



British Rowing Update Eastern Region

November 2017



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Please note that all information in this report is in the public domain (unless stated otherwise) and is therefore free to be shared with clubs, events, members and volunteers as appropriate.



1. Governing body update cont.

City Sprints update

In 2018 the British Rowing Sprint Series will launch. This will be an urban/city centre sprint rowing event series featuring men's and women's crews from Great Britain, and potentially overseas.

Racing will be fast and exciting, in two lanes, over 350m, with the start and finish visible to spectators. Each race will take between 50 seconds and one minute. There will be eight men's crews and eight women's crews racing in eights, with 14 races in total.

A sprint league is planned, the pinnacle of which will be the Sprint Series, and we envisage the Series winners competing in an international sprint competition. There will be one event in summer 2018, growing to a three-event series in 2019. The likely host cities for the 2018 event will be either Nottingham (June) or Bristol (July), with Bristol, Nottingham and Newcastle provisionally lined up for 2019.

The ambition of the new Sprint Series is to be a spectator-friendly sports festival appealing to a family-friendly audience. The event will be broadcast live on BBC online, and probably also BT Sport and Eurosport channels.

For more details please contact Rachel Dulai, Project Manager - New Product and Event Development:

rachel.dulai@britishrowing.org



1. Governing body update cont.

Go Row Indoors club pilot

British Rowing has developed a new indoor rowing club model as part of our Go Row Indoor programme, funded by Sport England. The club model will provide community rowing clubs and centres with the training, support and materials needed to run their own Go Row Indoor classes. These classes are designed to appeal to people in the local community looking for new forms of group exercise, and can be run at times when ergs and erg rooms are not typically being used by club members. They provide an opportunity for clubs and centres to generate additional income and develop a new customer base, with the potential for other benefits - such as attracting new memberships or enquiries for future facility hire, etc.

British Rowing is currently working with four clubs, three of which have started their classes and one that will start in January 2018. The pilot will help British Rowing develop and refine the product so it can be promoted to all clubs in mid 2018. The clubs that on the pilot are attracting regular new participants and are as follows:

- Kingston Rowing Club - <https://www.kingstonrc.co.uk/go-row-indoor>
- Peterborough Rowing Club - Officially launch in January 2018
- The Ahoy Centre - <https://www.facebook.com/AHOYGym/>
- Bristol Ariel Rowing Club - <https://www.facebook.com/GoRowIndoorBristol/>

For further information on Go Row Indoors contact Chris Farrell, Project manager - Indoor Rowing - Chris.Farrell@britishrowing.org



1. Governing body update cont.

British Rowing 2017 membership survey

The 2017 membership survey received a record number of respondents that have provided us with great insight to give us a better understanding of peoples opinions on British Rowing membership. A news item will be published on the British Rowing website in the week commencing Monday 11 December, and in the next edition of Rowing & Regatta magazine. We will also circulate a more detailed summary of the survey to all Regional Chairmen.

Club Survey

British Rowing is supporting a Sport England and Sport and Recreation Alliance survey to assess the health of sport and recreation clubs across the country. This survey features questions on a variety of topics such as membership and volunteer numbers, club finances and the key challenges sports clubs are facing.

The responses to the survey will provide insight into the current state of clubs, volunteers and coaches and help inform future funding and wider decisions made by Sport England and National Governing Bodies.

Please encourage all clubs in your Region to participate in this survey. The more that do, the better the chance of rowing clubs influencing future funding strategy: <https://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/pages/2017-sports-club-survey>



1. Governing body update cont.

EA charges update

The EA have announced that boat registration charges for any powered boat kept, used or let for hire on EA waterways in 2018/19, will increase by 5.7% (Thames), 7.5% (Anglian) and 10% (Upper Medway). Unpowered boats registered with British Rowing or British Canoeing are subsidised under an agreement with the EA, and will see a flat fee increase of 7.7%. British Rowing will continue to administer the registration of boats with the EA, on behalf of affiliated clubs.

Canal & River Trust boat licensing consultation

The CRT is asking all boaters and boating groups to take part in a consultation to shape the future of boat licences. All current boat license holders will receive either an email with a link to the consultation, or a letter inviting them to take part. You can also contact CRT customer services on 030 3040 4040 to request an invite to complete the stage 3 consultation. A summary report is available here: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/refresh/media/thumbnail/34242-licence-review-stage-3-summary.pdf>. The Closing date for responses is Monday 18 December.

