



BRITISHROWING

# Regional Chair's Report Eastern Region

February 2020

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT



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*Please note that all information in this report is in the public domain and can be freely shared with clubs, events, members and volunteers*



## 1. Governing body update

### **British Rowing Awards 2020 – nominations close soon**

Nominations for the British Rowing Awards close very soon on Sunday 16 February. If you know of a special person, club, competition or project that's deserving of special recognition from the rowing community, please nominate them via the British Rowing website [here](#). A number of new awards have been added, including Affiliated Club of the Year, Rowing Project of the Year, and Crew of the Year.

This year's event is an all-new, gala awards ceremony and dinner in Hammersmith, London, on the evening of Saturday 21 March 2020. We'd love for you to join us and our special guests at the event, who will include Cath Bishop, James Cracknell, Imogen Grant, Jürgen Gröbler and Andrew Triggs Hodge. A number of tickets are available on sale to the rowing community. Buy them online [here](#).

### **Become a Friend of British Rowing**

British Rowing is launching a new way to support the organisation, known as Friends of British Rowing. This has been designed for the many former participants and members who still think of rowing as “my sport”, and want to safeguard it for future generations to enjoy.

You can become a Friend of British Rowing for £30 a year (or more, if you choose) with all income going towards supporting British Rowing's work with community, school and university clubs. Please share this with your networks and sign up through our website [here](#).

### **British Rowing organisational changes**

From Friday 28th February 2020, a number of changes will be made to the staffing structure at British Rowing. For your reference these are as follows:

The Membership Services team will move into the Partnerships & Communications Directorate. The directorate will be led by Kenny Baillie, current Director of Partnerships & Communications. The name of the Directorate will be changed in due course to reflect the addition of the Membership Services team.



The Innovation Directorate will be merged with the Membership & Rowing Community Directorate, and renamed the Rowing Community & Strategy Directorate. This Directorate will include our Education & Training, Community Development and Indoor Rowing teams, as well as our Insight Manager, Competitions Project Officer and soon to be appointed Data Analyst. The directorate will be led by Helen Rowbotham, current Director of Innovation.

### **Safety advice for cold weather**

As its getting cold and the rivers are running fast you might want to look up the advice on the following to refresh your knowledge:

[Not getting cold at head races](#)

[Red flags and boards](#)

[Cold water kills](#)

There is lots more advice in the [Rowing Safety section](#) of the British Rowing website.

### **Remember to ‘Check, Clean, Dry’ your boats**

Now the head season is about to get into full swing we’d like to remind clubs to help stop the spread of invasive plants and animals between waterways by following the ‘Check, Clean, Dry’ protocols every time they use their boats. Clubs should also ‘Check, Clean, Dry’ their boats before putting them on trailers to go to races, as well as on their return to clubs before going on the water. It’s especially important to follow this process when taking boats abroad. The Non-Native Species Secretariat (NNSS) has lots of additional [info, advice and videos](#) on how rowers can help stop the spread.

### **British Rowing Club affiliation**

The club affiliation process to British Rowing for the 2020 / 21 year will be opening soon. Please ensure that your clubs have their membership declaration numbers ready and are familiar with the affiliation process in ClubHub Portal. All clubs were emailed on the 27th January as a reminder to ensure that their login details to ClubHub are correct and they are able to access their club profile page. We will email all clubs when affiliation



is open in the ClubHub Portal and will include more information in that email on how clubs complete their affiliation. Affiliation, including payment, needs to be completed by 31 March, 2020.

### **England Team selection for Home International Regatta 2020**

England Team trials for this year's Home International Regatta (HIR) will take place at The Royal Albert Dock, London on Sunday, 12 July 2020, for both juniors and seniors. More information and the full selection policy can be found [here](#).

Entries for trials will open on Monday, 15 June 2020 on the British Rowing Online Entry System (BROE2) and close at 12:00 noon on Monday 6 July 2020. There will be an entry fee of £20.00 per seat (excluding coxes).

If you have any questions relating to the England Team at HIR, email Tim Liversage, England Team Manager at [englandtm@britishrowing.org](mailto:englandtm@britishrowing.org).

