Tyne Amateur Rowing Club

Safety Plan and Emergency Action Plan for Rowing Activities

V6 as at 01-10-26

Background

The club sits on the tidal River Tyne. Despite being about 25km from the sea, tides are substantial, with a maximum range of 5 metres. Storm water flows from upriver can also add to outgoing flows on occasions. It is relatively open to wind, especially the prevailing westerlies. At low tide mud banks and obstructions become apparent. Rowing at the club can therefore be challenging and safety issues are taken seriously.

The club itself has grown significantly in recent years with perhaps 150 regular rowers in a range of squads. There is a steady stream of new members, novice or otherwise, joining the club, some in a structured way such as through learn to row and others individually. Communication with members is a key activity in support of safe rowing and efforts continue to improve this.

Club Water Safety Rules

Normal rowing procedures are covered most directly by the club's *Water Safety Rules*, which are included as an appendix to this report. They were last reviewed and updated in 2026. The main headings are:

- General outings
- Use of launches
- Junior rowers
- Learn to row, novices and experienced rowers
- Visitors
- Rowing in the dark

Included within the rules are tables showing where and with what level of supervision rowers can go out as they progress from beginner, to novice, improver and experienced.

River Tyne Rowing Club Safety Code

In 2021 Port of Tyne reviewed and then reissued this document, originally prepared jointly by the local rowing club in 2010. The following headings are used:

- Introduction
- Direction of rowing
- Best practice for outings

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- Beginners' zone
- Newburn Water Ski Club zone
- Rowing in hours of darkness
- Other general considerations
- Weather conditions
- Port of Tyne contacts
- Annex – map

The code contains considerable detail and is the subject of occasional meetings between the local clubs. From a Tyne ARC perspective this document and our own safety rules are almost completely compatible, but as it has a lower profile in the club than our own rules, reminding members of its existence is important.

River Tyne Safety Map for Rowers

Alongside preparation of the joint *River Tyne Rowing Clubs Safety Code* a map over two A3 sheets was prepared. They show key features of the stretches of the river we use most, from the club at Newburn upstream to Wylam and downstream to Scotswood and beyond. They are updated as features change (usually after storms). The two sheets are shown at the very end of this document, but better quality version can be downloaded at www.tynerowingclub.org/pages/safety_16767.cfm.

Incidents and emergency response

The provisions in the club rules mean that in general the degree of supervision in launches that is provided during squad outings matches the experience of crews. Added to this is the recognition by most members most of the time that they have a personal responsibility to prepare before going out and to row safely and responsibly once on the water. However on an often busy river incidents do happen.

The river being busy, however, does mean that help is usually to hand when an incident such as a collision happens and it very rare for help outside the club or other neighbouring clubs to be needed. But provision has to be made and the club has in place a set of procedures should they be necessary. Two single page documents which appear on safety noticeboards and on the web site are appended.

One sheet headed *Emergencies – what to do* sets out the cascade of actions depending on the severity of the incident and includes contact details of named club officers in the order of trying to contact. The other headed *Emergencies - locations & numbers* give complementary information on where services are based (especially health related) if there are lesser injuries, for example, and a suitable person is willing to ferry to them there.

Reporting

Club members are asked to report all incidents of note (as per RowSafe criteria) using the online British Rowing online Incident Reporting system, with encouragement through squad coordinators and social media (plus face-to-face reminders if necessary). Reported incidents are responded to as necessary at the time and incidents and action taken are reported monthly to the management committee.

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Tides and Adverse Weather Forecasts

As part of the regular reminders to members about standard safety procedures, 'live' information about imminent large tides and adverse weather conditions is communicated via the various channels. Tides are well known years ahead, and are posted on the club web site home page and on noticeboards for two to three months ahead. Alerting rowers about adverse weather forecast is as needed and done online.

Communication

As mentioned in preceding sections, communication of information about safety-related issues is key to keeping the club as a safe place to row. Such communication is about both the standard procedures that should be followed to reduce the risk of harm and the specific real-time information such as that about expected rowing conditions or about equipment not to use.

The club's methods of engaging with members are evolving all the time with changes in how they and others use, in particular, social media. The club uses a mixture of cascading information down through squad coordinators using WhatsApp and email at the moment and a direct approach to all through means such as Facebook. The club web site is kept up to date with all information that is not transient or too detailed.

