



Factors to be considered when running a regatta during the Covid 19 Pandemic (Coastal Rowing) - Revised as of 22nd June 2020

Following the return to rowing and the resumption of regattas, we face into a changed world where we must take additional precautions to ensure the health and wellbeing of all competitors, family members, coaches and spectators. Nowhere will this be as important as at regattas where there are pinch-points and other areas where people will gather. With this in mind Rowing Ireland have prepared the attached guidelines for Regatta Committees to assist them in considering the various actions they will need to take in order to run a safe event while Covid-19 remains an issue.

Time Management - It is important for regatta organisers to appreciate that operating a regatta under Covid 19 protocols will take more time than running a regatta under normal circumstances. Therefore they may need to give serious consideration to reducing or limiting the number of races they can accommodate.

This is a live document which may change in line with public health guidelines. These protocols apply to the Irish Coastal Rowing Championships which is the only regatta run under Rowing Ireland rules. It is hoped that any Club or Association running a coastal regatta in 2020 will consider adopting them.

ROW SAFE, BE SAFE

Area	Issue	Solution
Entry Fees	Person to person contact in a small area while paying entry fees.	Insist all entry fees are paid electronically in advance of the regatta. There is available software to do this including Rowing Ireland tracker system. Please contact the Rowing Ireland office to use this. Would have thought this was something we do not need to draw on ourselves.
Car Parking	Many athletes may choose to drive themselves so there may be a larger requirement for car parking than normal.	If possible, source additional car parking
Hand Sanitisation Station	Per Health guidelines, adequate hand washing/sanitisation critical	Hand sanitisation stations must be provided which are capable of coping with the anticipated numbers of attendees
Regatta Office	Large number of staff in a small area	Limit the number of staff to a minimum so Social Distancing (SD) can be maintained or consider hiring a larger tent if possible. Appoint a COVID 19 officer.
Regatta Office	Large number of public entering the office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Limit access to essential queries etc only 2) Have results electronic and make it clear office will not be providing results or posting them on notice boards 3) Consider setting up an information desk in the open or large indoor area where SD can be maintained. This desk would have direct communications with regatta office (mobile/Hand portable radio)
Stewards	Contact with Driver and/or other stewards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If possible the driver and steward should maintain SD. Consider using masks where necessary 2) Launches must be disinfected after each crew change 3) Life jackets to be disinfected after each use
Safety Launch	SD for crew and any rescued rowers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If possible the crew should maintain SD. Consider using masks where necessary 2) Crew must have masks and gloves for use in the case of a rescue 3) Launch must be disinfected after each crew change
Start/Finish Team	Umpires & Timekeepers working in close proximity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Limit to two starters/judges and two timekeepers 2) All must wear masks if indoors and social distancing is difficult. Maintain SD where possible.

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Start/Finish area must be disinfected after each shift change 4) Allow for enough time to disinfect when change-over is taking place, build this time into race schedule.
Timekeeping	Multiple timekeepers and judges in a small area	To reduce the risk it is recommended that timing is only used at the Championships this year
Toilets	Multiple users of the same facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provide additional toilets to reduce the numbers using each toilet and to avoid queueing 2) Provide the necessary products to facilitate disinfection by each user 3) Employ or designate someone to maintain and disinfect toilets during the regatta. 4) Frequent disinfecting and cleaning of the toilets must take place and a cleaning log maintained
Launching	Contact while queueing & contamination on slip	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Where reasonably practicable only one coach per crew allowed in the slip area who must wear a mask 2) Absolutely no spectators in the slip area. 3) Regatta schedule must be altered to allow greater gaps between races to ensure no queueing to get on or off the water 4) Boat holders should wear face masks
Racing Equipment	Cross contamination of multiple crews using the same boats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The boat and oars must be thoroughly disinfected before reuse. 2) All clubs should bring suitable disinfectants. Clubs could consider using spray bottles often used for gardening filling with disinfectant or a sports water bottle 3) All oars should be removed from the slip area by the crew immediately after the race 4) Regatta organisers could set up a decontamination area for clubs to use. This protects the environment and speeds up the process.
Food	Covid transmission through selling of food	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Must be capable of having catering staff and public adhere to SD where possible 2) Tables for sit down food area should be 2m apart if possible 3) Only pre-packaged individual portions to be offered.

		<p>4) One non serving person should be designated to handle cash</p> <p>See the following link for further details - https://www.fsai.ie/food_businesses/reopening_covid_19.html</p>
Public Congregation	Risk of contagion if there is a public tent etc	If tents are provided, they should limit numbers in them and adhere to SD
Club Tents	Risk of contagion in club tents	If clubs intend to use tents, they must be of adequate size to maintain SD, where possible, for the number of personnel attending the event
Clubhouse/Regatta Headquarters	Contamination from touching surfaces	Regular and monitored disinfecting of any shared hard surfaces must take place
Presentations	Cross contamination through congratulating athletes and presentation material	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) No shaking hands or placing medals on individuals 2) Where possible provide the tankards or medals in the original boxes. Medals should be left on presentation stand/table and prize giving should take place with SD. 3) Shared Hard Surfaces to be wiped down after each presentation
Captain's Meeting (Championships)	Social Distancing	Limit to one person per crew
Supporters	Large numbers gathering and not adhering to SD	Supporters up to 500 outside and 100 inside Advice issued in advance on numbers of spectators attended in restricted area regattas.
Volunteers	Risk to vulnerable individuals	When considering event volunteers, regatta committees should take into consideration volunteers that may be in a vulnerable category or someone who may come into contact with a person in a vulnerable category. It is important that the health of such individuals is not jeopardised.
Radios & Megaphones	Cross contamination through multiple users	Radios & megaphones to be disinfected when returned or when passing to a new user.
Medical Cover	Availability of ambulance and rescue boats	Safety personnel previously utilised may not be available or may be restricted in the services they offer. Regatta Committees should make early contact to check on their availability

Additional general factors to be considered:

- Regatta safety plan & safety statement should reflect all of the above.
- Social distancing markers to be placed in appropriate locations to remind people of the need for social distancing.
- Adequate waste disposable plan in place.
- Attendance records for regatta organisers and officials, including time and location for everyone in case contact tracing required.

Please find attached Government Road map for information

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d06271-easing-the-covid-19-restrictions-on-29-june-phase-3/#sport>