Canal & River Trust licence fees

The CRT has announced that private and business boat licence fees will rise by 3% from Sunday 1 April 2018, roughly in line with inflation forecasts for next year. More information can be found here: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/news-and-views/news/boat-licence-fees-for-2018-19>



1. Governing body update cont.

British Rowing affiliation renewals

As part of the annual affiliation process British Rowing is currently collecting and processing membership declarations from schools and universities, who have until Saturday 6 January 2018 to complete this process. The deadline for community clubs is Wednesday 31 January, 2018. We have been communicating directly with all schools, universities and clubs regarding the affiliation process, and will be sending further reminders ahead of the deadline dates.

Rowing & Regatta magazine

The next theme to be covered in Rowing & Regatta magazine will be head racing (Jan/Feb). The April/May issue will focus on volunteering and we would like to hear from volunteers from all areas of the sport. Please send ideas to magazine@britishrowing.org.

Drone usage

Drones (also known as Unmanned Airborne Vehicles) are becoming increasingly popular in clubs and at events across the country, for both coaching and general filming purposes. In response to requests from the rowing community, we've put together a guide for drones weighing less than 20kg. Before you next use a drone, make sure you've read this guidance to ensure you fly within the law: https://www.britishrowing.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Drone-Guidelines_as-of_16.10.17.pdf



1. Governing body update cont.

Aviva Community Fund - finalists announced

Of 27 rowing projects across the country that applied to the Aviva Community Fund, six rowing projects have made it to final stage. The award winners will be announced on Tuesday 16 January 2018. Best of luck to Burnham on Crouch Coastal Rowing Club, River Fowey Gig Club, Langstone Cutters Gig Club, Newhaven Gig Rowing Club, Porthleven Pilot Gig Club and Weybridge Rowing Club. You can see their applications here: <https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/acfcms/get-involved>

Cancer Research UK

British Rowing has announced Cancer Research UK as its official charity partner for the next two years. CRUK's vision is to bring forward the day when all cancers are cured - an aim that British Rowing is proud to support. We're delighted the sport of rowing has been chosen as a partner and hope that over the course of the partnership clubs will join us in raising money for, and awareness of, CRUK's life-saving work. Over the coming weeks, clubs will be sent a fundraising kit in the post by CRUK. If clubs have any questions about how to organise raising money for CRUK, please contact the British Rowing lead at CRUK, Steph Maddox, for more information and support: britishrowing@cancer.org.uk.



1. Governing body update cont.

All-Party Parliamentary Group for Rowing

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Rowing brings together Members of the House of Commons and House of Lords, as well as associate members from across the rowing community, to promote the sport within Parliament. Individuals, clubs and organisations may join the group to raise points of interest, issues and seek advice. A number of clubs have already presented to the group and have asked the group for help and advice on several matters. Details on how to join can be found on the website <https://www.parliamentaryrowing.org/>.

Guidance on engaging with Local Authorities

The Sport and Recreational Alliance has published a document on how to work with Local Authorities with lots of useful information for clubs on business rates, discretionary rate relief, community asset transfer and community right to bid: <https://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/policy/policy-areas/local-authorities>.

Invasive plants and animals in British waters

Before the head season gets into full swing we would like to remind clubs to follow the 'Check, Clean, Dry' protocol with their boats before they put them on trailers and take them to another waterway. Ideally, following races, clubs should do the same before going home, and also Check, Clean and Dry their boats once they have returned to clubs before going on the water. It is especially important to follow this process if taking boats abroad. The Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) has lots of advice and videos on how we can help stop their spread: <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry/index.cfm>



2. Upcoming events

There are no British Rowing events in the remainder of December.

3. Latest news

Here is a round-up of some of the key news items from British Rowing over the past month:

