

Safety Report for AGM 2020

This has been a busy year on the safety front, particularly since we were able to get back on the water in the summer. I'd like to thank everyone on the committee for all the help and support they have provided while we have worked through the various rules and regulations to ensure that water sessions could restart. Credit is also due to club members for the way they have adapted to the changed circumstances and quickly got used to following all the new guidance and protocols. These events reinforce more than ever that safety is our collective responsibility and it is encouraging to see this working in practice. As a committee we recognise the benefits of approaching safety issues from a range of perspectives and always welcome comments and feedback from members.

This has provided a useful opportunity to review our standard risk assessments and make some minor amendments and additions.

Thanks to everyone who has reported incidents through the British Rowing system and on occasions also to the police. These reports enable us to review and update procedures if appropriate and to learn from each other. As usual the most common incident on the water incident was the simple capsize, although fortunately these tend to result in bruised pride, rather than actual injury. We have also had a significant number of reports of anti-social behaviour on the bank which have been channelled to the relevant authorities via Liz and Anne. It is important that we continue with these reports as they help to ensure adequate resources are channelled towards the area.

British Rowing has updated the online safety learning packages and I would encourage you to take a look at these and complete them when you have time.

Sally Horrocks
November 2020