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## Regattas- Summer 2017

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*Dear all,*

Bex (rowing Cpt.) and I (Sarah G) have been working on a plan regarding this summers' regatta attendance and subsequent training, which we would like to present to the club as a 'discussion starter' for our next rowing committee meeting.

We would appreciate it if you could read our ideas and send any questions or concerns to your club representative on the rowing committee. We envisage explaining this plan in further detail (potentially using powerpoint!) at the meeting, and then making the powerpoint slides public and organising a Q&A session for all club members to attend should they not feel clear on how the system will work. I hope that this introduction will provide a basic understanding of the scheme in the meantime.

We look forward to hearing your feedback,

Sarah (and Bex)

### AIM:

- To give everyone in the club a chance to row at regattas should they wish
- To give selected crews (post Scilly or pre-Newquay) priority to race competitively at regattas of their choice
- To give rowers in selected crews the chance to join other rowers in a 'squad' system at regattas not chosen specifically by their crew
- To allow rowers to race with their friends without causing upset
- To get Bristol rowers to as many events as possible and ENJOY RACING GIGS!

### SOME INITIAL POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. We are an inclusive club (as stated in our constitution) and therefore all members have a right to row in regattas over the racing season
2. Even so, we like to champion our top crews, who put Bristol on the map (especially important for funding applications), and encourage them to row competitively throughout the season
3. There is no limit as to the number of regattas a club can attend (though some are 'invite only')
4. There is no 'league' (known as the Tribute series) running this year, but even if it was, most regattas are not part of this, so it is ok if we don't win every event 😊

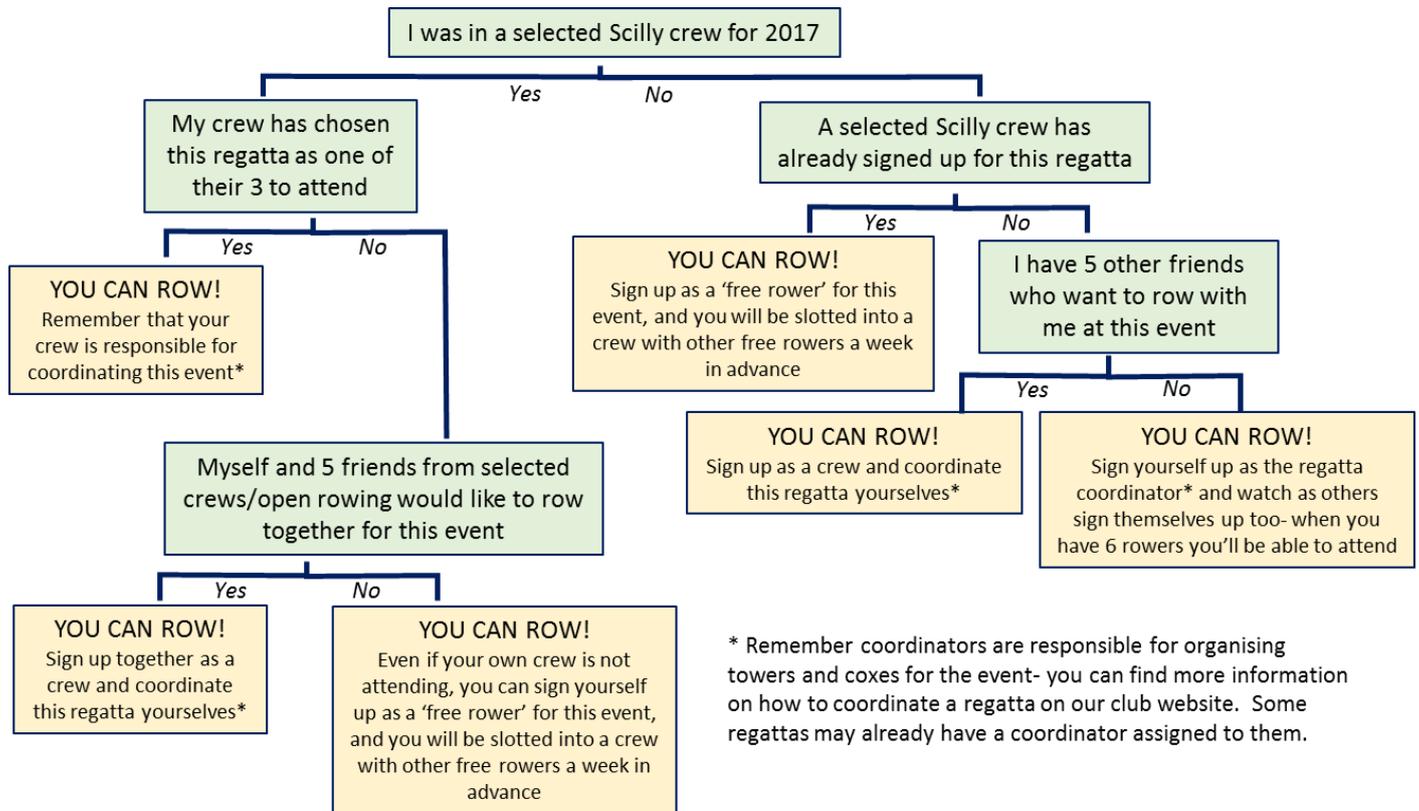
## THE REGATTA ATTENDANCE PLAN:

