

# **Erith and Gravesend Rowing Clubs**

## **Major Incident Procedure**

### **Danson Dashes Regatta Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

This document sets out the procedure to be followed to deal with a major incident. These are guidelines rather than strict rules. Responsible officials should at all times do what makes sense in terms of making and communicating decisions.

This procedure should ensure that nothing is forgotten.

A major incident is one that may affect racing, and/or involves emergency services, for example:

- Medical emergency on or near the course involving threat to life.
- Fire or explosion near the course or in a busy area.
- Civil unrest or other intrusion on the competition.

#### **The actions they can take include:**

Manage the situation using the regatta 's own resource whilst racing continues.  
Suspend or change the racing programme whilst the situation is dealt with.  
Call in appropriate emergency services, fire and rescue, ambulance, police.

#### **In doing so they should follow these basic steps:**

- **Incident Control:** establish a clear line of command with one senior official coordinating the incident response and liaising with emergency services.
- **Access:** manage the area around the incident to ensure it can be dealt with quickly and effectively including access routes for emergency services. The address for emergency services is **The Boat House/Danson Park, Bexleyheath DA6 8HL.**
- **Competition:** if racing is affected or suspended another senior official leads decisions on how to resume or amend the racing programme and ensure any competitors left afloat are looked after.

#### **Common considerations:**

- Maintain a detailed log of the incident (who, what, when) you should be doing this anyway.
- If you call emergency services let them, take charge of the incident, and follow their advice or instructions. Support them don't tell them what to do.
- Deploy officials (spare umpires) on crowd control and to ensure unobstructed access for emergency services. Several vehicles may attend.
- Actively manage competitors on the water and officials on duty.
- If racing is suspended take a realistic view on how and when it can resume and use the downtime to plan options. Allow enough time for people to get back in place.
- Communicate decisions effectively but concisely. Don't keep a running commentary on the incident.
- Don't reveal personal information on the radio, use mobiles to communicate.
- Check on the welfare of anyone affected by the incidents, (e.g., friends or relatives) and define an official to find them and support them as necessary.

**Summary of decision:**

Incident Controller:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Called 999 at (time): \_\_\_\_\_ (by)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Announce decision on all radio networks.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm Start understands the decision.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Announce decision over commentary.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organise officials to manage emergency access to site.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Organise officials to manage evacuation of course.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation from officials that required evacuation is complete.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contact and support any affected friends, relatives, victims.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Set a realistic time to restart racing if incident has been resolved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Alert British Rowing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Post a statement at Race Control.

**PA / Commentary Standard Statement**

“This is an important announcement for all competitors. Due to an emergency, racing has been temporarily suspended, and no competitor should go afloat for the time being.

A further announcement will be made in \_\_\_\_\_ minutes at \_\_\_\_\_ (time). We ask that everyone immediately clears the \_\_\_\_\_ (area) to allow emergency services safe access to the \_\_\_\_\_ (location.”