

A photograph of a rowing team in a blue boat on a lake. The boat has five rowers and a coxswain. The background features a large crowd of people gathered on a grassy area, a large gazebo with a green dome, and several white tents. The scene is set outdoors on a sunny day.

Milwaukee Rowing Club Safety Meeting: September 2008

Who Cares if you are safe?

- You
- Loved Ones
- Other Rowers
- Coaches
- Milwaukee Rowing Club
- Residents of Milwaukee and Wisconsin
- United States Rowing Association



Sponsorship

Rationale – Tools – Reflection – Summary

“It is the vision of the MRC to foster a culture that promotes safety. We will implement, evaluate, and adjust our approach to safety with the goal of zero injuries and no damage to club equipment. If one of us gets injured, we all hurt.”

- Ken Nelson-MRC President

The Milwaukee River is NARROW, and we have many users. Safe behavior by all members at all times is critical to the safety of members and continuation of our club.

- Behavioral-Based Loss Prevention is the Foundation of our approach.
 - Used for more than 25 years in industry.
 - “zero accident techniques” adopted by many companies

Desired Outcomes:

- No injuries.
- No damaged equipment
- Club members “own” the results
- Safety continually improves
- Behaviors change and safety culture develops
- Empower members to intervene when unsafe acts and conditions are observed!
- Recognize, and discuss positive behavior.
- Individuals are accountable for their own safety as well as the safety of others
- People report incidents, near misses, and lessons learned because it creates an awareness that *keeps us safer in the future*

The goal of this presentation is awareness and education.

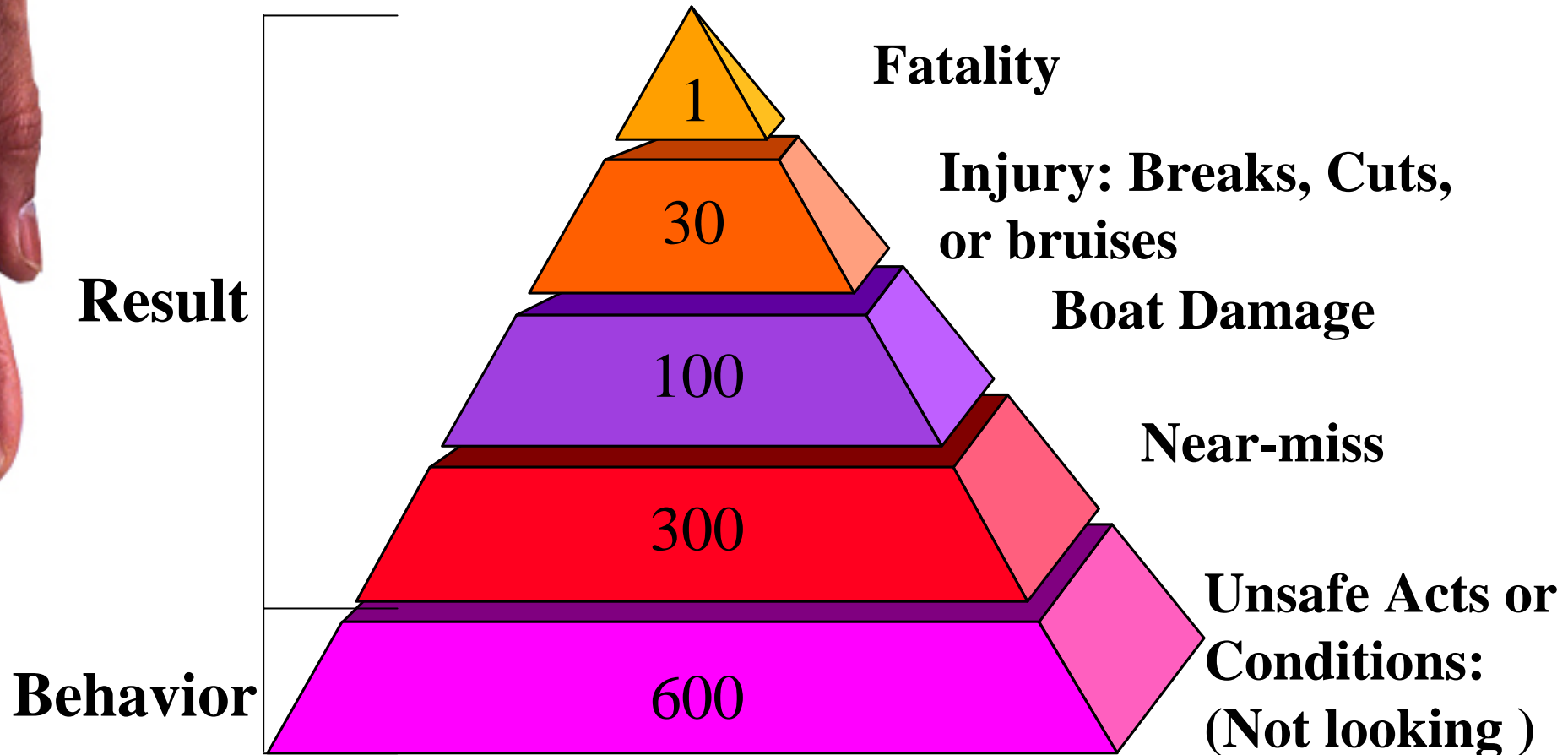
- Understand the relationship of unsafe behaviors to incidents.
- Understand the incident pyramid as it relates to safety.
- Review the main points of the Safety Rules
- Reflect on responsibilities to yourself, your family, other club members, and the impact safe choices have on all - at work and at home.

