

WEY KAYAK CLUB – 2009 MACGREGOR PADDLE WINNERS

We did it! Wey Kayak Club has brought back the MacGregor paddle for the second year in a row, against strong competition from teams from Worcester and Richmond canoe clubs. We now are the current holders of the MacGregor Paddle for winning the National Sprint Inter-club Championships and the Rose Bowl for bringing out the strongest team in the National Marathon Team Championships.

Well done to all our regular paddlers who competed at Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham this weekend, the last regatta of the season and the inter-club final. Many thanks to those who came up to race for the first time and those who “came out of retirement” for the day. I hoped you all enjoyed the weekend and will join us there in April for the first regatta for 2010. Besides those who paddled, our success was on no-uncertain terms also down to all the helpers.

So thanks also to all the friends and family who contributed to our success: anyone who ran up the course with a lane number board for a tired and forgetful paddler you gave us one point. For getting paddler, paddles, boat, there on the water, on time, fed and rested in the first place you gave us 20 points! The regatta series only runs because of the effort from a big team of helpers coming from all the canoe clubs up and down the country. Thanks to everyone of them for making the event possible and especially those from Wey Kayak Club. Our very own Pete Morley, head honcho, Regatta Organiser; Hannah Cawthorn taking entries on the desk; Gordon Wycherley and Mike Walsh (senior) on the start line; Linda Heath sorting race results in the office; and Dave Etheridge and Tom Cawthorn for when it all goes so terribly wrong manning the rescue boats.

So that now leaves us with the challenge to win the inter-club marathon championships – the Hasler Final on the 27th in two weeks time!

Mike Childerstone