

Northern Region Report from National Schools Regatta 2023

The regatta this year produced some excellent performances from Northern Regional crews with a special mention for Robbie Collen (previously of QEHS but now Tyne ARC), who brought home a Bronze medal in the Ch 1x, and Hexham's WJ15 4x+ who also won Bronze in a field of 47 entries!

For the J16 and Championship events there was a wide variety of progression pathways for events with most starting with a Time Trial then a Repechage and Semi-finals before Finals (A to F) but some had Heats then Reps then Semis and Finals. However, on the Friday all the J14 and J15 events had to be completed and this meant many crews were eliminated after their Time Trial reducing the number of finals.

Friday Events

DUS WJ14 4x+ were very unlucky, with 54 entries only 24 progressed to Finals and they came 25th!

Hexham's J15 4x+ came 10th in the TT out of 39 entries so went on to the B Final where they came 4th.

Hexham girls J15 4x+ came 3rd in the TT and held on to that position in the A Final to take Bronze.

Events across Saturday and Sunday

Robbie Collen (Tyne) entered Championship 1x. Robbie came 1st in his Heat then 2nd in his Semi taking him to the A Final where he came 3rd taking Bronze.

The region had 3 further entries in the CH 1x event raced over the Saturday and Sunday.

Merriott (Tees) came 3rd in his Heat, 3rd in the Rep then 4th in his Semi which placed him in the C Final where he came 5th.

Sam Cardnell (DUS) came 6th in his Heat, 4th in the Rep then 4th in his Semi which also put him in the C Final where he came 6th.

Kinghorn (DUS) was 8th in his Heat, 5th in the Rep then 5th in the Semi placing him in the D Final which he won.

The region also had 4 entries in the CH 1x Girls event, again over the 2 days.

Rebecca Wearmouth started with a TT coming 6th then came 3rd in her Semi securing a place in the A Final where she improved on her TT position coming 5th overall.

Jana Berelsmann (DUS) came 23rd in her TT progressing via a Rep and Semi to the C Final where she came 8th.

Wilson (DUS) her placing of 42nd in the TT took her directly to the F Final where she came 2nd.

Halle Seymour (QEHS) finished 20th in the TT which took her via a Rep and 2nd place in the Semi to the C Final where she came 5th.

The CH 4x (Tees) event was spread across the 2 days. They came 23rd in the TT, 4th in the Rep, 4th in the Semi then 7th in the C Final placing them 23rd overall.

Saturday Only Events

The J16 and Championship Coxed Four events were completed on Saturday. There was 1 entry in each event from the region.

J16 4+ (DUS) were eliminated after coming 21st in the TT with only the top 18 progressing to finals.

Girls J16 4+ (Tyne) were consistent coming 5th in their TT then 5th in the A Final.

CH 4+ (TURC) came 14th in the TT then 7th in the Semi and 6th in the B Final.

Girls CH 4+ (TURC) placed 21st in the TT taking them directly to Final C where they came 4th.

Sunday Only Events

A few events were completed within Sunday's racing schedule.

The Girls CH 2x (CSN) came 15th in the TT taking them to the B Final where they came 6th giving them an overall 14th place out of 36 entries.

Both entries for the J16 2x did well with Tees going direct to the A Final from their TT and finishing in 7th place out of 39 entries.

DUS came 10th in their TT but a 2nd place in the B Final gave them 9th position out of the 39 entries.

It was an excellent weekend of racing at Dorney Lake and the weather was very kind with only a bit of a breeze at times causing a move away from the normal chevron lane draw. The Live Stream coverage was a real bonus, allowing those not able to get to Windsor the opportunity to watch and feel part of the event. The volunteer commentators did a good job on the whole with many able to give interesting background information on crews. I don't think I have ever watched so much TV before in one weekend (once I figured out how to share my laptop with the TV screen) but it was good to see the high standard of rowing from everyone who participated from the Northern Region.

Well done to all athletes and coaches whose dedicated efforts and attendance helped make the event a success.

Pauline Higgins (BR Junior Rowing Regional Representative)