



ERRC JIRR Trials 2025

Event Welfare Policy Statement

The Organising Committee of the ERRC Trials for the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta:

Believes that the welfare and wellbeing of all participants are paramount, whether as competitors or as spectators, and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and British Rowing requirements.

It acknowledges that everyone, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, socio-economic background, has equal rights to safety and protection and that special measures are required to protect children and young people and adults at risk.

All suspicions, concerns and allegations of harm will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

This Policy Statement aims to ensure that all participants:

- have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at Thorpe Meadows in a safe environment;
- are protected from abuse while participating/attending at the ERRC JIRR Trials or outside of the activity.

The ERRC JIRR Trials policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in this event.

Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal/exclusion from the event and future British Rowing competitions virtual, indoor and/or on water.

Responsibilities of the Organising Committee (OC)

As part of our safeguarding policy the OC will:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of participants, officials, volunteers and spectators;



- ensure all personnel understand their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and welfare and have undertaken appropriate training;
- ensure all personnel dealing with minors in rowing are aware of the British Rowing Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy;
- ensure the Event Safety Advisor is aware of this Policy Statement and Safety Plan;
- ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of welfare incidents/concerns of abuse and that support is provided to the individual/s who raise or disclose the concern;
- ensure that confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored;
- do their best to prevent the employment/deployment of unsuitable individuals;
- ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

A designated Event Welfare Officer will be appointed annually and is responsible for receiving and managing any concern/reports with the appropriate bodies (British Rowing, Local Authorities, the NSPCC and/or the Police).

The Event Welfare Officer for 2025 will be Helen Middleton

She can be contacted using the mobile 07748 964813

or helen.middleton@gmail.com

This contact number will be posted on the competition website (<http://easternregionrowing.org.uk/jirr-2025/>) and she can be contacted via any event official during the event as well.

To report an allegation or concern, please contact the Event Welfare Officer using the above details or through race control.

The only event volunteers who may have substantial, unsupervised access to children are listed below.

- Members of the First Aid providers
- The Event Doctor (should one be present)



- Race Control
- Event Welfare Officer.

These volunteers will be asked to provide the date and number of their enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

Where no such disclosure exists, the Committee will require one to be produced before the event.

Responsibility of clubs

It is a condition of entry to the ERRC JIRR Trials that any crew that includes junior athletes shall have a named coach or responsible adult.

The named coach or responsible adult, who must be over the age of 18, must be named on the entry form (BROE at time of making entry) and a current mobile telephone number for that person must be provided.

If a substitute coach or responsible adult comes to the competition, they must contact the Event Welfare Officer and register their mobile telephone number.

Each named coach or responsible adult is responsible for the welfare, safety and appropriate supervision of their crew or entered athlete and is always expected to know the whereabouts of all their athletes during the competition. It is the responsibility of competing clubs to ensure that appropriate safeguarding checks are in place for nominated adults.

Every volunteer should have a current British Rowing membership (of any category).

All participants and coaches must abide by British Rowing Rules of Racing and Codes of Conduct as well as the BR Safeguarding Policy, which can be found on the BR Safeguarding webpage www.britishrowing.org/knowledge/safeguarding/ and are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and conduct at all times.

Volunteers who are under 18 (young volunteers)

Volunteering can be a great way for young people to learn and develop new skills and gain experience for their future employment. Young volunteers are considered a vulnerable group and therefore measures should be put in place for their safe recruitment and participation. Please see British Rowing's safe recruitment guide on the website for more information.