### **British Rowing support and advice for club facilities**

British Rowing offers support to clubs in the area of facilities and premises (including many of the legal and governance structures related to premises). Support is provided by our Facilities Consultant, Alan Meegan ([alan.meegan@britishrowing.org](mailto:alan.meegan@britishrowing.org)), who has many years' experience in this area. Guidance and support is provided for issues such as:

- Tenure negotiation
- Planning
- Facility Development, Design and Delivery
- DDR and Diversity compliance
- Fundraising and Grant Applications
- Legal Structures
- Governance
- Premises Design and Layout
- Water Access, Flooding



Alan is field-based and support can range from telephone consultation through to assisting clubs at meetings with freeholders, planners and councils. Guidance has been prepared to assist clubs in considering appropriate legal structures for ownership of facilities and equipment. The support is provided free of charge to clubs affiliated to British Rowing.

### **British Rowing Competition Framework - Phase 2**

Phase 2 of the Competition Framework review is now under way, with the purpose of investigating and recommending improvements to the framework, launched in April 2018. It will take into account existing suggestions for enhancements, including ranking tables for competitors and league tables for clubs. New competition formats (eg. ladders and sprints) will also be reviewed, with the aim of creating more formal and informal opportunities for clubs to race. These discussions will be supported by a full suite of competition participation data.

Terms of Reference for a dedicated Working Group for the project have been agreed, and an open recruitment process for the group concluded. The individuals on the group all have a background related to rowing competitions, either as a competitor, coach or event organiser. A good range of ages is represented - the youngest is 20 years old, and the eldest 66.

### **British Rowing Membership Survey update**

The annual British Rowing membership survey, conducted in October 2019, received over 2,000 full responses, up nearly 60% year on year. A snapshot of the responses to the main questions around British Rowing membership are provided below, and an update was included in the December edition of Rowing & Regatta magazine:

*Are you satisfied with the membership services British Rowing provides?*

- 52% satisfied or very satisfied (down 1% year on year)
- 12% dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (down 1% year on year)

*Are you satisfied that British Rowing membership is good value for money?*

- 49% satisfied or very satisfied (up 2% year on year)
- 16% dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (up 2% year on year)



*Do you plan to renew your British Rowing membership when it expires?*

- 86% yes (down 3% year on year)
- 15% no (up 4% year on year)

*Are you happy with the service received from British Rowing staff?*

- 74% happy or very happy (down 3% year on year)
- 8% not happy or very unhappy (up 2% year on year)

### **EA strategic review of navigation charges**

As part of their move towards a more financially sustainable future, the Environment Agency (EA) are in the process of revising their current boat registration charging framework. In October and November 2019 they ran six workshops, the purpose of which workshops was to consult navigation users on their initial ideas and plans, and capture feedback from attendees of the workshops. A copy of the feedback is attached, and we will supply further updates on this process as and when they are available.

### **Safeguarding and Protecting Children Training**

Everyone who participates in rowing is entitled to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment. British Rowing is committed to helping everyone in rowing accept their responsibility to safeguard children and vulnerable adults from harm and abuse.

All British Rowing clubs, competitions and associated individuals must follow the policies defined in our policy documents. Procedures are in place showing the steps to be followed to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are protected, that concerns are reported, listened to and acted on appropriately. If you have any queries, please get in touch with the British Rowing Lead Safeguarding Officer: [iso@britishrowing.org](mailto:iso@britishrowing.org).

Safeguarding and Protecting Children training is accessible throughout the year and delivered by Active Partnerships. To find your nearest training provider go to <https://www.ukcoaching.org/courses/workshops/safeguarding-protecting-children>

Further safeguarding and protecting children resources can be found at: <https://www.britishrowing.org/about-us/safeguarding/>



In addition, the Child Protection in Sport Unit resource library has a number of videos, publications, online tool kits and examples of best practice to help sports clubs safeguard their junior members and vulnerable adult: <https://thecpsu.org.uk/resource-library/>

### **Tell us #YourStories**

A reminder that if you have any interesting stories you'd like to share with the rowing community, remember to let British Rowing know via our page [here](#). #YourStories is designed to celebrate, inform, educate and highlight opportunities within rowing – whether it's fundraising, club development activities, key milestones you'd like celebrating or dedicated volunteers you'd like to thank.

