

Junior Report for meeting of NRC on Monday 24th June.

JIRR 2019

The Junior Inter Regional Regatta was due to take place at Peterborough Rowing Club. Unfortunately, high winds were forecast and the event was cancelled. The athletes were left with only their new sweatshirts to mark their selection to the team. We are still waiting for the T shirts to be sent to the region.

National Schools Regatta

The National Schools Regatta was held at Dorney Lake, Windsor on May 23rd to 25th. 6 clubs from the region were represented. 5 crews reached the A final but no medals this year. From Chester le Street Joseph Adamson came 8th in Ch 1x and their J16 2x came a creditable 4th. Durham ARC's WJ14 4x+ came 6th as did Durham School's Non Ch G 4+. Finally the J15 4x+ from Tyne ARC came 5th in their final, with 61 entries in this event this is an impressive result.

The Martin Brandon Bravo Regatta – Sat June 8th NWSC

This was to be the first year for this new event aimed at crews in lower age groups who did not attend Nat Schools or did not reach semi finals at Nat Schools. They were guaranteed three races: time trial, semi final, final.

Unfortunately, this event had to be cancelled because of the poor weather forecast for Nottingham.

It is expected the event will run in 2020.

GB Junior Selection

As far as I am aware the only person still taking part in the current trials process is Jemima Furness. The April Selection Regatta had to be cancelled after the time trials on Friday as it was on the same weekend as JIRR and there were the same concerns over the wind.

BR Junior Rowing Committee

- Junior Rowing Conference-
 - (i) Proposed Coxing workshop
 - (ii) To be broadcast live on either Twitter or Facebook for those who cannot attend
 - (iii) Should be on YouTube afterwards.
- JIRR 2020 and beyond
 - (i) Plans to divide the bigger regions and include Scotland still under discussion.
 - (ii) Concerns raised over the distribution of events – more boat categories available for J16 where it is harder to select a team for some regions.

- J14 age group

Problem of J15s who are in the same year group as J14s ie are behind a year at school. (Usually this applies to those whose birthday falls in July or August) This is more of an issue for schools – how can they be kept involved as currently they cannot row with the school year group in which they study? The following suggestions are to be taken to the Competitions Committee for ratification.

- (i) Max 50% of a crew can row down but only 3 from an eight.
- (ii) Would not include singles.
- (iii) Can only row down 1 year.
- (iv) Rowing up is allowed but J14 still not able to sweep.
- (v) Letter from School Head to confirm details of any J15 rowing down.
- (vi) Permission from Event Committee may be given but not guaranteed.

- School Age Rowing Strategy

This has been released, it is about keeping more juniors in the sport.

- (i) Work to be done to create more lower level events.
- (ii) BR are looking at their website to create an area for each region to make it easier to access information.
- (iii) Also to set up a Virtual League for Indoor Rowing in Schools and Clubs.
- (iv) We need to push the Rowing Leaders Award and encourage the Club Session Coach Award.
- (v) BR does not have a policy on use of 16-18 year olds to run events but this should be considered as part of the strategy.

Finally, a survey is to be sent out to Schools and Clubs with a Junior programme to ascertain what the 'customer' needs for their athletes. This can then be looked at in conjunction with the Regatta Calendar to ensure one works with the other.