



Safety Alert - Coping with the behaviour of others

Most of the time, rowers can enjoy our sport in peace and quiet. However, we are sometimes victims of the criminal and anti-social behaviour of others. This is particularly a problem in the summer and when the offenders have been drinking.

It is not unknown for rowers to be threatened by shouted abuse or rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour (anti-social behaviour) or by harassment, public disorder or having objects thrown at, or dropped on, them (criminal behaviour). Fortunately, most, but not all, of the objects thrown or dropped, miss.

So, what can you do to help yourself and your fellow rowers. You should: -

- be alert to the possibility of this type of behaviour,
- try to identify the areas where this is likely to happen and, if possible, avoid them,
- inform your fellow club members immediately so that they can avoid hazardous areas
- report all incidents to the Police, (there is more information [here](#)).

Work with other local clubs and organisations to define precautions and share information. Some bad behaviour occurs on the water and often involves operators of motorboats. This should be reported to your Navigation Authority (EA, C&RT, PLA, etc.).

Being on the receiving end of behaviour of this kind can be very traumatic. Please take care of any of your colleagues who have been distressed in this way. There is more information on the [British Rowing Supporting Positive Mental Health](#) page where there are links to information on Mental Health First Aid, helplines, etc.

Where children or adults at risk are involved then please consider these risks and take them into account when defining the required levels of supervision. You may need to provide additional supervision to keep everyone safe and to support those affected.

Please also report any incidents or near-misses to your Club Rowing Safety Adviser (CRSA) and please report them to British Rowing using the [Incident Reporting](#) system. If any Juniors are impacted, then please report this to their parents or carers and to your Club Welfare Officer (CWO).

Take care of yourself and your friends.



Positive Mental Health



Police Information



Incident Reporting

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