

NORTHERN

REGIONAL UMPIRING COMMITTEE



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

Report to the Northern Rowing Council Executive 1st February 2021.

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE

None since last report. A meeting is being planned for February/early-March.

UMPIRING MATTERS

Coronavirus continues to stop play at competitions nationally. Prior to Christmas we were in full steam reviewing competition posters and documentation in expectation of being able to go ahead with racing in January. It now seems highly unlikely that we will see another British Rowing affiliated head race this Spring. A few regatta format competitions, mainly those with longer lead times, have begun consulting on options but there is obviously a lot of uncertainty at the moment.

As of 1st January the region had 28 licensed umpires. All renewals were completed by the stroke of midnight on 31st December thanks to the diligence of Dilwyn in ensuring that all followed the correct procedures. 3 umpires hung up their flags and retired during 2020. We wish Peter Stavers, Steve Farrow and Liz Puddick well in their retirement and thank them for their years of service to national competitions.

The Northern RUC is starting to prepare for umpire training based on the assumption that competitions will be recommencing in the late spring/early summer. The majority of the theory training is expected to be done via video conference with some form of in person training in the latter stages to prepare for practical work on the banks once racing begins.

NATIONAL ISSUES

The National Umpiring Committee met online on 9th January for what is traditionally the annual face to face meeting. Content was somewhat limited this year given the lack of racing throughout the year. However the NUC Working Groups did report good progress, particularly in CPD/training topics. The plan is to make training materials available via RowHow. Initially this will assist with ongoing CPD and will provide some materials that are useful for umpiring seminars. Ultimately the intention is to provide a full suite of training materials that will be useful for all aspects of umpire training and development.

The Rules of Racing that come into force in April 2021 are mostly finalised. There are very few changes this year and in the main they provide clarifications of issues that have been raised. Expect to see the updated version published on a British Rowing website near you in due course.