



Executive Committee REPORTS TO NOTE

21 May 2007

Title	Downriver
Author	Jim Harlow
Date prepared	May 2007
Action required	To Note / For Discussion / For Decision / For Action

Further to our concerns regarding the future of rowing at Tiffin School, I arranged to meet with the Headmaster. I met with both the Head and his facilities manager. They were both keen to stress that they both want to keep rowing at the school but their current model of operation is too expensive. The costs of running the boathouse and staff costs are the main problems.

Further to this, a meeting was arranged between the school, Kingston Rowing Club, TRRC (Martin) and the ARA (Phil Simmons and Alan Meegan). At this meeting all the problems were discussed at length and a way forward agreed.

Work to resolve this issue is ongoing but although the future of rowing at Tiffin is not guaranteed the future looks a lot better than it did.

Title	Division 11
Author	Andy Weekes
Date prepared	May 2007
Action required	To Note / For Discussion / For Decision / For Action

Thames Water – Abingdon Reservoir.

Iffley Lock.

The new lock keeper Ferd Orchard has now taken over from the previous lock keeper. Two events I have been involved with since he has taken over as seen the same helpful involvement as given by the previous lock keeper. It appears that the same co-operation as previous will be maintained.

Title	Division 13
Author	A. J. Evans
Date prepared	16 May 2007
Action required	To Note / For Discussion / For Decision / For Action

1. **Longridge Update** (for background see previous reports).

I am preparing a paper giving details of the proposal for rowing at the site. Sarah Birch (CDO) has provided information. I am also indebted to Jim Harlow for allowing me to use some of his Hammersmith Project paperwork as a format.

2. Phil Tinsley (a Marlow RC member and also GB Rowing's boatman) held a **Seminar at Marlow RC** on Thursday 3rd May. Ten persons attended, so they gained maximum benefit, since their particular needs could be met.
3. I had a site meeting with Tom Wigley (EERC) who is trying to revive the **Windsor and Eton Regatta** on a course just upstream of Windsor Bridge. I am not very happy about this course since it is extremely busy with hire boats (small and large.) On my advice, he has written to the Environment Agency to seek their opinion. The provisional date is Sunday April 27th 2008, which doesn't clash with any other Thames event. Permission would have to be gained from Eton College to use their rafts etc. so there are quite a few hurdles to be surmounted before this event can take place.

Title	Calendar
Author	A. J. Evans
Date prepared	16 May 2007
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1. **Competition Committee meeting** was held on Sunday 15th April, but we were only half way through discussing the proposed Competition review changes when we were “kicked out” of the R & R Museum, having over run our “booking”. A meeting is I believe arranged with the Rules of Racing Sub-Committee at Nottingham on Sunday 27th May, during the Nat Sch Regatta.
2. I have received a request from **Hampton Head** to move its date in the early part of 2008. This is a very late request. The original date was only achieved after a great deal of discussion. I am attempting to keep everyone happy!
3. Chris Llewellyn (NCC Chairman) has given all regional co-ordinators about 15 days to submit their **draft Calendars** for the period Jan 2008 – March 2009. A mail shot will have gone out to all Thames Region events by the time of our meeting.

Title	Juniors Commission
Author	Ruth Hatton & Laura Lion
Date prepared	May 2007
Action required	To Note / For Discussion / For Decision / For Action

Downriver – Ruth Hatton

The JIRR was held on the 20th April and it was organised excellently by members of the TRRC, who took over from the previous team of Pam Davis and John Broadhurst. Thames Downriver, for the first time ever, fielded a full team, but finished a disappointing 5th, nearly 100 points behind the winners, Thames Upriver. This is mainly due to the fact that although Thames Downriver has many very good juniors, there is very little support for the event from schools. Next year I intend to publicise the trial date more (it will be the day of the HORR) and would like to turn it into a training day at Dorney for Thames Downriver Juniors. The CDOs and Junior reps for the Thames region need to meet up soon to discuss the Thames J15 sculling camp which needs to be organised in October/November so that we can send scullers on the National Junior Sculling Camp at Easter.

Upriver – Laura Lion

Thames Upriver won the Junior Inter-Regional Championships. Held at Nottingham's National Water sport Centre on 21 April 2007 this efficiently run event provided the first major championships of the season for our up and coming young athletes.

Thanks to Chris Boothroyd for his time and organisation of the trials for our region.

Title	Regional Water Safety Adviser
Author	Neil Jackson
Date prepared	16 May 2007
Action required	To Note / For Discussion / For Decision / For Action

1. Safety Audits

- 1.1 Nick Watkins is following up queries on the audits.

2. Incidents

- 2.1 The on-line reporting system set up by Chris George and Vorboss continues to work well. I feel that clubs are beginning to judge rather better what to report, although over-detailed matters can clog up the system and, more importantly, the work of the Conduct Panel. I have undertaken to review, though my logging system, the reports classified by the Panel as "DISREGARD" in order to propose for consultation, published criteria on the reportability threshold. (For RWSA purposes, that might be lower than the Panel would like – as my team need to build a broader picture of rowing life as it is, not just as what needs enforcement action).
- 2.2 I am now, however, getting concerned about the slowness of reporting in some instances; I may come back to Council on the issue.
- 2.3 I would welcome more reports from Up-river on the Vorboss system (in place of, or in addition to, the ARA hard copy format).

3. Competitions

- 3.1 Since my last report, we have consented to: Borne-at-Chiswick bridge regatta; Chiswick Amateur regatta; Hammersmith Amateur regatta; Henley Veterans regatta; Marlow Spring regatta; Marlow Town regatta; Oxford City Bumps; United Hospitals Bumps; Putney Town regatta; Thames Ditton regatta; Twickenham regatta; Wallingford regatta (at Dorney); Walton & Weybridge regatta; and Weybridge Ladies regatta.
- 3.3 We have on the books (under appraisal or awaiting amended documentation): Kingston Amateur regatta; Henley Women's regatta; Molesey Amateur regatta; the Metropolitan regatta (at Dorney); and Richmond Amateur regatta.
- 3.4 We have advised in advance on draft documents for Marlow (ML) at Dorney.

4. Strengthening the team

- 4.1 I have liaised with Stan Collingwood and Bill Mitchell on adding an Up-river presence on the safety team. The actual recruits will depend on responses, but should include a Deputy and, we hope, more!

Neil Jackson

Thames RWSA

Title	Veterans Commission
Author	Murray Litvak
Date prepared	May 2007
Action required	To Note / For Discussion / For Decision / For Action

1. There has been a further meeting of the National Veterans Commission. Greater representation had been obtained from regions from the first meeting, although some regions still lack reps.
2. Two issues are being considered currently: -
 - The categories for veteran racing to encourage fairer and inclusive competitions.
 - The general administration of the vet handicap, both time differential and application at the start. These points have also been discussed with Chris Sprague.
3. The potential training day in June has been postponed due to lack of support across the country. It is now proposed for September, and feedback is sort from the region on venue (we know the answer to that one) and content.
4. Further meeting arranged for June.