

Masters report to NRC 24 April 2023

Gabrielle Moore

Handicaps.

The committee are still discussing handicaps, with a view to changing handicaps at the older end of the spectrum though no decision has been made as yet. There is still looking at how women's bodies change around the menopause and how this could be reflected in the handicaps allocated though this is a difficult issue since women go through the menopause at different times. Data has been collected and it was found that there are only 600 rowers between 65 and 89 (ie G to K).

It has been suggested that A/B handicaps are removed.

Competitions

National Masters was announced as a 1 day event and was announced on twitter without the Masters committee having been told. There was a lot of discussion and a lot of upset and people suggesting standing down, since they felt why bother working on a committee if their views are not sought never mind considered. However the people at the top of BR did listen, we had another meeting in quick succession, Marieke and Alistair attended and the event was moved back to being a 2 day event. It was comforting to find that people did actually listen and were willing to change things even though announcements had been made. So overall a lot of good came out of it !

There has been a lot of chat about a different system for paying for membership. Instead of changing everything BR have reintroduced day tickets which allows people to do a small number of events with less overall cost.

Trans rowing has been a hot topic again, World Athletics have now joined other National Governing Bodies in totally banning trans women from women's events.

We are reminded though that there are 2 separate issues here. Trans rowers should be welcomed to clubs of course, it is the competing on a fair level that is difficult to achieve.

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