in training, events and competitions; and

They should:

- not force any child to take part in the sport
- encourage their child's effort
- be a member of a club
- be aware of these codes of conduct, and the competitions Welfare Plan
- be aware of the appointed Welfare Officer and how they can be contacted
- be aware of the competitions policies and procedures to ensure the safety of children and others
- provide consent for their child to participate in the competition and events
- ask about the competitions policy for recruiting officials working at the competition
- inform the coach and the First Aid providers at the competition, of individual needs of any child that may affect their participation, including medical conditions or illness.
- provide their children with equipment to suit the conditions, i.e. clothing suitable for cold/warm weather, a water bottle, and sunscreen.
- receive information from the competition organisers about the schedule of events being held
- assist clubs to care for their children, and not to treat the club as a child minding service
- make arrangements to collect their child promptly at the end of the competition at the agreed time.

Coaches, Team Managers, Parents and Guardians should be a good role model at clubs, competitions and events; and

They should:

- encourage each child to accept all individuals and not to discriminate on the basis of their ability, gender, race, religion etc.
- act in a sportsmanlike way when supporting and spectating
- use correct and proper language at all times

- be encouraging towards children and others
- accept that errors are an important part of learning and not condemn any children for making them
- respect officials of the competition, club, other participants, supporters and parents
- act with respect for the decisions of officials and coaches, and without criticism
- avoid swearing at, yelling at, or chastising children, officials, coaches, or others
- raise any concerns they have about a child or coach, or their behaviour, as soon as possible with Registration
- encourage children to follow the rules of events and competitions and to adhere to British Rowing guidelines
- not coach their children at training and competition, unless engaged in recognised coaching responsibilities
- avoid smoking or consuming alcohol whilst supporting.

5. BRITISH ROWING CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ROWING COACHES

Coaches have a responsibility of care

Coaches should:

- take action to report concerns they may have about behaviour towards a child or vulnerable adult, following British Rowing guidelines. Non-action is unacceptable
- receive, record and report allegations of abuse according to British Rowing guidelines
- hold valid qualifications
- hold appropriate insurance.

Coaches should ensure safe practice at all times

Coaches should:

- follow British Rowing water safety guidance
- coaches should ensure that the environment is as safe as possible by assessing and managing risk to an appropriate level
- promote the execution of safe and correct practice.

Coaches should look to continually develop their practices

Coaches should:

- accept that improvements in their coaching can always be made
- gain qualifications at a level appropriate to their coaching context
- follow a programme of continuous professional development
- engage in self-analysis and reflective practice to identify areas for personal improvement
- practise in an open and transparent fashion that encourages other coaches to contribute to or learn from their knowledge and experience
- contribute to the development of coaching by sharing knowledge and ideas with others
- contribute to initiatives to promote the standards and quality of coaching and coaches

- learn about issues in the sport that might affect coaches or participants
- learn about the role of rowing in current local, regional and national initiatives.

Coaches should make a commitment to providing quality coaching service to participants.

Coaches should:

- plan and prepare for all sessions so that they meet the needs of participants and are appropriate and progressive
- maintain appropriate records with regard to participants
- support talent.

Coaches should follow British Rowing guidelines on coaching and safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Coaches should:

- ensure that any physical contact is appropriate and necessary and is carried out within recommended guidelines, and with the participant's full consent and approval
- avoid any form of sexually related contact, innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures when coaching, particularly with under-age participants
- avoid sexual intimacy with participants either whilst coaching them, and also in the period of time immediately following the end of the coaching relationship
- arrange to transfer a participant to another coach if it is clear that an intimate relationship is developing.

Coaches should coach in a participant focused way

Coaches should:

- promote the welfare and best interests of participants
- assess each individual's needs, and support individuals to determine their goals
- recognise and accept when it is in the participant's interest, to refer a participant to another appropriate coach or specialist
- assist the participant to access other appropriate services that could aid their development
- recognise the rights of participants to confer with other coaches and experts
- communicate and co-operate with other organisations and individuals in the best interests of the participants
- obtain the agreement of coaches and participants when taking over some or all coaching responsibility
- be aware of and communicate any conflict of responsibility as soon as it becomes apparent
- be aware of the physical needs of participants, especially those still growing and ensure that training loads and intensities are appropriate
- maintain the same level of interest when the athlete is sick or injured.