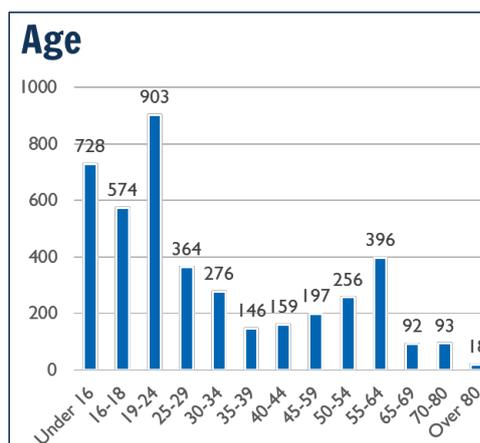
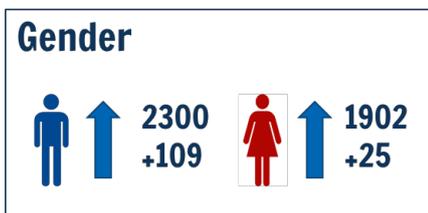
- [Racing is changing. Are you ready?](#)
- [WADA publishes 2018 Prohibited List](#)
- [Rower Holly Dunford wins SportsAid one-to-watch award for 2017](#)
- [Paul Thompson Inducted into act sport hall of fame](#)
- [Refund for British Rowing Senior Championships entries](#)
- [Latest update on the competition framework](#)
- [Club update on British Rowing safety audit](#)
- [British Rowing Launches new rower development guide](#)
- [Schools receive visits from GB rowers after participating in school rowing review survey](#)
- [Hurricane on the Thames as Cornish pilot gig prepares to launch/](#)
- [Henley Womens Regatta competition restructure](#)

For more news from British Rowing, head to our [news section](#) on Britishrowing.org or follow British Rowing on social media on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



4. Regional membership stats

November 2017	4202
November 2016	4068
% change y-o-y	3%
Actual change	134

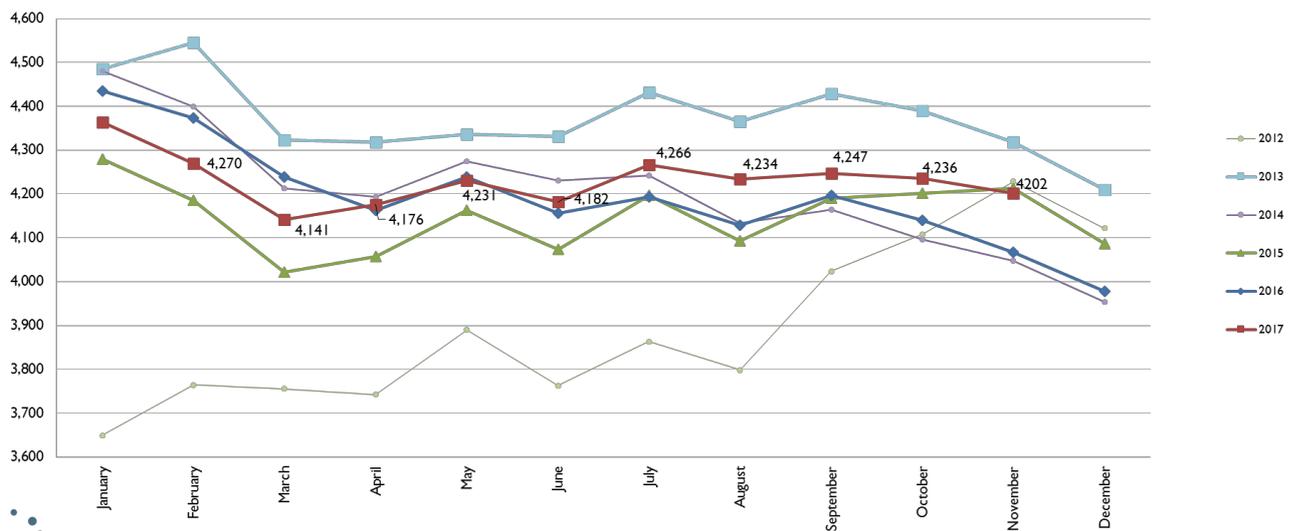


Type	Total	Change
Gold- J14	461	+23
Gold- J18	839	+16
Gold- Student	975	+52
Reg.	4	-36
Silver	501	+47
Gold	1402	+31
Platinum	20	+1



4. Regional membership stats

East 2012 to Present



5. National membership stats.

November 2017	31,490
November 2016	31,115
% change y-o-y	1.2%
Actual change	+375

Membership continues to increase year on year, up 1% or 375 members when compared to November 2016.

December is typically one of the quietest months and we expect to see a further dip in memberships due to the limited number of competitions in the month.

January is typically our busiest month of the year. This is when we will learn more about whether the post-Rio increase in membership was a temporary spike or sustained growth.

Total Memberships, rolling year



5. National membership stats cont.

November 2017 was the second highest November month in membership history, although growth when compared to the last post-Olympics year (2013) has slowed.

