



What's New?

PORT OF LONDON AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

MOST rowers in the region will be aware that for the last few months all aspects of Tideway rowing have been under review by the **Salvage Association** (SA), on behalf of the **Port of London Authority** (PLA).

As part of this exercise, the SA are keen to hear any views from the Tideway rowing community, both in terms of current practice that people believe works well, or areas they think could be improved

Chris Sprague, who is leading the team on behalf of the sport, asks that any clubs or events who have submitted reports and recommendations to the SA, forward him a copy of their feedback. Chris can be e-mailed on umpires@thames-rrc.org

Finally, a reminder to all rowers, clubs and events to make sure they are adhering to the existing rules of the river at all times; in particular keeping to the proper crossing points and making sure white lights are always used, bow and stern, in poor visibility.

JUNIOR OFFICIALS' TRAINING

JUDITH Packer (Weybridge RC) is organising a number of training days for Junior Officials.

The idea is to give juniors a flavour of the work that regatta officials undertake at events and broaden their boatmanship skills in areas that are not covered by pure coaching. This will enable them to be involved in the major international events the Region will host over the next two years, as stake boat personnel and other suitable roles.

The first session took place in September 2004 and was attended by 47 juniors. The event was a great success and further training is planned at Dorney Lake, Eton on Saturday, 12 March and Sunday, 10 April 2005.

Topics covered include:

- Boat safety checks
- Radio and megaphone communication
- Flag drill
- Stake boat holding.
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The training day is followed up with assessment tasks and involvement at summer regional regattas as umpire assistants.

The Region is targeting these days at 13 to 16 year olds, to avoid clashing with academic exams and other school commitments.

Training is delivered by umpires from the Region, and organiser Judith Packer is looking for another four to eight umpires to assist, particularly those who are involved in the organisation of summer regattas and would be able to make use of the junior officials as umpire assistants.

Contact Judith by email at upriver@thames-rrc.org

Clubs and events are also invited to nominate suitable juniors to take part in the training. Again, please contact Judith by email.

EVENT NEWS

The next two years will be a busy time for the Thames Region as we are fortunate to be hosting three international regattas.

The first event of the **2005 Rowing World Cup** series will be held at Dorney Lake, Eton from 26 to 28 May.

The second and third events will be held in Munich (Germany) and Lucerne (Switzerland). Further details are on the FISA website: www.worldrowing.com.

The next **Coupe de la Jeunesse** match will also be held at Eton on 30 and 31 July 2005.

The Coupe is an annual event organised by the 12 member countries: Austria, Belgium, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia and Switzerland. The Coupe's website is at www.couperowing.org.

2006 will see the **World Rowing Championships** come to Eton from 20 to 27 August 2006.

Sir Steve Redgrave CBE is the President of the 2006 championships and **Mike Baldwin (LRC)** is Chairman. The event's website may be found at www.wrc2006.com.

Changes to Regional Events

In order to incorporate the international events, a number of changes have been made to the national regatta calendar.

The **Docklands Regatta** (South East River Region) this year will be held on one day and will combine with **Poplar Regatta** to make a weekend of racing at the London Regatta Centre on 14 and 15 May.

This impacts the **Metropolitan Amateur Regatta** which moves out of May, to the 4 and 5 June, avoiding a clash with National Schools (27-29 May at the National Water Sports Centre, Holme Pierrepont).

Other Event Changes in the Region

- **Teddington Sculls** will be held on 26 February (not March).
- **Abingdon Head** will take place on 17 April (not 3 April).

POTENTIAL UMPIRES

THAMES is the largest of the ARA Regions, and with lots of events that need qualified umpires, happening all year round, it is essential we keep a flow of new umpires coming through training to meet the rising demand.

Umpire training is organised by the Thames Regional Umpires Commission and we pride ourselves on the fact that other regions are following our model of training.

Umpiring on the Tideway requires umpires of exceptional quality and an ability to think and act quickly.

If you think that umpiring might be a good direction to take your involvement in rowing or if you're just interested in finding out more about what's involved, further details are on the TRUC website pages on www.biddulph.org.uk

Any prospective candidates should email the TRUC Secretary, **John Robson** (john_e_robson@hotmail.com).