Inspections

The club undertakes regular inspections of all physical aspects of equipment and the parts of buildings that impinge on rowing and rowing-related training. A separate process is carried out for parts of the building used by the club's arm- length trading arm which runs the bar and events, though the interface between the two is permeable.

For the rowing function the following headings are applicable and the results of each are recorded and acted upon:

- Boats and blades
- Launches and engines
- Safety and other equipment
- Premises

Improvements to the systems used could be made and will be looked at in 2026-27.

Competitions

The club runs or helps host five or six affiliated or other large rowing events on the water each year. These are subject to their own risk assessments and safety plans and are not covered in this document. However, there are strong links across as many of the personnel are the same for both running regular rowing and organising the competitions.

Risk assessment

The risk assessment sitting behind this plan is available on the club web site - the latest version is dated 1 October 26.

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Conclusion

The documents referred to in this document are always work in progress and a thorough review of all is planned for 2026-27.

Colin Percy
Club Events Safety Adviser

Version 6 as at 01-10-26

TYNE AMATEUR ROWING CLUB -- WATER SAFETY RULES

AS ISSUED FEB 2014, REISSUED AUG 18, NOV 24, OCT 25, APR 26

Introduction

These safety rules are for all members of and visitors to Tyne Amateur Rowing Club when using club facilities, boats and equipment. Please follow them: they are in everyone's best interests. Failure to abide by these rules may lead to investigation and disciplinary action at the discretion of the Club Captain and Committee. We advise you to follow these rules, even if you are using your own boat and blades.

Please note our definitions of competency in rowing and sculling.

Beginners: Not yet able to enter a novice event for rowing or sculling. Coach to assess.

Novice: Competent enough to enter a novice rowing or sculling event in the boat being used. Someone might be a competent novice rower in an eight but not in other boats. Coach to assess.

Improver: Able to scull at least 6Km in single scull in average conditions. Coach to assess.

Competent and experienced: Coach to assess. Competency will vary according to conditions.

General outings on the water

1. All members taking part in water outings must be conversant with the British Rowing "RowSafe" Guide (now online only), the Tyne Safety Code and Map, and any further rules and safety plans that may be agreed and publicised.
2. Sign all crews in and out using the whiteboard next to the changing rooms. Last person to leave the club premises must check all crews have returned before locking up.
3. If you encounter a boat or crew in difficulties, stop and assist as necessary.
4. Report details of all incidents, including near misses, to the Club Water Safety Adviser using the British Rowing online reporting system.
5. No fast exercises between the Tyne ARC steps and the slipway at Tyne Riverside Country Park when novices and beginners are present on the water. Be prepared to slow down and stop in this zone.
6. Personal devices with headphones must not be used on the water because warnings and instructions cannot be heard.
7. Swim test and capsize drill should be completed by all members and repeated at least every 5 years.
8. Launch drivers using club craft must have written authorisation from an officer of the Club, and must be conversant with British Rowing launch driving guidance,

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9. The River Tyne Safety Code and any club procedures for launch use that may be in place (see notice board or web site) must be followed. Launch drivers will have to complete basic club training in driving and rescue in order to gain club authorisation and are strongly encouraged to move to the RYA Level 2 Inshore Powerboat qualification.

10. Coaches should have achieved Level 2 coaching qualification (or equivalent) or be moving towards it and must be members of British Rowing for water-based work with juniors and for leading courses on the water on behalf of the club, for adult beginners.

Under 18s (Juniors)

11. Any junior who has not passed the club's swim test must wear a personal flotation device on the water. Juniors under 18 are not allowed on the water alone.

12. Juniors under 18 must have the consent of their coach and a parent's knowledge and consent for water outings, including coxing.

13. Groups of juniors on the water must have supervision at all times, in accordance with the table below. Competency level in rowing and sculling will be determined by junior coach.

14. Juniors will only be permitted to cox at night if they are over 16 years of age, with an experienced crew and under supervision.

15. No one who is J15 or below can row during the hours of darkness and any junior above this age must be experienced.

16. Juniors should only use eights, octs, fours, quads and doubles at night.

17. Juniors should only row between the slipway and Stella Bend at night.

18. Juniors may attend club launch training sessions and become authorised launch drivers under rule 8. However, juniors are not permitted to drive launches unaccompanied. A junior who is authorised can be accompanied by any adult club members. A junior who is not authorised must be accompanied by an adult club member who is authorised.

