



BRITISHROWING

Regional Chair's Report Eastern Region

March 2020

TEAMWORK | OPEN TO ALL | COMMITMENT



Contents

1. Governing body update

- Covid 19 advice.
- British Rowing Awards 2020.
- Become a friend of British Rowing
- British Rowing organisational changes
- Safety advice for rowing in cold weather
- Check, Clean, Dry
- British Rowing Club Affiliation
- Support and advice for club facilities from British Rowing
- British Rowing Competition Framework - Phase 2
- EA Strategic Review of Navigation Charges
- Tell us #YourStories

2. Upcoming events

3. Latest news

4. Active Partnerships and other contacts

5. Funding opportunities.

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

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

At this stage, British Rowing does not feel any rowing specific advice is required beyond that issued for the general public. This advice can be found on the [NHS website](#) and more information on the [government's response can be found here](#). As always if you feel unwell, you should not row and should seek appropriate medical advice. British Rowing will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as required.

Our latest advice will be maintained at britishrowing.org/coronavirus

For information, FISA have taken the decision to cancel a number of international events due to place in Italy. Further information can be found on the [World Rowing website](#).

British Rowing Awards 2020

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](#). Closing date for ticket sales is Monday 16th March.

Congratulations to all those nominated for awards – the [shortlist is now available on the British Rowing website](#).

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 it's 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 is now open. Clubs were emailed on the 17th February 2020 to notify them that the ClubHub portal was open for submissions. The Affiliation process, including payment, needs to be completed by 31st March, 2020.

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), 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.

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.

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.

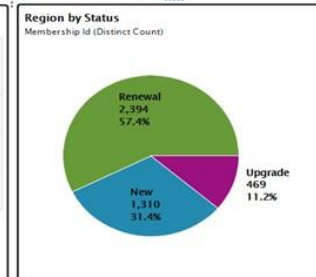
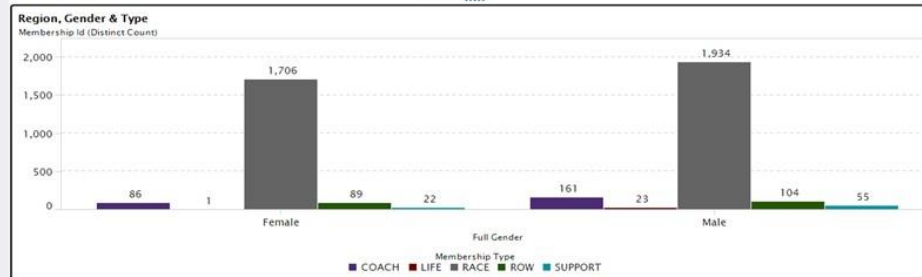
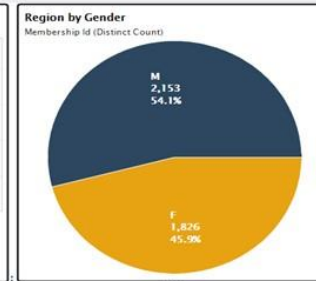
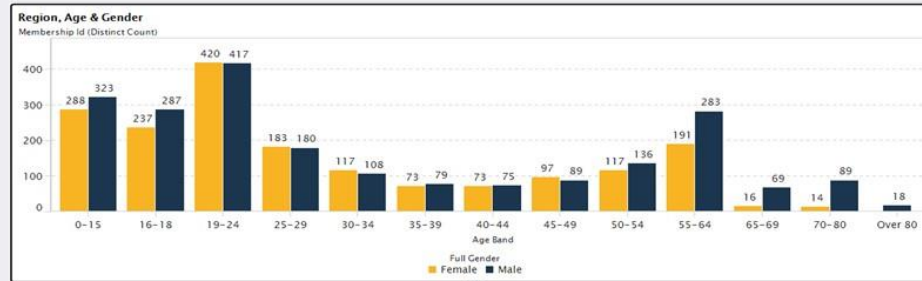


