

Windermere Rowing Club

Safety note

Safety Boat / Coaching Launch - visitors / crew

We have had a number of requests to use the safety boat outside club sessions, and for taking family/friends/partners etc along as crew on club sessions.

For insurance and liability reasons, the general rule is that the safety boat should be used on 'club business only'.

That includes:

- Organised outings - as safety boat
- Organised outings - as coaching launch
- Club-run or club- hosted events such as Explore, Head Race, Tour of Windermere, etc
- Driver-training runs and rescue drills
- Test runs after repairs, maintenance, etc.

The capacity of the boat is 5 persons maximum.

In 'safety boat mode' i.e. when the boat is escorting a club outing for safety/rescue cover, **one visitor** accompanying a member in the boat is allowed. This is covered on the Club's insurance, provided they have permission from the club member they are joining in the boat, who must themselves be authorised by the club to drive the boat. Reason for limiting to '1 passenger only' is to allow room for any rescued rowers - boat takes 5 persons maximum.

General points:

1. Visitor/crew must be under supervision of member at all times.
2. 'Club member only' drives the boat.
3. Everyone on the boat wears a PFD or lifejacket.
4. While Covid-19 protocols are in place, maintain social distancing of 1m+ on board & ideally a face-covering (unless in same household, rowing bubble, support bubble, etc)
5. Boat needs to be on 'club business' i.e. escorting an organised session, in 'safety boat' or 'coaching launch' mode, or on a club-hosted event, or on maintenance/training/test run.
6. Everyone on the boat must wear a PFD.

Kill cord

- **The kill cord (emergency stop lanyard) MUST be attached to the driver at all times:**
- **Attach before starting the engine, only detach after it is shut down.**
- **Ideally attach the cord to the driver's leg or ankle, looped onto itself.**
- **Alternatively attach to wrist or lifejacket strap, but always looped onto itself.**
- **If changing drivers during the outing, the engine must be stopped before the first driver leaves the controls. Only restart engine when new driver has securely attached the kill cord to leg, wrist or lifejacket.**

Philip Brooks

Club Rowing Safety Advisor May 2021