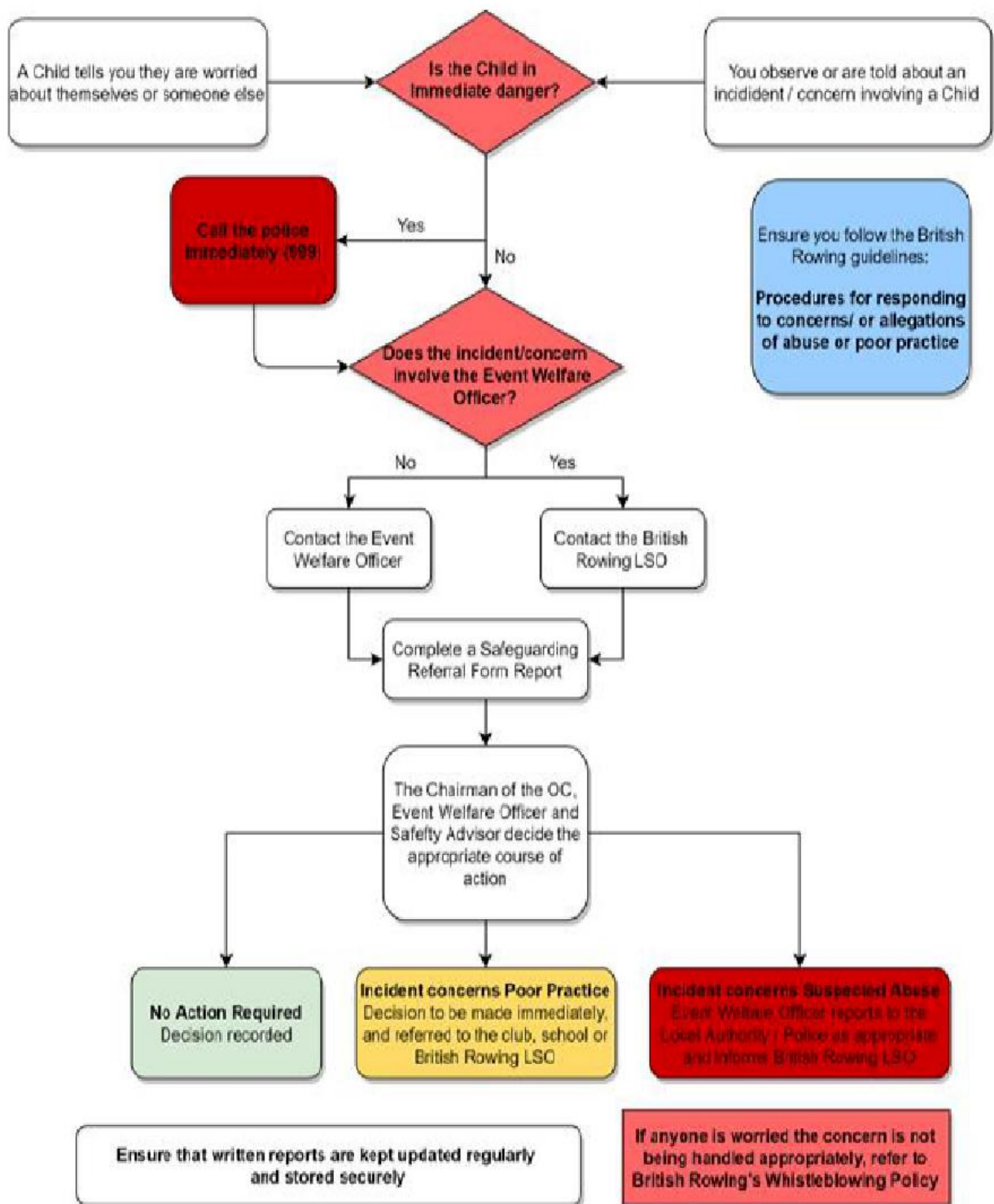


Before accepting them, the Organising Committee must ensure that young volunteers:

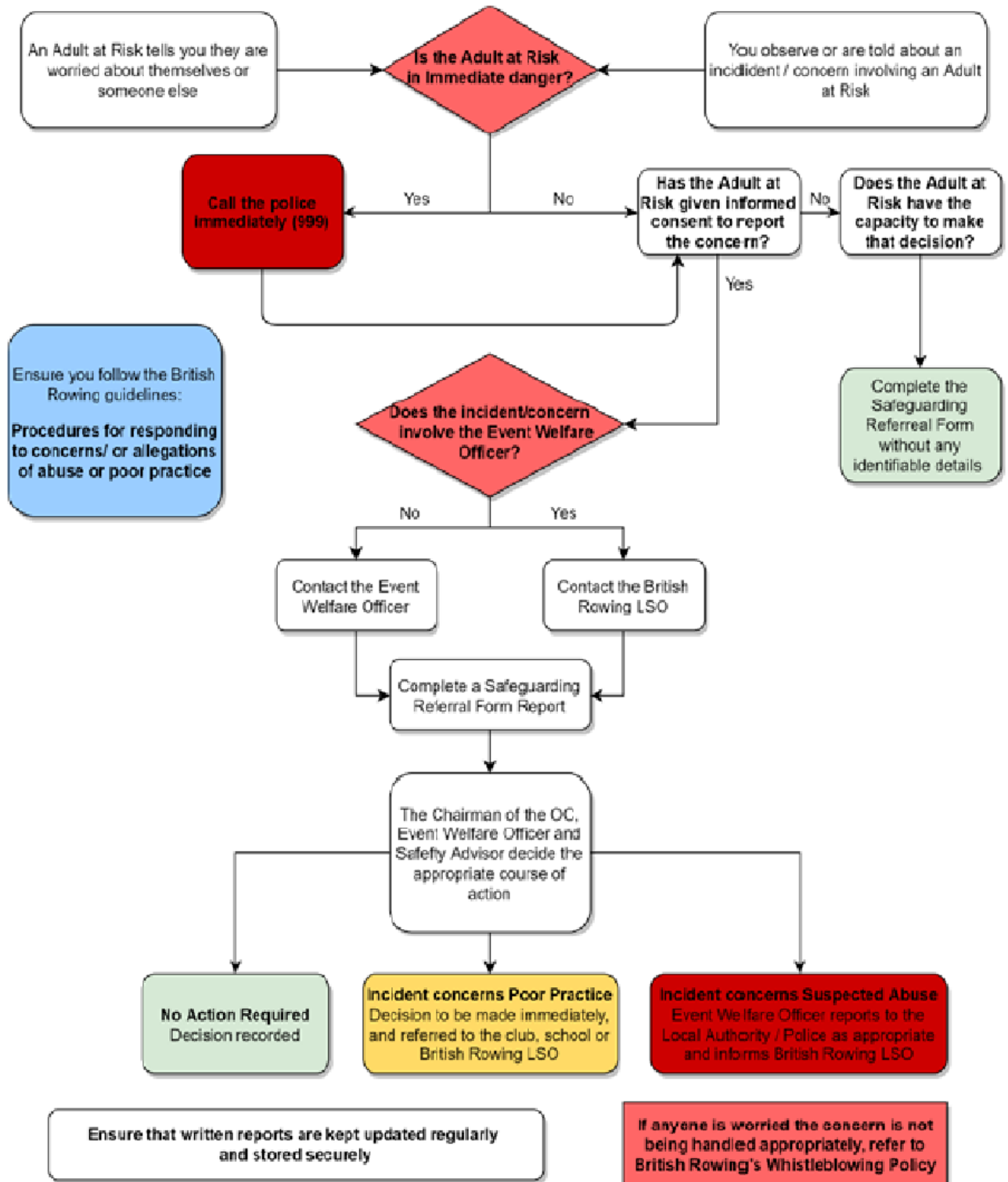
- hold a current British Rowing membership (of any category);
- agree to the British Rowing Codes of Conduct;
- provide written agreement from their parent/carer that they may carry out the responsibility they have been assigned;
- are supervised at all times by at least one adult (including an official) who holds a DBS check and has undergone appropriate safeguarding training;
- know their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding, and how to report any concerns they have or become aware of;
- are not given responsibilities that may put someone at risk of harm e.g. sole supervision of other juniors or lifting heavy equipment.

The OC should ensure that appropriate liability insurance is in place to cover young volunteers.

