

NORTHERN REGIONAL UMPIRING COMMITTEE



Chairman: Dr. R. Mortimer Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Curtis Secretary: Dr. D. Jones
Members: Mr. M. Bell, Dr. P. Hoare, Mr. J. Mulholland, Dr. A. Oakenfull, Mrs. L. Pain

Report to the Northern Rowing Council Executive 27th April 2020.

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE

None since last report.

UMPIRING SEMINARS

Our Spring seminar was held via video conference on Monday 30th March at 19:30. General feedback was good although a number of people had issues with the technology. Full presentation materials and minutes were distributed to all attendees/regional umpires.

The Autumn seminar is scheduled to be held at Tyne ARC on Sunday 20th September at 10:00. Obviously this is subject to the continuing Covid-19 situation and will be reviewed nearer the scheduled date. Anyone (umpire, trainee, coach, crew) is welcome to attend each seminar.

REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

All water based rowing activities are suspended nationally at the moment. That coupled with inclement weather has resulted in no competitions being held since the last Council meeting. At present it seems highly likely that the regatta season will not take place in 2020 with the possible exception of Durham Autumn Sprint towards the end of September.

TRAINING

All 2020 training is currently on hold. A theory course was run at Keswick just before the lockdown began but this has not been examined yet. The practical training is very dependent on a full regatta season and as such it is likely that all training will be deferred to 2021. We may consider running some online theory training in early summer 2020 with a short refresher in early 2021 for those who are continuing onto practical training. Note that the national Multi-Lane training has already been formally postponed until 2021.

NATIONAL ISSUES

The 2020 Rules of Racing came into force on 1st April. Obviously no competitions have been held under these rules yet. Of note clubs/competitions should be aware that the planned rule requiring crews to race with the blade colours of their club has been dropped on request of the Sport Committee due to it being widely regarded as unworkable due to equipment sharing and similar issues. We do however continue to recommend that where possible blades are painted in club colours as this makes crew identification much easier.

Peter Hoare & Richard Mortimer are members of the National Umpiring Committee training working group and Richard Mortimer is also a member of the exams working group.

The National Umpiring Committee is running occasional UIQ (Umpire Isolation Quiz) nights with invites to all UK umpires. Thanks to the NUC team for organising this.