

# **Bainbridge Island Rowing Boat Use and Planning Policy**

Revision 3, November 2016

## ***Purpose, Applicability, Organization, and Leadership***

The purpose of this policy is:

- To establish categories of BIR owned boats and provide guidance in their use by members and coaches during training and preparation for competition so that the needs of each BIR rowing group are met to the maximum extent possible.

This policy is applicable to all members and coaches of BIR.

This policy recommends formation of a Boat Use and Planning Committee of active coaches/assistants and the appointment of a Program Director to lead it. The Committee will be responsible for determining coach-recommended rowers and coxswains and the BIR Designated Race Boat list, scheduling regattas, and assigning boats/trailers for regattas. It is the committee's responsibility to try to resolve boat use.

The Program Director shall resolve conflicts after hearing arguments from affected coaches, if the coaches cannot come to an agreement. The decision will be in the best interest of BIR with equitability between junior and masters programs. In the absence of a Program Director, an Executive committee (Board President, Vice President, and Treasurer) will act instead.

## ***Boat Categories***

BIR has two boat categories: General Use and Designated Racing. A Designated Racing boat list is to be established at the start of each year and updated at any point when a new racing shell is procured. Remaining boats will be considered General Use boats. Designated Racing boats are those that are deemed by the Committee to be its fastest and most competitive boats and are to be used for competitive training and regattas. (Appendix A lists 2013 Designated Racing boats.)

## ***BIR Designated Racing Boats***

- Every person using BIR boats will follow the BIR Safety Policy.
- Designated Racing boats may be used by rowers training for BIR-approved races except between Head of the Lake (end of the head season) and approximately 1 March (the start of sprint season) unless otherwise authorized by the Director of Rowing.

- Use of the Designated Racing boats must be authorized by a coach and shall be minimized to prevent unnecessary wear on the boats.
- Designated Racing boats shall always be attended by a coach in a safety launch except at regattas.
- Designated coxed Racing boats must use a coach-recommended coxswain at all times.
- Designated Racing boats shall not be shared in scrimmages or be lent or leased at regattas.

### ***Policies that Apply to BIR General Use Boats***

- Every person using BIR boats will follow the BIR Safety Policy.
- BIR boats shall be attended by a coach in a safety launch except at regattas. The following exception exists for **General Use** boats only:
  - Small boats (doubles and singles only unless otherwise authorized by the Director of Rowing) may be used without a safety launch in daylight hours only provided the rowers using it are masters coach-recommended as appropriate.

### ***Regatta Planning***

- A preliminary list of BIR-approved races will be developed annually by the Committee. Every program has prioritized use for their respective USRA Regional and National Championships Regatta. Every effort will be made to put every competitor in the best possible boat.
- An accompanying regatta boat and trailer use plan shall be developed by the Committee well ahead of regattas. With this plan, the Program Director will make a preliminary assignment of boats/trailer(s) to coaches.
  - The coaches will identify any shortfalls in boat availability as far ahead as practicable. They will also research options early enough and present these to the Program Director as possible solutions.
- Two months prior to each approved regatta throughout the season, the boats/trailers to be used shall be finalized. Changes made after this time shall use only boats that are available/unscheduled, or with the agreement of the entire Committee and Director.
- Regattas and Scrimmages that include boat, oar, and cox box sharing between Junior and Masters programs require a consensus among Boat Use and Planning Committee members with consideration of conflicts with other BIR programs.
- Lending of boats, oars, and cox boxes at regattas requires all coaches at the event's agreement.

## ***Boat Rigging***

- Coaches/assistants shall communicate clearly with each other and resolve ahead of time intentions to use unusual rigging configurations to include starboard- versus port-rigging, bucket rigging, and quad versus four rigging.

## ***Review***

This policy shall be reviewed and updated as necessary and reviewed as part of the Annual Safety Review process described in the BIR Safety Policy.

## **APPENDIX A. 2015 DESIGNATED RACING BOATS**

Rockaway

Hunter

Spartan

Peter Fisher

Christoffersen

Rich Passage

Grant Dull