

Great Tyne Row 2022

Steering Group – note of meeting 15 June 2022



Present on Zoom: Colin Percy (Tyne ARC, Director), Mark Hyson (Tynemouth RC), John Mulholland (Tyne ARC, Safety), Alex Shiel (Tyne United RC), Phil Kite (Tyne ARC, in personal capacity).

Apologies: Pam Walton (Hexham RC, Treasurer), Mick Williams (Gateshead CRC), Claire McGuire (Tynemouth RC, Secretary), Alex Finnegan (Henry Frederick Swan Rowing Club).

N.B. Notes on items discussed with action points. Emphasis was on urgent issues requiring action now.

Car park at Tynemouth

It had been confirmed before the meeting that the car park above Tynemouth RC was now booked - **cost to be confirmed**. This was the last critical element in place and allowed us to proceed with the event.

Red Seal/ Sea Cadets for safety launches

Both had said OK in principle some time ago and confirmed quite recently, but **Colin to double check** and also ask about numbers of launches they can provide (ideally Red Seal 4 and Sea Cadets 3) and charges. He would update the launch location map. **Colin/Mark to liaise** about need for South Shields Sea Cadets depending on what Tynemouth could put out. **Colin to liaise** with TURC (and GCRC) about club safety launches at upstream end.

Port of Tyne

Lead out boat required by PoT, with charge of £500. Colin still to apply formally to PoT for the event; will do so asap when docs from 2019 have been updated. Phil to contact Chair of PoT to see if charge can be waived in light of event's charitable aspects. *(PK later confirmed he had been in touch with positive response – I think we need to say formally any surplus be put to charity).*

Publicity

Once this meeting was over, we needed to do soft publicity asap, with hopefully clear dates for opening and close of entries, charge per seat. And then follow up with a second phase. This would all be (a) direct to both sliding seat and skiff-type clubs through best channels (email, FB etc) and (b) through personal contact *(PK has since meeting made contact with some skiff and other fixed seat clubs)*. Colin would see if British Rowing nationally would give it a mention.

Theme

On the Roman theme & related T&W Museums project fundraising, Phil ran through his proposals again. These were agreed, though noting we could not insist on crews dressing as Romans or seek personal sponsorship. **He would work with Colin** to finalise the text to go out with publicity.

Boat hire

Both Swift Boats via Mark French and British Rowing's recreational rowing group had offered boats for hire. **Colin would check** with both if still on offer and get a cost. Swift might sponsor as well.

Documentation

Colin would update the navigation guide, terms and conditions and entry form asap for putting on web site and sending to PoT, etc.

Bank account

It was agreed **to ask Pam** to seek unfreezing of the bank account as soon as possible.

Insurance

Colin would check with Sarah Leys at British Rowing if we could get insurance through their policy, the NRC being part of BR.

Entries, etc

Claire had said she would do entries as before. Colin said he had looked at the entry form for 2019; **he would send** Claire a 2022 version to see if she was still happy with it. It was agreed to charge £20 per rowing seat (i.e. excluding coxing seat) and to have a working limit on entries of 30 boats (could be a little flexible). Opening of entries would be as close to 1 July as possible and close by end of July, 3 weeks before the event itself.

GPS tracking

This would be nice to do, but was a bit expensive last time used. A firm in South Shields was mentioned. **Colin would contact.**

Other more detailed issues flagged up on agenda

These would be discussed by email or at future meetings. But it was agreed clubs should start now to think about what volunteers (including launch drivers) would be needed on the day and for Tyne ARC and Tynemouth RC to think about food.

CP

P.S. Let me know if anything missed.