**WEST OF ENGLAND AMATEUR ROWING ASSOCIATION**

**ESTABLISHED 1896**

**RULES**

**REVISED FEBRUARY 2020**

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The purpose of these rules is to provide a basis for safe, fair and equal racing, taking account of the guidance in RowSafe and British Rowing's "Safeguarding and Protecting Children Policy" which together shall take precedence at all times.

## A. RACING

### A.1 REGATTA DATES

A.1.1 Every Regatta Committee within the Region shall submit the proposed date of its Regatta at which Association Championship events are to be held for the forthcoming Regatta season for the approval at the General Meeting of the Association held at the end of the preceding Regatta Season and each Regatta Committee shall be notified by the Secretary of the Association as soon as possible thereafter of the date agreed upon by the Meeting.

A.1.2 Clash of Dates. Where two parties cannot resolve a satisfactory solution then the Executive Committee of the Association would offer to mediate or adjudicate as appropriate.

A.1.3 All Senior and Junior Championship races are to be held on the same day.

### A.2 REGATTA PROGRAMME

A Regatta Committee shall carry out the following requirements in addition to any which it considers necessary in the course of preparing for and organizing its Regatta: -

A.2.1 Include a Statement in written material and publications for its Regatta that the Rules shall apply.

A.2.2 Not to accept entries for any event once the draw for that event has been made.

A.2.3 State the names of Umpires and Crew Members in the Regatta Programme.

A.2.4 Indicate the status of each event to be held.

A.2.5 A Regatta Timetable for each event shall be made available and received by the competing Clubs and appointed Umpires not less than five days prior to the Regatta. Details to be sent to the club official named on the Regatta Entry Forms, electronically if possible.

A.2.6 (a) The invitation to the Regatta must state the date, time and place of the draw, which is to be open for anyone to attend.

(b) Entry deadlines for regattas should be a maximum of three weeks before the event.

A.2.7 a) Member Clubs are to use the current Regatta Entry Forms.

b) All clubs entering crews for any event in the WEARA calendar (Regattas) must have paid an entry fee to the event organisers before they can compete. Failure to pay in time will bar the crew/crews/scullers from taking part. This applies to Championship as well as to non-Championship races. The entry fee shall be paid in full even if the entry is scratched or fails to appear. Umpires will be advised at the briefing before the start of the Regatta of any crew in default.

A.2.8 a) Where possible races should be rowed as per the Regatta Committee programme. Crews forced to scratch as a result of re-scheduling races; with less than 48 hours' notice have the right to reclaim their entry fee.

b) Where a Club, Crew or Competitor seeks to rearrange a programmed race or event on the day, this should be done through liaison between the Regatta Control Secretary and other affected clubs before notifying the Umpires of any revision.

c) All revisions must be notified to all Clubs, Crews, Competitors and Umpires at least 30 minutes before the original timetabled event.

d) The Umpires will not be responsible for any revisions or omissions not so notified.

A.2.9 a) Subject to the approval of the Regatta Committee, a Crew of Elevated Status may transfer a regatta entry to an event of the same type at a higher status. This transfer may be made only if the change of status occurred between the draw and the regatta.

b) In order to row as a Crew of Elevated Status, the Club must scratch the entry at the lower status.

c) The transfer may be requested only for genuine changes of status, i.e. there must have been a win or a forced substitution (e.g. due to injury) since the draw was made and the crew must be ineligible to row at the originally entered status. If this is not the case then the request will be treated as a late entry and refused.

d) Clubs must notify the Regatta Committee of changes of status that occur between the closing date for entries and the draw and modify their entries accordingly.

A.2.10 a) The Regatta Committee may allow spaces in the draw for Crews of Elevated Status. These spaces may be allocated only to crews that had originally entered a lower status event of the same type (e.g. Men's Coxed Fours) and are not eligible to row at that status due to qualifying wins or a forced substitution that occurred between the draw and the regatta.

b) Crew numbers should not be allocated to Crew of Elevated Status spaces in the draw: the Crew of Elevated Status should row with the number allocated to the lower status event.

