



Goring Gap Boat Club Safety Newsletter May 2008

Dear GGBC Member

Some of you may know that I was elected to the committee at the last AGM and I have undertaken the role of Safety Adviser.

I intend to produce a safety newsletter periodically to keep members up to date with safety issues at the club. Don't worry, they won't all be as lengthy as this one but now that the summer rowing season is in full swing I thought I would take this opportunity to offer some guidance as to where to find some of our safety information and equipment.

Website

www.goringgapbc.org.uk

Click on "Membership" and on this page you will find links to various safety related documents as well as a downloadable version of the membership handbook which has a comprehensive section on safety.

There is also a mugshot of me at the bottom of the page for anyone who doesn't know me.

First Aid Kit

Located upstairs in the wet boathouse, under the bench to the left of the doors on to the balcony.

There is also a separate first aid kit inside the launch safety kit (which must be taken out whenever the launch is used).

Lifejackets

These should be hanging inside the door of the "garden shed" on the left hand side of the dry boathouse and must be used by all coxes and launch drivers/coaches.

Emergency Telephone

This will make 999 calls only and is located just inside the entrance to the wet boathouse.

Notice Boards

You will find these near the entrances to both wet and dry boathouses. On these you will find various safety related documents as well as the Navigation Plan. It's a good idea to remind yourself of this particularly if you haven't been to the club for a while. It's also worth noting that the fishing season starts again on 16th June - the angling sites are indicated on the plan.

Incident Log

This is on the notice board in the dry boathouse. Hopefully it won't need to be used very often but it is important that the log is filled in for any incident, no matter how minor you think it may be. We are not trying to apportion blame, just establish facts. The ARA require that we keep an incident log and it may affect our insurance if we fail to keep an accurate record.

General Safety

Most of what we do should be common sense and if we look out for hazards, both to ourselves and each other, we should stay safe.

The greatest risk of injury probably occurs in and around the boathouses and when moving boats. If you see someone about to potentially injure themselves stop them before it's too late.

Finally, if you have any safety concerns or questions please ask me. I am new to this role, and also relatively new to the sport of rowing, so I may not have the answers readily available but I will endeavour to find out for you.

Safety is always an agenda item at committee meetings so if you would like anything to be discussed please let me know and I will raise it.

I hope I haven't been stating the obvious too much, safety can be a pretty dry subject (unlike my sculling!) and, as I mentioned, most of it is common sense.

Safe boating,

John Hyde
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