Regional Membership Stats

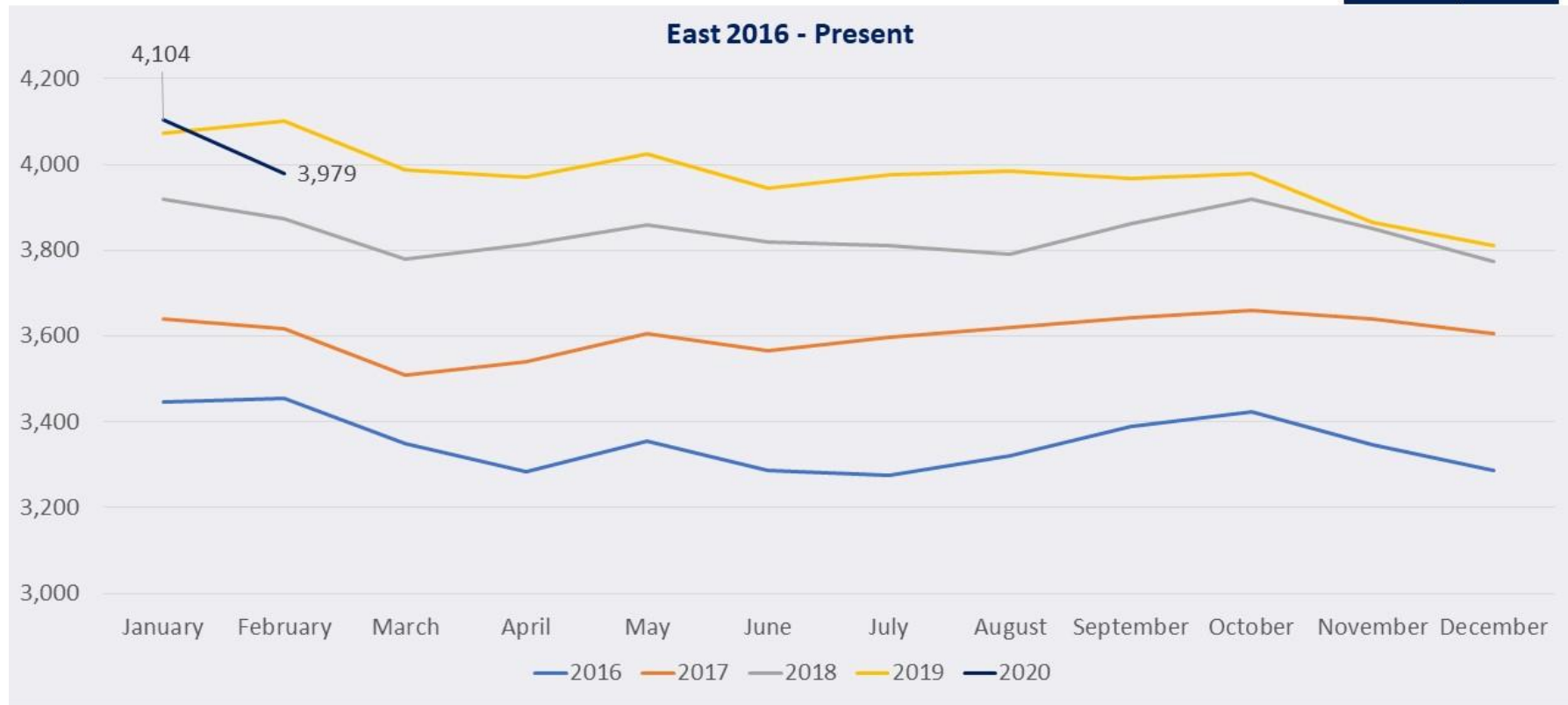
February 2020

East

Feb-20	Feb-19	% change y-o-y	Net change y-o-y
3,979	3,967	0.3%	12



February 2020



National Membership Stats

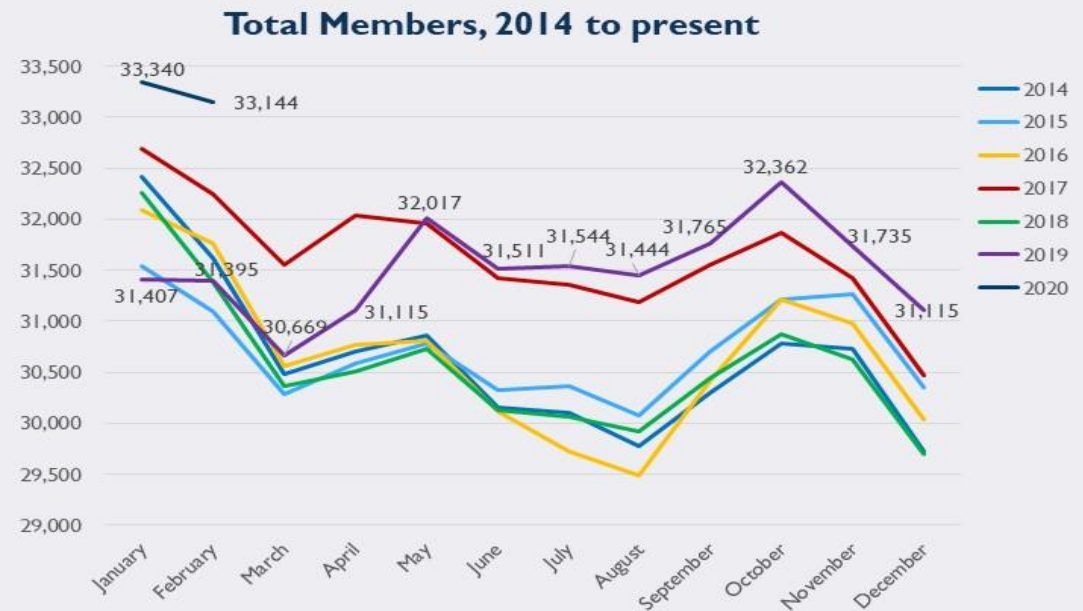
February 2020

Total members 2014 to present

In February 2020 we had 33,144 members. This is the highest reported membership figure for February in British Rowing history and only a small drop from the record figure last month as shown in the graph.

Although most competitions had to cancel due to weather conditions – 46% of competitions have been cancelled since September and only 4 out of the scheduled 28 on BROE ran in February. This has not impacted on the membership figures.

We should expect a drop under 33,000 members for March in line with the trends from previous years.



Comparing like for like

Before we changed systems in February 2018 we didn't include Scotland and Wales in the total figures but 'Overseas' and 'Other BR Regions' were part of the calculations.

The graph below tracks monthly membership excluding Scotland and Wales from 2016 – present.

Monthly Memberships excl. Scotland and Wales



Total Members

February 2020	33,144
February 2019	31,395
% change y-o-y	5.6%
Actual change	1,749

In February 2020 we increased membership 6.2% compared to the same month last year. From the British Rowing members in February 2020 86% are based at clubs in BR regions.

Of the 1,749 increase 66.8% were from the British Rowing regions (1175) and 33.2% of the increase took place in the other, non-BR, overseas, Scottish and Welsh regions (583).