## A.3 ROWING STATUS

The Rowing status of a Competitor which shall apply to all events (except where otherwise stated) shall be decided as follows: -

A.3.1 **UNDER 14** - open to any competitor under the age of 14 years on the 1st September of the previous calendar year. Competitors under the age of 14 years who attain higher status in competition shall not be disqualified from competing for the Under 14 Championship, which is open to combined crews.

A.3.2 **UNDER 16** - open to any competitor under the age of 16 years on the 1st September of the previous calendar year. Competitors under the age of 16 years who attain higher status in competition shall not be disqualified from competing for the Under 16 Championship, which is open to combined crews.

A.3.3 **UNDER 18** - open to any competitor under the age of 18 years on the 1st September of the previous calendar year. Competitors under the age of 18 years who attain higher status in competition shall not be disqualified from competing for the Under 18 Championship, which is open to combined crews.

A.3.4 **NOVICE** - open to any competitor who has not won three open events at any Regatta anywhere provided that not less than three crews start in each event. This includes events restricted to crews under a stated age or within a certain age group but does not apply to events restricted to age groups below 16. This status shall not preclude any competitor who may have won three non-qualifying events described in Rule A.4.3, A.4.5, A.4.6 and A.4.8. For the purposes of the Aggregate Points Rule (A.9.6), competitors qualifying for this status are deemed to have no (0) status points. Wins at events A.4.1, A.4.2 and A.4.5 will count as wins for novice status.

A.3.5 **SENIOR C** - open to any competitor who has not won six qualifying events in this status or a higher status anywhere at the beginning of the Regatta Season. Any competitor who achieves his sixth qualifying win during a Regatta Season shall move to Senior B status immediately. For the purposes of the Aggregate Points Rule (A.9.6), competitors qualifying for this status are deemed to have one (1) status point.

A.3.6 **SENIOR B** - open to any competitor who has not won six qualifying events in this status or a higher status anywhere at the beginning of the Regatta Season. Any competitor who achieves his sixth qualifying win during a Regatta Season shall move to Senior A status immediately. For the purposes of the Aggregate Points Rule (A.9.6), competitors qualifying for this status are deemed to have two (2) status points.

A.3.7 **SENIOR A** - open to any competitor. For the purposes of the Aggregate Points Rule (A.9.3.3), competitors qualifying for this status are deemed to have three (3) status points.

A.3.8 **VETERAN (MASTERS)**

A.3.8.1 An event open to any competitor who has attained the age of 27 years or will attain the age of 27 years during the calendar year.

A.3.8.2 Composite crews, consisting of any number of crew members from any club, may be allowed in Veteran (Masters) events.

A.3.8.3 Veteran (Masters) events may be held in the following classes: -

| | |
|---|---|
| **Class A** | open to any Veteran (Master) as defined in A.3.8.1 above. |
| **Class B** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 36 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 36 years during the current year. |
| **Class C** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 43 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 43 years during the current year. |
| **Class D** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 50 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 50 years during the current year. |
| **Class E** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 55 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 55 years during the current year. |
| **Class F** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 60 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 60 years during the current year. |
| **Class G** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 65 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 65 years during the current year. |
| **Class H** | open to crews having an average age of not less than 70 years (excluding the coxswain) and to single scullers attaining the age of 70 years during the current year. |

A.3.8.4 The age of all competitors for the purpose of calculating the average age in all the above classes is to be taken as the age in whole years attained or to be attained during the calendar year of the event.

A.3.8.5 The handicap system shall be used in races where classes are combined.

A.3.8.6 It is recommended that competition under handicap conditions be limited to crews in adjacent age categories as far as possible.

A.3.8.7 Composite crews will be allowed in the Veterans (Masters) events and all other events except Championship Fours.

A.3.8.8. The following procedure will be used to start a Master's race with handicap times:

i) The handicap to be applied will be agreed with the Regatta Secretary at the Officials briefing and confirmed with the crews on the start line
ii) The Start umpire will advise the crews of the handicaps and which order the crews will start
iii) The crew with the largest handicap will start on the first GO!
iv) The Starter will use a stop watch to countdown the time to the next GO! and so on
v) Example: For a three-boat race with handicaps of 7 and 4 seconds the instruction shall be:

Attention
Go!
6
5
Go!
3
2
1
GO!

