

## NRC Masters Report June 2017

National Masters Regatta from June 2018 was discussed and the following points noted: (please also see summary of feedback attached)

- The PRI bands were too wide and spanned too big an age spread.
- Some clubs/areas seemed under-represented, comment was that many London clubs don't attend and we don't believe they have a similar event on the Thames, but upon checking with the organiser of National Masters it seems that the most under-represented region is East Midlands.
- Many people winning first place at non-champs would appreciate a gold not silver medal

Jeff Watling is now the Chair of the BR Masters Committee. Jeff is just putting finishing touches to his manual for masters rowers and will then roll this out to a few clubs as a pilot (maybe York, Warwick and Milton Keynes).

There are a large number of people coming off Learn to Row courses, many of them masters and clubs need to plan 'what to do with them '. Gabrielle suggested that clubs have discussion with one of our Explore Series organiser to see how we do it in the North. Most members of the Masters Committee had heard of the success of Explore rowing and would like more information.

The Masters Committee are to break into subgroups and will work on the following 3 areas: Finance, Development and Communication.

There has been concern re the instructions for race entries: " For masters events please enter all crews as masters 'A', the eventual category of crew will depend on numbers, age and experience. Events may be raced by master's age in which case a handicap system will apply at the start in line with British Rowing guidelines or ranking points, with no handicap."

This approach had produced racing where an F quad were raced against a J18 quad and open crews. It was recommended that entries for masters crews should be requested in their age categories and that only if there was no masters competition would they then be offered open events.

PRI

Last year the committee raised the issue that points from heads races were disproportionately high compared to side by side racing. It seems that points are still high and a further review will be requested.

Gabrielle Moore, DARC, September 22, 2018