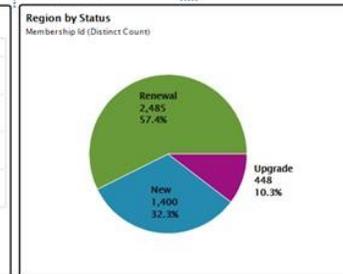
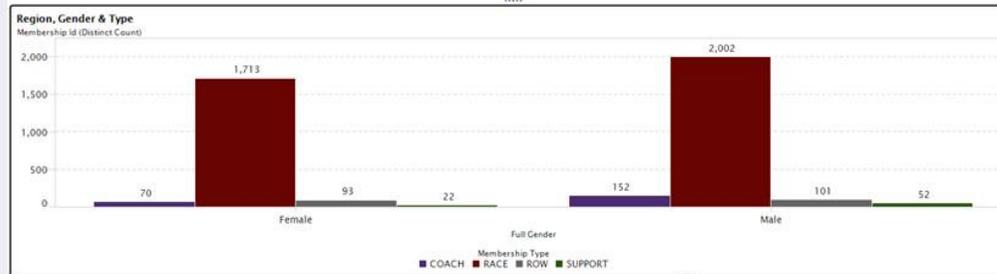
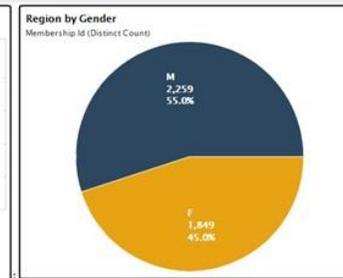
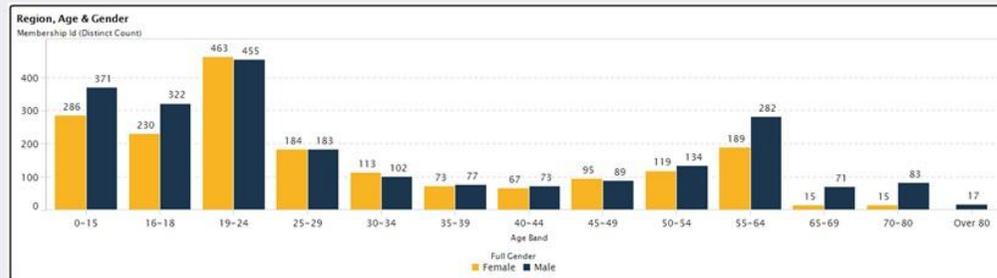


