



National League 2018

Time for a change?



WHY?

- *We need to grow the sport*
 - *We need to provide competitive racing opportunities for men, women and juniors*
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The Aim



To work towards competitive Open, Mixed, Women and Junior racing in 20 person boats at every league event. To encourage more participation from currently under-represented women and juniors. This will be done by:-

- Increasing numbers in Women and Junior boats from 12 to 20 over time whilst aiming to increase the number of clubs participating in these events.
- Equalising the status of Open and Mixed racing to provide clubs with competitive racing for both men and women.
- Allowing clubs to choose events that represent the gender make-up of their clubs.

League Format 2018



Four classes with a separate league & trophy for each

- **Mixed** (maximum of 10 men and 10 women)
- **Open** (any combination of any gender)
- **Women** (maximum of 14 women paddlers, female helm and drummer)
- **Juniors** (maximum of 14 paddlers of either gender under 18, junior drummer)

Premier & Standard Division club trophies (as at present)

- Points for all four leagues will be added together for each club (including BDA registered second crews). The winner will be the club with the highest number of points at the end of the season. Premier and standard league status will be based on this overall competition.

Mixed and Open racing will be run together for 2018, but with separate finals. Trophies will be awarded for both classes.

Ladies and Juniors will have their own races with trophies for each class.

Clubs will be able to enter the following classes at each 2018 event

- Open or Mixed
- Women
- Junior

For multiple Open or Mixed crews from the same club, paddlers cannot be shared between boats and thought should be given to whether sharing helms & drummers between crews is practical or not. It could cause timetabling issues if you are running multiple crews but only have one helm & drummer. If at all possible please have a helm & drummer per crew that is racing.

Second crews will exist in each league in their own right as they do at present. They will be able to be entered as Open or Mixed irrespective of whether the first crew is Open or Mixed.

Composite crews will be allowed at the discretion of the race organisers to encourage participation across all leagues. Points will be allocated to member clubs and split in the same proportion as

members in a crew, i.e. composite crews will not exist in league tables in their own right. Helms and drummers will not count as crew members for the purpose of splitting the points.

We will also look at adding to the race program an extra Open crew made up of any currently spare or unused paddlers during the day. Call it an Allsorts or a Dragon Wranglers crew, any other name suggestions are welcome. This could help ensure that everyone who commits to the race day can take part in a number of races during the day rather than just sitting on the sidelines.

Points Calculation



All race classes will have equal weighting with the overall winner of each event being allocated 25 points for first place, 24 for second place etc.

Each league will have the same points awarded and those points will be used towards the overall Premier & Standard Club competition.

Premier and Standard Divisions



Premier and Standard Divisions

Clubs will retain Premier or Standard Division status based on their position at the end of 2017 after the promotions & relegations have taken place.

Premier Division

- Amathus
- Typhoon DBC
- Wraysbury
- Notts Anaconda
- St Neots
- Raging Dragons
- Cambridgeshire Royals
- Henley Dragons
- Secklow 100
- Thames
- Exe-Calibre
- Kingston Royals

Standard Division

- Worcester Dragons
- Hurricanes
- Powerhouse
- Pershore Phoenix
- Bristol Empire Dragons
- Soaring Dragons
- Windy Pandas
- Preston Dragons
- Pink Champagne
- Crusaders

For example.....



The following calculation shows how the league results would have looked if we'd used this format in the 2017 season.

Overall

Amathus	229
Notts Anaconda	203
Typhoon Tigers	185.5
St Neots	165
Kingston Royals	144
Powerhouse	133
Raging dragons	130.5
Cambridgeshire	124
Secklow 100	114
Wraysbury	105
Exe-calibre	88.5
Worcester	83
Thames Taniwhas	62
Henley	61
Bristol Empire	51.5
Hurricanes	51
Soaring Dragons	37
Windy Pandas	36
Pershore Phoenix	34
Preston Dragons	34
Pink Champagne	28
Crusaders	9

Open

Crew	Club	Points
Amathus	Amathus	104
Typhoon	Typhoon Tigers	101
St Neots	St Neots	82
Secklow 100	Secklow 100	68
Exe-calibre	Exe-calibre	50
Powerhouse	Powerhouse	50
Henley	Henley	61
Pershore Phoenix	Pershore Phoenix	34
St Neots Too	St Neots	44
Notts Anaconda	Notts Anaconda	13
Amathus Bees	Amathus	29
Thames Taniwhas	Thames Taniwhas	11
Windy Pandas	Windy Pandas	9
Typhoon Too	Typhoon Tigers	16
Pink Champagne	Pink Champagne	12
Kingston Royals	Kingston Royals	11
Too Secksy	Secklow 100	13
Crusaders	Crusaders	9
Anaconda Too	Notts Anaconda	29

2 - Open

Mixed

Crew	Club	Points
Wraysbury	Wraysbury	105
Raging dragons	Raging dragons	80
Notts Anaconda	Notts Anaconda	75
Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire	69
Worcester	Worcester	61
Hurricanes	Hurricanes	51
Kingston Royals	Kingston Royals	49
Bristol Empire	Bristol Empire	47
Thames Taniwhas	Thames Taniwhas	39
Soaring Dragons	Soaring Dragons	37
Exe-calibre	Exe-calibre	34
Windy Pandas	Windy Pandas	27
Typhoon Too	Typhoon Tigers	18
Preston Dragons	Preston Dragons	16

3 - Mixed

Women

Crew	Club	Points
Amathus	Amathus	96
Notts Anaconda	Notts Anaconda	86
Kingston Royals	Kingston Royals	84
Raging Dragons	Raging Dragons	50.5
Typhoon Tigers	Typhoon Tigers	50.5
Powerhouse	Powerhouse	39
St Neots	St Neots	39
Secklow 100	Secklow 100	33
Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire	33
Preston Dragons	Preston Dragons	18
Pink Champagne	Pink Champagne	16
Thames Taniwhas	Thames Taniwhas	12
Exe-calibre	Exe-calibre	4.5
Bristol Empire	Bristol Empire	4.5

4 - Women

Juniors

Crew	Club	Points
Worcester	Worcester	22
Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire	22
Powerhouse	Powerhouse	44

5 - Juniors

FAQs

Why the change now?

This change was initiated by a presentation by Chris Bailey followed by a discussion at this year's national congress.

This was then discussed in detail at the BDA Executive in December where the opportunity to grow the sport by providing a more balanced league format was recognised. This format is the initial result of those discussions and will be trialled in the 2018 league season. Feedback from the clubs will then be taken at the 2018 Congress to be held on 20th October 2018.

How does this encourage the growth of the sport?

We need more participants either as new clubs or new crews from existing clubs. The open format, whilst being all inclusive at a participation level, favours men when it comes to winning the national league. To grow the sport we need to encourage both men and women to take part equally. Statistics from the Nationals this year show there were only half (??) the number of women taking part as men.

Second crews will become an important feature in the overall club competition providing additional points that will contribute to the overall status of the club as either a Premier or Standard Division club.

Junior crews will be similarly encouraged providing a broad base of members from which to grow the sport.

What about age group racing (seniors, grands etc)?

We recognise that similar arguments could apply to encouraging members in different age groups and will continue to review the league structure to provide opportunities for other age groups when possible.

Why are there not going to be separate Open and Mixed events like at the Nationals?

At the moment there are insufficient paddlers in most clubs to allow them to enter both an Open and a Mixed crew without having to use the same paddlers in both crews. This would complicate the timetabling. We will keep this under review.