

Northern Rowing Council

AGM - 27 November 2017

Events Coordinator's report for 2017 (sorry for lateness, Rutherford is my excuse)

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/autumn for the next rowing calendar year (1 April to 31 March).

The NRC Exec has endorsed all requests made by clubs in the region for 2018-19. This was a lot easier than I expected with thanks to Tyne ARC for not contesting a date in the peak period of May/early June and to Bradford ARC on cooperating on the date Tyne wanted. The draft (but almost certain) programme for 2018-19 can be found below and is on the NRC web site at www.nerowing.com/calendar.html (it also shows key national and other regions events).

The only related aspect to report is that Cambois RC wish to take back direct control and running of Wansbeck SBH (in the afternoon after the LDS). Paperwork is almost all ready and will be signed off (if satisfactory) by the appropriate regional officers in the next week or two. This does not affect the programme below, as it is already shown.

Actual dates for affiliated events 2017-18

Sat 15 Apr 17	Easter
Sun 30 Apr 17	CLS Regatta
Sat 6 May 17	Tyne Regatta
Sat 13 May 17	Durham City Regatta (+ Sun)
Sat 20 May 17	Tees Regatta
Sat 27 May 17	Wansbeck Regatta
Sat 3 Jun 17	Hexham Regatta
Sat 10 Jun 17	Durham Regatta (+ Sun)
Sat 1 July 17	Talkin Tarn Regatta
Sun 3 Sep 17	Tyne Singles Scullers Head
Sat 30 Sep 17	Durham Autumn Sprint
Sat 7 Oct 17	Berwick LDS
Sat 14 Oct 17	South Hylton LDS
Sat 21 Oct 17	Wansbeck LDS & SBH
Sat 28 Oct 17	Tyne LDS & TU SBH
Sat 4 Nov 17	Durham LDS & SBH
Sat 11 Nov 17	Tees LDS & SBH
Sat 25 Nov 17	Rutherford Head
Sat 27 Jan 18	TURC New Years Head
Sat 3 Feb 17	Durham SBH
Sat 17 Feb 18	Tyne Head
Sat 24 Feb 18	BUCS Head (Tyne) (+ Sun)
Sat 24 Mar 18	Ponteland Junior Head
Sat 31 Mar 18	Easter

Proposed dates for 2018-19

Sat 31 Mar 18	Easter
Sat 14 Apr 18	CLS Regatta
Sat 12 May 18	Durham City Regatta (+ Sun)
Sat 19 May 18	Tees Regatta
Sat 26 May 18	Wansbeck Regatta
Sat 2 Jun 18	Hexham Regatta
Sat 9 Jun 18	Durham Regatta (+ Sun)
Sat 23 Jun 18	Tyne Regatta
Sat 7 Jul 18	Talkin Tarn Regatta
Sat 8 Sep 18	Tyne Single Scullers Head
Sat 29 Sep 18	Durham Autumn Sprint
Sat 6 Oct 18	Tyne LDS & TU SBH
Sat 13 Oct 18	Tees LDS & SBH
Sat 20 Oct 18	Berwick LDS
Sat 27 Oct 18	Wansbeck LDS & SBH
Sat 3 Nov 18	South Hylton LDS
Sat 10 Nov 18	Durham LDS & SBH
Sat 1 Dec 18	Rutherford Head
Sat 19 Jan 19	TURC New Years Head
Sat 2 Feb 19	Durham SBH
Sat 16 Feb 19	Tyne Head
Sat 23 Feb 19	BUCS Head? Low, low tide!
Sat 16 Mar 19	Ponteland Junior Head
Sat 30 Mar 19	Easter

Affiliated events in 2017

With two weather exceptions and one numbers exception, the region has fared relatively well in running events since the last AGM, though not all were as calm or as warm as might have been desired. In the summer Tyne Regatta was cancelled due to lack of numbers. In the autumn we lost two LDS events, at Berwick and Tyne, due to forecast high winds (the forecasts proved to be accurate). There is a separate report on the LDS series being done.

We welcomed one new affiliated event in 2017, the Tyne Single Scullers Head organised by Newcastle University BC with a little help from Tyne ARC. It went well with a modest but quite respectable number (131) racing over three 3k divisions (open, masters, junior) and then an all-comers 1k sprint division in quite difficult conditions. No capsizes and no bow numbers lost - a double record maybe.

BUCS 4s & 8s Head

In the spring the major partial casualty was not really ours: the novice events at BUCS 4s and 8s Head on the Tyne were cancelled due to wind concerns. BUCS runs again in February 2018, but is subject to an open and current bidding process. As far as I know the region is interested again in hosting BUCS, but I have not been given any information and this is just hearsay. Very, very low tides on their usual weekend in 2019 might influence things.

New competition framework

This is still working its way through with full implementation from 1 April 2018. Feedback will be sought from events for the Club Development Conference (see below). Personally speaking, after much agonising on banding for seniors for Rutherford Head, and without detailed analysis (will do one), it seemed to work quite well. Some personal knowledge or at least sensible assumptions about some crews (especially students) does help, though, as new style points are not everything yet.

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, Gabrielle Moore and Caroline Scholl. Colin Lawson's recreational rowing report covers this. Tides are not helping setting dates in 2018!

I have helped in a major way with the Great Tyne Row for some years. Colin again covered this in his report for 2017. For 2018 it looks as if it will not run as such, due mainly again to very difficult tides (it has fairly precise needs for a mid-ish day high tide), but also to organiser fatigue (or getting married). A lesser Tour of the Tyne is being mooted instead. The 2017 GTR will have just made a surplus once we have the sums done, I think.

Regional discussions on events

We had a very useful meeting on the organisation, umpiring and just about everything else to do with head races (and the LDS series) on 6 September 2019, convened by the Regional Umpiring Committee - papers and minutes are downloadable at www.nerowing.com/nrcminutes.html.

A discussion will be held at the Club Development Conference on 28 January 2018 on the broader issues of event format, size and so on, for both head races and (but perhaps more so) on regattas. The early closing of entries and the running overtime of some events are just some symptoms of a system needed adjustment, perhaps. Thoughts welcome?

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