## Regional Membership Stats

January 2020

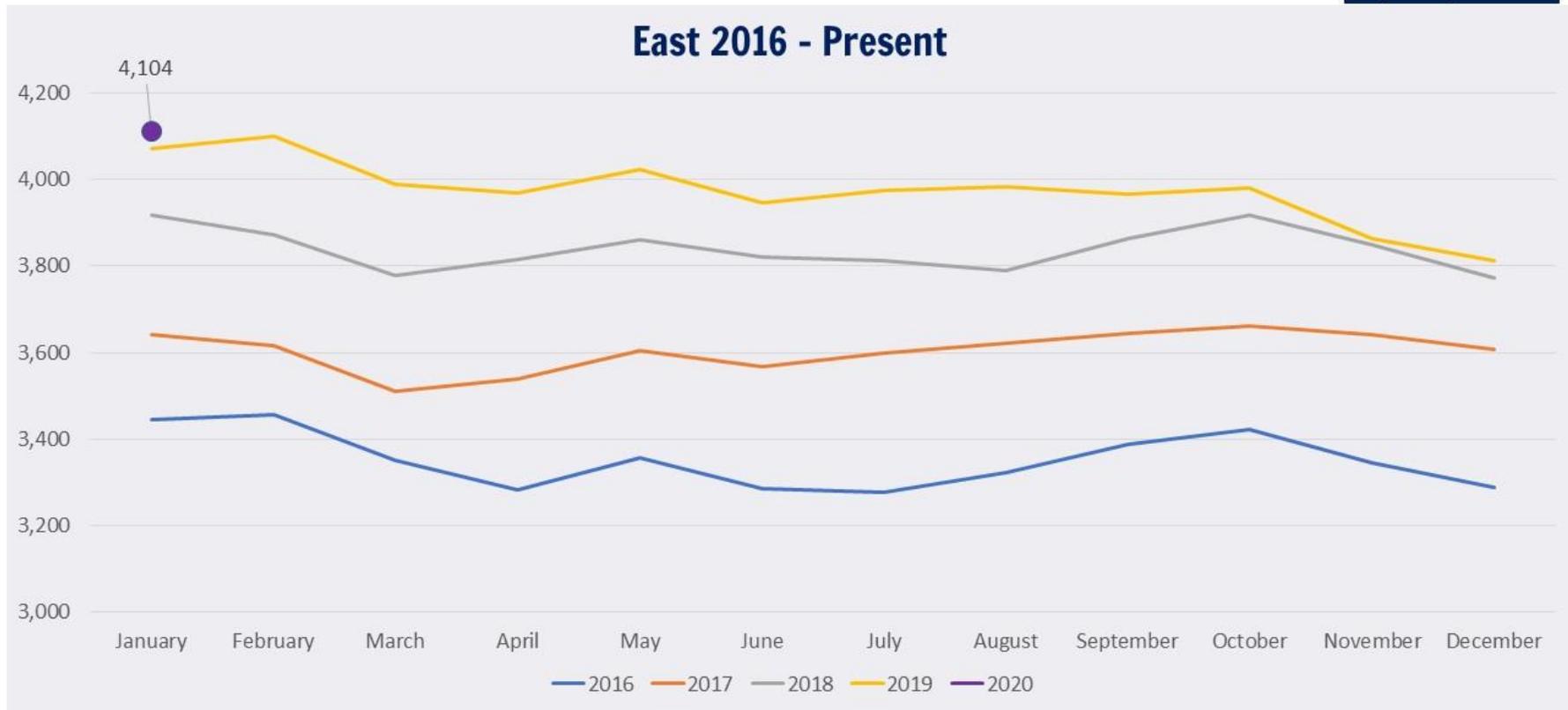
### East

Jan-20	Jan-19	% change y-o-y	Net change y-o-y
4,104	3,987	2.9%	117





January 2020





## National Membership Stats

January 2020

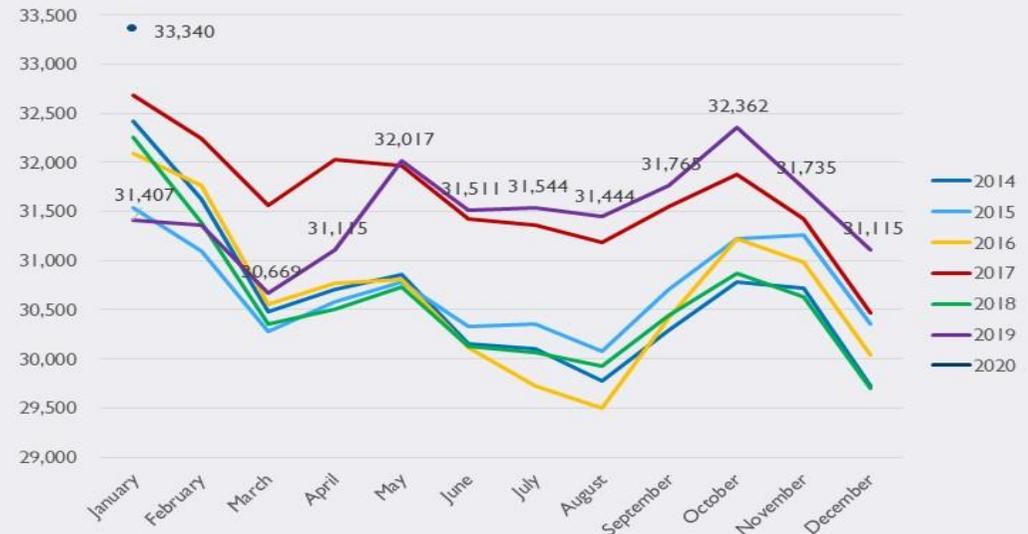
### Total members 2014 to present

In January 2020 we had 33,340 members. This is the highest reported membership figure in British Rowing history and a good way to start the Olympic year.

