



# **Executive Committee REPORTS**

**16 October 2006**

## **Reports**

This document contains the following reports:

### **FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION, AND/OR DECISION:**

- Event Co-ordinator's Report
- Regatta Code of Conduct Report
- Regional Water Safety Adviser Report

### **TO NOTE:**

- Juniors' Commissioner (upriver) Report
- Division 11 (Upper Thames) Representative's Report
- Division 17 (ULBC) Representative's Report
- Thames Rowing Club Representative's Report

### **RELATED MATERIALS:**

1. OLL Mortgages Proposition

## Event Co-ordinator (Regatta Calendar) Report

Author	A. J. Evans
For period	18 September 2006 – 12 October 2006
Date prepared	12 October 2006
Action required	For Discussion

1. The reworked Calendar for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2008 to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 was circulated to all events that were affected and no adverse comments have been received. However, I still await dates for the Schools Head and the Boat Race for 2008.
2. Marlow Regatta has opted to go for 2 days in 2007, accepting the broad set of conditions have been set by TRRC stating that no ill effect is to be suffered by WHR or TVP regattas, and that permission has only been granted for 1 year.
3. The Ball Cup South seems to have settled its differences with Dorney and will now take place on 13<sup>th</sup> May.
4. A new problem has arisen with bookings at Dorney. Despite having booked the date in April, it has now been discovered that Eton College have an internal regatta, which requires the use of the Lake on the Saturday date of the Metropolitan Regatta. Some further research shows that this is likely to occur in 2008 and 2009, and periodically in some (but not all) years in the future. It is unlikely that any pressure can be applied to Eton College (it is "their" course after all!), so some means of accommodating the Met is being worked on at present.
5. I wish to discuss the effect of 4 above on the other regattas held at this time, and will bring other papers to aid this discussion on Monday.
6. This reinforces the need to plan further ahead, and it is worth pointing out that internal, and TRRC regattas now occupy three week-ends in June, and any bid for World Cup and other FISA events should bear in mind the upheaval this will cause to these existing arrangements.
7. Will Wallingford opt for 2 days? No details yet available, but similar conditions will presumably be set as for Marlow Regatta (see above). This also needs discussing.

## Regatta Code of Conduct Report

Author	Stan Collingwood
For period	To present
Date prepared	12 October 2006
Action required	For Discussion

The Chairman & I are Meeting with Alpha & Barnes & Mortlake regattas at the beginning of November to

1. Receive their proposals for bringing their events into conformity with the Regatta Code
2. Receive Barnes & Mortlake's explanation for violating the code at their 2006 event
3. Agree action plans that would allow the events to be held in 2007.

### Agenda Item for discussion and decision :

#### Proposal

"Private events on the Tideway that are not held under ARA rules must obtain PLA approval in the same way as any other event.

All such events shall be held in conformity with the TRRC codes of practice for events.

It is the responsibility of the event's sponsoring club to ensure that events are compliant. If a club fails to ensure that an event is run within the relevant code they may be liable to disciplinary measures."

#### Background

Private [Invitation] events are not run under the ARA Rules of Racing and there is therefore no formal requirements laid upon these events. This makes my work in getting events to operate within the code dependant upon the event being co-operative. I have no confidence that all these events are run in the necessary positive spirit. My recent experience with the Inter-Banks and UL events has been positive but I am confident there are other clubs, schools or colleges on our river that may not have the same desire to conform.

With the arrival of the Rowing, Regattas and Heads code it would seem prudent to bring our practice in line with other regions. Elsewhere it is common practise for the Regional council to insist that all rowing activities, including private racing, are held in conformity to the local rules agreed with their navigation authority. Without such local agreements, for example at Cambridge, rowing would not be possible.

The Inter Banks event and the UL events have responded positively to informal advice but I think we need the above resolution in place. I have visions of club races organised by others that might not be so responsive!

Because of their legal necessity safety plans and risk assessments I do not think that there is the same issue for these events. However the RWSA might wish to have a similar resolution in place.

