

BRITISH CANOE UNION

FLATWATER NEWSLETTER JULY/AUGUST 2006

This newsletter is a bit delayed so apologies. However like most good excuses we were waiting for the July regatta which was a bit later in the month than usual and also the Sprint and Marathon Committee meetings to see what joy and spiritual uplift they would all bring.

The regatta brought all sorts. The weather on the Saturday went from balmy and hot to a full-scale thunderstorm in about 3 minutes flat. The rain rained and the lightning thundered and yours truly along with a good number of others received the order to abandon the water. This would have been OK but for the fact it was at the 1000m mark. A rather wet and cold trudge ensued.

However it was all temporary and the racing was resumed albeit a little late.

The regatta also brought the first issue of the "Paddlers Post" from the pen of budding Caroline Quinn [radio 4] Ann Hoile. If you have not seen this excellent piece of journalism then you need to contact her and get a copy.

Items pinched from there include congratulations to Tim Brabants for his gold at the European Sprint Championships in the 1000m K1. Also Ed Cox and Ed McKeever for their gold at the regatta in Poland in 500m K2.

Like this newsletter Ann needs more material to put in the next issue. Please keep us both supplied with news and information. Ann's e-mail is annandjohn@uk2.net.

Marathon Annual Consultative Meeting 12.08.06

The ACM will be at Reading Canoe Club at 6.30pm on the Saturday evening of the Marathon National Championships.

Sprint Annual Consultative Meeting 2.9.06

The ACM will be at HPP at 7.00pm on the Saturday evening of the interclub regatta. Closing date for suggestions and committee member nominations is 1st August to Cathy Wynne, cathywynne@tiscali.co.uk.

Marathon Worlds Tremolat France

For those of you who did not already know the Marathon Worlds is this year in France on the Dordogne River. The numbers entering the Masters events seems to be swelling like an American hamburger stomach. Come and join the fun. Entries to Jim Rossiter but you need to hurry to paddle on one of the nicest courses we have seen for some time. 22Km with 2 portages on grass.

Alan and Christine Laws



BRITISH CANOE UNION

Racice European Sprint Championships 2006

The BCU sent a GB team of 11 athletes to the Czech Republic to compete at this year's senior European Sprint Championships in Racice. The team entered 4 ladies events, 5 men's events and 2 canoe events. All of these entries were in singles and doubles.

There were 34 Nations competing which is fewer than previous years but the standard was very high. Like us, many countries appear to be sending more of their developing athletes to other internationals, including the U23 European Championships.

The regatta was very well organised! Everything ran to time and the results service was very good.

The team flew out from London and East Midlands airports and stayed in a new hotel in a small town 20 km from the course. The food at the hotel and the course were good but eating out was extremely cheap. Alex and Trevor were in charge of the boat transport and they arrived about four hours before the team. By the time the team arrived all of the boats had been unpacked and the team camp set up.

The weather was very hot for the whole of the competition with temperatures in the low to mid 30's. There was a small tail wind on Thursday and Friday, which made the times very fast. On Saturday the wind dropped and then course was ideal for racing even though it was very warm..

Our team was of average size at these championships, entering 11 of the 27 events. There were no entries in the 9 large crew boat events and just 2 entries in the non Olympic 200 metre events.

In the 1000 metre events Tim Brabant's was back to his very best. He dominated the event winning his heat semi and final. It was a great boost to see him back to winning form. Tim last won the title in Szeged in 2001 and took the Silver in 2004.

Peter Alamsi and Paul Wycherely raced in the K2 1000, James Train and Matt Lawrence raced in the C2 1000 and Abi raced in the LK1 1000. The men's K2 reached the B final where they finished 3rd in a respectable time of 3.17.26. There were no B finals for the other two boats due to the number of entries.

In the 500 metre events we had five boats entered. All of these boats recorded P.B times in the semi finals where conditions were ideal. The two K1's Abi Coulson and Ben Farrell probably had the best results with both boats going through to the B finals.

In the 200 metre events we had just two boats. They both made the A final's. Anna Hemmings and Lucy Wainwright finished 7th in the final just 2 seconds behind the very strong boat from Hungary. Ed and Ed finish in 6th place just .5 second off the gold medal. This was by far their best result and shows their potential for the future.

A breakdown of results is attached.

