



ERC Web Forum Acceptable Use Policy

Questions and comments concerning the ERC Web Forum Acceptable Use Policy should be addressed to the ERC website Editor in the first instance.

This policy covers the operation and use of the electronic discussion forums provided by ERC for ERC members.

Purpose and use of ERC forums

The ERC web forums are available to all logged in ERC members on the ERC website.

A Web forum provides an open, threaded messaging system by which participants can post, review, and respond to comments.

The ERC Web forum is intended to allow ERC members to discuss all matters relating to the sport of rowing, and specifically the club's rowing activities.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to foster an environment in which all those participating in the Web forums feel comfortable posting their views, comments, opinions, ideas, insights, and criticisms that are essential to a vigorous and meaningful debate on the issues.

The suitability of topics for the forums will be overseen by the ERC Website Editor on behalf of the ERC Committee in conjunction with recommendations within British Rowing Guidance documents.

The following is a non-exclusive summary of conduct that is considered unacceptable use of the ERC Web forum;

- False headers, addresses, or identities
- Personal attacks, threats, slurs, or ad hominem abusive language
- Unacceptable commercial solicitations
- All illegal activities
- Abuse of copyright
- Libel
- Prejudicial behaviour
- Harassment

Basic Rules

Users of the ERC Web forum are invited to post messages expressing their views, comments, ideas, insights, and criticisms relating to a particular topic or subject.

At all times, users should show courtesy, tolerance and respect to others and must not abuse the forum.

Abuse of the forum is decided at the discretion of the ERC Committee through the Website Editor.

The guidance included in this policy allows the ERC committee to ensure discussion and representation made on the ERC Web Forums are conducted in a good natured fashion with due regard for the wishes of the majority of ERC Members that participate in them and the wider aims of ERC.

The publication of this policy and guidance is intended to ensure that the Committee can exercise their powers as openly and transparently as possible.

Consequences of Unacceptable Use

ERC reserves the right to enforce this Acceptable Use Policy when it is concluded that an individual has engaged in abusive conduct in connection with the ERC Web forum. Upon concluding that an individual or organisation has violated the Policy, the intervention may be made. Intervention will take the form of:

- Deletion of offending messages and articles
- Suspension of access to the ERC Web forum for a specified period of time
- Banning from the ERC Web forum indefinitely

Acceptable Use Guidance for Participants in the ERC Web Forums

The language of the ERC Web forum is English. Please try to write meaningfully in sentences with appropriate punctuation.

When using abbreviations please write out the phrase in full the first time you use it and follow it with the abbreviation in brackets.

Please remember this is a rowing club forum. Non-rowing related posts are tolerated but they are not invited.

Please do not type your message in CAPITAL LETTERS AS IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO READ.

Please keep swearing and innuendo to a minimum. Juniors are permitted to participate in the ERC Web forums so please be mindful of appropriate content.

Please try to keep things courteous and friendly at all times.

Please show respect for others at all times.

Please be mindful that your opinion may not be the opinion of others and that what you think is funny may be regarded as offensive by others.

Should you be tempted to post while over the Government's prescribed limits for alcohol it is highly recommended that you refrain until you have read your masterpiece the morning after!

Please avoid turning the forum into a chat system or private messaging system. Please keep others participants in mind and avoid private jokes and obtuse references that are not commonly recognised within the rest of the club.

Right of Use

Participants in the ERC Web forum are required to be fully paid ERC club members. On leaving ERC, access to the club member's area will be deleted.

On completion of the membership process an ERC website user profile will be created and details emailed to the user. This will allow automatic access to the forums.

There is no right or entitlement to anonymity for users of the ERC web forums.