

NORTHERN ROWING COUNCIL LONG DISTANCE SCULLING SERIES 2011

WASHUP MEETING, 6/12/11, TURC

APPOLOGIES

Chris Parsons, Colin Percy [part].

PRESENT

Steve Leigh, David Wright, Hillary Cairns, Sarah Smith, Chris Smith, Colin Percy [part]

INTRODUCTIONS

Sarah was introduced to the group as the Series Co-ordinator for the 2012 Series.

WANSBECK SBH & LDS ISSUES

Radios missing; this prompted a discussion on radios vs mobile phones. Tees use mobiles as radios cant cover the range from start to clubhouse, they pre-plan, share numbers and use a central "control" to pass important messages to the right place. It was generally agreed that the series could save money by using mobiles, but that preplanning was essential as was a check on signal coverage. On the other hand Chester le Street allegedly have ex-police radios that they might be willing to lend. David has a source of cheap/good megaphones; agreed to pass contact details around.

Lack of marshalling launch at the finish of div 2 caused problems; the final sculler had to row through a fleet of returning competitors, luckily no collisions. David agreed to tighten up on volunteer co-ordination.

Cambois had allowed Senior & Masters entries for their SBH. Chris explained that the aim of the series was to have a weekend off between each race. Sarah commented that Durham Primary Regatta was likely to be altered / dropped, which could allow the LDSS to start a week earlier and create a gap.

BERWICK LDS & SBH ISSUES

Good event, shame about the low entry. Steve asked if small clubs needed help to run events. On the other hand Berwick had put a lot of effort into a good event; all their own work etc.

Hilary suggested that the 3000meters could become 4000 without much difficulty. Agreed that this would be a positive change.

TEES LDS & SBH ISSUES

Car park marshalling not in place early enough. Once vehicles are parked its hard to locate the drivers to get them moved.

Not an issue this year due to the kind weather, but can the NRC do anything to help persuade the centre to open the bar?

Can the new team please reconsider octuples.

TYNE LDS & TUSBH ISSUES

One incident, handled well. Photographer fell down RGS steps, was brought back to TURC and treated by St John.

2nd division was put back 1 hour. This had also happened the previous year but had not been remembered by the organisers [ie poster start times were just copied from previous year]. Remember next time!

2011 SERIES ISSUES

VL points; can anything be done to make them fairer for smaller clubs?

First Aid costs and availability seem to be variable dependant on local volunteer levels etc. Host clubs to investigate joint booking to save money? " Rapid Reaction" as well a Red Cross and St John.

2012 SERIES

Sarah to reconsider start order. It was confirmed that the previous practice of using the last races results to generate a start order was no longer appropriate as few people raced to series in the same boat etc.

Chris' three wishes;

1. Specified penalty for not boating on time or when instructed.
2. Please keep number order boating for safety reasons.
3. Please keep "all rounds to count"; ie don't give people an excuse not to go to Berwick!

Promotion. Steve started a discussion on the promotion of the series. The present practice of poster out early, NERowing emails etc were all considered good as far as they went. Steve suggested word of mouth via a specific carefully chosen persons in each club. Chris suggested that, in addition, Explore Rowing co-ordinators should be contacted directly re the entry of C class boats etc.

Sarah's Phone numbers;

07974244373

07967410435

01609 882000

2012 dates;

Wansbeck 6/10/12

Berwick 13/10/12

Tyne 27/10/12

Tees 3/11/12