## A.4 QUALIFYING AND NON-QUALIFYING EVENTS

A Qualifying Event, for status purposes, is a Fours event at any Regatta anywhere except the following events which are Non-qualifying events, for status purposes, and are detailed below.

Non-qualifying events for senior status are: -

A.4.1 Events open to crews whose oarsmen are under the stated age.

A.4.2 Events are open to school crews only.

A.4.3 Processional Head events run on a timed basis.

A.4.4 Inter-Club events or events restricted to specific groups of people, e.g. Police crew events.

A.4.5 Veteran (Masters) rowing events.

A.4.6 Invitation Regattas at which provision may be made at the discretion of the regatta Committee to permit composite crews.

A.4.7 Any race with two boats or less.

## A.5 PAIRS ROWING

A.5.1 Status for pairs events shall be that attained for coxed four oared events except that competitors who qualify by age for an event for a stated age of Under 18 years or less shall not be precluded from competing in pairs events at those stated ages.

## A.6 SCULLING

A.6.1 Status for single sculling events shall be achieved in the same way as for all events but independently thereof.

A.6.2 All non-age group restricted double sculling events shall become qualifying.

## A.7 PENALTIES

A.7.1 A crew which competes at any Regatta who is not registered with his Rowing Association in accordance with the Registration Rules of that Association shall be liable to be disqualified from competing in that regatta. The competitor who is not so registered shall be liable to be banned from competing at any other Association event for 12 months from the date of the infringement of this Rule on the decision of the Official Umpires appointed for that regatta. In the case of any crew representing a Member Club containing a competitor who is not registered with the Association shall not be awarded any championship points which it may otherwise have obtained in that Regatta.

A.7.2 Any crew/rower/sculler found to be wilfully rowing or attempting to row out of status shall be immediately disqualified from that event. The matter will then be referred to the executive to consider further penalties as appropriate to the offence. (An entry form submitted to compete at a regatta shall not be deemed to be an attempt to row out of status).

A.7.2.1 The executive will consider the matter taking into consideration any mitigating circumstances. Any penalty imposed may be a ban, the length to be determined by the executive or in the case of an offence proven against a club may include a monetary fine. Any crew/rower/sculler or club so penalised would have a right of appeal to the WEARA Executive in the first instance.

A.7.3 Competitors, crews, groups of club members or supporters of a club who:

- Wilfully disobey safety instructions
- Set out to subvert the application of the Rules
- Refuse to follow the instructions of an Umpire or properly appointed official
- Physically or verbally threaten or abuse another competitor, regatta official, helper (including stake boat persons) or members of the public
- Use foul or obscene language in the public hearing, or use foul or obscene gestures in public view
- Being competitors, misrepresent themselves or their status, as in A.3, A.5 and A.6
- Display any other form of conduct deemed by an Umpire or official to be 'unsportsmanlike' shall be considered to have engaged in 'Unsportsmanlike Behaviour'
- Row on the course on the way to the start, if the Umpires consider their action endangered others

Shall be disqualified.

## A.8 CLUB COLOURS

A.8.1 The official colours of each member club must be declared to the Secretary of the Association. No member club may change its colours during the season. Rowers VESTS should be in their club colour(s). Any incorrectly attired crew shall receive an Official Warning.

## A.9 REGATTA RACING RULES

The Regatta racing Rules shall be: -

A.9.1 Rowing stations shall be numbered from the starboard side, i.e. the lowest numbered crew will always be on starboard.

A.9.2 All crews must come under Starter's Orders 5 minutes before the published start time of the race.

A.9.3 Any crew arriving late, as set out in A.9.2 above, will be given an 'Official Warning' as set out in A.10.4 below.

A.9.4 A boat shall be allowed to substitute 50% of its crew. No substitute will be allowed for a single scull race. For the purpose of this Rule 'crew' shall not include the coxswain. The finish umpires shall be informed of any substitutes prior to the start of the race for the crew concerned.

A.9.5 No substitute competitor shall be permitted to row or scull in a subsequent heat or the final of an event at a Regatta after the first heat of the same event.

