



Lee Regatta Safety Plan 2023

Lee Rowing Club wishes that all competitors partaking in Lee Regatta enjoy the day and that you are treated with respect both on and off the water.

We encourage everyone to use common sense and to think about safety first.

The Marina is a unique promenade which is open to the general public.

We ask that all visitors respect other users of the Marina.

Rubbish bags will be provided to all clubs, and we ask you to bin all rubbish for collection.

Enjoy the regatta, and feel free to use our facilities.

Lee Regatta 2023

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Lee Regatta 2023

1. Introduction

Welcome to Lee Regatta 2023. We hope that you have an enjoyable, safe and successful day racing. With your help and co-operation, we should survive the day intact. This Safety Plan incorporates the critical points of all the rowing clubs involved; our aim is that all competitors, officials, and visitors will uphold all Good Practices in Rowing throughout all the clubs participating in Lee Regatta 2023. A copy of the Safety Plan is lodged with Rowing Ireland and our Medical Professionals.

St. John's Ambulance personnel will be on-site during the day of the regatta and will be present before racing begins and until the regatta is finished. A Safety Boat crewed by trained personnel will be patrolling the short course throughout the regatta.

This boat will be able to communicate with all other safety boats on the day using two-way radio sets.

Umpires are equipped with loudhailers, two-way radios and safety equipment.

Safety boats, umpires and other regatta officials are provided with radios operating on the Umpires' channel for communication.

Objectives:

The Safety Plan for the regatta has four primary objectives:

To ensure that racing is conducted with due observance of all safety conditions in Rowing Ireland's Rules of Racing.

To manage hazards specific to Lee Regatta 500-metre course, which runs from east to west parallel to our club, and all reasonably foreseeable hazards on the slip, pontoon and boathouses.

To provide adequate First Aid and medical services at the regatta course.

To ensure yearly improvements in the safety plan through investigations of any incidents or near misses that occur during the regatta on and off the water.

2. Safety Procedures & Preventive Measures

2.1 Safety Instructions & Information for Competitors' Equipment:

It is the responsibility of each crew to ensure that the equipment they use is safe and compliant with the requirements of General Rule In principle, the Rules of Racing of FISA and rowing Irelands safety manuals.

Coxes presenting at the pre-launch inspection with the correct life jacket on will be allowed on the water. Coxes of front-loading boats should ensure that their life jackets allow for a quick escape from their boat.

All boats must have secure bow balls, heel restraints and watertight buoyancy chambers.

Coxes must wear a life jacket or buoyancy aid correctly and be familiar with the method of operation. In "front-loader" boat coxes must wear manually operated gas-inflated life jackets.

Inspections will be conducted on Lee Slip throughout the day, and any omissions may lead to disqualification.

Swimming Ability:

Competitors must be in good health and able to swim and tread water in their club racing gear. It is the club's responsibility to ensure that their members competing in Lee Regatta can swim.

Competitors' Responsibility

While Lee Rowing Club will endeavour to provide a safe system at this event, each competitor and competing club also has a duty of care to themselves and others. Competitors and spectators have a duty of care to themselves and any third party on the water and land.

All clubs must ensure that equipment (boats, blades, buoyancy aids, etc.) are safe and prepared to the standards as required.

Marshals will make spot checks to check on bow balls, heel restraints or other quick-release mechanisms and coxes' life jackets.

Clubs must ensure that their boats comply with the buoyancy requirements.

Clubs must adhere to the strict observance of the regatta traffic/circulation pattern and follow instruction by officials at the holding area east of the start.

Competitors, including coxes, cannot stand up in boats once they leave the pontoon.

Competitors must stay in an upright position at all times at race completion.

2.2 River Hazards

Lee Regatta is a sprint regatta with continuous racing to facilitate the large entry. Competitors must cooperate with fellow competitors on the river and listen to safety instructions from regatta officials. Competitors must cooperate with regatta officials in the interest of safety.

2.3 Launch Plan

Crews are to launch from their respective slipways. (See Regatta Course Plan below)

Most visiting clubs will launch from Lee Rowing Club, but some competitors may launch from Shandon or Cork Boat Club.

Competitors based at Lee Rowing Club will be asked to launch when an appropriate safe gap in racing is presented, and they are instructed to do so by a regatta marshal.

Crews are to row to the start upriver on the Marina side to the holding area just west of the shanty.

On completion of races, crews are to continue rowing past the finish to the turning circle, which is east of Shandon Boat Club.

Crews will then return to Lee Rowing Club Pontoon on the Marina side of the river. Crews heading east to Cork Boat Club must stay on the Marina bank of the river until they pass the holding point, at which time they should go down the centre of the Chanel.

Oars should be removed from the pontoon as quickly as possible.

A safety map of Lee Regatta is available below/

2.4 River Traffic Plan

There will be no training allowed before the Regatta.

Competitors should make their way safely to the holding area when a regatta marshal instructs.

Competitors will make their way to the start along the Marina bank of the river, pulling into the bank to allow racing to pass when instructed by a marshal.

Practice fast starts are not permitted once you leave the pontoon. Crews will row upriver past the starter launch when it is safe to do so and instructed by a marshal.

While in the holding area, crews should always be aware of other crews and avoid collisions.

Competitors will wait to be called to the start by an umpire, marshal, or the race starter from an upriver position at the starter's launch.

Crews will subsequently line up and await orders from the starter.

The sprint course is visible to strategically placed umpires and marshals. In the event of a capsize, crews are to **STAY WITH THEIR BOAT** and await instructions from a marshal.

3.0 Communication

Know the rules:

The Rules of Racing of Rowing Ireland.

The marshalling rules are straightforward; umpires will stop racing if an unsafe situation develops. Listen for the start marshals' instructions - they are all experienced in the job and know the event and the river well.

