

2022 SEATTLE ROW FOR THE CURE

ATHLETE SAFETY AND SHELL RE-ENTRY PLAN

Seattle Row for the Cure (RFTC) has identified procedures in the event of an unplanned immersion, severe weather or unfortunate contact with a motor vessel or large wake.

*****At ALL times, no matter how small the incident, everyone needs to remain silent and await directions from either the launch driver, race official or the coxswain.**

***** If there is no coxswain (like a 2x flipping) the bow person remains in charge.**

RACE DAY SAFETY PROTOCOL

On Water Emergencies:

For all on-water emergencies the closest safety or referee launch responding on scene will be in charge and will have direct contact with Harbor Patrol, Safety Launches and all other regatta personnel. In almost all circumstances due to the normally cold temperatures the athlete will be removed from the water and taken to the nearest pull-out facility to be warmed up, checked out and released by EMTs. **YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE RACING.**

*****If you overturn and wish to continue racing, re-enter your shell and row away before a launch reaches you. If that launch reaches you, you have been in the water too long. We will pick you up, take you to safety, and have an EMT assess your condition before releasing you. Should you wish to argue, the Seattle Harbor Patrol will be called and you can argue with them.*****

All launches are equipped with PFDs, cell phones and VHF radios. **ONLY THE HARBOR PATROL WILL CALL 911.** For all other situations, remain calm and follow the directions of the referee or safety launch driver in charge.

Along the course there are seven (8) emergency access areas for on-water emergencies. All launch drivers will have contact phone numbers for all seven locations along with copies of the RFTC Emergency Action Plan which includes the number for the Seattle Harbor Patrol. The Seattle Harbor Patrol will have multiple boats located throughout the race course.

Land Emergency:

*Alert the nearest on-water launch driver, referee, dock master, or regatta personnel. If life-threatening, call 911. State the nature of the emergency and the number of people involved. Stay calm!

Evaluation of Conditions:

If inclement weather presents the morning of racing, it will be the decision of regatta officials whether or not to continue. Any and all decisions will be in consideration of athlete safety. Chief Referee Mariah Foster and Regatta Director Angie Sievers will be the decision making team for any and all decisions regarding suspension of racing. Mariah Foster will coordinate referee input and coordinate any decisions with Angie Sievers. *If it's decided to postpone or cancel the regatta, notification will be posted to Regatta Central, emailed to the Club Contact, and messaged via What's App platform.*

Boat Landing and Emergency Access Areas, Lake Union & Lake Washington Shipping Canal:

SPD Harbor Patrol - 1717 N. Northlake Way - 206.684.4071 – (WEST of Gasworks Park)

Pocock Rowing Center - 3320 Furman Ave. E - 206.328.0778 – (Under University/Freeway Bridge)

Ivars Salmon House – 401 NE Northlake Way – 206.632.0767 – (North Lake Union)

College Club of Seattle – 11 E. Allison St. – 206.622-0624 – (**Finish Line**)

Lake Washington Rowing Club – 910 N. Northlake Way – 206.547.2668 – (Under Aurora Bridge, North Side)

Seattle Pacific University Shellhouse – 3307 3rd Avenue W – 206.281.2931 – (Ship Canal, **Starting Line**)

Lake Union Crew -2520 Westlake Ave N -206.860.4199 –(Northwest Lake Union)

Lake Union Park, 860 Terry Ave N (South Lake Union, 100 yards south of Kenmore Air)

Safety Launches

Safety launches will be on the water beginning 30min prior to start of first race. A referee launch will sweep the course following the last crew. Safety launches will remain on the water patrolling the lanes that crews use to return to their boathouse until the regatta dockmaster reports that all shells have returned safely. If there are boats still on the water 45min after the last boat finishes, the dockmaster will communicate the name of the crew(s) to the launch drivers over the radio. If the safety launches can not locate the missing crew the regatta director will contact Harbor Patrol.

Radio Communication

All launch drivers and referees will have a radio with them. Regatta communication will be on radio channel 68.