



ROWING IRELAND HOME HEAD LEAGUE 2020/2021

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 crisis has demonstrated that Irish Rowing has become dependent on significant scale events, such as Grand Leagues. Large scale events are now virtually impossible to run, due to potential public health and financial risk. NPHE has identified that the risk is not in large events; it is in the travel to these events in unventilated spaces and the socialising afterwards.

We have an opportunity here to support our members and clubs to redevelop a suite of small local scale and lean events that will link into an overall league. These can include fun and participation regattas for younger and social athletes, as well as events that cater for top senior club crews.

At the review of the Domestic events in November 2019, we could never have imagined what lay ahead of us. Notwithstanding this, during the review, the following was identified:

1. Events are struggling to cope with the demand, resulting in extraordinary extended regatta programmes which are proving to be problematic for event organisers, athletes and volunteers.
2. We need to embrace all our members from junior 13 to Masters F/G to recreational

The challenges facing Rowing Ireland and all their clubs for the coming season will be to offer competitive racing while maintaining the protocols due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Without some form of competitive rowing it will be hard to keep rowers interested and motivated. What is being proposed is to introduce small local competitive competitions held over several months with the overall winners going forward to compete in a national race off.

Aim: For Rowing Ireland to offer a competitive racing competition throughout the winter months to support clubs and assist athletes in maintaining their focus and ensure high standards are obtained.

ROWING IRELAND HOME HEAD LEAGUE

The objective of the Home Head league is for Rowing Ireland to support our clubs and all our members. The Home Head League can cater for all level of rowers and crews.

The layout of the Home Head League will be as follows:

- Races between members of two or more clubs from the same locality.
- Clubs who are not in the same location to each other but in close proximate, e.g. Carlow, New Ross, Waterford could also join to race at their specific location.
- Clubs cannot transfer points from one region to another and should continue with same regional Home Head. We encourage clubs not to travel unless necessary and then should optimally stay within 90 mins of their club in the spirit of what we are trying to achieve.
- Events scheduled on the Calendar (Oct-Dec) may choose to use the Home Head League format

Open to: All Rowing Ireland Affiliated Clubs and registered rowers

Organiser: Overall, Rowing Ireland, locally, clubs can apply to host events within their local area. It would be hoped that a number of events would be held locally and that different clubs would organize each event or if preferred, clubs can come together to run the event.

License authority: Rowing Ireland; clubs would have to apply to Rowing Ireland Domestic Events Committee to host the event. There will be no licence fee for these events. Home Head League events should not clash with scheduled Calendar events – unless well away from the locality.

Entries: Must be via Tracker (Registered rowers only) Entry fees are decided by the Organising Committee and collected by them.

Oversight: Each event will have a Rowing Ireland Observer, appointed by the DEC.

Results: All results would be posted on the Rowing Ireland website where a data base will be set up for the results so that. Clubs and rowers can view the results and track the times and points of their competitors.

Sponsorship: it would be envisioned that Rowing Ireland would sponsor the event with the following:

Rowing Ireland will give each event a fund of €120 for clubs to supply a winning yellow jersey t-shirt for each winner of each event (subject to a maximum of 30 events in total)

- Rowing Ireland will supply all medals for top three winners in the Final overall event.
- The prizes will be presented to individual clubs in person or virtually.

Spot prizes every weekend of the Home Head League

1. Best Social media picture reflecting the Home Head League
2. Club with the most social media engagement over the weekend
3. Organising Committee with the most innovative Home Head League event

Format:

- Clubs should enter their local Head via this form <https://www.rowingireland.ie/clubs/rowing-ireland-home-head-league/>
- The event will need to comply with the current COVID – 19 protocols.
- Participants must be members of the participant clubs and must be registered with Rowing Ireland
- A short Safety Plan should be submitted to Rowing Ireland to ensure safety.
- Events must ensure they have adequate Insurance cover
- Each region must host a minimum of three events for their rowers to be considered for the national finals.
- The DEC will appoint an Observer for each Event
- Timing teams must be set up at the start and finish, a reliable timing format must be used and visible to the Observer at any time.
- The Draw will be made by the Rowing Ireland Tracker system. Crews must adhere to this order.
- Points will be awarded for top ten crews in each category.
 - 12 points for 1st
 - 10 points for 2nd
 - 8 points for 3rd
 - 7 points for 4th
 - 6 points for 5th
 - 5 points for 6th
- Points will be added together after each competition.
- Individual rowers or crews depending on the category must enter a minimum of two of the 3 events to be considered for the national finals.
- Crews can be changed between events.
- Regions can run more than 3 events if they wish
- Different categories can be run on different weekends or different days to keep numbers within the current restrictions.
- Once an event is sanctioned by the Rowing Ireland DEC the usual re-scheduling considerations will be given if an event has to be cancelled for any reason.
- A finish date for all competitions will be published so that finals can be arranged prior to the start of the regatta season. All events must be finished by Sunday 28th February 2021.
- The results are submitted to RI who will enter them in an overall league table
- The Home Head League will take place from September to February a minimum of three events must be finished before end of February 2021. In order for a final event to take place in March 2021
- Finals may be run locally to maintain compliancy with COVID-19 regulations. Rowing Ireland will decide on the location and distance of each final series.
- All league results are sent to Rowing Ireland via homeleague@rowingireland.ie



RESULTS

Results should be submitted now later than the Tuesday following the Head

Categories for the event will be as follows:

Men's Events

- Men's Senior 1x/2-
- Men's Inter 1x/2x
- Men's Club2 1x/2x
- Men's Novice 4x
- Men's Master 4x
- Men's U23 1x/2-
- Men's Junior 18 1x/2-
- Men's Junior 16 1x/2-
- Men's Junior 15 4x
- Men's Junior 14 4x
- Men's recreational 4x

Women's events

- Women's Senior 1x/2-
- Women's Inter 1x/2x
- Women's Club 1 1x/2x
- Women's Novice 4x
- Women's Master 4x
- Men's U23 1x/2-
- Women's Junior 18 1x/2-
- Women's Junior 16 1x/2-
- Women's Junior 15 4x
- Women's Junior 14 4x
- Women's recreational 4x

Suggested Regional Heads

Area	Club	Courses
Limerick	SMRC Shannon Athlunkard UL Desmond Castleconnell Tralee	O'Briens Bridge Limerick City
West Cork/South Kerry	Kilorglin Workmens Mucross Kenmare Waterville Bantry Skibbereen	Skibbereen Kilorglin Killarney Lakes
Cork	Fermoy Lee Valley UCC Pres Shandon Lee Cork CIT	Fermoy Marina
East Munster	Clonmel Cappaquinn Waterford New Ross Graignamannagh Carlow	Waterford New Ross
Dublin	3 Castles Commercial Neptune DUBC UCD Garda	Islandbridge Blessington
Galway	NUIG Col Iog St Josephs Tribesmen Col na Coribe	Corrib
Midlands	Offaly Athlone Carrick on Shannon Sligo Enniskillen City of Derry	Carrick Sligo Tullamore Enniskillen

North east	Portadown Belfast RC Belfast BC Queens Bann RBAI MCB CAI	Portadown Lagan Bann
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