

# Milton Keynes Regatta 16 September 2023



## Safety Plan

Thank you for entering the MKRC Regatta. In order to make the event safe and enjoyable for all the regatta will be held in accordance with the British Rowing Regulations, Rules of Racing and RowSafe. The priority of officials at all times is the safety of competitors, officials, other water users and the public at large.

### General Safety Instructions

1. All participants are specifically reminded that persons using the lake do so entirely at their own risk and are solely responsible for:
  - their own safety, remembering that they have a duty of care to themselves and any third party both on the water and on land
  - ensuring that any equipment (e.g. boats, blades, buoyancy aids etc.) are safe
  - the strict observance of the circulation pattern and of the provisions of 'RowSafe'
  - deciding whether they are competent to row in the prevailing weather conditions
  - ensuring that they can swim in accordance with the provisions of 'RowSafe'
2. When in the boating area, extra care should be taken so as not to cause distress or injury to third parties.
3. The first point of contact for emergency first aid cover will be provided by: The MKRC First Aid Team. First Aid will be situated in the Clubhouse Bay (non lake side). They can be contacted via any official or Race Control immediately or follow the First Aid signage.
4. All parts of the course are under observation by at least one official, all of whom have radio communication with Race Control.
5. There will be a safety launch at all times able to respond to any incident on the water. Marshals are equipped with loudhailers, throwlines and basic safety equipment.

### Capsize

1. In the event of a capsize, stay with your boat. The nearest official will contact the safety launch to assist, if not already in attendance. In case of injury First Aid will be contacted by radio and will attend to provide assistance.

### Emergency response

1. Any incident should be drawn as soon as possible to the attention of the nearest official, who will be able to summon assistance.
2. Any official seeing an incident must deal with this as their first priority.
3. Race Control should be notified as soon as possible.
4. If needed, and preferably, emergency services will be called by Race Control. However, any official should do so immediately if the circumstances require it.

## Communications

1. All marshals and launch crews will be issued with radios and loudhailers.
2. Copies of safety procedures will be circulated before the regatta and discussed at the regatta briefing.

## Cancellation of Racing

1. The decision to abandon the regatta due to adverse weather conditions or any other reason, will be taken by the Safety Officer, in discussion with the Chair of the Race Committee, Chair of the Organising Committee and the Club Captain.
2. In the event that the regatta is cancelled, all crews should obey the instructions of marshals and leave the lake as soon as possible.
3. Conditions and possible response:
  - **Lightning:** Suspend racing and boating, if thunder or lightning. Participants are to seek safe shelter until 30 minutes after last thunder or lightning event
  - **Heavy rain:** Ensure appropriate clothing worn at boating and care taken when boating
  - **Strong winds:** Consider altering course to mitigate worst of wind. Withdraw events for smaller or less experienced crews. Cancel regatta if necessary.
4. Failure of safety arrangements: In the event of loss of safety launch cover, first aid cover or communications breakdown, the regatta may be suspended or cancelled to reduce risk as deemed necessary by the Safety Officer in conjunction with the Chair of the Regatta Committee and the Chair of the Organising Committee.

## Emergency Action Plan

1. In the event of an emergency, notify Paula Heywood, Safety Officer, as soon as possible, via radio at Race Control or on mobile 07789 011570 who will coordinate the response. Please clarify where the incident has taken place, what has happened, the number of casualties, the severity of injuries, support required and if racing should be suspended.
2. All officials should keep radio communication to a minimum, as per the radio usage protocol, in order to allow the incident to be dealt with effectively.
3. Emergency services will be contacted if needed by the Safety Officer or by any marshal if they deem this to be immediately necessary.
4. Other officials are expected to assist as required and ensure the safety of other participants.
5. Specific roles and responsibilities in the event of an emergency

Race control:

- Coordinate response
- Pass on essential information to other officials
- Call emergency services if required
- Make a decision if required to suspend or cancel further racing.

Launch drivers:

- First response to incidents on the water
- Alert Race Control to the situation
- Provide immediate first aid and transport any casualty to the landing stages
- Other drivers to ensure the safety of other boats on the water

- First aiders:
  - First point of contact, contactable via Race Control
  - To be contactable via Race Control and respond as necessary
  - Communicate with race control as to further actions required
  
- Boating marshals:
  - In the event of a serious incident, prevent any further crews from boating
  - Ensure landing stages are kept clear for launch access
  
- Marshals:
  - Hold any boats near you at that point
  - Await instructions from Race Control as to whether boats should proceed or return to landing stages
  - Take appropriate steps to ensure safety of yourselves and any crews on the water
  
- Commentary:
  - Announcements to competitors and spectators as advised by Race Control

**Emergencies:**

In the event of an emergency, contact the emergency services on 999 and request ambulance, police or fire service and give details as requested.

Direct them to:

Milton Keynes Rowing Club

off Monellan Grove

Caldecotte,

Milton Keynes

MK7 8BH

Three words: **races.angel.faster**

***N.B. Send someone to the top of the driveway to meet emergency vehicles.***

A&E services are located at Milton Keynes Hospital, Standing Way, Eaglestone, MK6 5LD.

There is a Walk In Centre on the hospital site.

GP services or health care advice can be obtained by contacting NHS direct on 111.

**Key Contacts:**

Suzanne De Maine	Chair of the Regatta Organising Committee:	07543 923825
Cherry Kemp	Chair of Race Committee:	07949 808919
Paula Heywood	Club Safety Officer:	07789 011570
Karen Wilson	Regatta Welfare Officer:	07743 388290