January tends to be the highest membership month of the year, mainly because the schools register their pupils for the term.

In February we should reach over 32,000 members to continue the positive trend.

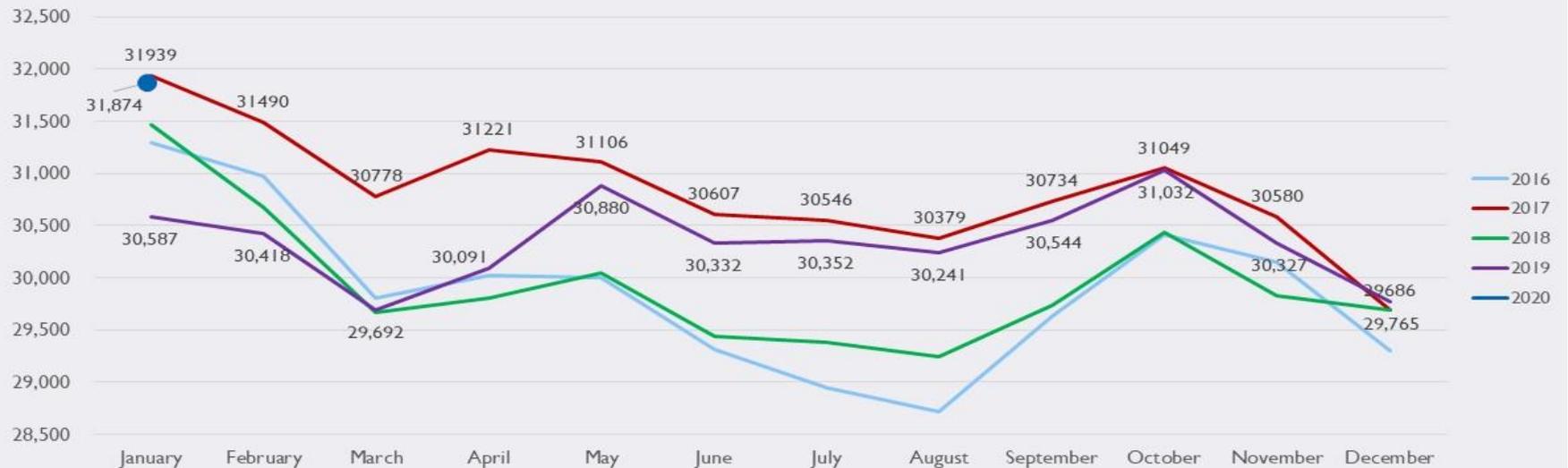
Total Members, 2014 to present



## Comparing like for like

Before we changed systems in January 2018 we didn't include Scotland and Wales in the total figures. The graph below tracks monthly membership excluding Scotland and Wales from 2016 – present.

### Monthly Memberships excl. Scotland and Wales



## Total Members

January 2020	33,340
January 2019	31,407
% change y-o-y	6.2%
Actual change	1,933

In January 2020 we increased membership 6.2% compared to the same month last year.

Of the 1,933 increase 66.8% were from the British Rowing regions (1291) and 33.2% of the increase took place in the other, non-BR, overseas, Scottish and Welsh regions (642).

Total Members, rolling year



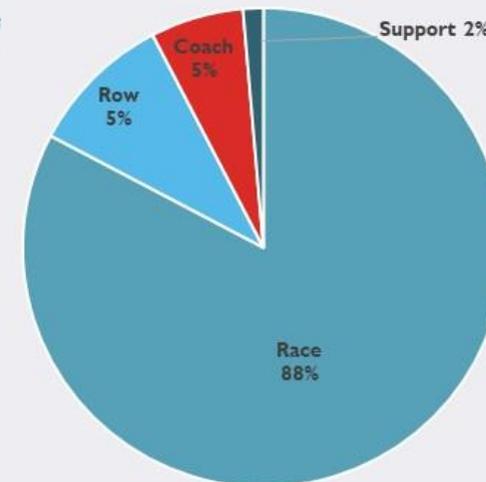
## Membership by type

Race memberships make out the vast majority of memberships (88.0%).

