



river  
**Teign**  
rowing club  
Ltd

Our community pulling together

## Youth Development plan for River Teign Rowing Club (RTRC)

June 2008



River Teign Rowing Club wants to evolve its Junior section as it recognizes that the healthy future of the Club is largely dependent on its ability to continue to recruit new members into the sport at the Club. While the Club wishes to continue to recruit new members of all ages, a healthy and expanding Junior section provides the best possible base for the future. The more Junior members that join the Club the better chance the Club has of retaining these members and encouraging them to stay involved with the Club and the sport, going on to compete for the Club at the highest level they can achieve - with the possibility of regional, national and even International competition - either with RTRC or after moving on to University or other Clubs. With a strong Junior base there is a better chance that some of these Juniors will remain active within the Club for many years to ensure the Club's ongoing existence and development.

### Aim

RTRC recognises that we need a structured way to deliver rowing to differing age groups of juniors with different outlooks, training and objectives. Juniors require fun, competition, training and encouragement.

We will aim to attract 100 race going Juniors over the next 5 years using the following methods -

- Training nights
- Membership profile database analysis
- Taster sessions
- School ties / "Duke of Edinburgh"
- Attendance at school open days / fetes etc. with static rowing displays
- Local groups – scouts, etc.
- Allying with local Sports halls for block booking or Corporate membership
- Approaching other clubs to offer alternative forms of rowing - Teign, Exeter, Torbay/Torquay and Paignton
- Amateur Rowing Association (ARA) National Junior Rowing Programme (NJRP)

### Where is RTRC now in terms of Junior Development?

We need first to understand the membership profile in the designated age groups, plus the male/female ratio and the schools they each attend. Also the numbers competing on a regular basis, again by age, gender and schools. This can then be linked to similar data from the Wednesday night rowers and we can measure “conversions”.

### What are the impediments to youth membership development?

The Club recognises that the increase in youth membership brings with it logistical challenges and that the growth will need to be closely controlled to ensure best practice and safety considerations are all met.

- Boats – there are only 4 club boats and 2 Shaldon Regatta boats
- Coxes – a programme of cox identification / conversation will be implemented in concert with the Club’s best practice training

### Attraction through Training Nights

The club recognises that the very popular Wednesday training nights are an excellent source of new members - especially youth members – and will put in place a mechanism to attract more people to become members.

### Attraction through Schools, Youth Groups etc.

The breakdown of Secondary schools in our local area is as follows: -

- TCC
- DCC
- Trinity
- Cuthbert Mayne
- Teign
- Torquay Boys Grammar School
- Torquay Girls Grammar School
- Knowles Hill

Also, given the reduction in age range to 10, the following Primary schools could also be contacted with regard to their year 5 and 6 pupils:

- Hazeldown
- Inverteign
- Shaldon
- Bishopsteignton
- OLSP
- Gatehouse
- Westcliff
- Starcross

RTRC will work with individuals, who wish to participate in rowing through this or any other scheme, should this be practicable to all parties. This includes local community, youth or voluntary groups.

Attraction through activities.

The Club involves itself in the local community through the:

- Wednesday Training nights
- Come and try it/Taster days. Recruitment is via word of mouth through members - friends, relation's etc... and adverts placed in the local library, Youth Club and Schools.
- Static display and Ergo competition held at a number of school fetes during the summer.

## Coxing

The Club will try to maintain a minimum number of 20 active and qualified Coxes. To sustain and promote this Coxing structure the Club will target certain groups for Cox education:

- Current Club coaches who are unqualified
- Parents of incoming Juniors
- Other Club Members who are not yet coaching
- Staff at the Schools

## **HOW DO WE KNOW WE ARE GETTING THERE?**

- Clubmark\*\* status (Clubmark is a nationally recognised cross-sport quality accreditation for clubs with junior sections)
- Under 18 membership increased to (to be agreed once membership analysis is complete) over next 5 years
- Links forged with local minority organisations e.g. adaptive rowing, blind,
- Membership that represents diversity of local community
- Creation of a local gig league
- Creation of a regatta dinghy league
- Increase in number of competitive gig teams
- Integration of fixed seat and sliding seat rowing

When once again we have a healthy and thriving Junior race program with the number of participants in double figures. Ideally, we should have at least 3 teams in each category, both in the youths and girls sections, giving a five year target of 24 teams.

12's & under

14's & under

16's & under

18's & under

<i>Objective</i>	<i>How will we do this</i>	<i>By when/who</i>	<i>Measure of success</i>
Easily useable accurate membership information	§ Update & Upload details into appropriate database	Guy End July 08	§ Membership profile understood
Identify & approach existing potential junior rowers	§ Recruitment campaign § Free of charge youth membership for their first season	MYD team Before next season	§ 15 rowers in each age group § 12 teams rowing in Seine boat series § 2 crews in gig
Ditto coxes	ditto	ditto	§ 15 trained coxes willing to take out juniors
Investigate support from ARA	§ Meet Tom Pachittis	Andy D /lan To report back by end July	§ ARA commitment/support § Clubmark status
Establish links with local schools & colleges	§ Agree targets § Meet appropriate decision makers § School assemblies § Taster days	Andy D /lan and other interested parties to follow up on expressions of interest	§ Formal arrangements in place § Junior membership increased

Efficient CRB checking process in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Increase pressure on CPGA/ARA to re register</li> <li>§ Get RTRC as priority</li> </ul>	Rachel	§ System in place and backlog sorted
Additional boats available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Approach private owners</li> </ul>	MYD team As required	§ Sufficient boats available to meet demand
Broaden awareness of the benefits of rowing and RTRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Regular promotion in regional and local media</li> <li>§ Open days</li> </ul>	Analysis End August 2008 Ian	§ Membership numbers increase by .. – <u>target to be agreed once the database analysis is complete</u>
Offer all forms of rowing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ broaden participation in gig rowing</li> <li>§ Regatta dinghy races</li> <li>§ work with Teign scullers</li> <li>§ develop a dry rowing structure</li> </ul>	2009 2009 2009 2010 MYD team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Creation of a local gig league</li> <li>§ Creation of a regatta dinghy league</li> <li>§ Increase in number of competitive gig teams</li> <li>§ Integration of fixed seat and sliding seat rowing</li> </ul>
Clarify and publish club child protection policy/guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Review CPGA document and agree club policy</li> <li>§ Publish child protection policy and officer on website</li> </ul>	June2008 Full committee July 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>§ Policy in place</li> <li>§ Database includes all checked coxes/helpers</li> </ul>