If you don't have time to read all this, have a look at the handy flow diagram below.

- **Selected racing crews pick 3 regattas each that they would like to prioritise this summer.**
  - The selected crews will now be responsible for coordinating these 3 regattas
  - Selected crew choices are allowed to overlap and coordination can be shared
  - Selected crews may change after Newquay selection. It is understood that some chosen regattas may need to be reassessed at this point.
  - The list of chosen regattas will be sent out via The Catch to publicise the regattas BGC will DEFINITELY be attending so other members can also sign up.
- **Open rowers/New rowers/Selected crew members outside their 3 chosen events sign up as 'free rowers' for ANY regatta (not limited to regattas already chosen by selected crews).**
  - Coordinators of the event will become the selectors (though they are welcome to ask the official club selectors for help) and will try their best to ensure all rowers signed up are placed in a crew a week in advance of the event.
  - Training slots will be provided for regatta crews the week before the event *should they be required* (crews will need to sign up together in an open rowing slot for this- see 'training' below).
  - If a regatta is oversubscribed, priority will go to those who signed up first
  - If there is an uneven number of 'free rowers' signed up for an event, those attending are encouraged to row in more than 1 race (eg. If 9 are signed up, 6 will be selected for the first race, and 3 of them will then row again so that the remaining 3 can race too). Selected crew members are also encouraged to row in more than 1 race if an uneven number of 'free rowers' are in attendance even if that race is before their own on the day
  - If only 1 or 2 crews attend a regatta, they are also welcome to try and row in more than 1 race on the day, though they should declare this to the regatta organisers (we want them to invite us back)
- Groups of 6 rowers *who would like to row together* (even if they haven't been selected as an official crew for Scilly or Newquay) are welcome to sign up as a crew and will be able to row in that formation at the event. In other words, groups of friends are encouraged to attend regattas without prejudice, as long as they are willing to help with coordination and are prepared to row again if necessary to ensure everyone signed up as a 'free rower' for that regatta gets to row too.

**LOCATION IS NOT A BARRIER:** We will likely be keeping a racing gig in Cornwall over the summer and can attend 2 regattas on one day if needed (more if we borrow gigs!).