Alan Williams

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGER

Senior Euro's Racice 6-9 July 2006		Nations 34					
Weather		Thursday warm 30 degrees plus with tail wind					
		Friday Warm up to 34 degrees with tail wind					
		Saturday clam 28-35 degrees					
		Sunday calm 32-35 degrees humid.					
Name	Event	Heat	Semi Final	Final	Winner	Time	Place
Tim Brabant's	K11000	1 st 3.36.50	1 st 3.37.73	1 st 3,28,58	GBR	3.28.58	1-29
Abi Coulson	LK1000	5 th 4.08.97	8 th 4.17.49	Xxxxxxxxxx	Hun	3.53.15	12-17
	C1 1000				Rom	3.54.84	16
P Wycherley/P Almasi	K2 1000	4 th 3.19.63	4 th 3.24.33	B 3rd 3.17.26	Hun	3.09.73	12-22
	WK2 1000				Hun	3.36.16	
M Lawrence/J Train	C2 1000	6 th 3.50.94	6 th 3.53.93	xxxxxxxxxx	Pol	3.32.80	12-15
	K4 1000				SVK	2.50.37	16
	LK4 1000				Hun	3.15.38	10
	C4 1000				GER	3.14.45	8
Ben Farrell	K1 500	3 rd 1.45.19	6 th 1.40.79	B 3 rd 1.43.32	Hun	1.38.42	13-30
	C1 500				RUS	1.49.93	18
Abi Coulson	LK1 500	4 th 1.57.66	4 th 1.51.87	B 3 rd 1.57.64	Hun	1.52.21	12-22
E Mckeever/E Cox	K2 500	5 th 1.34.13	8 th 1.31.82	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	GER	1.27.50	26
M Lawrence / J Train	C2 500	7 th 1.48.92	7 th 1.45.31	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	RUS	1.39.62	14
A Hemmings /L Wainwright	WK2 500	6 th 1.50.27	8 th 1.46.92	xxxxxxxxxxxxx	HUN	1.39.73	17
	K1 200						
	LK1 200						
Ed Cox Ed Mckeever	K2 200	3 rd 33,40		A 6 th 32.36	GER	31.81	6-16
Lucy W Anna H	LK2 200	4 th 38.85	3 rd 40.?	A 7 th 38.78	Hun	36.80	7-16
Alan Williams							

MARATHON RACING COMMITTEE

TOUR DE GUDENAA

The MRC are able to confirm that they are making arrangements to send a Development Team to this year's Tour de Gudena in Denmark.

Selections will be made following the Nationals at Reading on 12/13 August.

Please Note It is not necessary for U16 paddlers to complete in the U18 classes at the National Championships to be considered for selection to the Tour de Gudena. It is however necessary for them to race in the U18 class as the Assessment Event to be considered for selection for the World Championships. The Junior Team for the World Championships will also be selected at the end of the Nationals weekend.

In order to confirm your availability for the Tour de Gudena please contact Jim Rossiter by the 10th August with your request and details.

CHANGE OF DATE NOTIFICATION

The Chester race scheduled for the 24th September will now be held on the 22nd October due to the clash of dates with the Marathon World Championships

Piestany (Slovakia) Regatta 2006

This was the 20th anniversary of this Slovakian event. Boris Bergendi organised a first class regatta with 19 countries attending which was the largest entry to date, mostly from Eastern Europe including Russia, Romania and Hungary. The event is for juniors U16 /U18 and U23; we felt that the junior entry was particularly strong.

In past years the women and girls entry has been weak which was why we only sent boys and men on this occasion. However both the junior girls and U23 women had a large and quality field, so in the future there may well be greater consideration for taking girls and women.

Staff: Team manager Dyson Pendle.

Coaching Staff: Steve Harris and Dave Coulson,

Physio: Sarah Black.

Junior Team: Tom Hide, Nathan Ede, Ed Rutherford, Stewart Hastings, Andy Daniels, Jonathan Boyton, Ben Parfitt.

U23 Men: Simon Fennemore, Ben Brown, Chris Sears.

Weather: Generally flat calm in the morning becoming windy with a strong head wind by mid afternoon. Temp. around 70F.

Accommodation: Comfortable and quiet and within walking distance of the course. The food was good and plentiful.

I must congratulate the staff and athletes for their professional attitude and performances both on and off the water. Every athlete either made an 'A' or 'B' final, as you can see from the results with 2 medals being won. Ben Brown won gold in the U23 K1 1000 and Andy Daniels the silver medal in Junior K1 3K It should be noted that the Daniels/Hastings crew came a very creditable 4th in the K2 1000 finishing as close as you can to the podium finishers without getting a medal.

Also encouraging was the K4 U18 boys, Hide, Parfitt, Ede and Rutherford (all U16). Even though eligible for the U16 race they were selected for the U18 and were a close 6th in the 500 final. Their time would have won the U16 race. This boat not only has this year as junior but the next two as well in the U 18 class.

The whole team performed very well.

Dyson Pendle, Team Manager,

WORLD CUP 2 – TRENCIN – SLOVAKIA

STAFF - As a result of the late withdrawal of some of the Junior team, and the resulting changes, Sarah Hannon joined the staff to look after the Junior Ladies. We did not take a Physio. Roland and myself travelled on the plane.

