

Title	Report of Activities of Neil Jackson RWSA
Author	Neil Jackson
Date prepared	13 th February 2007
Action required	TAKE NOTE

1. Safety Audits

1.1 By 13 February, the number of the Region's clubs auditing on-line through the Vorboss mailer system grew to about 150 clubs. The requirement was to audit by 31 December as part of the ARA affiliation process; but ARA HQ has picked on 15 February as its real deadline for suspending defaulting clubs. Those scraping in within a few days of the fall of the guillotine ranged from Oxford Brookes BC to Dacre BC, so any class of club is prima facie incapable of working to prescribed deadlines. That, in turn throws avoidable burdens onto Nick Watkins, in managing our results, and, in turn, onto Div Reps in order to try to save clubs from themselves.

2. Incident reporting

2.1 Chris George has led the successful establishment of the on-line incident reporting system. It now falls to me to develop an efficient, fair and open, if appropriately confidential, system for handling the possible flood of results, and to resource the process.

2.2 I have received reports of wrecks and collisions. But I have also heard rumours of other wrecks for which I have no reports. Div Reps might like to encourage their clubs to be honest about reporting. Without it, we are in no position to relate our priorities to the real on-the-water pressures, and I risk facing the PLA with a limp "Don't know, no-one tells me" response which does our sport no good at all.

2.3 The Incident Review Team has held evidence-gathering meetings with Thames Rowing Club about the wrecking of a W8+ at Dove pier in October and I have written up the meetings in consultation with those present. The investigation continues.

3. Water in the Thames

3.1 We have had our second flood and the first period for a couple of years of sustained normal winter flow levels on the upper river. I have passed on to Div Reps the occasional reports from the EA about the state of the upper reaches (red- and yellow-boarding). I was encouraged by feed-back that clubs have in place and are implementing policies to respond to red boards (in the form of stopping outings by younger or inexperienced crews and ensuring that all other crews carry out a risk

assessment before deciding whether or not to boat). I therefore continue to see no case for intervention by me.

3.2 The resulting flow rates on the lower river during ebb tides seems to have taken some crews by surprise. But the wide circulation of information about the wreckings, and the action of some clubs in drawing the attention of all of their members to the implications seem to me to be a sufficient response.

4. Events

4.1 I have consulted Stan Collingwood on behalf of TRUC about an efficient and effective system for individual TRUC members to make an informed, local input to Nick's and my appraisal of the safety documentation for events and my granting, granting with conditions, or withholding of consent on behalf of TRRC to the event taking place. I am test-running the system now in relation to the current batch of applications for consent. Stan and I will come forward with proposals for Council to consider based on the lessons from the current round on event approvals

4.2 The Quintin head 2007 took place with RWSA and TRUC consent. As the first such event on an 'open' Tideway involving racing through Restricted Zones under the Code of Practice, it was the subject of close attention from Stan, Nick and me, including meetings with the organizer (also attended by the Hammersmith Heads organizer as the issues were pretty much the same). It went off satisfactorily but with lessons to be applied to future events.

5.3 The current batch of events being considered is:

Molesey Veterans Head 24 February 2007

The documentation for this was submitted only today, 13 February, almost three weeks after the TRRC deadline for submission of one month, disrupting work on all timeously submitted documentation.

United Hospitals Head race 2007

Hammersmith Women's and Juniors Heads 2007

Burway Head 2007

National Junior Sculling Head 2007

Reading Head 2007

Abingdon Head 2007

The Head of the River Race 2007 (AKA The Tideway Head")

[Early draft: Hammersmith Regatta]

5.3 At or close to the deadline at the time of writing but not having submitted documentation are:

Schools Head of the River (15 March 2007)

Women's Head of the River (17 March 2007)



Weybridge Head (18 March 2007)

Neil Jackson
Thames RWSA

Title	Report on activities of Phil Simmons and Sarah Birch (CDOs) in Dec/Jan 07
Author	Sarah Birch & Phil Simmons
Date prepared	Feb 12 th 07
Action required	Yes – in blue

Sarah Birch and Phil Simmons

Sport England Club and Coach Development Funding

Applications to Sport England for Club and Coach Development (previously known as Talent Development) funding were submitted just before Christmas for both the South East and London region. Not all clubs put forward to benefit from the scheme have been spoken to directly due to the limited timescale for applications.

