

Northern Regional Rowing Council

Meeting of Executive Committee - 29 April 2024

Report of Secretary (including Sunday League and GTR) - Colin Percy

Beach Sprints

Nathaniel Reilly-O'Donnell of British Rowing has contacted us in the last few days and asked if he could update us on possible funding for beach sprints in the region. He or a colleague will attend the meeting tonight and explain.

Affiliation to British Rowing of new clubs – Infinity BC and Senate BC

Since the last meeting Senate BC, the new club to sit under Durham College Rowing for performance college rowers, has become affiliated. The President has sent us a very nice email thanking us for our help.

Dame Allan's School BC in Newcastle, based at Tyne United RC, has applied for affiliation very recently without prior discussion with region (there is no requirement to do so). The documents have just been forwarded by British Rowing to us with a request to move towards our approval through signing off by the Chair.

The documents provided have had an initial reading and there appear to be no major problems. The constitution is based very closely on the (short) British Rowing model, but does need some deletions of British Rowing's logo, address, etc and some clarifications on post holder titles, etc. Comments will be provided by us back to British Rowing shortly. The safety adviser is to be that of the host club, Tyne United RC. I understand John Mulholland has already signed off the safety audit.

it is recommended that the meeting delegates the final decision to approve this application at regional level to the Chair with the involvement of the Vice Chair, Secretary, Richard Mortimer and John Mulholland.

Update from Lambton RC

News from Lambton RC in the last week. They have met with Alan Meegan of British Rowing to outline their plans to build a boathouse and they have passed the information to us for information. They say they are excited, having achieved fast progress on gaining the agreement of the of the Lambton Estate. They say:

- we have permission to build a boathouse that would house 6 quads and doubles and has two phases;
- we would have a changing room with toilets and showers etc as well as a room for indoor training;
- we have most of the funds in place.

Regional Strategy

A workshop involving some of this committee's members took place in February not long after our last meeting. The Chair and others may report on further thinking since then. Some figures on regional membership have been received from British Rowing and are being circulated along with this report.

Sunday League

The League dates from April through to October were agreed not long after the last meeting and publicised to clubs. The dates are shown in the table below. Unfortunately, Round 1 at Berwick on 7 April had to be cancelled due to high winds and flooding. The weather forecast for this coming Saturday at Tynemouth shows moderate winds (and sun), so fingers crossed. There were 8 open entries and 5 women's entries for Berwick, so there is healthy interest.

07-Apr-24	Berwick	Splash 'n' Dash - sculling
05-May-24	Tynemouth	Splash 'n' Dash - sculling
02-Jun-24	Tyne ARC	Splash 'n' Dash - sculling
07-Jul-24	Hexham	Splash 'n' Dash - sculling
04-Aug-24	Cambois	Splash 'n' Dash - sweep
01-Sep-24	Talkin Tarn	TBC - skills ??
06-Oct-24	Durham	Splash 'n' Dash - sculling

Great Tyne Row

Tides for GTR this year are most unhelpful, with not a single day over the summer with a high tide anywhere near midday on a Sunday, which we need to help us get from Newburn to Tynemouth with a bit of help. One or two days were perhaps manageable from a tide point of view, but all have fallen foul of other competing events on the Tyne in one location or another that preclude the GTR.

So as I write there is no date set for the GTR and little prospect of finding one. It is now rather late to get it organised in any case. Reluctantly I would like the committee to discuss the situation and agree that there will be no GTR this year. The tides for 2025 are not much better!

CP