A.9.6 Aggregate Points, subject to Rule A.3.3 to A.3.6 crews in these classes may be composed in accordance with the following table which indicates the MAXIMUM number of points that may be held by a crew at each status.

| Boat | Eights | Fours | Pairs | Singles |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Status | (8+) | (4+, 4-, 4x) | (2+, 2-, 2x) | 1x |
| Novice | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Senior C | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Senior B | 16 | 8 | 4 | 2 |
| Senior A | No Limit | No Limit | No Limit | No Limit |

A.9.7 The maximum number of boats in any heat or final shall be eight. Where it is deemed necessary, due to the width of available water, that a lesser number of boats race in heats, all crews shall report at the start 5 minutes before the time of the first heat of the event and the Starter shall, at his discretion, divide the number of those crews present into two or more heats of equal, or as near equal, as possible. If the number of boats in a race is reduced by scratchings to less than the number of boats permitted to race on the course, the Starter has the authority to row it as one race at the time of the first heat.

A.9.8 All entries shall be allocated a race number, plainly visible on the bow of the boat, measuring a minimum 15cm wide and 15cm high, and coloured Black on White, which is to be retained by that entry throughout that event. A.9.1 above applies for heats and finals.

A.9.9 Any entry who fails to display their correct number shall be given an official warning.

A.9.10 Any crew disqualified for whatever reason in a heat of an event or otherwise is disqualified from taking any further part in that event.

A.9.11 When the number of boats in one of a set of heats is reduced to the number required to qualify for the final, then that number to progress will be reduced in order to still maintain a competitive race.

## A.10 THE START AND FINISH

A.10.1 The Starter shall satisfy himself that the boats are in their proper positions and the crews ready, before he gives the Starting Signal.

A.10.2 The crews must make sure that their boats are straight. Crews must actively get 'straight' and indicate if they are not ready by raised hand from the cox.

A.10.3 If the Starter considers that one or more crews are delaying the start through incompetence or without good reason, or if the wind conditions make it too difficult for all crews to achieve a simultaneous alignment down the course, he shall indicate his intention to proceed with the start by the words "HANDS DOWN". His final orders shall be "ATTENTION" followed by a distinct pause (about 2 or 3 seconds) before saying "GO" or using the Start Signal.

A.10.4 If the start is considered false i.e. one or more crews or scullers start rowing before the starting signal is given, the offending crew or crews will be given an 'Official Warning'. Upon receipt of a second 'Official Warning' during the event the crew/sculler shall be disqualified from the event.

A.10.5 The starter shall be the sole judge of a crews' racing colour and display of the entry race number. Once the race has started no other umpire can disqualify for these two offences.

A.10.6 The finish line must be as wide as the start line, represented by the number of crews on the start for that race.

A.10.7 Winning crews and or scullers must report to the finish Umpires immediately after the race before coming ashore for recording and verification of crew names.

## A.11 FOULS

A.11.1 No fouling whatsoever will be allowed. The crew or crews committing a foul shall be liable to disqualification.

A.11.2 It shall be considered a foul when: -

A.11.2.1 After a race has commenced, any competitor by his or her oar, boat or person, comes into contact with the oar, boat or person of another competitor, unless in the opinion of the Umpire, such contact is so slight, as not to influence the race.

OR

A.11.2.2 If any boat having a lead, takes the water of another boat, and whilst in the water of another boat comes into contact with, or impedes another boat. (A lead of less than one boat length of clear water in the water of another boat shall constitute an impediment to that boat).

A.11.3 It is the responsibility of the Umpires to call foul. But should the Umpires miss the offending foul, the crew, coxswain or sculler must complain to any officiating Umpire before leaving the boat. A raised hand should attract the attention of the Umpires.

A.11.4 In case of a foul the Umpire shall at his discretion have power: -

A.11.4.1 To place the crews not disqualified in the order in which they finished, discounting any crew or crews disqualified.

OR

A.11.4.2 To order the crews not disqualified to re-row the race on the same day.

OR

A.11.4.3 To stop the race and immediately return the crews not disqualified to the start and to restart the race.

OR

A.11.4.4 To stop the race only so far as those crews competing for secondary or subsequent places who are not disqualified are involved and immediately return those crews not disqualified to the start and restart the race.

A.11.5 A boat's 'own water' is the parallel course from its assigned station at the start until the end of the course. The umpire shall be sole judge of a boat's 'own water' and due course during the race.