19. Club members must not assist a junior or junior crew to boat or cox independently unless they are the parent and/or they have the coach's instructions or agreement. Do not in any circumstances take a junior's word for their competence.

20. If a coach is not present in the boat or in an accompanying safety launch, then an adult cox or in a coxless boat, the steersman or individual who is giving the commands will be personally responsible for the boat and for any junior in the crew. An adult accompanying a junior in a single scull will be similarly responsible.

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Table for juniors under para 13	**Beginners and special needs novices**	**Novices**	**Improvers**	**Experienced and competent over 16**
Should a coach be present on the water?	Yes. Coach plus volunteer assistant present.	Yes. Coach present.	Not necessarily, but there must be coach instructions, agreement, and supervision plus responsible adult appointed to accompany the group.	Not necessarily, but there must be coach instructions, agreement, and supervision plus responsible adult appointed to accompany the group.
Should there be a launch present?	Yes. Coach in launch accompanying, unless the beginners are roped and being instructed from the shore.	Yes, coach in launch accompanying on river with observers on shore and/or volunteer assistants as determined by coach.	Yes. Coach in launch present on the river.	Not necessarily.
Where can they go on the river?	Stay between the club steps and Newburn stream.	Stay between White House and downstream end of the straight.	Wylam “wires” to Derwenthaugh Marina.	Wylam “wires” to Redheugh Bridge.

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Adults learning to row and scull

21. Groups of learners and individuals on the water and using club boats and equipment should have supervision in accordance with the table below. (Note: competency level in rowing and sculling to be determined by the coach). Adults using their own boats and equipment are strongly encouraged to follow this advice.
22. Club members should only assist inexperienced individuals or crews to boat independently if they have the coach's instructions or agreement. (A competent and experienced club member will be deemed to be the "coach" if assisting a novice or beginner to learn to row or scull in the absence of a coach.)

Table for adults under para 21	**Beginners and special needs novices**	**Novices**	**Improvers**	**Experienced and competent over 16**
Should a coach be present on the water?	Yes. Coach plus volunteer assistant present.	Yes. Coach present.	Not necessarily, but there must be coach instructions, preferably accompanied by a competent and experienced adult.	Not necessarily.
Should there be a launch present?	Yes. Coach in launch accompanying, unless the beginners are roped and being instructed from the shore.	Yes, coach in launch accompanying on river.	Yes. Coach in launch present on the river.	Not necessarily.
Where can they go on the river?	Between the club steps and Newburn Stream; singles between the club steps and the Reigh Burn; crew boats as far as White House.	Stay between White House and downstream end of the straight.	Wylam "wires" to Derwenthaugh Marina.	Wylam "wires" to Redheugh Bridge.

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Visitors boating at Tyne ARC (excluding regattas and head races)

22. A visitor wishing to use club equipment on or off the water must be signed in as a temporary member in order to afford cover under the club's insurance.

Rowing in the dark

23. In an emergency, call 999.
24. In less critical situations, the following numbers are also available:

    Club Captain, Thomas Jackson: 07538 816018

    Club Rowing Safety Adviser, Colin Percy: 07985 003304
25. For every night/dark rowing session, a person(s) is required to take ownership of the session. The person(s) should be made aware of any safety-related issues immediately.
26. No novices or children under 16 years old are permitted on the water during night/dark rowing.
27. No boats smaller than a 4- are allowed on the water during night/dark rowing unless permitted by the club captain.
28. It is advised that each squad does not use their top equipment during night/dark rowing.
29. All boats and personnel must sign out (and subsequently back in). The ownership of this is with the person(s) controlling the session.
30. Boats must display a continuous white light at the stern and a flashing white light at the bow, both must be attached securely to the boat. The lights must be of adequate brightness.
31. Night-time rowers must be accompanied by a launch, with a recommended maximum ratio of one launch per three boats.
32. Crews should wear fluorescent or light-coloured clothing, with white being preferred. If worn, a light-coloured hat, as opposed to a dark, is preferred.
33. Power driven boats used for coaching must, as a minimum, display an all-round white light and preferably port and starboard navigation lights.
34. Boats must not row beyond the Newburn straight without a launch within eye-line.
35. Rowing in the dark is not permitted within 24 hours of a spring tide or if there is significant debris present. The club captain will send a communique across the club if night-time rowing were to be temporarily suspended.
36. Each crew is required to bring at least one phone with them on the water.