VOLUNTEERS

Would you like the opportunity to be involved behind the scenes at a top quality international regatta?

The TRRC is compiling a list of volunteers who would like to help at one or more of the major events happening in the Region over the next two years.

Whilst we are fully aware that appeals to clubs often only reach a few individuals, our aim is to produce a comprehensive database of prospective volunteers with a wide and varied range of abilities and expertise, who would like to assist from the international, national and local perspectives.

We want to hear from all possible helpers, whatever your ability and expertise, be it running a regatta, selling programmes, clerical work or assisting with catering and refreshments.

Communications; timing; launch driving; marshalling of cars boats or people -- helpers in all of these areas will be needed and very much in demand. No task is too small and it is essential that we prove our capabilities in readiness for the 2012 Olympic bid.

Martin Humphrys, Chairman of the TRRC said, "To be holding these very prestigious events within our Region is excellent for the sport of rowing. The legacy we will take away in preparation for 2012 will be second to none. It is essential that everybody involved in rowing along the Thames volunteers to assist and thereby ensure that they are part of this prominent chapter in rowing history within the Region."

We would be grateful if all clubs would make their membership aware that we are compiling this database and if anyone is prepared to help in any way they are encourage to email the Chairman, who is compiling a list specifically for the 2006 Rowing World Cup. It is far better for us to have too many helpers than too few.

It would also help to have a list of linguists who would be prepared to assist with the various events to act as interpreters or indeed crew liaison. This would no doubt be good practice for some of our junior members as well as good preparation for 2012. Again, please email the Chairman with any possible volunteers and as many contact details as possible.

Everybody who offers assistance, at any level, will be replied to.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

AT the Executive Meeting of the Regional Council, held on 13 December 2004, the Chairman, **Margaret Adams**, announced that she would be relinquishing the Chairmanship with effect from 31 December, as she is relocating to France later this year.

The Executive elected **Martin Humphrys**, the current Secretary, to take on the role of Chairman until the AGM in November 2005.

Edward Rees will be replacing Martin as Secretary, and it is hoped that at the next Executive Meeting a replacement for Downriver Representative will be elected.

There are a number of positions which were not filled at the AGM (see box below). Any nominations should be proposed and seconded and emailed with the candidate's agreement to the Secretary for consideration at the subsequent Executive Meeting.

COACHING AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM

THE Region's Coaching and Development Team is led by **Vicky Foad**, who has responsibility for Thames upriver clubs.

Also in the team are **Sarah Birch**, who looks after divisions 14 and 15; Putney Town RC; Walbrook and Royal Canoe Club; Kingston RC, Twickenham RC and Dorney Lake, and **Simon Blackburn** who is the CDO for all other downriver clubs

Contact Details:

Vicky Foad
ARA,
The Priory,
6 Lower Mall,
Hammersmith,
London W6 9D

Tel: 0870 1644 765 Fax: 0870 1644 766

vicky.foad@ara-rowing.org

Sarah Birch and Simon Blackburn
Sports & Recreation Services,
Crescent House,
Kingston University,
Penrhyn Road, Kingston,
Surrey KT1 2EE

Tel: 0870 1644 763 Fax: 0870 1644 764

sarah.birch@ara-rowing.org
simon.blackburn@ara-rowing.org

CLUB/EVENT SECRETARIES

THE new Executive recognises the importance of communication and the need to improve communications throughout the Region.

In future, we hope to utilise electronic communication where possible and are therefore compiling a contact list for all club and event secretaries, which we will use for distributing agendas and minutes as well as other more urgent items.

Please could each club and event complete the form on pages 6 and return to the Chairman.

MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE AND FULL COUNCIL

WITH effect from January 2005, the Executive will meet on the third Monday of each month.

There will be Full Meetings of the Council in February, April and September when a representative of every club and event is expected to attend.

Executive Meetings are open to all, but representatives are not required to attend these. The dates of the meetings are given in the 'dates for your diary' box, below.

