

WARRINGTON ROWING CLUB

REGATTA EMERGENCIES



SUMMONING ASSISTANCE

Any medical emergency, collision or capsizing during the event should be immediately reported to the Coordinating Umpire via radio using the protocols outlined in RowSafe 2.3. All radio communication unrelated to the incident must stop until the Coordinating Umpire declares the incident over. No further races should be started without the agreement of the Coordinating Umpire, who is responsible for contacting emergency services if required.

ON WATER ACTION PLANS

Lightning. Coordinating umpire follows 30-30 guidance and Control Commission stops crews boating.

For crews on water. Races on the course are completed. Start marshal instructs crews at start to row briskly back to the landing stage, following the circulation pattern. Start marshal then sweeps course in launch, turning any crews on their way to the start, into the racing lanes to return to the landing stage.

A PA announcement - supported by WRC members - will advise participants to seek shelter in the boathouse, clubhouse or vehicles.

Boat Capsizes. Crew must stay with and hold onto their boat. If unable to get back in the boat, pull up onto it, clear of water, and wait for assistance from a launch. Rescue times must be minimised, recognising 'One minute - One-degree rule' to prevent hypothermia. Hot showers are available in the clubhouse.

Rower Overboard. This assumes the boat is still upright, crew stops the boat as soon as possible and backs down to allow the rower to climb back into the boat. Depending on the circumstances and weather conditions, the nearest umpire will report back to the Coordinating Umpire.

Rower injured or suddenly unwell. The rower should be transferred to the nearest launch and returned to the clubhouse as soon as possible. This is the location for first aid, the club AED and emergency access.

Motor catches fire. Use onboard extinguisher to put out the fire. If motor inoperable, use radio to request assistance from another launch.

Access Points. In the event of a rower being injured or becoming ill whilst rowing, the quickest and most reliable means of rescue and access to the emergency services is by launch. The only vehicular access point close to the river is at the club house landing stage (Howley Lane - WA1 2DN or <https://what3words.com/jukebox.chill.noises>).

ON LAND ACTION PLANS

Fire in Clubhouse. A smoke detector would be triggered to sound the fire alarm. The current assembly point is the area to the left of the slipway. However, if the wind direction is from the NE, an alternative area will be specified.

Personnel injured or suddenly unwell. First aid cover is provided by trained first aiders in front of the clubhouse, co-ordinated by Adrian Cunliffe (0755 734 3713). For serious incidence, next of kin should be contacted to collect the individual. If very serious, emergency services should be contacted. If the individual becomes unconscious, use of the defibrillator should be considered.

Nearest Hospital. Individuals requiring hospital treatment will be taken to Warrington Hospital, Lovely Lane, Warrington WA5 1QG.

Welfare Cover is provided by Rachael Fidler who can be contacted on 07891 412084 to report an allegation or concerns.

Mike Selway
Club Safety Adviser
July 2026