COACH membership has declined throughout the year, this is likely to be due to that on Go Live all current members with coaching credentials were assigned COACH membership, as well as RACE membership (if they were Gold members). We know that not all qualified coaches are still coaching and so are unlikely to renew this membership. We should begin to see more stabilisation in the COACH member numbers from now onwards. We will also track the Friends of British Rowing membership numbers with the real launch happening this month.

Membership type	Number of memberships	
	<i>*people can have more than one</i>	
	January	%
Race	30,107	88.0%
Row	1596	4.7%
Coach	1607	4.7%
Support	705	2.1%
Friends of BR	8 (61 total since Sept'19)	0.02%
Life members	171	0.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,194</b>	<b>100%</b>

Membership by type



January 2020

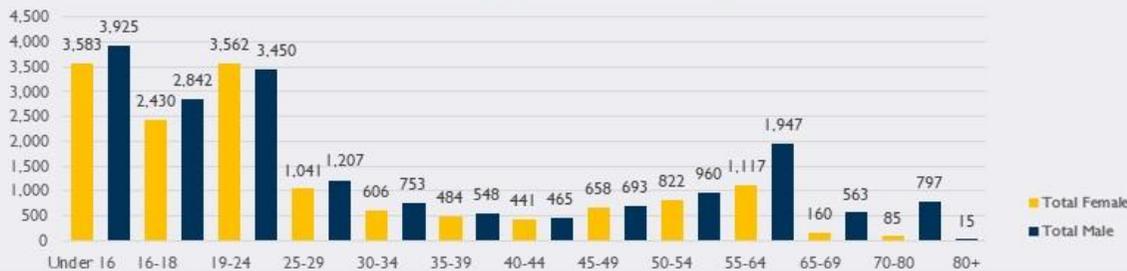
## Membership by gender

In January 2020 the membership gender split remained 55% male, 45% female.

The largest net increase in memberships in January 2020 took place in junior and student age groups especially amongst the girls followed by the 55-64 year olds, both male and female.

Looking at percentages, females 55-64 (20.5%) again saw the largest increase together with the 70-80 year old female cohort. This was mainly due to the 43 new female members age 55-64 in the Eastern region and 34 new male members in Thames.

Members by gender and age



Age	Gender	2020	2019	% change y-o-y	Net change y-o-y
0-15	Female	3,583	3,410	173	5.1%
	Male	3,925	3,894	31	0.8%
16-18	Female	2,430	2,147	283	13.2%
	Male	2,842	2,637	205	7.8%
19-24	Female	3,562	3,299	263	8.0%
	Male	3,450	3,212	238	7.4%
25-29	Female	1,041	1,040	1	0.1%
	Male	1,207	1,135	72	6.3%
30-34	Female	606	614	-8	-1.3%
	Male	753	739	14	1.9%
35-39	Female	484	494	-10	-2.0%
	Male	548	536	12	2.2%
40-44	Female	441	432	9	2.1%
	Male	465	460	5	1.1%
45-49	Female	658	617	41	6.6%
	Male	693	664	29	4.4%
50-54	Female	822	757	65	8.6%
	Male	960	937	23	2.5%
55-64	Female	1,117	920	197	21.4%
	Male	1,947	1,763	184	10.4%
65-69	Female	160	144	16	11.1%
	Male	563	570	-7	-1.2%
70-80	Female	85	70	15	21.4%
	Male	797	777	20	2.6%
Over 80	Female	15	19	-4	-21.1%
	Male	179	150	29	19.3%

\* Cells were highlighted in green or red when a % y-o-y difference >10% was found.



