**Tees Regatta and Small Boats Head 2021**

**Report to Tees RC AGM March 2022**

**Summary**

**Tees Regatta**

The 2021 Regatta was not able to take place due to Covid restrictions.

**Tees 2021 Small Boats Head**

The 2021 Small Boats Head took place on 9th October 2021 starting at 1500. The Northern Rowing Long Distance Sculls took place on the same course starting at 1030 with local arrangements by the SBH team.

The course was the same as for recent years from the Ingleby Barwick Road Bridge to the Millennium Footbridge. We were blessed with good weather.

St John’s Ambulance provided First Aid cover. There were no significant safety issues and Covid precautions appeared to work effectively.

As ever, I would like to thank all club members, family members, friends and other volunteers who made the event successful, and raised significant funds for the club. The feedback from our visitors – athletes, coaches, umpires and supporters – was unfailingly positive.

**Key Roles**

After the break from events due to Covid a number of key leaders are standing down or continuing their transition into advisory roles. I’d specifically like to thank Julie Leigh, Gill Stiller, Dilwyn Jones and Alan Puddick for their work on this and previous years’ events. **I still need additional volunteer leaders to support to be able to run 2022’s events.**

**Racing**

We received 116 entries from 19 clubs for 32 events. 13 scratched and 103 raced of which 4 were for time only. The entry was significantly down from previous years in part due a delayed return to competitive rowing by some clubs and universities following covid restrictions.

**Financial**

This year we only had the autumn Small Boats Head with the Regatta unable to run due to Covid restrictions. The SBH received £2711 from entry fees (as against £2914 in 2019).  The SBH raised a surplus of £1148 from entries and in addition catering produced a net surplus of £1270.

These funds would not be generated without all the willing volunteers making the events possible, and the army of cake and sandwich makers who support the catering team and its brilliant contribution to the event surplus.

**Specific points**

In addition to club members and friends we are grateful to:

* Stockton Borough Council for support with car parking and ‘portaloos’
* Several of our neighbours for allowing use of land for parking
* The Canals and Rivers Trust for clearing driftwood from the river; and for adjusting the river level to facilitate the event
* Tees River Rescue and Yarm School for providing and crewing additional launches
* Our visiting umpires
* Northern Rowing and the LDS team who assisted with the SBH including with software, numbers and results

A wrap-up meeting was held and some action points identified.

**This year’s events**

The 2022 Regatta will run on 14th May substantially similar to previous events (subject to any Covid advice in place at the time). The general call for volunteers will appear soon. We need a good turnout for preparation, running the event and tidying up. As usual, you need to volunteer for at least 1 division in order to be entered. We aim to give our visitors an enjoyable day, with a well-run and competitive regatta. I know the Club will give them a great welcome.

The 2022 SBH is scheduled for 8th October 2022

Stephen Heath
Tees Events Coordinator

28th February 2022