

## **Northern Rowing Council**

**Online meeting of Executive - 27 July 2020**

### **Report of Secretary - Colin Percy**

#### **Election and AGM arrangements**

The NRC AGM is due on Monday 16 November at 7.00 for 7.00pm at DARC. We need to discuss (a) setting in motion the nomination and election process, (b) asking who might be standing down or staying on, (c) whether to be virtual or not, (d) whether to ask for a guest speaker, virtual or not. The current constitution we must work under will be on the web site at the end of this meeting's agenda section. 21 days is the minimum notice but suggest we forewarn clubs informally now and give out formal notice in couple of week's time.

#### **Updating NRC Constitution**

Exec members will have seen the latest version (v3) of the document circulated to them on 13 September, incorporating further changes to the constitution V2 we considered in July - adding Vice Chair and Student Representative to the list of officers we would normally appoint annually and a few typos and punctuation corrections. Committee is **recommended** to endorse the draft v3 for forwarding to British Rowing for comment and then on to our AGM for adoption.

#### **Grants to academic boat clubs for return to rowing**

No discussion on this has happened as far as I am aware since our July meeting. I understand Alan is still suggesting caution in making at more grants at this moment. Members might welcome an update on rowing at Durham Colleges and Universities and at Schools.

#### **Contact with clubs**

I have had no direct contact with clubs since our last meeting, except that Lucy Holmes at Ebchester BC has emailed on 17 September as follows. I propose contacting her and other clubs asap with an offer of a Zoom meeting after our meeting, regarding Covid.

Hi Colin

Hope you're well. Sad news about the lockdown! I understand government are leaving it up to each sports body to govern sporting activity and I'm sure BR and NE rowing will be looking into all the rules. When you/BR are able to advise on rowing activities we will be grateful for an update. As it stands we've cancelled indoor activities indefinitely based on how small our clubhouse is and postponed water activities till we know what's happening.

Kind regards  
Lucy

## **Stories for NRC social media from clubs**

No action by me on this. Sorry.

## **Money currently held in an account in the name of Northumberland County ARA**

The Northumberland County ARA was active for many years in what are now the Northumberland, Newcastle and North Tyneside council areas. I think its role was primarily in organising events, notably the Tyne Head, and selecting county crews for matches with other counties.

It had income, notably from Tyne Head in later years, and this was banked with Barclays. Activities and income declined and then stopped maybe 7 or 8 years ago when Tyne ARC took on the full responsibility for and income from Tyne Head. Management meetings had possibly stopped by then and the NCARA affairs eventually ended up with Russell Kernahan, though with the retired (he thought) treasurer Alex Shiel still down with the bank as such.

As it happens I had discussions with Russell as TRC (not amateur then) Secretary about winding up the NCARA affairs and passing the money on to good rowing causes either direct or maybe through the NRC. However Russell's health declined and he passed away before anything was done.

Alex Shiel is still getting statements from Barclays once a year and there is currently £5,190.34 in the account. He is now under pressure from Barclays to close the account as it has been inactive for a long time. He would be happy to authorise payment of this sum to the NRC on the basis that there would be then some discussion with clubs in the old NCARA area and that it would in due course be dispensed as grants or similar in that area.

**I recommend we agree** now to accept the money on this basis and that we put an item on the agenda of our AGM asking that (a) the affairs of the NCARA be wound up formally (I have no records of a constitution, though could ask around), (b) a scheme to dispense the money within its former area of operation be set up and (c) in due course it be advertised and implemented. A vote on this at the AGM could perhaps be limited to reps of clubs in the NCARA area (and maybe just those who were actually active when NCARA was still operational).

CP