

## **NRC Executive June 26<sup>th</sup> 2017**

### **Recreational and Explore Rowing report**

#### **Explore Series**

Four rounds of the Explore Series have been completed, with entries averaging 17 per round, an increase from 14 or 15 last year. All host clubs have now paid the required fee to the NRC.

The eligibility rules need to be reviewed to fit in with the new Competition Framework. At present ES competitors are required to have novice status, but from next year novice won't exist under the new ranking index system. BR's intention was that a win in a BROE2 event would result in addition of a point in the BROE1 system. This hasn't happened automatically which has caused some confusion. It is proposed in future to base eligibility on the number of index points held. The level of points needs to be decided.

Boat sharing needs to be arranged for the Chester-le-Street round in September.

New trophies may be required for next year.

#### **Tours**

I was the only representative from the Northern Region on the BR European Tour to Hamburg in May. It was attended by 42 participants and was well organised and very enjoyable.

There have been over 80 entries for the BR National Tour (August 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>) on the Lancaster Canal, a small increase on last year.

Organisers are disappointed that there has been very little interest from the Northern Region.

Weyfarers plan to bring 6 boats to the Lancaster Tour and these should be available for the Great Tyne Row the following week. A request was received from a club in another region for a spare boat for the GTR if any are available. It may be useful to assess likely take up from the region so that we can respond. GTR entries close at the end of July.

Weyfarers piloted a course about touring in April, including guidance for passage through locks. It is envisaged that it will be the precursor to a series of similar courses in other regions. It is hoped to extend online training resources.

An entry form has been produced for the Sunderland Tour on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Entries can be paid by bank transfer.

There is no formal tour on the Tees but Tees RC are planning to organise a row to Yarm in August in fine or stable boats and will invite interest. Tees have hosted visiting recreational groups from other clubs on occasions. Clubs are generally happy to accommodate visitors and this is to be encouraged.

No further details have been provided of proposed day tours in other regions.

Progressing recreational projects through BR has become difficult due to organisational changes at BR.

The 2018 national tour, expected to be on the Thames, is being planned by the Recreational Rowing Committee. The next meeting is in October.

### **Boat Transport**

There is a perception that difficulties associated with availability of suitable boats when/where they are needed and the transport of such continues to be an issue deterring more widespread participation in recreational events.

Colin Lawson