END

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Versions of Water Safety Rules

1. As amended and agreed by the Management Committee on 7 January and 4 February 2014.
2. Reformatted but no text changed by CWSA 17 July 2018, pending review, and circulated to Management Committee members only.
3. Updated, but only to club name, taking out references to documents that do not exist and other procedural changes such as signing out - agreed at Management Committee on 7 August 2018.
4. Amendments made to rowing in the dark by CWSA November 2024.
5. Contact names changed and formatting of pages 5 and 6 changed to match pages 1-4 on 9 October 2025 – did not go to Rowing Committee as minor.
6. Safety Adviser name changed on 6 April 2026 - going to Rowing Committee 7 April 2026.

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River Tyne Rowing Club Safety Code

Port of Tyne Authority

Effective - October 2021

INTRODUCTION

This Safety Code (hereafter referred to as 'code') is specific to the River Tyne and should be taken into consideration in the area of waterway between the Redheugh Bridge and Wylam. However, this code may also be relevant to those recreational river users between the Port of Tyne Approaches and the Redheugh Bridge. The code should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

1. Port of Tyne General Byelaws

2. Port of Tyne Guidance for Recreational River Users

3. RowSafe - Safety Advice for Rowers, Clubs and Competitions

All clubs, organisations, rowers and coaches are expected to conform to the above documentation and a copy of this code should be held on premises as a hard copy or electronic copy. Clubs and organisations should ensure that new, prospective and existing members, visitors and guests are aware of the code and its contents.

DIRECTION OF ROWING

All crews must abide by the International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea, commonly known as the 'Collision Regulations or COLREGS'. This includes passing port to port, or in rowing terms stroke side to stroke side.

• Crews transiting downstream (from west to east) should keep to the south bank, the Gateshead side of the river; and

• Crews transiting upstream (from east to west) must keep to the north bank, the Newcastle side of the river.

The above should be strictly adhered to in order to avoid any risks of collision or close quarters situations with any other river users. Careful consideration should also be taken when navigating bends and avoiding shallow areas at low water periods.

The only time these rules may be relaxed is in the event of an organised competition, where the Port of Tyne Authority have issued a formal Navigation Notice to inform other river users.

BEST PRACTICE FOR OUTINGS

1. Outings should not commence in adverse weather conditions, further guidance on adverse conditions is contained in page 6.

2. Weather conditions can change rapidly and outings should be terminated as soon as possible if conditions are deemed to be becoming unsuitable.

3. Whenever possible, check conditions at Scotswood in advance.

4. Generally, crews boat and land facing west into the prevailing wind and tidal stream. At busy times, and particularly when there are a lot of other river users, care should be taken to avoid blocking the arches of the Newburn Bridge.

5. All rowing boats are advised to use the centre arches of all bridges.

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6. All launches and powerboats must cut their wash when passing other crews and be mindful of the reflected wash from the vertical wall sections of the river banks. Vessel wash can also damage boats at landing steps. Crews should also be aware that other river users may not be aware that their wash may cause an issue.

7. Coxed boats should make allowances for coxless boats that may be training in the same area, especially on bends. Shout a warning if necessary.

8. Stationary and turning crews are considered the 'give way' boat. They should be aware of any other crews and either move out of their way or should give a warning in sufficient time for the other crew to take avoiding action.

9. Don't try and turn a boat under or close to the Newburn Bridge. Beginners should always stay well clear of the Newburn Bridge and the stronger currents in that area. Boats should also avoid turning in the stretch of waterway between Tyne Amateur/Tyne United and Newcastle University steps.

10. The Port of Tyne Authority has designated stretches of the river as 'speed zones' for powerboat enthusiasts. All non-designated parts of the river have an enforced speed limit of 6 knots (approx. 7mph or 11kph).

BEGINNERS ZONE

1. Crews and launches should avoid fast training between the Newburn Bridge and the Reigh Burn, which joins the River Tyne just downstream of the slipway at Tyne Riverside Country Park. Beginners use this area which is within clear view of the clubs and within easy reach in the event of difficulty or capsize.