It is expected that we will hear whether the applications have been successful by mid March.

Now that the application is in, all clubs with the potential to be involved need to be informed.

Most importantly, partnership funding from clubs wanting to be involved and from any other prospective partners (the TRRC?) needs to be confirmed.

The CDO team would like the support of the TRRC when taking this proposal to the clubs.
[Action](#)

Sport England Workforce Development

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been asked by our County Sports Partnerships to ask clubs to complete an online survey on workforce development. An explanation of the background to these surveys is attached separately. The survey was designed for any organisation that is involved in sport and therefore it is not that easily answered by our mostly volunteer rowing clubs.

Clubs that completed the survey; Guildford RC, Burway RC, Weybridge RC, Molesey BC for Surrey, Wallingford RC for Oxford, Reading RC for Berkshire. The list is mostly of clubs that a CDO was able to visit in the last 2weeks.

Although the deadline has now passed I would like the TRRC to be aware of the programme as further work in this area is likely.

Sarah Birch

Partnership work

One County Sports Partnership Development Forum- Berkshire; discussions on workforce development and school activity.

One National Governing Body Forum- Discussions on how to work more closely with County Sports Partnerships, club and coach funding and updates from Sport England.

Club Support

Meeting with Abingdon RC re Junior Development. Abingdon are looking to build on their junior section. They may be looking to apply for POXtra funding; does this have the support of the TRRC? [Action](#)

Staines BC- Staines BC are now working towards Clubmark accreditation and looking at their club development.

Henley Stewards' Charitable Trust scholarship programme

The trust funds (through the ARA) a postgraduate student to undertake a 2 year sports related course whilst coaching juniors part time in a group of rowing clubs.

The ARA is now looking for placements for the 2007 scheme and I have put forward Guildford, Weybridge and Burway RC as a possible partnership for an HSCT coach to work in.

I have met with these clubs and agreed the outcomes from any HSCT coach placed in their clubs.

Community Sports Coach Scheme- Berkshire and Oxford

Continued support of Community Sports Coaches in these areas through attending coaching sessions, development work meetings, supporting indoor rowing taster days, annual staff reviews and meetings with partner clubs.

Meeting with the Oxford School Sports Partnership Development Manager to try to promote indoor rowing across Oxfords schools and our club link programme.

Phil Simmons

Community Sports Coaches

Sport England through the County Sports Partnerships have agreed to fund for a 4th year the Community Sport Coach Schemes. I have been working with the partners involved to continue the funding and continue the work done by the CSC's at the clubs and schools they are working with.

Club & Event Support

I have met with Partnership Development Mangers for Richmond and Kingston and there is an indoor rowing event planned for Richmond Schools in March and one still being planned in April for Kingston schools. Both these events will be run with the assistance of London Youth Rowing whom we have supported in the organisation with their national event in boat race week.

Putney Town RC are close to completing Clubmark with just three outstanding items. One of which is to be signed of the the Regions Safety Advisor.

Twickenham RC are keen to extend their work with local schools and are looking to possibly increase their role in the CSC scheme.

Coaching courses and London Partnership training

There is one course at Henley College that is taking place this month (Feb) and another at Weybridge RC also this month (Feb). The Level 2 at Thames RC in May is full and there is a waiting list for all these courses.

I have started a waiting list for those interested in Level 2 courses.

Tutors & Assessors Level 2

RP and myself have contacted all Tutors and Assessors in the Region for a meeting on March 4th at Marlow RC and we are in discussion as to the best way to run Level 2 courses in the Region to cover the whole geographic area. We need more Tutors and assessors in the region and Sarah Birch, RP and myself are looking to identify individuals.

We have candidate, Phil Harfield (TSS) tutoring on the May Level 2 at Thames RC to become a fully qualified tutor. Andrew Bird (MBC) is also in the early process of becoming a tutor as he is a Bronze coach. I hope to organise a course in Sept for Andy Bird to qualify fully. Also Lizzy Walne (Walbrook) an inactive tutor has asked to watch some parts of the Weybridge and Thames courses with a view to becoming a more active tutor.

Women's Sports Foundation grant

I have been working with the Womens Sports Foundation towards grants for women living and working in London. There are still places available, details on the TRRC website. Please advertise this to anyone who may be interested. More details can from, phil.simmons@ara-rowing.org

This is still available and the WSF is keen to spend money on rowing. The money will only be available up to Dec 07 and if we use our quota before then we may be able to get more funding. PLEASE ADVERTISE!!!!