- Behavioral scientist Heinrich in 1930 reported that about 90 percent of all accidents involving fatalities and major and minor injuries were caused by “unsafe behavior” by workers.
- Studies by DuPont in 1957 confirmed this.
- Formally developed in the 1970s, behavioral-based safety has had an impressive record.
 - Anecdotal evidence has shown that as safe behaviors increase, safety incidents decrease.

Relationship of Unsafe Behaviors to Incidents

- Unsafe behaviors are “triggered” as a result of:
 - Rushing
 - Frustration
 - Exhaustion
 - Complacency
- Commit to managing “triggers” through:
 - Education
 - Planning
 - Communicating
 - Empowerment
 - Participation
 - Accountability

Incidents Pyramid



It is a matter of statistics.

Safety tools for MRC

- Awareness Training
- Safety Rules
- Safety Discussions
- Safety Observations
- Incident Reports/Lessons Learned
- Root Cause Investigations
- Root Cause Analysis

Unsafe Behavior

- Cross Commerce without checking both ways
- Not cleaning dock
- Running down ramp with oars
- Wrestling in boat bay, on apron, or dock
- Not being aware of sounds around you while rowing
- Blind boats not looking frequently
- Coxswains being distracted
- Not following the safety rules

Examples of Near Misses

- Almost run over by cars on Commerce Street
- Somebody slips a little or slips and falls in boat bay, on apron, ramp, or dock-(no injury)
- Boat nearly collides with oncoming traffic on river
- Erg tips over in boat bay and nearly hits a person, or boat
- Coxswain does not see floating sheet of plywood, misses the object by luck
- Rower splashed in face and gets wet

Examples of Incidents – Equipment Damage

- Slip while carrying boat causes boat to be dropped and damaged.
- Boats collide on river and oars or hulls are damaged
- Erg tips over in boat bay and punctures the hull of a single.
- Boat strikes floating debris, hull punctured and fin removed

Examples of Incidents - Injury

- Rower knocked down by passing car, bruised ego and hip
- Fall on dock causes rower to land on rigger and lacerate wrist
- Boats collide on river and rowers take the end of a rigger in the back
- Erg tips over in boat bay and lands on a person walking past
- Splash of water enters rower's mouth and is swallowed, rower gets sick

Examples of Incidents - Fatality

- Rower killed by hit and run car on Commerce Street
- Racing through bridge, oars hit concrete and break off. Boat capsizes, coxswain drowns.
- Blue Max (Charter Boat) is on wrong side of river and does not change course as coxswain expects. Eight is run over, and rower dies.
- Wrestling on apron or dock, rower loses balance falls into river, for some reason, doesn't come up.

Milwaukee Boat Club, Milwaukee, Wis.



REVIEW SAFETY RULES









Consider Your Personal Safety Culture

- Personalize safety as a value to carry you through the rest of your life, not as a set of rules to comply with
- Be aware of your surroundings and think about the consequences of actions
- Remember – getting hurt – hurts!

- Safe ROWING begins with you!
- The Hazards and Risks are Real, but they can be mitigated.
- Plan the workout and implement Safety Rules
- Be aware of weather and river conditions
- Move boats to the water carefully
- While rowing, anticipate hazards, communicate, listen, respond, coxswains and scullers should look around and talk to each other.
- When in doubt about safety, stop rowing and assess the situation.
- Do not assume you are seen!



Questions?