



Safety Statement

Safety Advisor: Alan Treacy

Regatta Director: Martin Murphy

Regatta Secretary: Laura O'Mahony

Event Medical Controller: Order of Malta

Emergency Contacts

Ambulance 999 or 112

Coastguard 999 or 112

Local Gardai:

EIRCODE:

Policy Statement

Passage West Rowing Club is committed to running this regatta in a safe manner. The safety of the competitors, spectators and regatta officials is given the highest priority in the organisation and running of the event. It is the Regatta Committee's policy to:

- Operate a management system for the event, in which the implementation of the health, safety and environmental policy is a management responsibility
- Ensure that volunteers, have a good understanding of the health, safety and environmental impact of the events and how we are to manage these
- Provide the necessary training to enable our volunteers, to carry out responsibilities. The Regatta Committee has overall responsibility for the development and review of this policy, along with the development of Safety, Health and Environmental Guidance, Standards and event specific Procedures.
- Conduct activities with regard to the protection of the environment.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of each participating club to ensure the safety of their members while participating, including knowing what to do if they capsize. All participants should be competent to compete and wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions and carry the necessary safety equipment for each boat. It is the responsibility of each crew to ensure that the equipment that they are using is safe and compliant with the requirements of Rowing Ireland's rules of racing.



Method

- Safety awareness will be promoted by the following means:
- Informing Club Secretaries of the event rules in advance by correspondence.
- Holding a crew captain meeting prior to racing.
- Appointing umpires as required on the course.
- Providing Rescue boats
- Providing first aid
- Recover any capsizes as quickly and safely as possible.
- Holding a meeting of all volunteers prior to the event

Safety Assessment

It will be the responsibility of the event safety advisor in conjunction with the Regatta Director to carry out an inspection of the course at least 90 minutes before the first race is due to start. As part of this safety assessment the weather conditions should be checked and noted.

Briefings

In order to ensure the smooth and safe running of the event the safety briefing will take place in the morning before racing commences. The briefings shall be as follows:

Shore Stewards

This will include stewards carrying out the following roles for the event:

- Traffic / Venue Access
- Parking
- Crewing Areas/Beach masters

This briefing shall outline the various risks associated in the above areas and the rules that are in place for the Regatta. It shall also be used to review any issues that may arise.

Race Stewards

This will include stewards carrying out the following roles for the event:

Race Stewards (Water and Shore Based)

This briefing shall outline the rules associated with the day's racing. It shall also outline that above all safety is our utmost priority.



Water Safety

The regatta will be run in accordance with the Rowing Ireland guidelines for regattas along with the relevant aspects of the Irish Water Safety Code. It is the intention of the Regatta Committee to encourage water safety awareness throughout the Regatta event.

- Beach masters will be present so each crew captain can sign out and sign back in on return.
- Beachmasters in high visibility vests shall manage this and advise regatta control.
- All Crews must check their equipment to ensure that enough buoyancy aids are on board and that tow rope is correctly attached.
- Coxes must wear a suitable PFD
- Competitors under 16 years of age should wear appropriate PFDs (Check with Hussey about this rule)
- Clubs shall ensure that all equipment is removed from the launching & recovery area when not being used.

Crew Captains/Competitors/Coxswains

Each competitor and competing club also have a duty of care to themselves and others. The Decision to compete is a club's own decision. Competitors should ensure that adequate clothing and protection is worn depending on weather conditions. In the event of cold weather conditions rowers, volunteers, and all involved should ensure they are properly clothed.

Coxes

All coxes and those rowers required by rules to wear personal flotation devices should be familiar with the method of operation of the PFD. All coxswains must attend the crew captains meeting. At all times coxswains must ensure the safety of their crew is their utmost priority.

Course Map

A copy of the course map shall be given out to all clubs prior to the event. This map shall outline the course and will indicate warm up / cool down areas and also identify hazards areas.

Event Centre Access

Please ensure your trailer is parked safely and not causing any obstruction. If an emergency vehicle is moving on site as a result of an urgent matter it shall do so with blue lights flashing and sirens sounding to make people aware of its movement.



Emergency Radio Procedures

Emergency radio messages should be given slowly, clearly and repeated twice. When other radio users hear the words “ALL USERS, RESCUE, RESCUSE, RESCUE” radio silence MUST be adhered to. Advise slowly - WATER, OR BEACH OR CAR PARK with location, type of incident, who is in trouble and type of incident. ie Capsize boat no 13, OR Crew Illness, OR Beach Incident, OR Car Park Incident. The initial incident report for a: Code-Red= Medical Emergency or Code Blue =Fire or land based.

- What is needed (medical or safety boat).
- Location stretch of river or bankside that the service is needed.
- What has happened.
- The number of casualties.
- The severity of injuries or illness.
- If racing needs to be suspended. 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 by mobilephone.

If available an EIR Code will assist Emergency services. All Traffic stewards will prepare and clear the area for movement of the arrival and departure of the ambulance.

Water Based Incident

Code Red In the event of a water-based accident / medical situation the following is the procedures that apply

1. The coxswain or other member of the subject boat shall raise their two hands to alert the stewards / safety boat that assistance is required.
2. The umpires/ Safety Boat personnel shall notify race control that they have been called upon.
3. The safety boat shall proceed in a prompt but safe manner to the subject boat.
4. If necessary Race Control Shall notify the First Aid Crew to standby for further information.
5. In the event that it is a medical incident then the safety boat shall contact the ambulance crew and give them a report on what has happened and where they will be bringing the boat ashore.
6. The safety boat shall then bring any injured competitors to the agreed meeting point with the first aid personnel.
7. The ambulance/first aid team shall then proceed to the advised location and be prepared to treat the patient(s).
8. The event safety adviser shall also attend the scene and keep the regatta director updated on any news as available.



Land Based Incident - Code Red

In the event of a land-based accident / medical situation the following is the procedures that apply:

1. Proceed to the nearest steward / first aid personnel and inform them of the incident.
2. The stewards shall notify the First Aid team that they are required and given the details of location etc.
3. The ambulance / first aid team shall then proceed to the advised location and be prepared to treat the patient(s).
4. The event safety advisor shall also attend the scene and keep the regatta director updated on any news as available.

Fire Hazard - Code Blue

If anyone sees smoke or fire in any enclosures, or engines, they should raise the alarm immediately. Equipment failure: Should there be a Radio failure during the event, Safety Boats and marshals etc shall use mobile phones & loudhailers to communicate. If this is not possible Race Control shall be informed.

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.

Incident Reporting and Contacts

The Safety Advisor will maintain a register of all reported incidents where safety is concerned. All such incidents will be investigated by the Safety Advisor and reported to the Regatta Director in order to identify hazards to be managed in future regattas. All regatta officials will be instructed to report all incidents to the Safety Advisor. All such incidents must also be reported to Rowing Ireland via the online reporting portal on the website. IROW safe