2. Beginners progress in boats should be considered unpredictable and extra caution should be given to navigation.

3. This area of waterway is also where boats are landing and leaving the landing steps and slipway, which may include crossing the river.

4. Experienced crews are asked to respect the needs of learners.

5. Fast training boats should be ready to slow down, take avoiding action or stop when necessary.

6. Beginners will use the stretch of waterway between the White House at Ryton and the downstream end of the straight, as they develop skills, usually under the instruction of a coach.

7. Competitive crews are advised to warm-up and warm-down in less busy or congested areas of the river so as to avoid any conflict with beginners or other craft.

8. Consideration and care should also be taken into account for other river users and less experienced crews/users. These may include but are not limited to: Sea Cadets at Derwenthaugh, water skiers, sailors, dragon boats, kayaks and canoes. All types of river users can be expected at anytime. The River Tyne is a tidal open access river.

NEWBURN WATER SKI CLUB SPEED ZONE

1. The designated water ski area extends from the Reigh Burn – just downstream of the slipway at Tyne Riverside Country Park and some 2.5km upstream to the Ryton Golf Course bend and includes an event and practice area. A maximum size of power boats are permitted and skiing is for club members only. A diagram of this area is contained within the Port of Tyne Guidance for Recreational River Users.

2. Water skiing is only possible and permitted up to 3 hours either side of high water. Unlike rowers, the ski club can only use their allocated area and they will normally ski there on summer evenings and at weekends where the tide is at an appropriate state. A large number of rowing boats may make it impossible for the water skiers to operate safely.

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3. The Water Ski Club will display a warning flag affixed to the red and white speed limit sign at Newburn Country Park when their powerboats are on the water. Rowing boats are asked to avoid this area when the ski club are on the water.

ROWING AFTER DARK

When rowing in hours of darkness, the following must be followed:

1. All craft on the river must show a white light visible through 360°;

2. Boats should be clearly lit both fore and aft for the duration of the outing;

3. Crews are advised to wear bright, white and visible kit;

4. Crews planning a night outing should ensure that a minimum of 50% of the crew and cox are experienced in rowing/sculling and also familiar with the River Tyne; and

5. All persons involved in rowing in hours of darkness should be 18 or over.

OTHER GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. There is a second designated high-speed zone downstream of Derwenthaugh Marina, east of the Scotswood Road Bridge. This part of the River Tyne is more exposed to weather conditions.

2. Sailing races are an occasional event, launching from Newburn Slipway. The Port of Tyne Authority will publish Navigation Notices which are received by Water Safety Advisors prior to the event.

3. Any powerboat, jet ski or other craft seen speeding outside of the designated zone pose a risk to navigation and should be reported to the Port of Tyne Duty Assistant Harbour Master for action. Photos and details reported of the craft are useful to identify those involved.

4. Crews are advised not to go any further downstream than the Redheugh Bridge unless accompanied by a launch that is able to assess condition further downstream prior the transit of the boat.

5. If proceeding downstream of the Scotswood Bridge, single scullers are advised to be in a group of at least three;

6. Any significant debris or obstruction should be reported to your Water Safety Advisor, who will in turn notify any other user and the Port of Tyne Authority who will try and clear the obstruction. There is a particular chance of debris after heavy rainfall.

7. Crews should be aware of extensive mud flats downstream of Newburn Bridge, especially at Stella bends at Lemington Gut and just east of the Scotswood Bridge. These will not support the weight of a person trying to cross them and they may also not be visible in hours of darkness.

8. Steps and parts of slipways below the high water level may be wet, muddy and slippery. These areas are also prone to icing in the winter and algal growth in the summer.

9. At low water and ebb tides, the river can be very shallow. As a guide, do not start to row upstream of the White House at Ryton unless on a rising tide and complete your outing within 1 hour of high water. The tide level marker on the north side of the river opposite the White House must show a minimum of 4 metres height on a rising tide, 4.5 metres on a falling tide for you to have sufficient water to row upstream.

10. Do not row upstream of George Stephenson’s Birthplace and the power cables which cross the Tyne at this point. The river condition and geographical constraints are unsafe.

