

Junior Report for meeting of NRC on Monday 27th June.

JIRR

The Junior Inter Regional Regatta was held at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham on Saturday 23rd April. The Northern Region fielded a full team including 4 composite crews. There were representatives from all the clubs in the region apart from the really small clubs such as Berwick and Sunderland. Newly formed Gateshead formed a composite with Talkin Tarn in the J16 2x. 12 out of the 24 crews entered got through to the A final with the region finishing in 6th place overall. Special mention should go to Eve Larsen from Chester le Street who won a gold medal in the WJ16 1x and Joseph Adamson, also from Chester le Street, who took silver in the J15 1x.

Bronze medals went to the J14 2x (Michael Bessent and Will Viney) from Tyne United and Nick Ryan from QEHS in the J16 1x.

National Schools

The National Schools Regatta was held this year at Dorney after the NWSC double booked the usual weekend. This caused problems for some clubs with the extra distance/costs involved. I have provided feedback to the committee regarding the future venue for the event. Not surprisingly those who went thought the venue better but most of those who responded to my request for comments were against the proposed move to Dorney. This was also echoed by the Yorkshire Region in their circulated feedback.

British Junior Championships

There has been a change to the format for British Junior Championships for this year, which has caused much discussion amongst coaches in the region. There will no longer be any event for J14/WJ14 1x or J14/WJ14 2x. Instead they will take part in a test of various skills in either a single or double scull, which will take place on the Friday. Points will be awarded to decide winners. There will be racing for J14/WJ14 4x+ on Saturday and Sunday but all entrants **must** have taken part in the skills event on the Friday. This has huge extra cost implications. Coaches in the region have raised various concerns including those volunteer coaches who would need to take extra time off work to attend on the Friday. These concerns have been passed on to the Chair of Championships committee.

A request has been made to hold a meeting of junior coaches from the region to discuss the issues surrounding National Schools Regatta and British Championships. A suggestion has also been made that more composite crews should be formed from the region to attend some high profile events. I propose to suggest a meeting at Tyne Rowing Club on Wednesday 20th July (if acceptable to Tyne).