**If you'd like to attend a specific regatta, use this flow diagram to find out how you can get involved...**

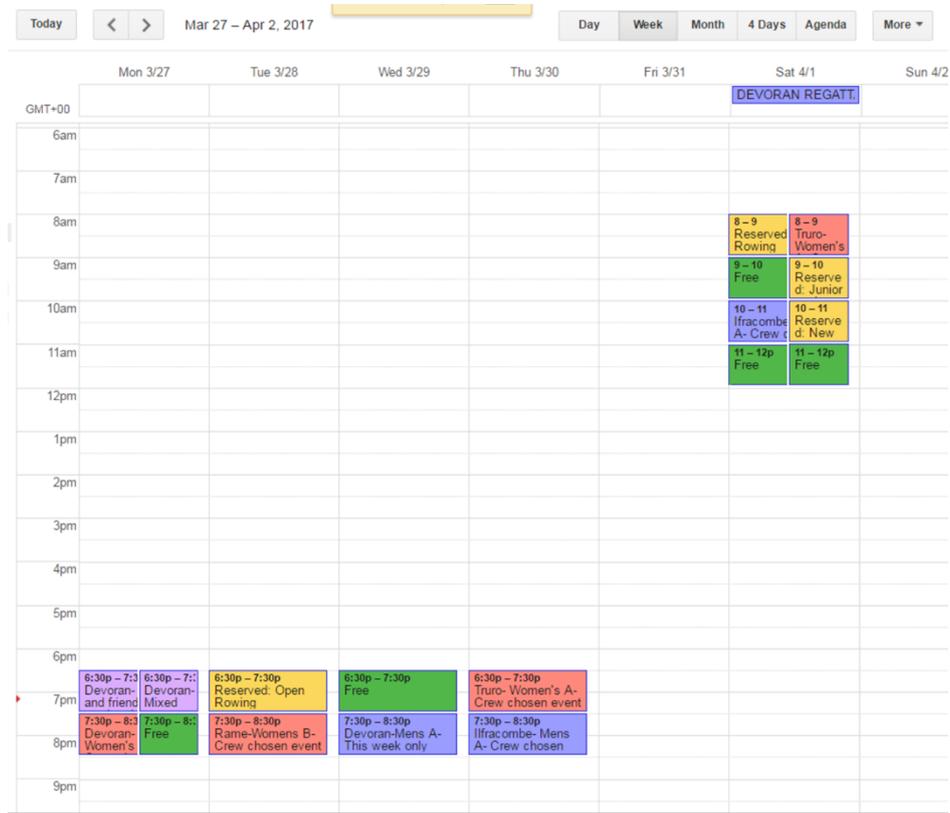


## SUMMER TRAINING:

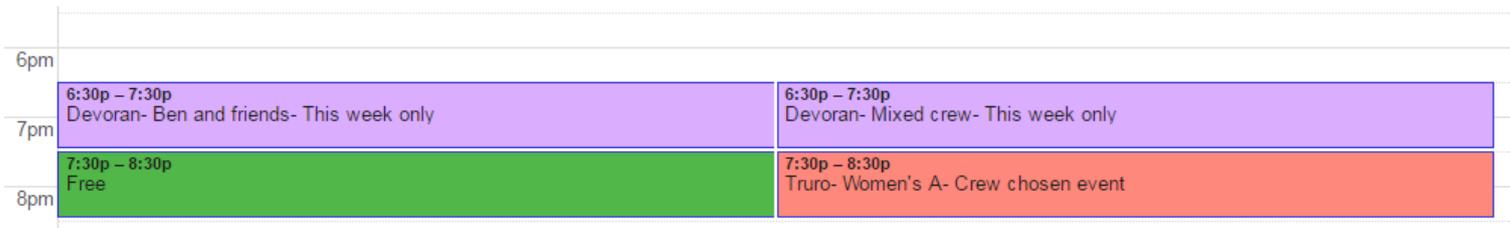
- The idea behind this is that crews/individual rowers are able to train in the boat as much (or as little) as they'd like
- After Scilly, training slots on the calendar will all become 'free' sessions, but the titles of these may be changed to create a dynamic, changing calendar...
- Selected crews working towards a chosen regatta are encouraged to block book training sessions in advance of that regatta, changing the title of free sessions to reflect this (eg. If the women's B crew have selected Rame as their chosen regatta, they should change an open session name to 'Rame- Women's B- crew chosen event').- see calendar example in image below.
  - Selected crews can choose how many sessions they row per week (bearing in mind they may be training in other crews over the summer on a week-week basis) and when these rows will take place.
- Selected crews can block book these sessions over the whole summer until Newquay should they wish, changing the name of the session in accordance with the name of their next chosen regatta.
- 'Free rowers' will be placed into crews the week before a regatta, and may then also add their names to a free session or 2 over that week. The session will not be fixed in advance so the crew can decide on a time/day which suits them. They will also need to change the name of that free session accordingly (eg. 'Devoran- women's A race crew').

- Free rowing slots not booked out by a crew that week can be used in the usual 'open' manner by anyone not attending regattas that week. Open rowers should book out a free slot for this.
- If a crew decides not to use their pre-booked slot during a week, they can simply change it back to a 'free' slot for use by others
- To ensure rowers not wishing to attend regattas are guaranteed a rowing slot, we will be reserving a couple of calendar slots per week purely for these rowers. Similarly, Junior and new rower slots will still exist and will not be available to other crews.

Here's an example of what the calendar might look like (it will have 4 slots per night, but it was taking me ages to make it all up!):



Monday close up:



Saturday close-up:

Saturday 4/1

GMT+00		DEVORAN REGATTA	
8am	8 – 9 Reserved: Open Rowing	8 – 9 Truro- Women's A- Crew chosen event	
9am	9 – 10 Free	9 – 10 Reserved: Junior rowing	
10am	10 – 11 Ifracombe- Mens A- Crew chosen event	10 – 11 Reserved: New rowers	
11am	11 – 12p Free	11 – 12p Free	
12pm			
1pm			