

GLOUCESTER ROWING CLUB

GLDH 29th October 2017

Notes for Launches

Tin Fish / Cat / Inflatables / Thin Thing

Note1: Due to the style of our launches, it is not safe to try to rescue competitors from the water by attempting to lift them into / onto our launches as they are unstable and may turn turtle if unbalanced.

Note2: For the Head two SARA launches and crew will be present who are capable and competent in water rescue.

For water extraction our launch crew will call for the nearest SARA launch and, whilst waiting, will make the competitor/s comfortable.

Procedure:

Two Crew members must be present.

The Driver, RYA2 Qualified is in charge of managing the Incident.

The Crew Member must follow the instructions of the Driver.

Launches must proceed at slow speed at all time except when dealing with an emergency – remember other crews if washed down may end up as casualties so take care.

Down the sides of the launches are ropes which should be draped over the sides and used as hand holds for any Rower / Sculler to grasp when in the water.

When rescuing a competitor talk to them at all times telling them what you are doing.

Once they have a grip of the launch slowly tow them in Reverse i.e. the engine is furthest away from the Rower / Sculler, so if they let go they do not end up in the path of the propeller / launch.

Help them get ashore and then they may climb into the launch.

If the competitor is not conscious support them by whatever means above the surface of the water – we have Lifeguard Tubes which are designed to loop round a casualty and keep them buoyant as they are towed to the bank – talk to the casualty as you are helping them into the tube, move to the towpath side of the canal – as before in reverse.

Each Launch has a full British Rowing Safety Kit which can be used in an Emergency – the Launch Driver must inform the Safety Adviser if anything is used in the kit so it can be restocked as required.

SAFETY KIT CONTENTS

Throwing Line, First Aid Kit, Space Blanket, Extra Cloths, Lifeguard Tube