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WEATHER CONDITIONS

Clubs and organisations should define and set parameters, which are risk assessed and easily accessible to their members and appropriate for their activity type, time and competence of crew. Conditions can change instantly and crews should be prepared for any eventuality.

INCIDENT REPORTING

Incidents should be reported to your Water Safety Advisor or the appropriate responsible person for your club or organisation. All incidents should be reported to British Rowing as per the British Rowing Incident Reporting System.

In the event of any serious emergency or marine casualty (as defined by the Marine Accident Investigation Branch), such as an incident which requires a 999 call, stranding/grounding, immobilisation, pollution, collision/contact, injury or machinery/loss of control/damage to equipment, this should be reported to the Port of Tyne Duty Assistant Harbour Master as soon as practicable.

Any noticeable trends in incidents/accidents should also be reported to the Port of Tyne Authority.

PORT OF TYNE

Duty Assistant Harbour Master
Tel : 0191 257 2080 (Option 1 or 4) **Email**: tynevts@portoftyne.co.uk
VHF: Channel 12 or 16 (reception may vary in the upper reaches of the Tyne)

Port of Tyne Authority – Harbour Masters Office
Tel : 0191 257 0407 (Monday to Friday).
Calls out of hours will be diverted to the Duty Assistant Harbour Master.
Email: harbour@portoftyne.co.uk



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Emergencies – what to do

For all life-threatening or serious incidents at the club or on the water ring 999 – ask for police, fire or ambulance

Boathouse address:
Tyne Amateur Rowing Club, Water Row, Newburn, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 8NL

What3Words: refers.span.door

If asked for directions, emphasise the club is on the north bank of the river, just along from Newburn Bridge and the Branzino restaurant (former Boathouse PH). .

The other main emergency shore access point for the club's usual training outings is: Derwenthaugh Marina, off Tundry Way, Blaydon, Gateshead, NE21 5LL.

After dialling 999 and when confident help is on the way, contact an official of the rowing club as indicated in next section and inform them of the situation.

For less serious incidents that still require club assistance - CONTACT US:

If at the club, ask if an official of the club is present and talk to them. If the bar is open, the staff might be able to help. If not at the club you can ring the clubhouse number 0191 264 9369. But more specifically the following are geared up to act if contacted about incidents; should the first named individual not answer the phone, proceed down the list

Club Rowing Safety Adviser	Colin Percy	07756 743903
Captain	Tom Jackson	07538 816018
Chair of Rowing Committee	Martin Hulse	07720 896401

First aid

If an injury or illness occurs that can be treated on-site or if an ambulance has been summoned but the patient would benefit from immediate attention, seek help from a qualified first-aider.

There is a first aid kit in a green carrying case in the cupboard next to the weights room door on the ground floor of the clubhouse. Spare first aid supplies are also held in this cupboard. Each club coaching launch has a small first aid kit and a box of emergency foil blankets in the orange safety bag. The kitchen has a location specific first aid kit in a marked drawer

The club has a defibrillator. It is located on the front outside wall of the 'old' boathouse west of the new boathouse; a mobile phone is required to get a code for its release.

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Emergencies - locations & numbers

We are: **Tyne Amateur Rowing Club** **0191 264 9369**

Our address: Water Row, Newburn, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 8NL

To find us:
- ♦ Get to the very north end of Newburn Bridge.
- ♦ Turn west down the small lane called Water Row.
- ♦ Go past the Boathouse Public House.
- ♦ Take a sharp right and sharp left to get in to our car park.

What3Words: refers.span.door

Emergency services (fire, police, ambulance, coastguard) **999**

NHS 111 line for serious but non urgent medical issues **111**

A & E - Emergency Dept, Royal Victoria Infirmary **0191 233 6161**

Royal Victoria Infirmary, Queen Victoria Road
Newcastle upon Tyne (City Centre), NE1 4LP

Directions from Newburn:
- Head towards Newcastle (signed for *Lemington/Scotswood A6085*).
- At the first major roundabout with lights turn left (signed *Morpeth A1*) onto the A1.
- Do not join the main carriageway but leave the A1 at the next exit (*signed Hexham A69 and City (West) A186*).
- Turn right towards Newcastle on the West Road (*signed City (West) A186*).
- After two miles turn left on to Brighton Grove and carry on to Hunters Road.
- Turn right onto Richardson Road and it is about 1km on the left.

