

Friends of Bedford School Boat Club

Newsletter Summer 2019

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Welcome to the Summer edition of the Friends of Bedford School Boat Club newsletter.

Included in this newsletter are some highlights from the Summer term and a provisional list of dates for the next term.

Bedford Regatta (11th May 2019)

This is our biggest home event and as such it brings many parents, families and friends out to support the boys with cheering all along the embankment. It also provided us with the perfect opportunity to show case our brand new gazebo and I am sure you will agree it looks very striking. Thankfully with the weather on our side we were kept busy throughout the day flipping burgers. We are extremely proud to also be able to provide vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options meaning nobody walked away disappointed!

Well done to all 130 school boys that raced and congratulations to the J18 quad and the 1st 8 who won on the day. A special mention must go to the Colts A for the closest race of the day.

Once again a huge thank you to you all for your support!



National Schools Regatta 25th – 27th May 2018

Swiftly following Bedford Regatta and at the start of the May half term break is National Schools Regatta held at the home of the 2012 London Olympics, Dorney Lake. This is the biggest event the boys will attend during their school rowing careers.

With the J14's racing on the Friday and all other year groups on the Saturday and / or Sunday it is a huge weekend for the boat club. Despite the J16's and U6th boys being in the middle of their Summer exams it is down to meticulous planning that they are able to fit in training amongst their revision. Competition was particularly stiff this year across all year groups.

With plenty of parents supporting the Friends with food for our bring and share buffet it is a busy weekend and a chance for parents to get together to support the boys. We thank you all again for your support and of course our thanks to the coaches and boat men who work all weekend ensuring crews get to the start on time!

Henley

For the first time in the schools history we had two crews qualify for Henley Royal Regatta. Blessed with glorious weather again it was lovely to see lots of parents and OB's attend the drink reception organised by the OB Association.

We welcomed members of the 1st VIII from 1969 marking 50 years since they raced at Henley. With both crews having tough draws it unfortunately meant they didn't progress to the next round but they should be proud of their commitment and determination which saw us have not only the 1st VIII but a Quad enjoy the experience of racing at the famous Henley Royal Regatta.



Annual Boat Club / End of Year BBQ

Marking the end of another academic year and another chance to show off our lovely new gazebo at our annual end of year BBQ.

All boys and parents are invited to celebrate all their hard work and successes.

It provides us with a wonderful opportunity to meet socially and is the ideal opportunity to thank the Coaches, Boat men and parents for all their hard work as well throughout the year.

Final words from the Chairs

This really is only a glimpse of this year. We are grateful for all your support whether it is baking cakes, making teas and coffees, flipping burgers, helping set up or put away at key events or helping design the new gazebo. We cannot do it without your support.

After several years supporting the Friends of Bedford School Boat Club both Rhian and I will be stepping down at the next AGM in early February. In line with the constitution and to make transitions easier going forward the following positions are needed going forward:

Chair

Vice Chair / Secretary (we can have both if it helps with work load)

The position of Treasurer is not up for election at this AGM. Further details regarding the AGM and support that the Friends will need for Spring term will follow in due course. We are in the process of putting together a handbook with information about each event to help ensure a smooth transition. Please contact us if you would like further information.

Thank you once again for all your support, we have really enjoyed our time as Chairs.



Calendar Spring 2020

Date	Event	Location	Year Group (s)
17/18/19/20/21 Dec 3/4/5 January	Pre season training	Bedford	J15/J16/J18
9th January	Year 9 parents meet the rowing coaches	Erskine May Hall	J15/J16/J18J14
12 th January	Star New Year Head	Bedford	TBC
18 th January	BASHER	Dorney Lake	J15/J16/J18
25 th January	Cambridge Head2Head	Cambridge	J15/J16/J18
1 st February	Head of the Nene Hampton Head	Peterborough Hampton	J16/J18 J14/J15
5 th February	AGM	Memorial Hall	18.00-19.00
9 th February	Bedford Head	Bedford	J15/J16/J18
16 th February	Hammersmith Head	London	J15/J16/J18
22/23 February	GB Junior Winter trials	Boston, Lincs	J18
18/19/20/21 February	Training	Bedford	All
22 nd February	Fixture	TBC	
23 rd February	Nottingham Head of the Trent	Nottingham	J18
29 th February	J14 Octo match Fixture vs Dulwich Reading Uni Head	Bedford Putney Reading	J14 afternoon J15/J16/J18 all day J15/J16/J18 all day
18 th March	Schools Head of the River	Hammersmith	J15/J16/J18
19 th March	Junior Sculling Schools Head	Dorney Lake	J14
21 st March	OB Race Boat Club Dinner	Bedford Great Hall	15.00 19.00
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21 st March	Head of the River	London	J18
23 rd March	Kingston Head	Kingston	J15/J16/J18