Kew Bridge

I have been attending meetings monthly (except Jan due to late correspondence by developers) and the developers are trying to sideline rowing. Rowing is a thorn in the side still and I have had contact with two local councillors re this site and they are interested but need more motivation. Recently a possible tenant for a new boathouse has appeared but further discussions need to take place.

Hammersmith

This site is moving fast and with JH I have meetings this week (starting 19th Jan) with the London Sports Partnerships West and South. We have the council on board and Sport England are positive so far. Sports Development Plan and Business Plan are being updated regularly by JH and regular meetings with Sport England, H&F council, ARA facilities manager becoming more frequent as the timescales decrease on this project.

Division 11 Report Feb 07

New reservoir TO NOTE

Thames Water are proposing that a new reservoir to be located South West of Abingdon. A meeting with local rowing clubs and schools will be held at City of Oxford RC on Thursday 22nd February at 6-00pm to discuss the proposal. It is envisaged that the reservoir, if progressed, will be available for use between the years 2018 & 2020.

Caversham FOR DISCUSSION

Further to my question to the International Manager at last weeks council meeting regarding the use of the water facility at Caversham, I think that we should, as a region, pursue the matter. At present far too many of the ARA membership are asking if the facility is used. I personally have only on one occasion seen any activity, this being two single scullers.

The vision that this facility should be restricted to the national squad and others of a similar standard is correct, but the annual costs is great and when it appears that it is barely used then questions must be asked as to whether the facility is really required by the chosen few.

Members need to be assured that it is not a white elephant. This could be best achieved by visual activity. Failing this then I would have considered some form of documentation should be available that records the use and could be shown to Council members so that Div Reps could reply in a positive manner when questioned by the membership.

Andy Weekes
Div 11 Rep.



Exec Committee Meeting REPORT

19 February 2007

Title	Report of Activities of Equipment Officer 15 Jan - 19 Feb 2007
Author	Richard Packer
Date prepared	12 Feb 2007
Action required	Decision required

- Payment received - TVTH - £230 (not banked yet)
- Payment due (by 17 Feb) - Hampton 4s & 8s - £200
- New events - United Hospitals - 03 Mar, 24-26 May (3 days)
- Bought 24 replacement batteries
- 1 megaphone appears to be broken; current stock is 12 boxed megaphones in good condition, 5 unboxed in reasonable condition and 2 elderly ones due for retirement (we claim on the website to have 18 available for hire, and many events want all 18). **FOR DECISION** - buy 3 (min.) or 6 (pref.) replacement megaphones (web prices range from £45-60 each)
- **DISCUSS** - add a finish horn to our inventory; twin air horn (12 V) + cable + switch should be £50-60 in total

Terms of Reference for the Tideway Code Panel

1. The panel is a sub-committee of the TRRC executive.
2. The panel shall be composed of a representative of
 - A small club.
 - A medium-sized club.
 - A large club.
 - A school club
 - An college club.

Membership of the panel shall be rotated, so that in turn, all clubs are represented on the panel.

The Chairman shall be a member of the TRRC executive Committee, nominated by the Chairman, and shall serve for a period agreed with the Chairman of the TRRC.

3. The panel shall meet monthly to consider reports on contraventions of the Tideway Code. They shall review reports, and responses to the reports. They shall then decide whether the infringement merits the award of penalty points under the TRRC Disciplinary Code.
The decisions shall be taken by the Club representatives, advised as necessary by the Chairman of the Panel.
4. Membership shall be rotated every two months, one member shall stand down and be replaced by a representative from another club in that size group. No member, apart from the Chairman who shall serve for a longer period in the interest of continuity, shall serve for more than an eight month period.
5. If a club reaches an Action Point Level, the Regional Water Safety Advisor and Divisional Representative shall be advised, for the necessary action to be taken.
6. Nothing in these provisions shall prevent the Chairman from either seeking the advice of the Regional Water Safety Adviser (RWSA) about an incident or club to inform the Panel's work or referring an incident or set of incidents to the RWSA or Divisional representative for action.

At the meeting on 15/1/07 it was agreed that the present panel shall serve until the reporting system has been operational for two months.

BM to devise potential timetable for club participation.