# WARRINGTON ROWING CLUB
# EMERGENCY PLANS

## SUMMONING ASSISTANCE

If a launch is on the water when a medical emergency, collision or capsize occurs, and is in sight of the event, they can use their radio or mobile phone to communicate the incident if they deem it necessary. This could range from informing other boats or launches of the incident, or summoning emergency services to attend at the boathouse.

## ON WATER ACTION PLANS

**Lightening.** Boats must return briskly to the landing stage, disembark and take shelter in buildings or vehicles. All launches should also return briskly to the landing stage, except one launch which should stay behind the last crew rowing back.

**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 any launch in the area. Otherwise stay with boat but manoeuvre it to the bank area where possible in order to egress dry land. If able, try to secure boat and head to clubhouse quickly for warmth. If unable, then use whatever methods available to summon help. 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, a decision is made whether to continue the outing or return to the clubhouse as soon as possible.

**Rower injured or suddenly unwell.** If a launch is in the vicinity, the rower should be transferred to the launch and returned to the clubhouse as soon as possible. If no launch is available, and rower is capable of sitting upright, the crew should row back to the clubhouse. If this is not possible, crew should manoeuvre to the bank and attempt to get the rower out of the boat, then use whatever methods available to summon help.

**Motor catches fire.** Use onboard extinguisher, to put out the fire. If motor inoperable, use radio or mobile phone to call help from nearest launch. If upstream of boathouse use paddle to steer a course back to the boathouse. If downstream of boathouse, attempt to steer to the bank and hold fast until help arrives.

**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

**Lightning.** All members and visitors on the club site or the riverbank should seek shelter in the nearest building or vehicle.

**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.** Basic first aid provisions are available in the clubhouse and the gym. AED is available in the clubhouse foyer

## MEDICAL CARE

**Basic first aid provisions.** These are available in the safety bag on each launch, as well as in the clubhouse and the gym. A number of club members have basic first aid training.

Emergency Services, if needed, should be summoned to Warrington Rowing Club, Howley Lane, Warrington WA1 2DN or https://what3words.com/jukebox.chilli.noises.

**Nearest Hospital.** Individuals requiring hospital treatment will be taken to Warrington Hospital, Lovely Lane, Warrington WA5 1QG. Tele: 01925 635 911.

Mike Selway
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