Based on historic data December is expected to be a slower month in terms of membership renewals and overall numbers.



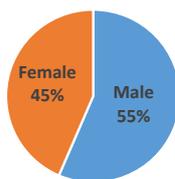
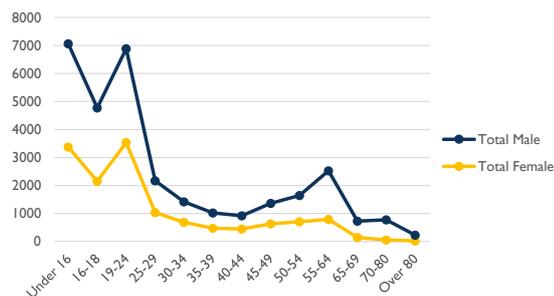
National memberships Stats conti.

In November 2017 the gender split was 44.6% female and 55.4% male British Rowing members. The percentage split between genders changed 1% this month moving female memberships back to 45%. Female memberships increased with 350 members compared to 25 male members.

The largest increase in female memberships was among Gold-J14 (+214) and Gold-Students (+164) members. Gold-J18 members declined 2% (-66).

Male memberships also saw a strong increase in Gold-J14 (+146) but a decline Gold-Student memberships (-130). This decrease is in line with a similar decline in male student memberships the past few months.

Membership by Gender and Age

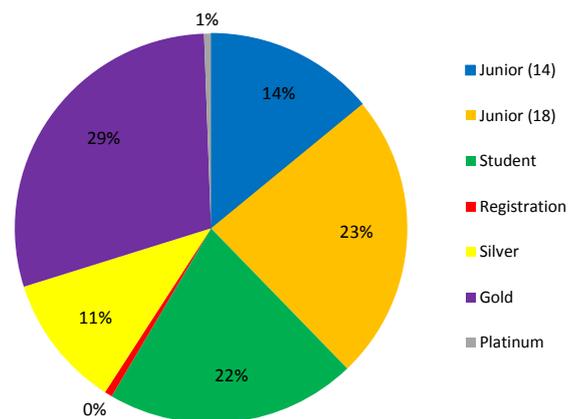


5. National membership stats cont.

Notable growth or decline year on year:

- Gold-J14 membership showed the strongest net increase y-o-y again (+360 or +9%)
- Silver increased 3% compared to November 2016 (+115)
- Gold-Adult increased 1% (+56) on to last year of which 55 were female members.
- Gold-J18 memberships fell by 92 members y-o-y (-1%) of which 66 were female and 26 male members.

Total Memberships by type



6. County Sports Partnerships and other contacts

- Bedfordshire: Team Beds - Coach development: michelle@teambedsandluton.co.uk
- Buckinghamshire: Leap - skitson@leapwithus.org.uk
- Cambridgeshire: Living Sport - info@livingsport.co.uk
- Essex: Active Essex - Volunteer and Club Development: Toby.Andrews@ActiveEssex.org
- - Coaching lead: Lauren.Neve@ActiveEssex.org
- Hertfordshire: Herts Sport Partnership - info@sportinherts.org.uk
- Norfolk: Active Norfolk - Club development: aaron.roberts@activenorfolk.org
- Northamptonshire: Northamptonshire Sport – info@northamptonshiresport.org
- Suffolk: Suffolk Sport - Info@suffolksport.com



7. Funding opportunities

Sport England

The Sport England funding page has lots of information on finding funding, so if you are looking to purchase equipment or improve facilities more information on their funds and how to apply can be found here: <https://www.sportengland.org/funding/>

County Sports Partnerships (CSP's)

CSPs are networks of local agencies committed to working together to increase the number of people taking part in sport and physical activity. Most of the CSPs have funding pages which have information on local and national funding sources. For more information on CSPs please visit the CSP Network website - <http://www.cspnetwork.org/your-csp>

The Rowing Foundation

The Rowing Foundation is a registered charity. Its purpose is to promote the participation in rowing of young people (those under 18 or still in full time education) and the disabled of all ages. The Foundation gives grants of £500-£3,000 (up to 50% of the overall cost of the project) to help organisations and clubs involved in on water elements of the sport of Rowing. Next deadline: 14th February 2018 - <http://www.therowingfoundation.org.uk/>

Community Foundations

There are 46 Community Foundations which invest £77 Million in local communities every year. Find your local Community Foundation - <https://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org/>

Contact clubsupport@britishrowing.org for assistance





Thank you.