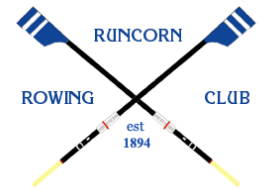


Chairman's Newsletter

June 2011



To RRC, RCC and LUBC members, and parents of junior members,

Junior Regatta

The Runcorn Junior Regatta is an enormously popular event and yet again it was over-subscribed. It is a week away and we still need volunteers to help on Friday evening (1st July) and Saturday (2nd July), even if it is only for a couple of hours. **Please, please can you help, especially parents of participating children**, e.g. marshalling of cars, catering (baking cakes etc or serving food and drinks), helping the kids on and off the water at the landing stages, or whatever. Offers of help please to Paul Coady.

Training

Welcome to Nick Pettet who has been appointed to the post: Training and ClubMark. He will be maintaining our training records and spear-heading the renewal of our ClubMark accreditation, vital if we are to qualify for grant funding. His first task will be to review and update our records. We urgently need volunteers for the following courses: Coaching Level 2 (you do not need to be expert in rowing); Child Protection (obligatory for all who may have contact with junior rowers); Equity in Coaching (advisory for all coaches); Launch Driving (obligatory for all who wish to drive our launches); First Aid; Food Hygiene; and several more.

Health and Security

Thank you to Damian who has been appointed to the post: Health Advisor. Thank you to Stuart Beards who has been appointed to the post: Security Advisor.

Safety

The Newsletter henceforth will include a monthly safety focus. This month it is incident reporting...

The **Safety Incident Log Book** is an important means of reviewing and monitoring how good or bad we are at safety. It is a condition of our affiliation to British Rowing that you make an entry into the Log Book whenever you are involved in a safety incident or near miss, however minor. In particular, every use of the first aid box must be entered into the Log Book, even if it is to treat a blister! Our Safety Advisor reviews the Log Book regularly and we can be audited by British Rowing at any time – an empty Log Book means we have not been filling it in; it does not mean we are perfect at safety – no one ever is! **Please fill it in!**

Welfare

Vivienne Lightfoot, RRCs Child Welfare Officer, is conducting a review of welfare policy and practise within RRC. In the meantime, I would like to remind parents of two of our current policies: All children (17 years of age and below) who participate in away events must be accompanied by one of their parents or by an adult nominated by their parents (e.g. another parent) to be *in loco parentis*. RRC officers and coaches will not normally take on this role. Relevant forms will be provided by Carol Harte who will, henceforth, be dealing with junior race entries. Secondly, juniors are not allowed to consume alcohol at any time when they in attendance at an away event. I respectfully ask that parents cooperate with this policy.

LUBC

Following a very successful meeting last week we will be developing a new agreement with Liverpool University to foster closer working between LUBC and RRC. The advantages for us are improved and long-term revenue, opportunities for coaches to be paid, and joint outings. The advantages for LUBC are: better coaching, better integration into RRC, joint outings, an overall better experience for the students.

Chris Wheatley, Chairman, Runcorn Rowing Club (chairman@runcornrowing.com).