

MSBH Welfare Policy

The Organising Committee of the Maidstone Small Boats Head accept that the welfare and well-being of all competitors is paramount. All suspicions, concerns or allegations will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

Anne Salmon is the appointed Welfare Officer.

Policy

1. All competitors, especially juniors (18 years of age or under), competing at Maidstone Small Boats Head (MSBH) races should expect to be able to participate within a safe and enjoyable environment.
2. MSBH races are affiliated to British Rowing (BR) and comply with BR's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Safeguarding and Protecting Adults Policy. Competing clubs and schools are required to be affiliated to BR and are also required to comply with this policy.
3. Club or school coaches, teachers or junior co-ordinators are responsible for the safety and welfare of their junior competitors at all times and they, or a designated substitute, are expected to be available at the competition whilst their crews are present. Contact information should be provided on BROE.
4. MSBH officials, volunteers and service providers will be informed of their responsibility for vigilance and to report inappropriate behaviour. Anyone observing inappropriate behaviour, however apparently trivial, should report it to Race Registration who will immediately inform the Welfare Officer who will respond to the matter in the manner set out within the BR Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Safeguarding and Protecting Adults Policy. Only the Welfare Officer or a designated substitute should speak with individuals in the event that an incident is reported.
5. On the water all rowers are subject to the MSBH water safety rules and to the BR Rules of Racing.
6. The Welfare Officer should be a member of the Organising Committee.
7. The competition takes place on a public waterway with a right of way footpath alongside. The Organising Committee has no authority to restrict the taking of photographs but the Welfare Officer should be advised if it is felt that inappropriate photography may be being undertaken.

The role of the Welfare officer is:

- To be fully conversant with BR safeguarding policies.
- To approve the MSBH Welfare Policy published by the competition.
- To advise the MSBH Organising Committee on welfare issues during the organisation and hosting of the event.
- To ensure that mechanisms are in place to ensure all MSBH officials, volunteers, service providers and others are conversant with the competition's Welfare Policy. This may be via the competition website.
- To attend the MSBH races and deal with any incidents according to the above policy (or appoint a suitably qualified substitute).
- To liaise with the BR Child Protection Officer or other agencies, if required.