

Commercial Rowing Club

28th Annual Regatta
Sunday, April 3rd 2016



(Updated: Mar 7th 2016)

SAFETY STATEMENT

Policy

The Commercial Rowing Club Regatta Organizing Committee is committed to running Commercial Regatta in a safe manner. The safety of the competitors, spectators and regatta officials is given highest priority in the organization and running of Commercial Regatta. Regatta safety will be assured through the implementation of the Safety Plan.

Objectives

The Safety Plan for the regatta has four main objectives:

- To ensure that racing is conducted with due observance of all safety conditions in Rowing Ireland's Rules of Racing
- To manage hazards specific to 1,200m Commercial Regatta course in Islandbridge from the Boohouse bend to the UCD slip.
- To provide adequate First Aid and medical services at the regatta course
- To investigate any incidents of a hazardous nature which occur during the regatta

The Regatta Organizing Committee has appointed a safety officer who will take overall responsibility for implementation of the Safety Plan.

Safety Officer for the day is Fergus Morris (safety@commercialrc.ie, 085 174 0455)

Responsibility

In accordance with current guidelines, it is the responsibility of each participating Club Committee to ensure the safety of their members while participating. References include The National Safety Council and Rowing Ireland.

Intent

It is the intention of the Organising Committee to implement its own policy and to provide example to participating clubs by creating a positive Safety Environment during the event.

Method

Safety awareness will be promoted by:

1. informing Club Secretaries of the event rules in advance by correspondence
2. publishing details of course navigation
3. slip marshals ensuring crews to check their boat safety features
4. appointing marshals and umpires as required on the river
5. providing Club Rescue Launches

Marshals

Marshals are requested to assist voluntarily in the running of the event by:

1. providing a presence on the River
2. marshalling crews on the course and at the start and finish areas
3. giving information to other River users
4. assisting crews in the event of equipment failure, collision or an accident

Marshals are concerned with encouraging the safety of a) themselves, b) competitors, c) event organizers and d) other users of the Islandbridge stretch

Hazard Identification

Apart for the narrowness of the Liffey, the regatta course has particular hazards including a major bend and a weir located after the finish line.

Hazards that may arise:

- Crews going up to the start, interfering with races in progress
- Crews straying off the narrow course
- Drifting close to the weir after the finish line

Management of Hazards

- Marshals will be positioned at nominated points on the course and at the start and the finish and will
 - (a) ensure the safe passage of crews to the start zone, and
 - (b) keep the course clear for races in progress
 - (c) marshals to monitor crews excessively close to the weir after the finish line

- Instructions will be issued to competitors regarding hazards on the regatta course and to follow marshalls' instructions
- safety launches will be available at all times during the regatta to assist in all incidents on the course in which the safety of any competitor may be at risk
- Two-way radio communication system will be provided for marshals, race officials and the safety advisor to keep them informed of incidents and the movement of boats on the regatta course
- Public address system will be used to advise spectators.

Crew Safety

It is the responsibility of each participating club to ensure that their competing crews are competent to participate in the grade for which they are entered. On the day, the Cox or steer-person should examine "**Rules of the River**" poster at the Commercial Boat House. A map of the river is included in the programme or provided on a separate sheet. All equipment must comply with the Rowing Ireland safety regulations – especially bow balls and heel straps as examined by the slip steward.

Boat Accident Recovery Procedure

1. approach the recover location from down-wind when possible
2. inform other marshals in the area and the water coordinator immediately so that onshore services can be alerted
3. after recovery move persons needing assistance to the nearest of the following locations:
 - (a) slip area
 - (b) start area

The safety of competitors, event organizers, spectators and other river users is the priority. Abandoned boats or equipment representing a hazard to others should be removed off the racing course.

Incident Reporting & Collation

The Safety Officer will maintain a register of all reported incidents where safety is concerned. All such incidents will be investigated in order to identify hazards to be managed in future regattas as part of Commercial's Continuous Improvement Programme (CCIP). All regatta officials will be instructed to report all incidents to the Safety Officer.

First Aid and Medical Services

First Aid personnel will be available at the regatta enclosure for the duration of the regatta. Mr. Anthony Phelan shall be the chief Paramedic and situated near the Commercial Slip Area. Additionally, Commercial Rowing Club has twelve coaches certified to use our Automated External Defibrillator located in the Gym.



Emergency Services

In addition to the onsite paramedic and security arrangements, here are the contact details for the nearest on-call hospital and Garda Station

Hospital: St. James's 01 410 3000
Garda Station: Kilmainham 01 666 9700



Access

Regatta officials will ensure that access roads to the enclosure are kept free for emergency vehicle access.

Car parking

Car parking is available at Commercial Rowing Club grounds and on the verge on the footpath outside. Parking will also be available in the Garda and UCD car parks (including trailers). **Note that there is no parking in Garda Boat Club on the Saturday (as there is a wedding booked).** Note, please do not park on the cycle lane or within five meters of the main gates / entrance.

Security

Security will be provided on the Saturday night for trailers parked in the UCD field.

Slipping

All boats competing at the event will use the official slipping area (Commercial, Neptune, Garda, UCD and Municipal slips will be open). Trinity may naturally launch from their own slip.

Summary

Encouraging [Health and Safety at Commercial](#) is an ongoing activity at Commercial. It is an essential element of all decisions made in the organizing of the event. Compliance with the code is a condition of entry and the code will be reviewed annually.