Host Clubs Sought

Meetings will move around the region and we would like to heat form clubs that can accommodate us. Please email the Secretary if your club is willing to host an Executive Meeting or Council Meeting on any of the dates indicated below.

As the 2004 AGM was held at London RC we would ideally like a large upriver club to host the next AGM in November 2005.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—COUNCIL EVENTS

Monday, 21 February 2005	Full Council Meeting	City of Oxford RC	1930 hours	<i>for details contact</i> Hon Secretary
Saturday, 12 March 2005	Junior Officials Training Day	Dorney Lake, Eton		Judith Packer
Monday, 21 March 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Sunday, 10 April 2005	Junior Officials Training Day	Dorney Lake, Eton		Judith Packer
Monday, 18 April 2005	Full Council Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 16 May 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 20 June 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 18 July 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 22 August 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 19 September 2005	Full Council Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 17 October 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary
Sunday, 22 November 2005	Annual General Meeting		1400 hours	Hon Secretary
Monday, 19 December 2005	Executive Meeting		1930 hours	Hon Secretary

EVENT SAFETY PLANS

ALL events are reminded that they must submit their safety plans and risk assessments to the TRRC in very good time and at the latest one month prior to the event for approval.

Failure to do so could mean that the event is cancelled or postponed. No event should believe that its previous plans are acceptable without review. While any event which did not take place in the preceding year, for whatever reason, will come under specific scrutiny by the Council., the fact that your event did take place last year, does not mean it will automatically be sanctioned this year.

Regretfully the Council in conjunction with the PLA has recently had to refuse to sanction an event on safety grounds and will not hesitate to do so in the future where the safety could be compromised.

All plans should be sent to both the Regional Safety Adviser, **Chris George** (safetyadviser@thames-rrc.org) and to the Competitions' Calendar Co-ordinator, **Tony Evans** (calendar@thames-rrc.org).

THAMES REGIONAL ROWING COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS *(new personnel and offices are shown in italics)*

President	<i>Chris Sprague (LRC)</i>	president@thames-rrc.org
Chairman	<i>Martin Humphrys (LRC)</i>	chairman@thames-rrc.org
Hon Secretary	<i>Edward Rees (LRC)</i>	secretary@thames-rrc.org
Hon Treasurer	John Chapman (Marlow RC)	treasurer@thames-rrc.org
Upriver Representative	<i>Judith Packer (Weybridge RC)</i>	upriver@thames-rrc.org
Downriver Representative	<i>Edward Rees (LRC)</i>	downriver@thames-rrc.org
Chairman Thames Regional Umpires Commission	Chris Sprague (LRC)	umpires@thames-rrc.org
Regional Safety Adviser	<i>Chris George (TRC)</i>	safetyadviser@thames-rrc.org
<i>Chairman Regional Competitions Committee</i>	<i>Jemma Fearnside-Kittoe (MBC)</i>	competitions@thames-rrc.org
Competitions Calendar	Tony Evans (Marlow RC)	calendar@thames-rrc.org
Chairman Regional Coaching Commission	Richard Phillips (LRC)	coaching@thames-rrc.org
Chairman Regional Junior Rowing Commission	vacant	juniors@thames-rrc.org
Chairman Regional Recreational Rowing Commission	vacant	recreational@thames-rrc.org
Chairman Regional Veterans Rowing Commission	vacant	veterans@thames-rrc.org
<i>Public Relations/Marketing Officer</i>	vacant	marketing@thames-rrc.org
Equipment Officer	Richard West (KRC)	equipment@thames-rrc.org
<i>Course Administrative Officer</i>	vacant	courses@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 10 Oxford University	<i>Charles Humphreys</i>	div10@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 11 Upper Thames	Barbara Wilson (OUBC)	div11@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 12 Reading	Peter Moore (RRC)	div12@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 13 Middle Thames	<i>Tony Evans (MRC)</i>	div13@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 14 Staines and Molesey	<i>John Biddle (Burway RC)</i>	div14@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 15 Kingston and Twickenham	Richard West (KRC)	div15@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 16 Chiswick and Mortlake	Ken Williams (MAABC)	div16@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 17 University of London	Jackie Dibden (ULBC)	div17@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 18 Barnes and Hammersmith	<i>Neil Jackson</i>	div18@thames-rrc.org
Divisional Representative—Division 19 Putney	<i>Paul Lorenzato (VRC)</i>	div19@thames-rrc.org
London Rowing Club Representative	Mike Williams (LRC)	lrc@thames-rrc.org
Thames Rowing Club Representative	Chris George (TRC)	trc@thames-rrc.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—ROWING EVENTS CALENDAR