A.11.6 The umpire may during a race caution any competitor or crew when in danger of committing a foul.

A.11.7 When an appeal has been made to an Umpire, he shall decide all questions as to whether a foul has been committed but he may disqualify a competitor or crew without any appeal being made.

A.11.8 Any competitor or crew refusing to abide by the decision of the Umpire or to follow his directions shall be disqualified.

A.11.9 Every crew shall abide by its accidents, but if during a race a crew, whilst still in its 'own water', shall be interfered with by any other boat or person, any Umpire shall have the same discretionary power of stopping and restarting the race in the event of a foul set out in Racing Rule A.11.4.

## A.12. PROTESTS

A.12.1 If a competitor wishes to raise a protest as a result of foul or incident, or challenge an umpire's decision or potential decision, this should be made immediately at the end of the race by the competitor or crew.

A.12.2 Where a protest is made by other than the competitor or crew, this must be made by the captain of the club or named deputy.

A.12.3 Should an immediate protest to the umpire fail, a further protest may be made to the Senior Umpire of the day

A.12.4 Any protest, dispute or objection not satisfactorily settled between the crew or club concerned and the competition shall be referred in writing, by the Captain of the protesting club, to the Panel of Umpires.

## A.13 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

A.13.1 No advice or assistance shall be given to a crew during a race. Assistance shall include to help or to lend aid.

A.13.2 During a race any communication with a crew, other than by means of an unaided voice and solely for encouragement, may be deemed outside assistance.

A.13.3 A crew receiving outside assistance may be disqualified from the event and may be subject to further penalties.

## A.14 ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS & OTHER AWARDS

14.1 Association Crew Championship points in respect of a Regatta Season for any rowing or sculling status shall be awarded if two or more boats for the relevant status shall have started the race. Crews/Scullers of a particular status must take part in not less than half of the regattas staged at that status to gain eligibility for the Championship title for that year.

A.14.1.1 In applying the above rule, where the necessary number of qualifying events has been started during a season, then only the races with the necessary number of crews will count towards the Championship award.

A.14.2 An Association Sculling Championship Award in respect of a Regatta Season for any sculling status shall only be given if two or more scullers for the relevant status shall have started the race for it to be deemed a qualifying event. Sculling Championships shall be determined in the same manner as for Four Oared Championships.

A.14.3 Composite crews shall not be eligible for Championship events other than that for the Veteran (Masters) coxed fours Championships where entries from composite crews will be permitted.

A.14.4 Subject to Rule A.14.1 Club Championship Awards shall be made to winners in the following rowing status: - Novice.

A.14.5 Subject to Rule A.14.1 Crew Championships Awards shall be made to the coxed fours winners in the following status: Senior A, Senior B, Senior C, Veteran (Masters), Under 18 fours, Under 16 Quad Sculls, Under 14 Quad Sculls.

A.14.6 Subject to Rule A.14.1 Club Championship Awards shall be made to winners in the following sculling status: - Novice

A.14.7 Subject to Rule A.14.1 Sculling Championship Awards shall be made to the single sculling winners in the following sculling status: - Under 14; -Under 16; - Under 18;- Senior C;- Senior B;- Senior A.

A.14.8 Subject to Rule A.14.1 the Championships of the Association for each Regatta Season shall be awarded to the crew representing a Member Club or a Member Club gaining the most points throughout the season and shall be determined as follows: -

A.14.8.1 For Crew Championships at each relevant Regatta, points shall be awarded on the basis of two points for the winning crew and one point for the second crew if only two crews are racing and three points for the winning crew, two points for the second crew and one point for the third placed crew when three or more crews are racing. In the event of a tie for first place the aggregate points for first and second places shall be divided equally between the equal crews, and in the event of a tie for third place one point shall be divided equally between the equal crews. In the event of crews tying on equal points at the end of the Regatta season, the crew with the most wins will be deemed the champion crew.

A.14.8.2 For Club Championships at each relevant Regatta, one point shall be awarded to the winning crew only. In the event of a dead heat between two or more crews, the point to be shared equally between each such crews in the final race for the appropriate event. Where a crew, or individual crew member, has won three Novice status events, they shall forthwith move to the next higher status and in such circumstances, the Championship status shall be awarded to the Club whose crews for the relevant Championship status gain the highest combined total number of points throughout the Season.

