

NORTHERN

REGIONAL UMPIRING COMMITTEE



Chairman: Dr. R. Mortimer Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Curtis Secretary: Dr. D. Jones
Members: Mr. M. Bell, Ms. L. Forster, Dr. P. Hoare, Mr. J. Mulholland, Dr. A. Oakenfull, Mrs. L. Pain

Report to the Northern Rowing Council Executive 25th April 2022.

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE

None since last NRC executive meeting.

UMPIRING MATTERS

The head racing season is now completed the region also hosted the BUCS 4s and 8s head with numerous regional umpires in attendance. Thanks to all the umpires who have officiated at these competitions over the winter.

NRUC members have been reviewing the Notice of Competitions (posters) and supporting documentation for upcoming competitions. The Rules of Racing have changed slightly as of 1st April and competitions no longer need sign off on Notice of Competitions (but a copy must be sent for information/review). Local Rules must still be approved by the Regional Umpiring Committee. Thank you to the various organising committees for providing this in good time before entries open.

Looking forward the NRUC notes the following:

clubs must remember that boat safety checks should be a standard part of every outing. In particular bow balls and heel restraints are the most common failures at competitions. We have some concerns that larger boats (eights and fours) may not have been used in competitions for some time. Please make sure you check your boat over before race day!

RULES OF RACING 2022

The 2022 Rules of Racing came into force on 1st April. Clubs and Coaches should familiarise themselves with the rules and change summary which are available from <https://www.britishrowing.org/events/entering-competitions/rules-of-racing/>

Briefly:

The masters start procedure has been simplified to remove the description of the procedure and to simply confirm crew ages and the applicable handicap time differentials.

The start procedure now formally contains a "quick start" sequence to omit the full roll call in difficult conditions. When "quick start" is announced the starter will then go to the "attention, pause, red flag, pause, go" sequence.

Added a note to make clear to crews that they should not be penalised when taking evasive action against an opponent who is about to foul or interfere.

As noted above the Notice of Competition is no longer required to be "approved" by the RUC but must still be sent in good time for review/information.

TRAINING AND RENEWALS

We have now distributed our backlog of retirement certificates to the 5 umpires who retired since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Once again many thanks for their many years of service.

We have commenced theory training for the 2022 umpiring candidate intake via Zoom. We expect to have an in-person session for those candidates prior to Durham City Regatta where we will begin practical training.

Theory and practical exams will be taking place throughout the regatta season with the first being at Durham City Regatta. This should allow us to start to clear our training backlog. Hopefully by the end of May we will have a couple of newly qualified umpires with a few more on track to qualifying later in the season.

NATIONAL ISSUES

The national umpiring theory exam is now available. The Northern Region led the testing of the new system with 3 candidates passing the new online theory exam.

EQUIPMENT

We still have not identified a supplier for additional Yellow Umpiring jackets.