Saturday, 5 February 2005	Henley Fours Head
Sunday, 6 February 2005	Oxford Schools Indoor Rowing Competition
Saturday, 12 February 2005	Henley Junior Head
	Molesey Veterans Head
Saturday, 19 February 2005	Burway Head
Sunday, 20 February 2005	Hammersmith Women & Juniors Head
Wednesday, 23 February 2005	Oxford University Torpids start
Saturday, 26 February 2005	Oxford University Torpids end
	Reading University Head
	Teddington Sculls
Sunday, 27 February 2005	BUSA Head
Saturday, 5 March 2005 (1030 hours)	Women's Eights Head
Sunday, 6 March 2005	Weybridge Head
	Hammersmith Head
Monday, 7 March 2005 (1300 hours)	Schools Head
Saturday, 12 March 2005	Kingston Head
Saturday, 19 March 2005 (1000 hours)	Head of the River
Sunday, 20 March 2005	Vesta Veterans Head
Saturday, 26 March 2005	Henley Boat Races [Women & Lightweights]
Sunday, 27 March 2005 (1500 hours)	University Boat Race
Saturday, 9 April 2005	Tideway Scullers Head
Sunday, 10 April 2005	Veteran Scullers Head (TBC)
Sunday, 17 April 2005	Abingdon Head [date changed from 3 April]
	Junior Inter-Regional Regatta (National Water Sports Centre, Nottingham)
Saturday, 23 April 2005	Hammersmith Amateur Regatta
	Oxford City Bumping Races
Saturday, 30 April 2005	Chiswick Amateur Regatta

Other Significant Dates

Thursday, 26 May 2005	Rowing World Cup starts (Dorney Lake, Eton)
Saturday, 28 May 2005	Rowing World Cup ends
Friday, 17 June 2005	Henley Women's Regatta starts
Sunday, 19 June 2005	Henley Women's Regatta ends
Wednesday, 29 June 2006	Henley Royal Regatta starts
Sunday, 3 July 2005	Henley Royal Regatta ends
Saturday, 30 July 2005	Coupe de la Jeunesse starts (Dorney Lake, Eton)
Saturday, 31 July 2005	Coupe de la Jeunesse ends
Saturday, 23 July 2005	Home International (Cardiff)
	Franco-British J16 match (National Water Sports Centre, Nottingham)
Wednesday, 8 September 2005	FISA World Masters Regatta starts (Strathclyde)
Sunday, 11 September 2005	FISA World Masters Regatta ends

Please complete and return to the Chairman

Club/Event _____ Division _____

To what address should all correspondence be sent?

Name _____

Postal address _____

Telephone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

The Region would like to send out electronically as much information as possible. What email address should we use?

Email address _____

Does the club have a website? If so, what is the address? YES/NO

Club Captain or Event Organiser Details

Name _____

Email address _____

Telephone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

Secretary's Details (if different from either of above)

Name _____

Email address _____

Telephone (daytime) _____ (evening) _____

Names of members within club/event who are qualified as follows. Please indicate whether these people would be prepared to act as assessors for the Region for assessment weekends arranged within the Region:

Instructors Award

Bronze Award

Silver Award

Gold Award

Would your club be prepared to host an IA/Bronze Award training weekend (or series of consecutive Saturdays) and if so, what weekends would be most suitable

YES / NO Dates:

Please return this form using the envelope provided to the Chairman, Martin Humphrys, The Garden Flat, 2A Hazelmere Road, London NW6 6PY or email chairman@thames-rrc.org by the end of February 2005