A.14.9 The **Bideford Amateur Athletic Club's Centenary Shield** shall be awarded to the member club that gains the most points for four oared events, including quads, at Championship Regattas throughout the Regatta Season in respect of crews competing for both Crew Championships and Club Championships on the basis of three points for a win, two points for a second place and one point for the third crew. In the event of a tie for any position the points will be shared equally.

A.14.10 The **JJ Marketing Services Salver** shall be awarded to the Member Club that gains the most points for sculling events at the Championship Regattas throughout the Regatta Season in respect of scullers competing for both Crew Championships and Club Championships, on the basis of one point for per win.

A.14.11 When a Club enters two or more crews in any Crew Championship event in any one Regatta Season, they shall be designated 'A', 'B' or 'C' crew and the points gained will continue to be allocated to that particular crew throughout that season.

A.14.12 When a Club enters two or more crews in any Club Championship event in any one Regatta Season, they shall be designated 'A', 'B' or 'C' crew and the points gained will continue to be allocated to that particular Club throughout that season.

A.14.13 In the event of a tie for an Association Championship Award at the Final Regatta of the Season the Umpires shall invite crews concerned to 'row off' the race on the same day. Failing acceptance by both crews, the same Umpires shall decide upon neutral water, and the race shall be rowed within seven days with the same Umpires officiating.

A.14.14 Shields and Awards for the Association Championships shall be presented by the President of the Association.

## B. REGISTRATION

B.1 No Member Club shall be represented at any rowing event to which the Rules are applied unless compliance with the following Regulations as to the Registration of its own rowing members are observed.

The Regulations for Registration are:-

B.1.1 Every competitor who intends to represent a Member Club shall be required by the Member Club of which he is a member to complete and sign a Form of Registration, with that Member Club, binding that competitor to represent exclusively that Member Club for the duration of the Regatta Season. Every coxswain shall be required to complete a similar Form of Registration with a Member Club but without the binding commitment to represent exclusively that Member Club.

B.1.2 Every Member Club shall ensure that completed and signed Registration Forms are received by the Registration Secretary of the Association not less than seven days before the first event of the Regatta Season in which the registered competitor or coxswain is entered to compete.

B.1.3 Every competitor and coxswain who becomes a member of a Member Club during the Regatta Season shall be required to complete a similar Form of Registration as that specified in Regulation B.1.1 and that Member Club shall ensure that each completed and signed Form of Registration is received by the Registration Secretary of the Association before the day of the event in which that competitor or coxswain is first entered.

B.1.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of Regulations B.1.1 a competitor or coxswain who wishes to transfer from one Member Club to another during a Regatta Season must notify and obtain the consent of both Member Clubs involved and shall be accepted as a fully registered member of the club to which he is transferred for at least seven days before he may be eligible to represent that club in any event to which these Rules are applied. Every transfer shall be notified immediately by the two Member Clubs involved to the Registration Secretary of the Association.

## C. UMPIRES

C.1 At least six Official Umpires plus the Senior Umpire shall be appointed for each Regatta and every Umpire so appointed shall act as an Official of the Association and not as a member of his club for the Regatta.

C.1.1 Two shall be designated as STARTERS, two to cover the MIDDLE COURSE and two to act as FINISHING UMPIRES and the Umpires shall decide between them the areas of the course for which each will be responsible.

C.1.2 Additional Umpires may be appointed as the Association thinks fit, dependent upon the course at the time.

C.1.3 Whenever possible the MIDDLE COURSE Umpires shall be provided with a fast motor launch (except at Exeter and Totnes Regattas). They shall be supplied with a white flag to indicate to crews/scullers which way they wish them to move and with a red flag to stop the race for any reason.

C.1.4 The SENIOR UMPIRE OF THE DAY shall be shore based and in the event of any dispute between Umpires or in the interpretation of the Regatta Racing Rules, shall make the final decision.

C.1.5 Trainee Umpires shall act under the supervision of a designated Umpire.

C.2 Umpires appointed to officiate at a Regatta shall send a report on that Regatta to the Secretary of the Association within seven days after the Regatta.

