



## Athlone Boat Club Code of Conduct for Junior Rowers and Parents

### Conduct Guidelines

Within Athlone Boat Club, we want children to have fun and develop skills in a **Safe and Fair Play** environment where standards of behaviour are just as important as winning.

We recognise that competition and winning is an important goal, but winning at all costs does not meet the needs of young rowers.

Athlone Boat Club is aware that there are increasing numbers of children leaving sport. Some of the most common reasons given are: that sport was no longer fun, they did not get to compete or an over-emphasis on winning. Therefore we have to make every effort to ensure that we keep a balanced approach to competition, make sure all rowers get a chance to compete and strive to keep the fun in junior rowing.

### Young Peoples' Responsibilities

Just like coaches and volunteers young people have responsibilities to make the activity **fun and safe**. This means respecting the coaches and volunteers who are there to help young people by:

- doing their best at all times
- being prepared and on time for training and regattas
- giving their team & fellow club members a second chance if they make a mistake
- sticking to the rules of the sport
- welcoming new members
- saying NO to bullying
- not making insulting comments or swearing at the coach or other volunteers and other members of the club
- not using alcohol or any illegal substance in the club facilities
- not using the club's name in any discriminatory, bullying or anti-social behaviour in social media or in print.

### Parents and Supporters

Athlone Boat Club recognises the significance of parental behaviour and how it can influence young rowers. Parents should be there to support the running of the club. As supporters they should:

- listen to any concerns their child may have
- drop their child off and collect them on time
- make sure their child has the correct gear and a change of clothes
- respond in a timely fashion to texts from coaches
- never argue with the coach or umpires in public
- be enthusiastic and cheer the young people on but not embarrass them
- help out when asked
- not encourage or allow their children use club facilities unless under the supervision of a club-approved and Garda vetted coach or volunteer.

Parents and junior members can access the club's Code of Conduct c/o [www.athloneboatclub.ie](http://www.athloneboatclub.ie).

Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Rower \_\_\_\_\_