



ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Version: 1.0

Author: David Holder, Environment Officer

Date: 13/12/2023

Approved: March 24 committee meeting

Aims

Warrington Rowing Club is committed to minimising the impact of its activities on the environment. This environment policy sets out how we will work towards achieving our environmental objectives.

We strive to create an environment at the club which encourages all club members to act responsibly to keep the environment clean, reduce unnecessary waste, to use resources efficiently, and to responsibly recycle any waste that cannot be avoided.

We will publicise our environmental commitment and promote sustainability among visitors via our website and club notice boards.

Policy

Legislation

We will adhere to all environmental legislation applicable to the operation of the club and where possible identify opportunities to adopt best practice over and above the minimum legislative requirements.

Carbon footprint

We will minimize the use of electricity in all our activities; by for example, fitting light switches that automatically switch off after a period of time; replacing old light fittings with energy efficient models.

We will endeavour to take a sustainable approach to running events.

Members (and parents of juniors) are encouraged to travel via sustainable means to training and to events. If not possible, car sharing is encouraged. We also encourage drivers to turn off their engines in the car park and not to leave cars idling.

We will keep our boat trailers in good working order.

Club members should not change thermostatic radiator valve settings.

Electric heaters in the gym should not be powered at the same time as gym doors are open for ventilation

We encourage members to turn off light switches and heaters and to close windows and doors to retain heat when a training session is finished.

Water usage

We will minimise the use of water in all of our activities. We will aim to replace our changing room taps with non-concussive versions.

To minimise use of unnecessary clean water, boat washing using sponges and buckets of water is encouraged.

Clean water is not to be used to wash down the landing stage and other hard-standing areas.

Biosecurity

Boats should be cleaned both before and after use on waterways other than our home one.

Plastic pollution

We will minimise our use of plastic in all its forms by:

- Encouraging members to reuse their plastic water bottles
- Choosing to buy food items and equipment with less packaging
- Not using single-use plastic items for WRC events

We will not sell single use plastic bottles of water at events but instead include a notice on our web site and in our information to competitors stating that drinking water is available and that own bottles should be brought to the event.

Waste generation

We will take care of the equipment we have so it lasts longer

We will reuse items as much as possible

No disposable cutlery or crockery is to be used for normal club catering.

We will minimise the creation of waste. For example, we will only print and photocopy if essential and then print double-sided.

Where possible, we will use email rather than printed materials to communicate and promote our activities.

We will recycle as much waste as possible by providing clearly labelled bins and increasing our waste and recycling capacity during events.

A box for collection and recycling of batteries is available in the gym.

Boat repairs: Items which are replaced e.g. shoes, wheels etc. are not generally recyclable. We will recycle metal items and will aim to segregate these from general waste.

Kit/Clothing: Members are asked to name all kit and attempts will be made to reunite lost property areas with the owner. Suitable unclaimed clothing will be donated to charity and other items will go to a clothing recycling bank.

We will use paper towels sparingly for wiping down equipment only.

Old paint and solvents/cleaning materials will be disposed of responsibly.

Pollution

We will try to ensure that club launches are fuelled safely and responsibly to avoid spillages and pollution.

We will use biodegradable, environmentally friendly cleaning products

Visiting crews

Visiting crews will be provided with this Environmental Policy and asked to abide by it.

Potential Actions

Replace our changing room taps with non-concussive versions.

Replace incandescent/fluorescent lighting with LED-based fittings.

Replace light switches with time-delay (automatic switch off) versions where applicable.

Add timers to our showers.

All launches to carry a spill kit. Launch drivers to be trained in refuelling good practice and the use of spill kits.

References

1. [BR Environment Policy 2020](#)
2. [BR Environment Sustainability Strategy 2024](#)

Review

We will measure our progress and review this policy on an annual basis.