



**TYNE UNITED SMALL BOATS HEAD**  
**RACE PROCEDURES**  
**SCOTSWOOD TO NEWBURN COURSE**

**GENERAL**

1. Any breaches of these procedures must be notified in the first instance to the Head Secretary, who will then notify the Safety Officer, the crew concerned and in due course the clubs concerned.
2. This procedure concerns safety on the River Tyne between Wylam wear and Derwenthaugh Marina. On the bank the procedure concerns activities at the rowing clubs between the same points, the marshalling/start areas and the finish area. Any incidents outside this definition will be dealt with at the discretion of the Head Officials if Head safety is not prejudiced.
3. Tyne United Small Boats Head takes place with the knowledge and co-operation of the Port of Tyne Authority, the Northumbria River Police, Rapid Reaction and Red Seal Rescue.
4. This procedure must be read in conjunction with the map of the course and race instructions, which will be supplied to each crew. A large scale map will be on display at Tyne United Rowing Club. The location of launches and marshals are shown on the map supplied to each crew.
5. Rapid Reaction staff will be on continuous alert at Tyne United Rowing Club and will remain stationed there as an aid station until the end of the event. Further services will be called for at their discretion.
6. Four or more safety launches, each with 2 crew, will be on the course whilst crews embark and during racing. Launches will be equipped with rescue kit and radio communications.
7. Marshals will have radio communications, some will also have telephone communication, they will be wearing yellow jackets.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

**COMPETITORS :**

All competing clubs have the responsibility to ensure that their crews and scullers abide by the British Rowing Rowsafe guidance. In particular, all clubs must ensure that:

- Equipment is safe and secure. bow balls, heel restraints and other safety measures are in place.
- Coxswains are suitably dressed for WINTER weather conditions and wear adequate lifejackets.
- Inexperienced crews have experienced coxswains.
- Competitors are aware of the water safety code, the race instructions and have been instructed in capsize drill
- Competitors are competent to take part in the event without putting other people at risk

Any competitor found by marshals or launches to be without safety equipment will be asked to return directly to the landing stages. Competitors are responsible for proceeding safely at all times, especially to the start and after the finish.

COMPETITORS SHOULD ENSURE THAT ANY INCIDENT IS MADE KNOWN TO A LAUNCH OR A MARSHALL. THEY SHOULD STOP RACING TO GIVE ASSISTANCE IF SOMEONE IS IN DANGER IN THE WATER AND A LAUNCH IS NOT APPROACHING.

### **START MARSHALS**

Marshals will

- ensure that crews are arranged in safe positions with their bows pointing downstream. Crews will then be asked to turn upstream on the starter's signal.
- then instruct crews to proceed to the start line in numerical order with about a 15 second gap between each crew.
- late arrivals must not be allowed to prejudice the safety of any competitor.
- note any crew infringements.
- report to Co-ordinating umpire after each race.
- pass on communications by radio/telephone, up/down the line.

### **FINISH MARSHALS**

Marshals will

- tell all crews to proceed well past the finish and to then turn and return to the landing stages.
- note any crew infringements, and order in which crews cross finish line.
- report to Co-ordinating umpire after each race.
- pass on communications by radio / telephone, up / down the line.

### **LAUNCHES :**

Each launch has the following responsibilities and procedures to follow:

- Each launch is given a location/area to cover
- Each launch reports to Race Control.
- That the start marshalling area is covered and that the course is swept after racing to ensure that all competitors have finished safely.
- During racing launches will monitor the progress of competitors and give suitable instructions to competitors being overtaken so as to maintain safety and a clear course for the overtaking crew.
- Launches should be positioned so that the whole course is under observation, unless attending an incident.
- Note any crew infringements.
- Pass on communications by radio.

### **NEWBURN BRIDGE MARSHAL**

- Note any crew infringements, and order in which crews pass under the bridge.
- Pass on communications by radio / telephone, up / down the line.
- Report to Co-ordinating umpire after each race.
- Note all crews not using South Centre and North Centre arches.

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

### **1. INCIDENTS ON THE WATER**

In general all incidents on the water should be dealt with by the attendance of a launch. When the launch has arrived at the incident, the launch driver will be regarded as "in charge" of that incident. All other radio users should maintain radio silence except for answering or relaying the driver's messages.

- a) If the competitors are capable they may be allowed to continue racing.
- b) The boat and competitors may be taken to a suitable place for recovery, by the launch or from the land
- c) Land help may be called to the place of recovery.
- d) Emergency services may be called.

In all cases the launch should inform all officials of the outcome and when ready to do so "clear" the radio.

### **2. ENCROACHING VESSELS**

Launches or marshals should ensure that other officials know of any vessels not part of the Small Boats Head which appear on the course during racing. If possible they should be requested to keep off the line of racing.

### **3. INCIDENTS ON THE BANK**

The nearest Marshall will call for any advice and assistance necessary.

On hearing an emergency call, all other users must maintain radio silence until the emergency is "cleared" unless providing material facts. However the nearest Marshall will decide on the need or otherwise to suspend racing. If he/she so decides all launches and marshals must immediately stop any crews downstream of the emergency.

### **4. FIRST AID**

- Rapid Reaction will be based at Tyne United Rowing Club.
- Ambulance service may be called by calling 999
- There is a telephone located in Tyne United Rowing Club clubhouse (at the rear entrance) for emergency use and Race Control – Alex Shiel may be contacted in emergencies on the day by mobile (0780 8612497)
- In addition to carrying radios, each launch will have a mobile phone with which to contact the emergency services