If you see an accident:

Please report to the nearest official immediately, who will act or alert the rescue services by radio as necessary. Umpires, marshals and officials will be the initial public contact points for reporting emergencies.

The regatta organising Committee distributes this Safety Plan to umpires and other regatta officials.

Safety Boats

At least one dedicated Safety Boat will be available at all times, positioned along the course in a strategic position depending on conditions. This boat shall have competent people, radios, throw lines, safety blankets and first aid equipment.

First Aid

First Aid cover is provided at Lee Rowing Club.

Emergency

The nearest Emergency Department is Cork University Hospital Phone 021 4920200

In the event of a major emergency, the Gardai in Angelsea St. will be contacted.

021 4522000 Cork City Fire Brigade 021 4966333

Key Personnel

Role	Person	Mobile Number
Regatta Secretary	Brian O Flaherty	087 7511757
Safety Advisor	Mick Riordan	086 3953619
Safety Advisor	Liz Buckley	087 9338929
Chief Umpire	Eoin O'Sullivan	086 1683843
Assistant Umpire	Neil Creedon	086 0488601
First Aid	Teresita O Callaghan	086 8934374

Access to the club is from the Centre Park Road.

Centre Park Road is accessible to the eastern and western link roads.

Trailers and towing vehicles will be catered for on the road heading to Shandon and the road leading to Pairc Ui Chaoimh.

Lee Rowing Club's gates must be kept clear for emergency vehicles. The local Garda have been informed of the event.

Incidents

Collisions & Capsizes

Get any boat that is damaged and unable to proceed to the side.

On the course:

Get any damaged boat that cannot proceed off the water as safely as possible. Crews can either be helped back into their boat by a marshal or collected by a safety launch.

Umpires and marshals:

Shall pay particular attention to any incident on the river. Should a crew be involved in a collision or suffer any injury that requires assistance, or a crew member falls out of a boat, the official shall summon a safety launch by radio. If the course is blocked, the official shall also advise the start that no other races shall be started.

Capsize:

The whole course is visible to marshals. Every marshalling position is equipped with a radio to inform Race Control. **STAY WITH THE BOAT!**

Incidents

Extreme weather conditions & other threats

Where extreme weather conditions or other situations could require the cancellation or postponement of racing, either for the day or until the conditions

change, the decision will be the responsibility of the regatta secretary. The regatta secretary or the Safety Advisor also reserve the right to amend this plan if weather or competition conditions on the day make this necessary. Amendments, postponements or cancellation will be published at Race Control and announced over the public-address system.

4.0 Emergency Action Plan

4.1 Purpose

This Emergency Action Plan sets out mitigation and procedures about an emergency which represents a general threat to regatta participants.

4.2 Responsibility

Responsibility for actions in an emergency rest with the Regatta Committee. These individuals will always carry radios.

4.3 Actions

In a medical emergency, the nearest radio-equipped Race official on the scene will take initial control and assess the situation. If necessary, he/she will call emergency services. As soon as immediate life saving measures are in hand Race Control (if not aware) will be notified. If emergency assistance is required, the official will act immediately. Other radio users will observe radio silence and follow instructions given by that official.

For any other situation normal radio protocol should be used.

The initial incident report for an emergency should briefly include.

The emergency responders required.

Location of river stretch or bankside where the responders are needed.

What has happened.

The number of casualties.

The severity of injuries or illness.

If racing needs to be suspended.

As soon as an incident is reported, all stations on radio are to minimise their communications. Absolute priority is to be given to Race Control and those responding directly to the incident. In the event of any accident or emergency beyond that detailed in the safety plan and outside the capabilities of the regatta first aid and safety facilities, the emergency services will be called using 999 or 112 by mobile phone. Emergency services will receive accurate information on the location.

4.4 Fire

If anybody discovers a fire in the area of, or in the club house they should raise the alarm immediately. The responder on hand will tackle the fire ONLY if they are confident to do so and initially order local evacuation. If the emergency may require the stopping of racing or general evacuation, he/she will inform the regatta secretary. They will agree appropriate action.

4.5 Equipment failure

Should there be a Radio failure during the event, Safety Boats and marshals etc shall use mobile phones and megaphones to raise alarm, providing the radio is to be replaced hastily. If this is not possible Race Control shall be informed and racing shall be halted. In the event of Safety Boat failure during the event then this must be reported to Race Control straight away to consider if racing should be halted.

4.6 Capsize

In the event of a capsize during a race the umpire will call “Rescue, Rescue, Rescue” and state where the incident has occurred and whether additional assistance is required. All unnecessary radio traffic should be discontinued until the event is declared over.

4.7 Floating Hazard

Any significant floating debris or “hazard” seen on the water shall be reported to Race Control immediately. A Safety Boat shall be deployed to clear the water and racing shall be suspended if necessary.

4.8 Anti-social Behaviour

A serious public disorder or violent behaviour shall be reported to Race Control immediately. If necessary, racing shall be suspended, and the Gardai shall be called.

5.0 Emergency Services Access

Emergency vehicle access to Lee Rowing Club is via the Centre Park Road. The emergency services will be met by a regatta official at the gate and directed to the location of the incident. It is very important that the access to the premises is kept clear and free of obstructions from early on May 13th.

If parked vehicles are causing an obstruction, it will be announced over the public PA system and if the vehicle causing the obstruction is not moved in a reasonable amount of time, the vehicle will be removed by the regatta organisers. The regatta organisers will use a local car removal service to remove the vehicle and all cost incurred will have to be paid by the vehicle owner.

Lee Rowing Club accept no responsibility for damage caused to vehicles parked in such a way as to cause an obstruction to emergency vehicle access.

Lee Regatta 2023
COURSE MAP



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