

## AGM 2020 - Report from the Club Welfare Officer (CWO)



Sarah Peck became the CWO  
in January 2020



A club welfare officer is the person within a sports club with primary responsibility for managing and reporting concerns about children and for putting into place procedures to safeguard children in the club (ref. Child Protection in Sport Unit).

Additionally, the CWO has responsibility for safeguarding adults at risk (ref. British Rowing).

If any member of the club (junior or adult) has any concerns regarding safeguarding or welfare and wishes to talk, seek advice, or raise a complaint; the CWO can be contacted in person or via e-mail. If the CWO is not available at the time, a committee member can always be contacted and can pass a message to the CWO.

The CWO e-mail address is: [cwo@leicester-rowing.co.uk](mailto:cwo@leicester-rowing.co.uk)

### Activities to date:

- Introduction to the Junior Squad one Tuesday evening at the beginning of March before their land training session.
- Poster put up on noticeboard outside changing rooms in March, together with some flyers on other noticeboards at club, giving contact details of CWO.
- Updating of the DBS or instigating a new DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check for several club members. The resultant clearance certificates have a life of 3 years.
- Following notification in April from British Rowing that all clubs should “ensure the safety of all your juniors by having robust signing in / out procedures in place”, the CWO worked with the group set up by Graham Wright (Junior Co-Ordinator) to draft a procedure, which is intended for implementation once the club is fully open. It has been passed to the LRC committee for approval.
- A couple of issues raised by some juniors and their parents have been investigated and resolved.
- Following the ‘Black Lives Matter’ campaigning this year, the club has taken the opportunity to review some of its policies. The CWO is currently co-ordinating a working group made up of committee members and other club members to look at/update the following policies: *Code of Conduct*, *Anti-Bullying*, *Equity*, *Welfare*, and look at a new *On-Line Safety and Social Media policy*. Thanks to those club members who have offered suggestions on the content of the *Code of Conduct* and referred us to potentially useful websites for additional information. British Rowing is keen that all clubs promote diversity and inclusion. The group is considering how best to get the content in these revised/new policies out to our club members. In the case of the *Code of Conduct*, a potential plan is to produce an 8-point summary in poster format.