



# Greenwich Head – Welfare Policy

Sunday 16th February 2025, start time 9.30 am between Wapping and Greenwich.

The Organising Committee (OC) of Greenwich Head of the River Race (GHoRR) believes that both the welfare and wellbeing of all GHoRR participants are extremely important, whether these participants are competitors, race officials or spectators. The OC is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects our statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and British Rowing requirements. We acknowledge that everyone, regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation or socio-economic background have equal rights to safety and protection and that special measures are required to protect children and young people and any 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 at the race and find this a safe environment.
- are protected from abuse while participating in or attending the race.

The GHoRR policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved in the race. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the GHoRR and of any future British Rowing competitions.

## 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 Policies (<https://www.britishrowing.org/knowledge/safeguarding/>).
- Ensure the GHoRR Safety Advisor is aware of this Policy Statement and Safety plan.
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of welfare incidents or 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 appointment of unsuitable individuals.
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation - a designated GHoRR Welfare Officer will be appointed annually and is responsible for receiving and managing any concerns or reports with the appropriate bodies (British Rowing, Local Authorities, the NSPCC and/or the Police).

Details for the GHoRR Event Welfare Officer can be found at the bottom of this document. These contact details will be posted on the Poplar, Blackwall and District Rowing Club website and they can be contacted via any GHoRR official during the GHoRR. To report an allegation, or a concern, please contact the GHoRR Welfare Officer. The only volunteers who may have substantial, unsupervised access to children are listed below. 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 GHoRR.

### Members of the First Aid providers

- The GHoRR Doctor
- The GHoRR Welfare Officer



## Responsibility of clubs

It is a condition of entry to the GHoRR that every junior crew shall have a named coach or responsible adult allocated to them. The named coach or responsible adult, who must be over the age of 18, must be named on the entry form and a current mobile telephone number for that person must be provided. If a substitute coach or responsible adult comes to the GHoRR, they must contact the GHoRR 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 and is always expected to know the whereabouts of all their athletes during the GHoRR. All participants and coaches must abide by British Rowing Rules of Racing and Codes of Conduct as well as the BR Safeguarding Policy and are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and conduct at all times. Note that as stated in the GHoRR's instructions, a local rule is in place for the GHoRR whereby an adult steersperson is allowed to cox a junior crew.

## GHoRR Welfare Officer

Mr Nick Paul

Poplar Blackwall & District Rowing Club

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