

Junior Report for meeting of NRC on Monday 29th January 2024.

BR National Awards 2023

Fantastic News For Junior Rowing in The Northern Region

Three winners of National Awards for those whose contribution to Junior Rowing both locally and nationally was recognised in the 2023 Awards announced on Thursday 25th Jan 2024.

Lifetime Achievement Award Ian Stonehouse (St Leonard's School RC)

Beryl Crockford Award Pauline Higgins (Hadrian RC)

Coaching Team Award Tyne ARC Junior Coaching Team (Thomas Jackson, Beth Laidlaw, John Mullholland, Jessie Rickelton)

Also Commended for Coaching Team Award was Tees RC Junior Coaching Team

Full details of the awards can be found:

<https://www.britishrowing.org/2024/01/2023-british-rowing-awards-winners-announced/>

Firstly, thank you to those who took the time to complete the nominations to BR.

Congratulations to those below who were recognised as regional winners and nominated for the national awards were:

Northern Junior Region Winners:

Junior/School Crew of The Year: Hexham RC, J15 2x (Jacob Lloyd and Harry Westlake).

Volunteer of the Year: St Leonard's School BC Coach, Julie Shaw.

Rising Star Volunteer of the Year: Tyne ARC Coach, Jessie Rickelton.
 Durham Sch/Tynemouth RC Rower, Philip Kinghorn.

Also nominated for Club Crew of the Year and commended for the national award, Tyne ARC, Women's First Eight.

JIRR 2024 Trials

The trials are set to take place on Saturday 16th March kindly hosted again by Cambois Rowing Club. Racing will be over 1500m. Entries are on BROE2 again this year and will close on Sunday 10th March. As we are an affiliated event a charge of £3 per seat will be charged. I intend to use this to cover the cost of First Aid Cover at the trials. BR will not charge their usual fee.

Notes on changes:

- **Scotland now included as a region.**
- **No J14 or WJ14 singles**
- **Now 2 entries for J15, WJ15, J16 and WJ16 singles.**
- **First race will be a 1000m time trial as now there are 13 regions.**

The actual JIRR event this year is to be held in Nottingham on Sat. 20th April and athletes attending the trials **should** be available on this date.

GB Junior Selection 2024

There have been changes this year in reporting data and information on athletes entered onto the GB Pathway.

- Ergo data for an athlete is only sent to the coach submitting the data.
- Coaches only see data on their athletes
- GB registered coaches who do not submit athlete data can only see summary pie charts which give the percentages of athletes in specific ergo time intervals.

These changes make it difficult for me to track which athletes are on the GB Pathway and their relative performances.

U19

The next two assessments are:

- 5km r26 ergo assessment by Mon 5 Feb
- 5km water assessment 17 & 18 February at Boston Rowing Club.
- Entries by 12:00 noon on Mon 12th Feb on BROE2.

The format this year introduces several changes which are covered in detail on paperwork sent to registered coaches.

The U19 Programme Manager has the right to refuse an entry which is not of the required standard and In addition, GBRT reserves the right to:

- reject any entries not received on time or completed incorrectly.
- reject entries from any candidate who has not completed the required ergo assessments (2k @ rate 24, two 5k @ rate 26) or submitted a medical note/exemption. The minimum standard of the 5Km r26 ergo $\leq 17:40.0$ (U19M) and $\leq 19:50.0$ (U19W).
- admit any candidate not fulfilling the above conditions but whose inclusion would benefit the U19 trials process
- facilitate the leading candidates to row/scull together at the trial on Sunday 19 February

GBJRT U16 Events During 2024

Please note there will be no J16 category at the February 2024 U19 trial. Only those J16 who meet the entry requirements stated above for U19 will be accepted.

Information on all the U16 events listed below is available on the GBRT U19 Site

Summary of Key Dates:

- Friday 1 March– Application deadline for the GBRT J16 Crew Sculling Camp
- Monday 11 March – Registration closes for GBRT J16 Virtual Camp
- Monday 11 March – J16 Coaches Meeting
- Sunday 17 March – GBRT J16 Virtual Camp
- Saturday 30 March to Monday 1 April – GBRT J16 Crew Sculling Camp (NWSC, Nottingham)
- Sunday 16 June – Entries close for GBRT J16 trial for the GB v France J16 Match
- Sunday 30 June – GBRT J16 trials for the GB v France J16 Match (NWSC, Nottingham)

- Thursday 11 to Sunday 14 July – GB v France J16 Match (FRA). Event (Sat 13 July)

GB U19 Training Camp 16 – 20 Dec Dorney and Bisham Abbey

Only one local athlete invited

Jonathan Cleugh DARC U19M Sculling

GB U19 Training Day - February 4th 2024 at Caversham

Only two local athletes have been invited:

Joy Wildsmith Tyne Amateur Rowing Club U19W Sculling

Jonathan Cleugh Durham Amateur Rowing Club U19M Sculling

It is also worth noting that ex TARC member has also been invited

Isabel Johnson St Edward's School Rowing Club U19W Sweep

It is also worth noting that the U19M Sweep invites show a 100% dominance of athletes from fee paying schools.

Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE)

There was the second DiSE Camp at Caversham over the weekend 20th Jan 2024

Current DiSE northern registered athletes (this list is not complete as I have been unable to get the necessary information):

Jonathan Cleugh Durham ARC

Halle Seymour Tyne ARC

Joy Wildsmith Tyne ARC

Henry Welch Tyne ARC

Adam Makepeace TEES RC

Scarlett Palmer Chester Le Street RC

Holly Stoker Sunderland RC

BR Indoor Championships 2023

The Northern Region Juniors were represented by three clubs in the BR Indoor Championships held on 9th Dec at the NEC, Birmingham.

Tees RC, Infinity BC and Lambton RC had entries and the results are attached. Apologies if I have missed a result or names are wrong as the results were compiled from the BR Results Website.

Also, I am aware of one private junior entry from the region but I have only listed those with a club entry.

It was most pleasing to see such a large entry from Infinity BC and of particular note must be the **1st position out of 42 entries and a Gold Medal for Abdullah Sajad in the Year 10 boys 500m**. I hope to see Infinity BC competing on the water very soon and adding to the strength of the Northern Team for the Junior Inter-Regionals.

Another notable result was **Monty Swingler (Lambton RC) who gained a Bronze medal in the Year 8 Boys 500m**

It was probably the first time many had competed in such an arena and I hope they have been inspired to continue their involvement in rowing and further their development.

Well done to all who competed and for representing their club and the region.

BR National Junior Indoor Championships 2024 (NJIRC)

This year the NJIRC event will run in two venues to make the event as accessible as possible.

NJIRC LEEDS 23rd February 2024

NJIRC LONDON 1st March 2024

Entries close on 2nd February 2024 at 5pm

Enter at <https://njirc.co.uk>

British Championships 2024

Please see the link below if you have not already seen the information just issued by BR about the new format for Champs 24.

[Programme for the 2024 British Rowing Junior and Senior Club Championships - British Rowing](#)

Kate O'Sullivan Wins Regional BBC Sports Personality of the Year Unsung Hero Award

The Following Appeared on British Rowing News and recognised the work Kate has done in the region at all levels but particularly Junior Level. Unfortunately, Kate did not win the National award but was present on stage with all the regional winners.

The Tees RC coach and Deputy Chair of British Rowing has been named as this year's Unsung Hero for the North East and Cumbria region



The award recognises volunteers who go above and beyond to bring sport and physical activity to their local community at grassroots level, and demonstrate a passion for encouraging others to take part in a sport.

Kate said, "Winning the BBC SPOTY Unsung Hero Award for the North East and Cumbria Region is an amazing honour to recognise my work but more importantly it is an amazing honour for everyone involved with rowing in all its forms and I hope it can be used to showcase our beautiful sport to those yet to discover it.

"Contrary to some people's perception, rowing is completely accessible to anyone. On any day of the week it is enjoyed by all the generations. At [Tees RC](#) our membership ranges from the ages of 12 to 80+. We get to row on one of the most beautiful rivers in the country.

"The British Rowing community itself is genuinely my extended family and has been there for me at significant times in my life and for that I am grateful. Rowing, like all sports, really does build bridges across communities, and there is some brilliant work going on around the country 365 days of the year, driven by a 'workforce' – many of whom are volunteers – that is opening up the opportunities for literally anyone to get involved.

"I have been a member of Tees RC since 1985. Based in Stockton on Tees, the club is thriving. I am working with Teesside University to offer their students the opportunity to experience rowing, and I am delighted to say that [Infinity BC](#) is a new club down in Stockton whose focus is working in partnership with the local schools to ensure that literally every child in the area has the chance to row and I am so excited to see how that project develops. Other projects include running a rowing programme for young carers and developing a beach sprint/coastal offering in Redcar.

"It would be wrong of me not to thank Liz Behnke who nominated me and my family for their support, and I must acknowledge the other members of the Tees RC Junior Coaching Team whose support enables me to work on other projects and fulfil my duties as the Deputy Chair of British Rowing, Andy Pickering, Fiona Ventress, Tom Hillier, Rebecca Graham, Michele Holdsworth and Steven Leigh – you are an amazing team.

"I really hope this award can be used to bring more people into the sport in whatever capacity but also to tempt some people back."

BBC Sport has received an unprecedented number of nominations and the BBC's 15 nations and regions will announce their winners at the start of December. The overall winner of the Unsung Hero Award from amongst the BBC's 15 nations and regions will be announced live at the Sports Personality of the Year awards show, which will take place on Tuesday, 19 December at MediaCityUK in Salford.