TRAVEL - In the end, we used SkyEurope flights from Stanstead to Bratislava, after the Easyjet flights were cancelled at the last minute. Bus transport to the accommodation, was 90 minutes, by coach.

ACCOMMODATION We used a fairly new small hotel on the edge of town, with twin rooms, 30 minutes walk to the race course. Meals were provided there, or at the course. The food was good. There was no transport arranged by the Organisation. The Hotel will be suitable for the Euros next year.

BOAT TRANSPORT It was a 2.5 days drive from Nottingham to the venue. Dave had John Wesley with him, who was very helpful over the weekend.

THE RACE VENUE The races were on a dammed section of the Vah River. There was a little flow, depending on the dam run offs. The course was 5 x 7.2 km laps for the Seniors Men with 5 150m portages. 4 laps with 4 portages for the Senior Women and 3 and 3 for the Juniors. The infrastructure at the race site was modest, but there was plenty of room. The Jazz Band at 0900 on the Saturday was very welcome!! In fact the whole event as run on a low-key basis, which I think suited everybody, as it was in the low 30s most of the time.

THE COMPETITION There was a reasonable level of entries for a World Cup event, with 15 nations racing.

Saturday racing. There was very little wind, with the temperature close to 30 degrees.

Junior Mens K1 Rene Poulsen from Denmark was always in control of the race. In the latter stages a group of 3 moved away, with Ed Rutherford finishing behind Poulsen and Dorado from Spain for an excellent 3rd. Ben Bradshaw and Ben Parfitt were always in the 3rd group and finished 10th, + 4.5 mins., and 13th, + 6 mins. This was a good performance from u16 Parfitt, in his first major race. 19 Starters.

Junior Women K1 Claire Spencer perhaps surprised us all with an excellent 2nd place, 15 seconds down. She was in a group of 3 off the start, and stayed there. Kathryn Hall did not have a good start, but put in a determined performance, and the best running of the whole team, to finish 5th, at +2.5 minutes. 12 Starters

There were 5 entries from 5 countries for the Junior Mens' C1.

Senior Mens K1 The temperature had risen for the afternoon races to the mid 30s. Simon Fennemore found the temperature very difficult to cope with until it dropped in the latter stages with thunderstorms. In fact he did the last laps in the same time as the leaders. Salga and Jambor from Hungary, with Edwin de Nijs from Netherlands dominated the race. Simon finished 11th, 9.5 minutes down. 24 Starters.

Senior Women K1 Nicola Taylor struggled with both her race, and her portaging. However although she finished 7th, 4.75 minutes down, behind 3 Hungarians, with Csay winning, it was, in fact a very reasonable performance. There were 11 Starters.

Sunday racing. There was very little wind and the temperature was still in the low 30s.

Junior Mens K2 Tim Pendle/Robert Beer had a very poor performance at the 1st portage which put them out of the race. They pulled back in the 3rd lap to finish 11th, 6 minutes down. There was a very good field for the class with 18 boats.

Junior Women K2 The late changes in the team, allowed Fay Lamph/Lizzie Broughton another chance in the event. They were in the front group in the first lap, and a minute down in the second. They finished 4th, 3 minutes down, behind Germany, Spain & Denmark.

Senior Mens K2 Michael Goodall/James Mayers, were very disappointed with their performance, and in particular their portaging. They were in 6th place after the 3rd lap, but fell away to finish 9th, 10 minutes down. Jambor, with Homoki, won the race and his 2nd medal of the weekend. 14 Starters.

Women K2 There were only 3 boats, 2 from Hungary and 1 from Poland. In the Senior C2, 4 boats, Senior C1 a very passionate race with Rus from Slovakia winning on the line from 2 Hungarians. 5 boats.

It was interesting to note that the German and Danish teams raced their juniors on both days.

Jim Rossiter

Team Manager

CONGRATULATIONS

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On 19th July, 2006, Laurence Oliver of Lincoln Canoe Club was awarded an Honorary Doctorate, by the University of Leicester, for Service to Sport.

The LLD (Doctor of Laws) was recommended by Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln. The ceremony, on 19th July, took place in Lincoln Cathedral where he was a Chorister from 1952 to 1956. Bishop Grosseteste College is where he completed his teacher training as a Music student from 1965 to 1968. He still sings in the College choir.

Laurence celebrates 50 years of active canoeing this year. He was a founder member of Lincoln Canoe Club in 1957 and has served on the club's committee for all of that time, first as Hon. Sec. and, more recently, as chairman. After 20 years as Team Manager of the Great Britain Junior Sprint Racing Team, he retired last year.

He competed in 3 Olympics (Mexico 1968, Munich 1972 and Montreal 1976), 5 World Championships, 45 International Regattas, a handful of International Marathon races and won 32 Senior Sprint National Titles (a record at that time) between 1964 and 1976.