Ponteland Road Urgent Treatment Centre **0191 271 9030**

The Centre is nurse led and treats a limited range of minor injuries and illnesses. 8.00am-10.00pm every day of the year. 169 Ponteland Road, Cowgate, NE5 3AE.

Northumbria Police **101**

Etal Lane Police Station, Etal Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 4AW

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service: **0191 444 1001**

West Denton Community Fire Station, West Denton Way
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 2RB

Port of Tyne Authority:

Harbour Master's Office & VTS (in case of water based emergency) **0191 257 0407**
Head Office **0191 455 2671**

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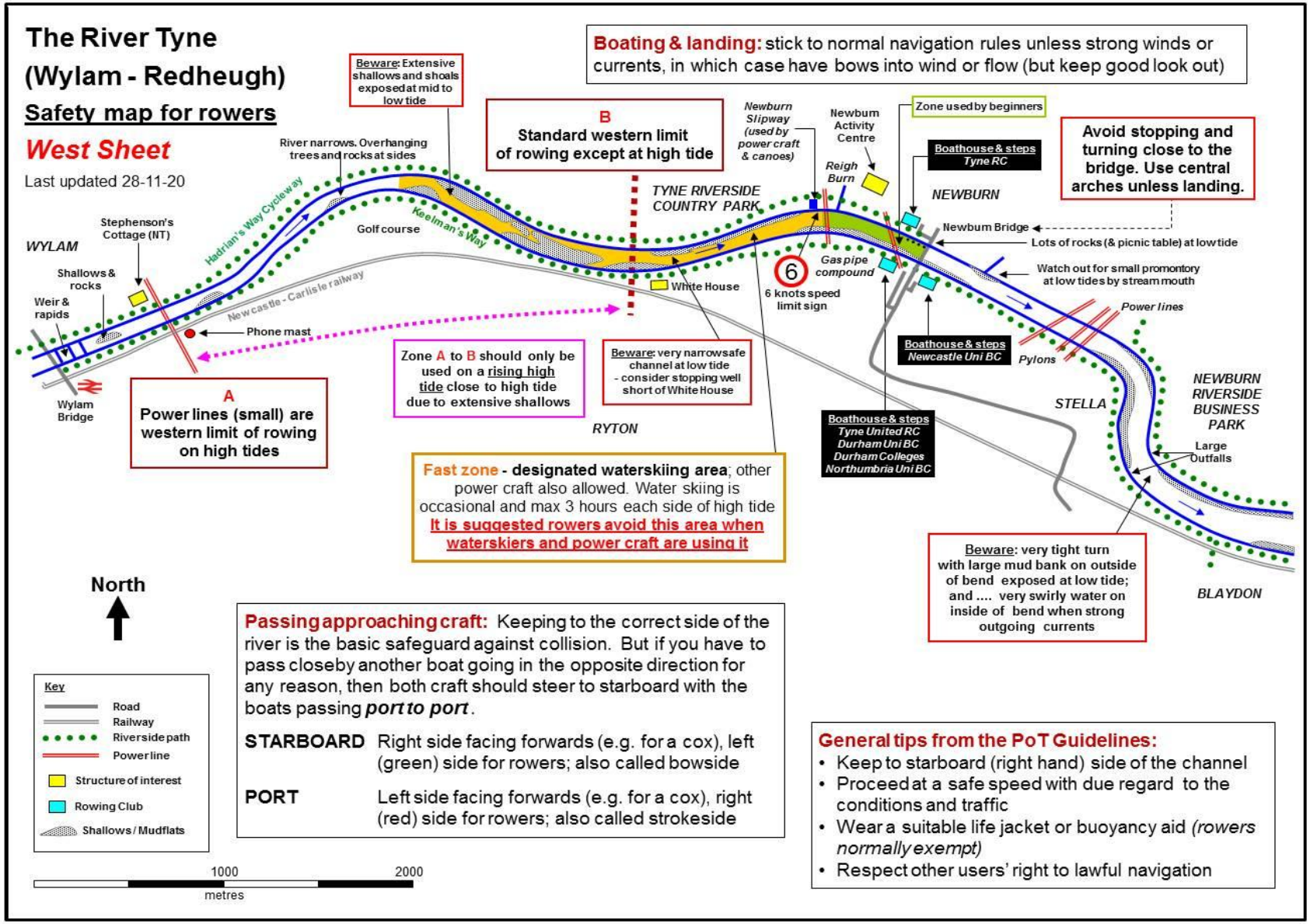
The River Tyne
(Wylam - Redheugh)
Safety map for rowers
West Sheet
Last updated 28-11-20
Boating & landing: stick to normal navigation rules unless strong winds or currents, in which case have bows into wind or flow (but keep good look out)
Beware: Extensive shallows and shoals exposed at mid to low tide
River narrows. Overhanging trees and rocks at sides
B
Standard western limit of rowing except at high tide
Newburn Slipway (used by power craft & canoes)
Newburn Activity Centre
Zone used by beginners
Boathouse & steps
Tyne RC
Avoid stopping and turning close to the bridge. Use central arches unless landing.
Reigh Burn
NEWBURN
TYNE RIVERSIDE COUNTRY PARK
Hadrian's Way Cycleway
Keelman's Way
Golf course
WYLAM
Stephenson's Cottage (NT)
Shallows & rocks
Weir & rapids
Newcastle - Carlisle railway
Phone mast
Wylam Bridge
Newburn Bridge
Lots of rocks (& picnic table) at low tide
Watch out for small promontory at low tides by stream mouth
Gas pipe compound
6
6 knots speed limit sign
White House
Power lines
Pylons
Boathouse & steps
Newcastle Uni BC
A
Power lines (small) are western limit of rowing on high tides
Zone A to B should only be used on a rising high tide close to high tide due to extensive shallows
Beware: very narrow safe channel at low tide - consider stopping well short of White House
RYTON
STELLA
NEWBURN RIVERSIDE BUSINESS PARK
Boathouse & steps
Tyne United RC
Durham Uni BC
Durham Colleges
Northumbria Uni BC
Large Outfalls
Fast zone - designated waterskiing area; other power craft also allowed. Water skiing is occasional and max 3 hours each side of high tide
It is suggested rowers avoid this area when waterskiers and power craft are using it