C.3 Any Umpire appointed to act at a Regatta and is unable to do so, must inform the Chairman of the Panel of Umpires and the Regatta Secretary at least three days before the Regatta but must make his own arrangement for a replacement, the substitution must also be notified to the Chairman of the Panel of Umpires and Regatta Secretary.

C.4 All Umpires must hold a current Umpires licence validated by British Rowing, and for insurance purposes, all Umpires are required to maintain their British Rowing Membership.

C.5 Umpires licenses are normally valid for three years and in order to maintain their licence, all Umpires are required to officiate at a minimum of three regattas each year and to attend at least one Regional Seminar during a period of three years. Any umpire not meeting these criteria may have their licence suspended and be removed from the list of Umpires. Application for renewal of licence must be made to the Chairman of the Panel of Umpires before the end of the expiring year.

C.6 New Umpires may be appointed after they have undergone a period of training in the form which a Sub-Committee of the Association, appointed for the purpose, shall designate from time to time.

C.7 Current trainee Umpires are required to officiate at six regattas over a maximum period of two years and pass the Oral Examination for Umpires.

## D. REPRESENTATION AT THE SOUTH COAST ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS REGATTA

D.1 The Executive Committee shall invite the Association Champions for the Regatta Season and the runner-up for each Association Championship status to represent the Association at the South Coast Rowing Championships. If either or both the Champion or Runner-up in any status is unable to accept the invitation they shall not be permitted to enter or take part in any Open event at the South Coast Rowing Championships for that season.

D.2 A contribution towards the expenses of each Championship contender representing the Association at the South Coast Rowing Championships shall be decided by the Executive Committee and shall be determined by the state of the Association's finances at the time.

D.3 Club crews, including any substitutes, representing WEARA in a Championship event at the South Coast Rowing Championships must have competed for that Club in at least three Championship Regattas in that season.

## E. ROWING SAFETY

E.1 British Rowing's RowSafe shall apply to all Member Clubs who shall be required also to ensure the following:

E.1.1 That all coaches and coxswains shall wear life jackets at all times when on the water.

E.1.2 That all boats shall have heel restraints fitted to all shoes complete with Velcro straps or laces.

E.1.3 That bow balls shall be fitted to all boats at all times.

E.1.4 That the location of a First Aid Box, which shall be equipped in accordance with the guidelines in RowSafe, shall be known to all members.

E.1.5 That, at all times there, is in force an adequate Policy of Insurance against liability to any person for death and personal injury and damage to property on and off the water and to produce evidence of such Insurance at any time if required by any person who is a member of the Member Club, a member of a Regatta Committee or a member of the Executive Committee.

E.1.6 Every Regatta Committee shall ensure that a suitable safety boat properly equipped in accordance with RowSafe shall be kept afloat at all times throughout the duration of the Regatta.

E.1.7 Each Club, Regatta and Head must complete and maintain a relevant Safety Plan having undertaken a risk assessment of local risks and hazards. The Safety Plan must be displayed prominently at each Club and all members must be made aware of its significance. In the instance of Regattas and Head Races the Safety Plan must be sent to all competing clubs, umpires, the relevant water authority and the Regional Safety Chairman at least three days before the event.

E.1.8 All participants in rowing (rowers, scullers, coaches, and umpires in launches) are required to demonstrate swimming competence as outlined in the RowSafe 3.6, Swimming Competence.

E.1.9 In addition all clubs will be required to keep a record of those taking the test. All those who cannot demonstrate swimming competence as outlined in RowSafe 3.6, Swimming Competence and are required to wear life-jackets at all times when afloat.

E.2 Any reference in these Rules to "RowSafe" shall be taken as a reference to the British Rowing's RowSafe: (https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/policies-guidance/rowsafe/).

## F. INTERPRETATION OF THE ARTICLES AND RULES

F.1 The Association reserves to itself exclusively, the interpretation of any of these Articles and Rules.

## G. TRUSTEES

G.1 If for any reason the Association is no longer in being, then all trophies and other assets of the Association shall be vested in Trustees, who shall be Life Members, upon Trust for the Association. The number of Trustees shall not exceed four, and if at any time the number is reduced, such new Trustees as may be necessary, who shall also be Life Members, shall be appointed by the remaining Trustees to fill the vacancies.