

WJ CREW SAFETY: FOUR OARS OF SAFETY

CODE OF CONDUCT (A COPY IS ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL and will be resent by the head chaperone prior to each overnight regatta)

This is a WJ Crew policy that outlines *things rowers can't do and their responsibilities should they observe these things being done*. These activities (such as drug use, leaving sanctioned areas, or bullying) **may cause them to be excused from participation**/and or to be reported to SAFESPORT, US ROWING and any appropriate authorities.

SAFESPORT and MANDATORY REPORTING

As a member of US ROWING, we follow SAFESPORT guidelines. In general, these guidelines outline *what may NOT be done to rowers and encourage adoption of practices to protect rowers from peer-to-peer, self- or adult-caused physical, psychological or sexual abuse harms*. There is some overlap with the code of conduct (harassment, bullying, and assault, for example). But it also covers conduct by adults and coaches, and provides guidance on what must be reported to appropriate authorities and what must be reported to SAFESPORT and US ROWING.

To chaperone, guardians must complete SAFESPORT TRAINING and submit certificate of completion to safety coordinator. All board members, coaching staff, and named volunteers (chaperones) who are acting on behalf of WJ Crew are considered mandatory reporters. There are procedures to protect confidentiality. Additionally, WJ Crew has adopted US Rowing guidance on alcohol use among chaperones. Specifically: Any adult acting on behalf of WJ Crew should not have alcohol or any other impairing substances until they are dismissed from chaperoning duties for the day. WJ Crew prohibits the drinking of any alcohol when chaperones are expected to drive rowers at the direction of WJ Crew.

PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH SAFETY

WJ Crew is a large organization with nearly 100 rowers. Coaches and those acting on behalf of WJ Crew assume that all rowers have unique styles, needs, and concerns. **If your rower has a physical or mental health issue that coaches and supervisory volunteers should be aware of, please share that by submitting it as part of the medical clearance or contacting a coach.** The head coach/direct coach and will work with the board to do his/her best to provide an environment in which everyone may thrive.

In instances in which a coach or acting supervisor of your child (a chaperone on travel, for instance) feels that they are unable to provide appropriate and safe supervision, guardians will be alerted and steps outlined for the immediate and safe transfer or supervision back to the guardian.

In instances in which it is felt that the safety of a rower may be at risk, the coach and board will request that the rower be screened by an appropriate professional for clearance to participate, and for rowers to complete a 'safety plan' work sheet. Such determinations will err on the cautious side as no one in WJ Crew is authorized or qualified to work with individual rowers to adequately determine safety and well-being.

WATER and BOATHOUSE SAFETY

This is covered by the coaches and reinforced daily. There are additional US Rowing and other web-based guidance on water safety, equipment safety and safe sporting.