## Regional Water Safety Advisor's Report

Author	Chris George
For period	16 June 2006 to 10 October 2006
Date prepared	15 September 2006 and 11 October 2006
Action required	To note and several points <b>Decision / Follow up Action Required</b>

Please see the two reports from the RWSA.

## Juniors' Commissioner (Upriver) Report

Author	Nigel Weare
For period	To 12 October 2006
Date prepared	12 October 2006
Action required	To note

Worlds attendance through adopt-a-nation (free tickets):

Mon: 306

Tue: 128

Wed: 495

Total 929, adopting 23 different nations

Burway questionnaire - the 11year old's questionnaire produced 4 responses

J15/16 training weekend - I have not done anything to organise this in preparation for next year's J16 Camp invites. Dorney Lake is only available for Oct 21/22, which is the same weekend as Weybridge Silver Sculls and the Senior and U23 trials in Boston. Last year there was much undermining of the event, even though the quality of those athletes who did come was higher than the year before.

## **Division 11 (Oxford) Report**

Author	Andy Weekes
For period	to 12 October 2006
Date prepared	12 October 2006
Action required	To note

The CORC regatta's on the 20th & 21st August this year suffered from the restricted availability of Thames regional umpires and about a reduction of 30% of competitors due to the World Championships.

Whilst the racing finances were partially rescued by some inventive events being held, such as a mixed medley and good marketing resulting in 10 crews in the corporate eight event, due consideration should be given in future by the organisers of international events at Dorney not to unduly effect the running of local regatta's.

The Isis stretch of river yesterday had two boats taken and burnt from the CORC boat house grounds during the night. It is of concern within the area that such destructive vandalism is occurring in the area again.

## Division 17 (ULBC) Report

Author	Jill Cobbett
For period	to 12 October 2006
Date prepared	12 October 2006
Action required	To note

This month has been about welcoming back the colleges and trying to bring them up to date with all the changes in a very short space of time.

- The United Hospitals have been given the Tideway Talk by Chris Williams.
- ULBC men and women have been given the Tideway Talk by Bill Mitchell.
- IC have been given the Talk by myself
- I will mop up any who have missed it on Wed 18th October.
- Not sure if Kings have been spoken to, they boat from TSS
- The clubs who are not based on the Tideway have not yet been spoken to and I am awaiting new club contacts.
- I have picked up a box of 90 copies of the Tideway Talk and have begun giving these out to the colleges.
- All clubs that boat from UL have been notified of the Wash Certification that they need.
- I have been able to purchase a single scull for the colleges to use in their swim test so they can perform the capsized drill. This is based in the ULU swimming pool. Unfortunately this facility is only available to the colleges, and not outside clubs despite my efforts.
- I have also given the Tideway Talk to PTRC.

The issue that was presented to Council regarding the funding of athletes and their availability to row where directed is still taking shape. I was invited to a meeting with David Tanner on Saturday 14th October but am unable to attend due to work commitments with the Pairs Head. This was also the case with the coaches in Div 17. We are hopeful for a new meeting date in the very near future where our concerns can be put. Communications are ongoing with this matter

Unfortunately I will be standing down from my post as Div Rep 17 at the end of this year. This is due to expecting my 2nd baby at the beginning of Feb, and I'm not sure if my contract will be renewed at the end of June due to changes within the University of London, when I return from Maternity Leave.

I am not UL alumni so have no links to the club other than my employment. I will endeavour to find a suitable replacement before I go.

Jill Cobbett

## **Thames Rowing Club Representative's Report**

Author	Emma James
For period	to 12 October 2006
Date prepared	12 October 2006
Action required	To note

A novice women's eight from Thames RC was involved in an accident on the Dover Pier upstream of Hammersmith Bridge on Saturday morning (7th October). All crew, cox and coaches were unharmed, however the boat was broken into three pieces and the crew required rescuing from the water.

I have had discussions with both the coaches involved about how to ensure (as far as possible) that this type of incident is avoided in future. This mainly revolves around better risk assessment of the competency of the crew before deciding whether to take them through Hammersmith Bridge on the flood, the speed of the stream and ensuring that evasive action is taken as early as possible.