

Northern Rowing Council

AGM - 5 December 2016

Events Coordinator's report (plus a bit on web sites) for 2015-16

Annual programme

The work of the Coordinator has been focussed as usual on receiving proposed dates from affiliated events in the region and forging these into a draft programme for the National Competitions Committee (and then BR Council) to approve. This is done over one summer for the next rowing calendar year (1 April to 31 March). The overall national programme for 2017-18 is thus moving to be approved by British Rowing's Council soon.

The NRC Exec has endorsed all requests made by clubs in the region for 2017-18. They now appear on the draft national calendar, the latest version of which has just been received and will be forwarded on to events for checking after I finish this report! The draft regional list for 2017-18 can be found below and is on the NRC web site at www.nerowing.com/calendar.html. But see also the para below re the CLS Regatta date.

Saturday	29-Apr-17	Chester-le-Street Regatta (<i>not resolved nationally</i>)
Saturday	06-May-17	Tyne Regatta
Sat/Sun	13/14-May-17	Durham City Regatta
Saturday	20-May-17	Tees Regatta
Saturday	27-May-17	Wansbeck Regatta
Saturday	03-Jun-17	Hexham Regatta
Sat/Sun	10/11-Jun-17	Durham Regatta
Saturday	01-Jul-17	Talkin Tarn Regatta
Saturday	02-Sep-17	Tyne Single Scullers Head (<i>new event from NUBC</i>) *
Sunday	03-Sep-17	Great Tyne Row (<i>non-affiliated</i>) *
Saturday	30-Sep-17	Durham Autumn Sprint
Saturday	07-Oct-17	Berwick LDS
Saturday	14-Oct-17	South Hylton LDS
Saturday	21-Oct-17	Durham LDS & SBH
Saturday	28-Oct-17	Tyne LDS & TU SBH
Saturday	04-Nov-17	Wansbeck LDS & SBH
Saturday	11-Nov-17	Tees LDS & SBH
Saturday	25-Nov-17	Rutherford Head
Saturday	27-Jan-18	Tyne United New Years Head
Saturday	03-Feb-18	Durham SBH
Saturday	17-Feb-18	Tyne Head
Sat/Sun	24-25-Feb-18	BUCS 4s & 8s Head (<i>on the Tyne</i>)
Saturday	24-Mar-18	Ponteland Junior Head

* *Likely to be reversed*

The date for Chester-le-Street Regatta is not yet resolved. Because of the late Easter CLS has been moved a bit later than in previous years, but now clashes with the requested date for York Spring Regatta. York City RC and Yorkshire Regional Council object to the clash and the new NRC Exec at this AGM need to agree (again) to back CLS (or not) in the face of the objections.

The straight run of regattas every weekend 29 April to 10/11 June is perhaps a concern, though caused in part by the late Easter. I suspect putting the programme together for 2018-19 may be more problematical than for 2017-18, as the vicissitudes of the Julian calendar mean we cannot just roll on all events by a day and there may be renewed competition for the choice late May/early June slots too. I will start this process early in 2017.

Events since last AGM in late 2015 and 2016

With two (?) exceptions, the region has fared relatively well in running events since the last AGM. Two events have been cancelled, at least on their original date, due to weather. Rutherford Head did not run on the original date exactly a year ago today (5 Dec 15), nor on the rearranged date of 30 Jan 16 (both due to adverse weather forecasts for wind), but did run on 31 Jan 16, with depleted numbers but in perfect conditions. It was hard work for the event secs (I know!) to rejig.

Chester-le-Street Regatta was cancelled due to forecast high water. Other events, notably Tees and Talkin Tarn Regattas, saw some very mixed weather including torrential rain (again I know) and wind. Durham Autumn Regatta did not run due to uncertainty about interest.

The LDS series plus related club SBH events ran over the full six consecutive weekends again and all went well, with the major concern at one or two about the time taken to boat/de-boat. Sarah and Ian Smith have run the series with host club volunteers' help and much thanks is due to them all. And indeed to everybody involved in running all the other events. What a huge amount of work done for nothing except the love of rowing!

Future of events nationally and locally

I know I said this last year and the year before, but the outcomes of the competition review are still making their way through the BR system nationally but are now about to hit us here very directly in terms of how we structure events, especially perhaps regattas, using the new 'points' system. The latest feedback from national level will be fed through to event reps when I have it. We will have a session at the club development conference in January or at a separate events mini-conference soon afterwards. A national speaker will be invited.

Other events

Although not necessarily part of the Event Coordinator's brief I have helped to a limited extent with the Explore Series (ex-Sunday League) (mainly on dates but in other ways too, with Colin Lawson and Gabrielle Moore) and in a major way with the Great Tyne Row and will continue with both as necessary in 2016. I played no part in organising, but Tees and Wear tours went well. Thanks to the departing James Andrews for his help over the years on all of these. Draft dates for the Explore Series in 2017 will be issued for discussion very soon.

The Newburn clubs on the Tyne attracted the BUCS 8s & 4s Head in February 2016. This was great news beforehand and congratulations are now due to those involved in hosting and helping organise what turned out a great weekend of racing. BUCS return in 2017, with Tyne Head managing to squeeze in the week before. Help from around the region will be needed for BUCS.

Web site, Yahoo group, Facebook

I continue to be responsible for the Northern Rowing *online* web site (at www.nerowing.com) and the North East (*must get that changed*) Rowing Yahoo group (at <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/nerowing/info>). The former requires quite a bit of work, especially for those pages which are the main source of info on a particular topic for rowers. The *LDS page* is perhaps the most obvious example. I continue to try and keep the *Contacts page* up to date, but clubs and colleges are not always diligent in informing us of changes (though some are excellent).

The Yahoo group pretty much looks after itself, with the occasional need to vet posts by new members or deal with spam. James Andrews has kept the Facebook page moving along with an occasional input from me and others. Comments on any of these welcome!

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