



West Regional Rowing Council Newsletter

WRRC AGM

The WRRC Annual General Meeting took place on Sat 2nd February, at Plymouth Amateur Rowing Club. Meeting minutes are available on the WRRC website. The following committee were elected for 2007-8;

Executive		
Chair	Ray Mallett	raymallett@btinternet.com
Vice Chair	Beverly Davis	elbryning@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Alastair Barr	agfbarr@tiscali.co.uk
Secretary	Stephanie Green	stephanie.green@plymouth.ac.uk
National Committee Reps		
Safety (Sliding Seat)	Justin Smallwood	lankyponce@hotmail.com
Safety (Fixed Seat)	Shane Sullivan	shane.sullivan@metso.com
Coaching (Sliding Seat)	Kevin Dentith	deno@therills.fsnet.co.uk
Coaching (Fixed Seat)	Steve Kent	mail@barrowdown.fsnet.co.uk
Juniors (Sliding Seat)	Vacant	(contact Tom Pattichis in interim)
Juniors (Fixed Seat)	Vacant	(contact Tom Pattichis in interim)
Recreational (Sliding Seat)	Peter Cameron	panda_ruzza@btinternet.com
Recreational (Fixed Seat)	Tristan Netherton	tristan.netherton@microtest.co.uk
Umpires	Ray Mallett	raymallett@btinternet.com
Other		
Adaptive Rowing Rep	Sharon Letori	sharon.letori@devon.gov.uk
Seine Boat Rep	Andy Darkin	andydarkin@btoopenworld.com
Offshore Rep	Tony Lovering	kathylovering@aol.com
Surf Rowing Rep	Phillip Martin	pma3204556@aol.com
Cornish Rowing Ass. Rep	Beverly Davis	elbryning@hotmail.com
Non Voting		
ARA	Tom Pattichis	tom.pattichis@ara-rowing.org

West Region Club Development Workshop

On Sunday January 20th the ARA ran a Club Development workshop for clubs from the Cornish Pilot Gig Association (CPGA). The workshop was the first of its type run for CPGA clubs, and was excellently attended by over 50 club volunteers.

The delegates were first given a short overview of the various projects in development between the ARA and CPGA, including the development of a Level 2 award for fixed seat coaches. They then received presentations designed to support them with aspects of club development, including obtaining funding, volunteer management, and club development plans.

The workshop was very well received by those attending, including CPGA chairperson Norma Edwards who commented afterwards; 'I've had nothing but positives about the presentations carried out - it's definitely had an effect on the clubs attending'.

Copies of the presentations can be found on the CPGA website - www.cpga.co.uk

Isles Of Scilly World Gig Championships

The annual pilot gig world championships, held on the Isles of Scilly over the first May bank holiday weekend, once again proved to be one of the most unique and exciting rowing spectacles to be found on the circuit.

Contrary to the poor forecast the weather held all weekend and the event saw some of the closest racing in a



number of years. In the ladies event Falmouth retained their title beating Charlestown into second place. Caradon lost their stranglehold on the Men's event, with Mounts Bay taking the title. However there was some consolation for Caradon, who the men's veteran event, while Falmouth completed a double winning the ladies vets event.



WRRC Website

The ARA recently launched its brand new website. This includes a new regional page with information and news relating to the West Region. The new website address is www.ara-rowing.org/regions/western

Go Race Indoors 2008

The culmination of this year's Go Race Indoors series in the West Region took place on 26th February. This was the fourth annual Regional County Schools Championships and was hosted by Heles School, in Plymouth. Nearly 400 young people took part from more than 30 schools across Cornwall, Devon and Somerset - all competing for the regional schools' titles.

Racing took place on 40 linked machines, projected on to big screens so that the large groups of spectators could monitor the progress of the races. This ensured a really exciting and noisy event - now well established as one of the biggest junior indoor rowing events on the national calendar.



There was incredibly high quality racing on display, with all but two of the events being won by scores in excess of 100% of the national gold medal targets.

It was a clean sweep for the Plymouth Schools in the overall titles with Ridgeway winning the Overall and Female categories. Devonport High School for Boys won the Male title. Full results can be found at the WRRC website.

Regional Funding Update

Community Club Development Programme - The CPGA have recently been awarded funding via the ARA's CCDP programme, which will be used to purchase 12 Concept 2 rowing machines. These machines are available for loan to CPGA clubs, who will need to demonstrate how they will use them to increase participation in indoor rowing within their community. Application details can be found on the CPGA website - www.cpga.co.uk/

Club and Coach Programme - Following a successful bid to Sport England and the ARA, the West Region will benefit from the employment of a part time coach as part of the ARA's national C&C Programme. Sallie Malt will begin work in the region in the Autumn, working with WEARA clubs to support them in developing coaching programmes to recruit and retain participants in the sport. Sally has a wealth of experience in the sport having coached for many years at a number of clubs and schools in the Thames region.

HSCT Scholarship Coach - The ARA have recently advertised for a series of new scholarship coaches, funded by the Henley Stewards Charitable Trust, which for the first time will include a post specifically working with fixed seat clubs. The coach will be based in Cornwall, working with Newquay, Charlestown and Fowey Gig clubs and their associated schools. The coach will be supporting those clubs with the development of their junior sections, whilst also studying for a part-time sports related masters degree. Anyone interested in applying for this post should visit the ARA or CPGA websites for further details.

2008 Season Preview

West of England ARA - The WEARA championships see clubs compete at 10 regattas over the summer season. The season culminates in the *South Coast Championships*, this year held in Plymouth on 13th September, which sees selected crews representing WEARA against clubs from the other South Coast associations. www.weara.org.uk/

Cornish Pilot Gig Association - The CPGA run a series of regattas over the course of the summer. Points are accrued at selected events, contributing towards the 'Tribute Challenge Series'. The season culminates in the *County Championships*, at Newquay in September. www.cpga.co.uk/

UK Surf Rowing League - The UKSRL runs six events across the North Cornwall and Devon coast. This increasingly popular form of the sport is growing year on year, and culminates with the *Open Championships*, held at Saunton Sands, Devon on . www.uksrl.co.uk

Cornish Rowing Association - The CRA run a series of regattas around the Cornish coast, with events including Four Oar, Cornish Randan, Pair of Paddles, and Oar Match raced in flashboats and skiffs.

Seine Boats - The *Seine Boat Series*, organised by River Teign RC, comprises of ten races over the summer months. Points accrued at these events contribute to overall championships. www.rtrc.co.uk/

Offshore - Sea rowing in the FISA standard french coastal boats is increasing in popularity across the region, with a number of events now catering for this boat class, including Plymouth's *Breakwater Bash* (1st June) *Eddystone Challenge* (16th Aug), and the *Sea Trophy Races* (Minehead - 29th June).