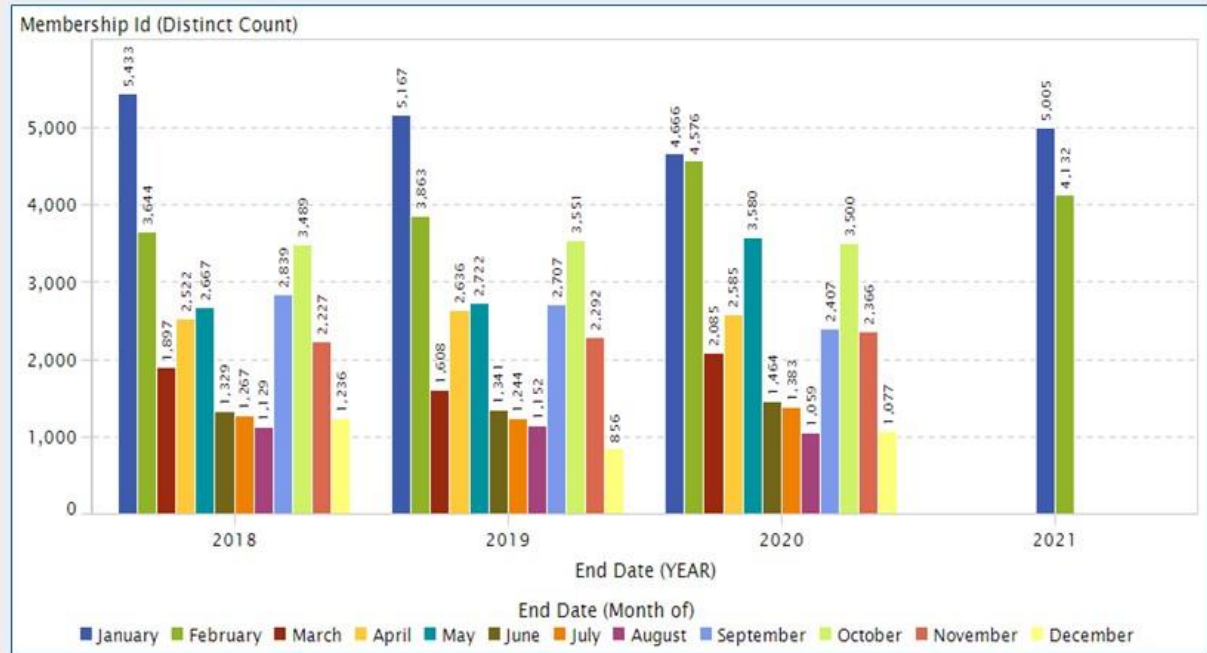
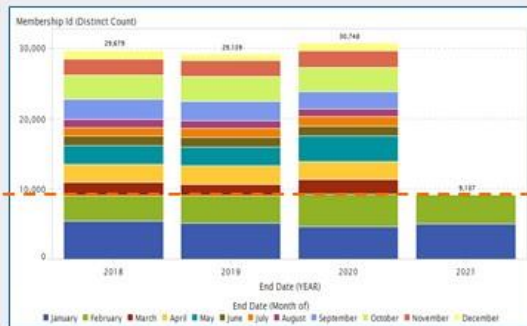
Total Members, rolling year



Membership take up in 2020

The graph below shows the membership sales of distinct individuals per month this year against the last three years which indicates we are on a similar level as last year.

The graph on the right shows sales per month broken down which shows sales were higher in January compared to 2019 but slightly lower in February compared to last year.



Membership by type

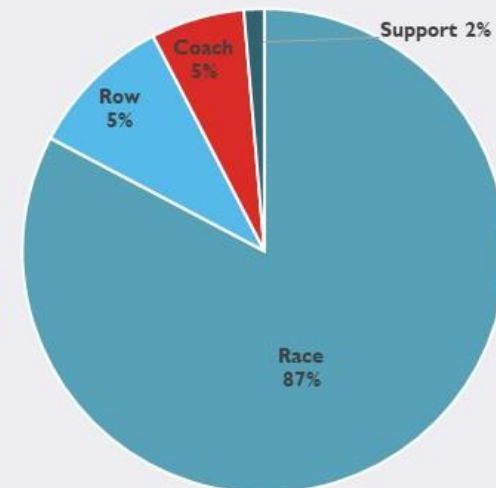
RACE memberships make up the vast majority of memberships (87.3%) and this segment has grown 7.7% compared to February last year (+2154 memberships).

SUPPORT memberships make up 2.1% but this segment has been growing steadily since it was launched in November 2018. It is made up of 40% umpires, 46% volunteers and 14% Friends of British Rowing. It only includes the 103 Friends Of registered before the new sign up process went live and figures from the new platform will be included in reports going forward.

COACH memberships are down 18.4% (-405) compared to last year. This is likely 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.

ROW memberships are down 49.2% (-1517) compared to February 2019. Leaving a total of 1567 members in this segment. It is suggested further analysis will be carried out to understand decline of ROW memberships and the way forward.

Membership by type



February 2020

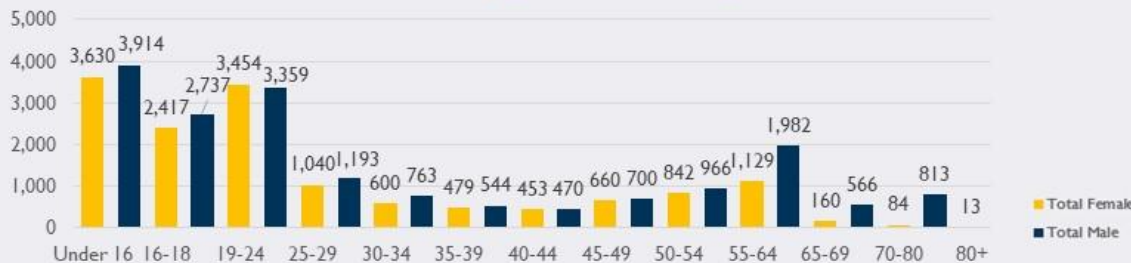
Membership by gender

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

The largest net increase in memberships in February 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 (17.5%) are again the quickest growing age group together with 70-80 year old females and over 80 males. The largest net increase were 0-15 year old girls (+416) and boys (+223) in the Thames region followed by boys and girls 16-18 in the Thames region.