### Upcoming British Rowing Education & Training courses

Below is a list of all the courses and workshops that are still open for booking. If the course you want is not shown below you can always request a course via the British Rowing website [Requesting a Workshop](#) form.

Event Name	Event Location	Booking Dead Line	Start Date
Go Row Indoor Workshop for Fitness Professionals - Plymouth	Plymouth Life Centre	19/02/2020	26/02/2020
Go Row Indoor Workshop for Fitness Professionals - Huntingdon	One Leisure, Huntingdon	25/02/2020	26/02/2020
Go Row Indoor Workshop for Club Coaches - River and Rowing Museum	River & Rowing Museum	23/02/2020	29/02/2020
Go Row Indoor Workshop for Fitness Professionals - River and Rowing Museum	River and Rowing Museum	23/02/2020	29/02/2020
Man Overboard and Recovery - New Quay	New Quay Yacht Clubb	29/02/2020	29/02/2020
Session Coach Course, Llandaff.	Llandaff Rowing Club	16/02/2020	14/03/2020
Session Coach - Southampton	Itchen Imperiel Rowing Club	23/02/2020	21/03/2020
Capsize and Recovery Workshop, Maidenhead, Berkshire	St Piran's School	22/03/2020	29/03/2020
Go Row Indoor Workshop for Fitness Professionals - University of Birmingham	University of Birmingham Sport & Fitness - Slater Hall	18/03/2020	01/04/2020
Club Coach - Fixed Seat, New Quay	New Quay Yacht Club	04/04/2020	04/04/2020
Session Coach Course, Henley on Thames.	Henley Rowing Club	17/03/2019	11/04/2020
Club Coach - Fixed Seat, Richmond upon Thames	14th Richmond Viking Scout Boating Centre	12/03/2020	24/04/2020
Capsize and Recovery Workshop - Cardiff	Llandaff Rowing Club	12/04/2020	26/04/2020
Capsize and Recovery Workshop, Surrey	Imber Court Sports Club	26/04/2020	03/05/2020

If you want to attend any of these courses please go to <https://www.britishrowing.org/rowing-activity-finder/calendar/?type=courses> and sign up.



## 2. Upcoming Events

Dates for your diary! Here are the dates of the British Rowing national championships being held in 2020:

[Junior Inter Regional Regatta 25th April](#)

[British Rowing Masters Championships 13th -14th June](#)

[British Rowing Junior Championships 17th-19th July](#)

## 3. Latest News

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

[Jurgen Grobler to present award at inaugural British Rowing Awards](#)

[Barbara Wilson appointed Deputy Chair of Sport Committee](#)

[British Rowing membership survey 2019 results](#)

[Rowers in the Thames & Eastern regions can hire boats thank to Charles Stanley Wealth Management](#)

[New Digital and Broadcast Platform](#)

[Seven rowing coaches selected for UK coaching programme](#)

[Home International Regatta exciting new race format](#)

[Matt Rossiters 5 tips for making the most of camp](#)

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



#### 4. Active Partnerships and other contacts

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

British Rowing Community Support Team: [clubsupport@britishrowing.org](mailto:clubsupport@britishrowing.org)



## 5. 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/>

### **Active Partnerships (Old CSPs)**

Active Partnerships 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 Active Partnerships have funding pages which have information on local and national funding sources. For more information on Active Partnership please visit the Active Partnership Network website - <http://www.activepartnerships.org/active-partnerships>

### **Tesco Bags of Help Grant**

Bags of Help is Tesco's local community grant scheme where the money raised by the carrier bag charge in Tesco stores is being used to fund thousands of community projects across the UK. The projects must meet the criteria of bringing benefits to the community.

Bags of Help is administered by Groundwork who is working with Greenspace Scotland to support successful projects in Scotland.

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/pages/Category/boh-grant-for-project-tes>

### **Sport Capital Fund**

Sporting Capital is the first social investment fund in England that focuses specifically on organisations and projects that help to develop communities through sport and physical activity. They have a £3m Fund that provides loan funding of between £50,000 and £150,000 to eligible organisations.

See their web site [www.sportingcapital.org.uk](http://www.sportingcapital.org.uk) for more details.