Coaches should coach in a professional manner

Coaches should:

- be transparent and accountable in their coaching practices
- be professional and accept responsibility for their actions

- clarify from the beginning of the coaching relationship what is expected of the participants and also what they can expect from the coach
- allow athletes access to an appropriate complaints mechanism
- respect the individual's right to transfer between clubs, coaches or other sports
- only assume roles for which they are qualified and prepared
- not misrepresent their level of qualification or experience
- seek out a balance between coaching and lifestyle commitments to maintain an effective and enjoyable coaching career.

Coaches should ensure that rowing is a positive recreational activity

Coaches should:

- create an environment free of fear and harassment
- help to maintain enjoyment of rowing
- promote the concept of a balanced lifestyle, supporting the well-being of the athlete both in and out of the sport
- aid participants' motivation
- avoid placing undue pressure on children
- ensure that the ability and performance of the child in sport is not excessively linked with their own perceptions of self-worth.

Coaches should promote rowing and health.

Coaches should:

- actively promote the benefits of participation in rowing
- promote drug-free sport
- educate participants on the British Rowing policy on the use of performance enhancing drugs and supplements
- should promote health
- avoid smoking, drinking or drug use before or whilst coaching, as this portrays a negative image and could affect the safety of participants in rowing.

Coaches should encourage personal empowerment.

Coaches should:

- recognise the rights of all participants to be treated as individuals
- allow participants to express their own views and make their own decisions
- canvass and respect participants' reasons for rowing, even if they consider fun and participating more important than winning
- ensure that participants are fully informed of the requirements of the sport and the coaching programme
- respect participants' opinions when making decisions about their participation in the sport
- encourage participants to take responsibility for their own development and actions
- involve participants as part of the decision-making process.

Coaches should communicate appropriately.

Coaches should:

- follow the guidelines in the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children

- Booklet regarding communication with parents and young people
- communicate with and provide feedback to participants in a manner which reflects respect and care
- avoid criticising, or engaging in demeaning descriptions of others
- be discreet in any conversations about participants, coaches or other individuals
- discuss and agree with participants what information is confidential.

Coaches should establish expectations.

Coaches should:

- clarify the nature of the coaching services being provided for participants
- inform participants and parents of juniors of the requirements of the sport
- discuss with parents and other relevant parties the potential impact of the coaching programme on junior participants
- inform athletes or their parents of any potential costs in accessing their coaching services.

Coaches should be positive role models.

Coaches should:

- model, and promote adherence to, the codes of conduct
- display high standards in the use of language, manners, punctuality, preparation and presentation
- operate within the rules and spirit of rowing
- promote the positive aspects of the sport
- challenge and not condone discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, religion, political opinion, occupation or marital status in the coaching environment
- treat all individuals in the sport with respect at all times, and be fair, honest and considerate
- display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved in rowing
- encourage mutual respect between participants in the sport
- promote tolerance
- act equitably in their coaching and combat discrimination on the basis of gender, age, race, colour, sexual orientation, political opinion etc.
- act in a non-violent way
- address any bullying between participants.

Coaches should be models of sportsmanlike behaviour.

Coaches should:

- act with respect for the opposition
- condemn cheating.

6. BRITISH ROWING CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES OF JUNIORS (ADDITIONAL)

Coaches of juniors **must** be familiar with and follow the *British Rowing Safeguarding & Protecting Children Policy and Guidance documents*.

Coaches of juniors should coach in a child-centered way.

Coaches should:

- recognise that children have rights
- ensure that activities are appropriate for children
- consider the child's wellbeing ahead of winning
- work in partnership with the child's parents to ensure the child's needs are met
- keep holistic development as the core objective of participation in rowing
- respect the child's interests in activities other than in sports
- not force their aspirations and ambition on children
- respect the right to privacy of young athletes.

Coaches of juniors should emphasise quality of training over quantity.

Coaches should:

- ensure that the level and type of participation is appropriate to their child's stage of development
- encourage children to play and experience a broad variety of sports, particularly younger children
- promote individual progress, skill and development before winning in age group competition to help promote long term participation of children in the sport
- encourage the development of good technique before performances
- recognise that the stage and rate of development is not the same for all juniors and allow child participants to compete at their own current level
- emphasise the role that maturation has to play in age group competition
- consider whether it is appropriate to juniors' developmental stage for them to be engaged in intensive training
- ensure that children are not forced to train to excess
- protect the right to health and rest
- coach juniors according to the how much and how often junior guidelines.

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