Members by gender and age



Age	Gender	2020	2019	Net change y-o-y	% change y-o-y
0-15	Female	3,630	3,466	164	4.7%
	Male	3,914	3,962	-48	-1.2%
16-18	Female	2,417	2,110	307	14.5%
	Male	2,737	2,462	275	11.2%
19-24	Female	3,454	3,232	222	6.9%
	Male	3,359	3,117	242	7.8%
25-29	Female	1,040	1,030	10	1.0%
	Male	1,193	1,150	43	3.7%
30-34	Female	600	617	-17	-2.8%
	Male	763	765	-2	-0.3%
35-39	Female	479	491	-12	-2.4%
	Male	544	529	15	2.8%
40-44	Female	453	449	4	0.9%
	Male	470	477	-7	-1.5%
45-49	Female	660	641	19	3.0%
	Male	700	657	43	6.5%
50-54	Female	842	773	69	8.9%
	Male	966	963	3	0.3%
55-64	Female	1,129	961	168	17.5%
	Male	1,982	1,795	187	10.4%
65-69	Female	160	149	11	7.4%
	Male	566	578	-12	-2.1%
70-80	Female	84	72	12	16.7%
	Male	813	780	33	4.2%
Over 80	Female	13	18	-5	-27.8%
	Male	177	151	26	17.2%

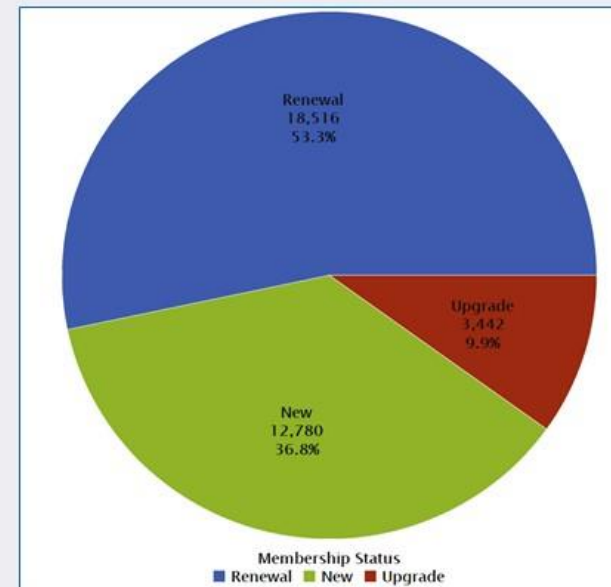
* Cells were highlighted in green or red when a % y-o-y difference >10% was found.

Membership by churn status

In February 2020 36.8% were new members and 53.3% were renewing members.

In numerical terms, 12,780 were new (37%) and 21,958 renewed (63%) this includes upgrades.

Most new members were 0-15 or 19-24 years old. The list on the next slide shows that most new members come from school and university boat clubs in February 2020.





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](#)

[New Digital and Broadcast Platform](#)

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

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

[Matt Rossiter's 5 tips for making the most of camp](#)

For more news from British Rowing, head to our news section on 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
- Buckinghamshire: Leap - skitson@leapwithus.org.uk
- Cambridgeshire: Living Sport - info@livingsport.co.uk
- Essex: Active Essex - Volunteer and Club Development: Toby.Andrews@ActiveEssex.org
- - Coaching lead: Lauren.Neve@ActiveEssex.org
- Hertfordshire: Herts Sport Partnership - info@sportinherts.org.uk
- Norfolk: Active Norfolk - Club development: aaron.roberts@activenorfolk.org
- Northamptonshire: Northamptonshire Sport – info@northamptonshiresport.org
- Suffolk: Suffolk Sport -Info@suffolksport.com

British Rowing Community Support Team: 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 for more details.