

Northern Rowing Council

Draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2016 for approval at 2017 AGM

Held at 7.30 pm on 5 December 2016 at Durham Amateur Rowing Club

Present: 43

1 Apologies for Absence

Nick Farrow, Barbara Millns, Carol Singleton

2. Minutes of 2015 AGM

The Minutes were agreed a correct record

3. Matters Arising

There were none.

4. Regional Chairman's Report

Michael Laing had produced a written report (this report and all other reports referred to in these minutes appear on the Northern Rowing web-site at www.nerowing.com/nrcminutes.html).

The Region had many strengths, he said, and was in good heart. And it had been had been a good year for rowers from the north, notably Jess Eddie and Nathaniel Reilly-O'Donnell both attending if not rowing at Rio. Juniors from Chester-le-Street ARC had represented us at international level.

Sport England had required British Rowing to change its governing structure as a condition of receiving further funding, and a Board of Directors, including non-executives, had been formed. The relationship between the Board and the Council (and its committees) had still to settle down. The other major issue at national level was the on-going competition review. British Rowing had now appointed a Director of Membership and Customer Base, amongst others

He thanked all members of the outgoing Regional Exec Committee. In looking ahead he mentioned three things to watch out for:

1. Safeguarding
2. Maintaining the volunteer base
3. Possible need for intervention of NRC in disputes (more on this at the development conference in January 2017)

5. Officers' Reports

- 5(a) **Regional Representative** (Barbara Millns) had circulated a written report. Barbara was standing down as Regional Rep. The meeting thanked her in her absence for all her work.
- 5(b) **British Rowing Area Participation Manager** (James Andrews) spoke to his written report, which gave a comprehensive overview of the sport in the region. The Chairman then presented him with a small token of the Region's gratitude

for all the work he had done for the region as he left his current role and became Head of Pathways at BR.

- 5(c) **Treasurer** (Alan Granlund) distributed his report and accounts.
- 5(d) **Coaching (Education and Training) Coordinator** (Phill Tully) said he was standing down. Discussions then ensued with Kate O'Sullivan (Chairman of national coaching committee) leading the discussion. Kate presented Phill with a commemorative plaque from the Northern Region.
- 5(e) **Junior Coaching Coordinator** (Pauline Higgins) mentioned rowers who had represented us nationally. She said that Yarm School leaving the region and joining Yorkshire had left a hole in putting regional teams and crews together.
- 5(f) **RRSA** (John Mullholland) mentioned problems with the BR online safety audit as some clubs had linked themselves to themselves. Trailer safety has been highlighted nationally, with a number of incidents and subsequent advice given; it was not presently a requisite to get an annual MOT for trailers and club should be aware they would be held responsible for structural failure.
- 5(g) **LDS** - Charley Curtis presented on behalf of Sarah Smith. There had been a very successful series in 2016 with good weather. He highlighted the camaraderie between all in the region and who took part. He announced the Victor Ludorum results:
- * Junior: Chester-le-Street ARC
 - * Masters: Tyne ARC
 - * Senior: Tees RC.
- St. Leonard J18 quad had competed in all 6 events and were awarded a £30 cheque. The LDS series organisation is to be reviewed: Patrick, Charly and Colin to review with Sarah. Thanks were made to Sarah and Ian Smith for their work on the LDS.
- 5(h) **Para Rowing Coordinator** (Gillian Lathan) said Laurence Whitely from Tees RC won gold medal at Rio for mixed trunk and arms. She said clubs wanting to get involved with para rowing please get in touch with her.
- 5(i) **Events Coordinator** (Colin Percy) said the 2017-18 calendar was now in place with the exception of Chester-le-Street Regatta. The new points system was going to be coming into events on a voluntary basis in 2017 and mandatory from 1 April 2018. Colin said he would welcome a meeting with events reps re the competition framework. BUCS 4s & 8s Head was coming back in February. The Chairman questioned whether Durham University and other university rowing clubs might play a greater part in organising for BUCS.
- 5(j) **RRUC Chairman** (Peter Hoare) said the priority was getting more umpires. There was no need to have rowed, so non-rowing club volunteers could train as umpires. Training was free. Only 2 pre-qualifications were required: need to be 18 or over and have a British Rowing silver licence.

5(k) **Masters Rowing Coordinator** (Carol Singleton) - apologies

5(l) **Recreational Rowing Coordinator** (Gabrielle Moore) spoke to her written report.

6. Election of Officers and Committee

At this point Charly Curtis took the Chair.

Michael Laing had been appointed for a second three year term as Regional Chairman in 2015, but he wished to submit himself to a democratic vote for the forthcoming year, as he had done last year. The meeting agreed unanimously that he should remain as Chairman. Michael then resumed as chair of the meeting.

The following had been nominated prior to the meeting by clubs or events and were agreed:

Regional Representative on Council - Gill Houston

Vice Chair - Charly Curtis

Treasurer- Alan Granlund

Secretary - Pam Walton

Events Coordinator - Colin Percy

Regional Rowing Safety Advisor - John Mulholland

Coaching Coordinator - Eddie Bryant

Junior Coordinator - Pauline Higgins

Masters Coordinator - Gabrielle Moore

Pararowing Coordinator - Gillian Lathan

Recreational Rowing Coordinator - Colin Lawson

Ordinary member of Exec - Steven Thompson

Peter Hoare would continue as Chair of the Regional Umpires Committee (appointed externally).

7. Any other business

There was none.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm, thanking all who had attended.

PW/CP