

NRC Para Rowing report: June 2016

- 1) Tees Regatta (21st May 2016) saw 4 para rowing entries of 3 LTA (Leg, Trunk and Arms) athletes and 1 AS (Arms and shoulders) athlete all from Tees RC competed over the 4 lane course and the race was well received by both spectators and other athletes.
- 2) Durham Regatta also saw 4 para rowing entries 1 LTA athlete, 2 TA/RFS (Trunk and Arms or Rowability Fixed Seat) athletes and 1 AS athlete; entries were from Tees RC (2) Sudbury RC and Doncaster RC. It was encouraging to see entries from further afield clubs and hopefully this will be something that can be built upon in the future. The races were a success and showcased the sport well.
- 3) Rowability council: I would like it to be raised at the National Council about the possibility of forming a separate Rowability council (similar to juniors/masters etc.) in order to encourage the growth of this section of our sport. I feel a distinct council would enable representatives for adaptive rowing as a whole to meet and look at ways to encourage participation in local events to ensure more athletes have the opportunity to row and to hopefully have fairer races, at both Tees and Durham Regattas there were athletes of different classifications racing each other and whilst the starts were offset enabling rowers to have competition in their own categories is the ultimate aim. I feel that a Rowability council would be able to look at specific issues in depth regarding the unique challenges that adaptive rowers face.