Beware: very tight turn with large mud bank on outside of bend exposed at low tide; and .... very swirly water on inside of bend when strong outgoing currents
BLAYDON
North
Key
Road
Railway
Riverside path
Power line
Structure of interest
Rowing Club
Shallows / Mudflats
1000
2000
metres
Passing approaching craft: Keeping to the correct side of the river is the basic safeguard against collision. But if you have to pass closeby another boat going in the opposite direction for any reason, then both craft should steer to starboard with the boats passing port to port.
STARBOARD Right side facing forwards (e.g. for a cox), left (green) side for rowers; also called bowside
PORT Left side facing forwards (e.g. for a cox), right (red) side for rowers; also called strokeside
General tips from the PoT Guidelines:
• Keep to starboard (right hand) side of the channel
• Proceed at a safe speed with due regard to the conditions and traffic
• Wear a suitable life jacket or buoyancy aid (rowers normally exempt)
• Respect other users' right to lawful navigation

Tide and hazards: The river is tidal with changes in level of up to 5 metres between the high and low tides. Hazards emerging at the river edges as the tide falls include posts, mud and gravel banks; there may also be large trees from time to time. Avoid outside arches of bridges if the tide is low.

Access to banks: There are sections of both banks where there is no access from the river to the shore. Mud banks will not usually support the weight of a person on foot and there are high vertical walls in some places.

Speed limits: All craft are entitled to free passage of the tidal reaches of the Tyne, subject to the General Byelaws of the Port of Tyne. Two zones in this stretch are allocated as *Fast zones* for use by powered craft. Proceed through these zones with care. The speed limit for powered craft outside *Fast zones* is 6 knots (11kph / 7mph).

Port of Tyne info: **Address:** Harbour Office, Neville House, Bell Street, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE30 1LI, **Tel:** 0191 257 0407, **Email**: harbour.office@portoftyne.co.uk, **Web**: http://www.portoftyne.co.uk . You can download *tide tables*, the *General Byelaws* and the *Guidance for Recreational River Users* leaflet (see right) from the web site.

The River Tyne (Wylam - Redheugh)

Safety map for rowers

East Sheet

Last updated 28-11-20