Reporting procedures concerning a child:



Reporting procedures concerning an adult at risk:





Medical provision

All medical staff will be sent a copy of this Policy Statement and be given the contact details for the Event Welfare Officer.

In an emergency the Race Committee/Safety Advisor/Event Welfare Officer should contact the emergency services using 999.

Security

Volunteers and officials may be briefed on exercising vigilance for anything suspicious e.g. someone unknown to the crews hanging around or tampering with equipment; people taking pictures near the changing facilities.

Missing persons

If a person has been missing for more than 20 minutes, contact the Event Welfare Officer and/or the Event Safety Advisor via any official.

If a child goes missing during an event, the following procedure will be applied:

- Officials must ensure that all other children continue to be supervised appropriately whilst a search for the child concerned is carried out;
- The initial report must be reported to the EWO;
- The EWO will request all available officials to conduct a search of the surrounding area allocating each individual to a specific area;
- Radio communication should convey a description of the child but not their full name;
- All those searching should be told to report back within a short time, dependent on the size of the area being searched;
- If the child cannot be found after a search of the immediate surroundings, the child's parents/carers should be contacted to advise them of the concern and reassure them that everything is being done to locate the child;
- A note should be made of the circumstances in which the child has gone missing and where he/she was last seen. A detailed physical description of the child should be



prepared, including their hair and eye colour, approximate height and build and clothing he/she was wearing, as this will be required by the police;

- The concern should be reported to the police if the search is unsuccessful, no later than 20 minutes after the initial missing person report if the search is ongoing;
- Police guidance should be followed, further action recommended should be taken and close contact with the police maintained;
- All officials involved, the parents, searchers, and police must be informed if at any stage the child is located.

DBS checks, access to young people or their contact details

The Entries Secretary and Registration personnel should not hold any contact details for young people and do not need to be DBS checked.

DBS disclosures of medical staff and the Event Welfare Officer shall be checked

Any personnel having contact unsupervised with minors in an enclosed environment (if they have not had DBS Checks performed) must work in pairs.

Photography and publicity

The OC recognises that at a sports event such as the ERRC JIRR many parents and other supporters will wish to take photographs and all participants should be aware of this.

The OC may approve photography by commercial organisations and these professional photographers will be asked to display a badge to the effect that they are permitted to take photographs.

The OC will provide the professional photographers with a copy of British Rowing Photography Policy which they are expected to sign and follow.

A copy of the British Rowing Photography Policy will be available on the British Rowing welfare guidance documents webpage.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances.



- There is a change in legislation and/or government guidance as required by the Local Safeguarding Children Board, UK Sport and/or Home Country Sports Councils and British Rowing;
- Any other significant change or event occurs.

This Policy was approved by the OC of the ERRC JIRR Trials on 28th January 2025, and published on 30th February 2025.



Useful Contacts

British Rowing Lead Safeguarding Officer Iso@britishrowing.org

Several organisations are working in the field of safeguarding. Each offers specialist services and has contact information for those wishing to get in touch. You could get in touch if you have specific concerns, or if you are looking for general information.

The Child Protection In Sport Unit (CPSU):

The CPSU is a partnership between the NSPCC, Sport England, Sport Northern Island and Sport Wales.

Email: cpsu@nspcc.org.uk **Website:** thecpsu.org.uk

Childline:

Childline is a free, private and confidential service that exists to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through.

Website: childline.org.uk Call: **0800 1111**

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP):

CEOP works with safeguarding and child protection partners across the UK and overseas. It protects children from harm online and offline with a focus on child sexual exploitation and online protection issues.

Website: ceop.police.uk/safety-centre

Reporting: ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/Should-I-make-a-report-to-CEOP-YP

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC):

The NSPCC are the leading children's charity fighting to end child abuse in the UK.

Call: **0808 800 5000** Email: help@nspcc.org.uk Website: nspcc.org.uk

Cambridgeshire County Council Children's Services

If you need to speak to someone urgently outside of normal working hours and need an immediate response, please call the **Emergency Duty Team on 01733 234724**.

If you believe a child to be in immediate danger you should call 999.