

Water Safety News



FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CLUB WATER SAFETY ADVISER

National Water Safety Award 2011

Bill Mitchell from Thames Tradesmen's RC has won British Rowing's first National Water Safety Adviser Award.

Bill has been the driving force behind a revolution in safety on the Tideway in recent years. He led the group that drew up the Tideway Navigation Code and continues to work tirelessly to ensure that all rowers are aware of the code. Bill has also worked for over twenty years with the organisers of all the Tideway Head races, and provided safety advice at three World Rowing events at Dorney Lake. Bill was an umpire for over thirty years and developed a programme and trained nearly 100 umpires.



Bill Mitchell

Although nearly into his seventh decade Bill remains as busy as ever promoting safety. Our congratulations and thanks to Bill for all that he continues to do to encourage and promote safety in our sport.

Clive Killick, Hon Water Safety Adviser

Safety Alert

In September there was a serious incident involving a head-on collision between an VIII with traditional 3 stay riggers and a quad with 2 stay riggers. Both bow men were injured but it is believed the design of the riggers made a significant difference to the injuries suffered. The bow man of the quad was cushioned by the bow stay of the VIII and was only bruised. The bow man of the VIII was hit directly by the rowing pin of the quad's rigger. He was taken to hospital with substantial injuries including broken bones.

Clubs are encouraged to make all members aware of the consequences of collision involving 2 stay riggers and reinforce the importance of avoiding such collisions by following the local navigation rules, ensuring the competence of steers people and taking due regard of the conditions.

The British Rowing Water Safety Committee will review the safety aspects of 2 stay riggers and report back in due course.

Clive Killick, Hon. Water Safety Adviser

Club Water Safety Audit

Due 31st December 2011

In October an email was sent to each Club Water Safety Adviser (CWSA) announcing the launch of the 2011 Club Water Safety Audit. As a recognised part of affiliation audit must be completed, submitted online and accepted by your Regional Water Safety Adviser (RWSA) no later than **Saturday 31st December 2011**.

To complete your Clubs' Audit visit:

<https://apps.britishrowing.org/audit/>

Please allow at least a week for your RWSA to review your submission. If there are legitimate reasons why your club will be unable to meet this deadline, it is essential that your RWSA is informed as soon as possible.

If you do not submit your audit or it is yet to be accepted by your RWSA on 31st Dec, your club will be suspended from entering competitions from 1st January 2012.

If you have any queries about the audit or audit process please contact your RWSA whose contact details can be found at:

<http://www.britishrowing.org/taking-part/staying-safe/water-safety-contacts>