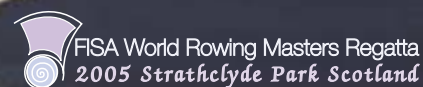


masters update vol.1



Welcome to the first of four newsletters that will help keep you informed about this year's FISA World Rowing Masters Regatta to be held at Strathclyde Park in Scotland. The organising committee has come up with a number of new ideas that will hopefully add to your enjoyment of the event. In addition to the racing programme we have a full calendar of social events in the regatta village that will help add atmosphere and focus for post racing activities. We are also introducing an online entry system that should make it easier for you to enter your crews and for us to process these entries. Information on everything that is happening will be contained on our website www.fwmr2005.com and this site is regularly updated. The organising committee is working very hard to deliver a special event that will make your visit to Scotland an experience to remember...



On-line entries

Those of you who visited our promotional stand in Hamburg will remember the prototype of our online entry system that allowed you to register for this year's regatta. For over a year Mike Morrice has been developing a database of competitors from previous Masters Regattas that will allow us to operate an online entry system enabling team captains to create, maintain and update entries. These can then be submitted with payments electronically to our system. Once we get them onto our database this will allow us to populate the draw and other systems required to manage the regatta. This should make confirmation of entries and regatta administration much simpler than it has been in the past. We would encourage everyone to use this system where possible. The system goes live on the 1st April 2005. Traditional methods of entry by sending forms by fax and post will still be accepted.



Out and About

If you would like to have a chat about this year's event then the promotional team will be on the **Tideway Embankment for The Head of the River Race** and the **Veteran's Head of the River Race** in March. They will also be at the **FISA Rowing World Cup at Dorney Lake** at the end of May. Look out for the special FISA Masters 2005 minibus.

Event Director appointed

In January this year Mary Massaro President of the SARA confirmed the appointment of Iain Somerside as Event Director of the 2005 FISA World Rowing Masters Regatta. Iain has been involved with the event as Marketing and Commercial Director visiting both Vichy and Hamburg as part of the promotional team.



"My last experience of masters rowing was at Strathclyde Park in 1988 when I failed to get anywhere in Veteran A single and double sculls. Fortunately, this year I do not think I will have the time to repeat that particular adventure." Iain was a key member of the team that delivered the 1996 World Rowing Championships and has been a President of the Scottish Amateur Rowing Association. Together with former World Champion Peter Haining he conceived and built the National Rowing Academy which was completed at Strathclyde Park in 2002. *"We have managed to pull together a very strong and experienced event management team and I am confident that, together with our partners, we will be able to deliver a very special regatta in September."*

Looking for more information

If you are looking for more information on this year's event visit our website at www.fwmmr2005.com. You can download Bulletin 2 from the website or request a copy by registering online or emailing info@fwmmr2005.com. From February 2005 the phone lines will be open on **00 44 (0)1698 268263** and you can fax us on **00 44 (0)1698 266926**.



Do you remember the 1988 banquet?

One of the overriding memories of Masters from throughout the World was the 1988 Masters Banquet held at the Thistle Hotel in Glasgow. Over the years many rowers have remembered fondly the great evening of food and entertainment that rounded off the event. When people heard that the 2005 event was coming to Scotland they immediately asked if we were going to have another banquet - just as good as 88. Well, we hope so. We are planning a stupendous five course silver service banquet with Scottish entertainment on the Saturday night of the event. Numbers will be limited to 500 but everyone attending will also get access to the Masters Party in the Park after the banquet. Transport will be provided to get people from the banquet to the Party. Tickets booked before 1st May for both the banquet and the Party are priced at £40. If you wish the Party in the Park only they are £25. **Full details of menus and booking forms are available on our website www.fwmmr2005.com**





what is the
thistle

club?



A great place to wind down after a hard days racing or an oasis of calm where you can relax and enjoy the seafood and fine wines and champagnes. Visitors to the regatta can join the club which has its own private terrace overlooking the regatta course. Teas, coffees and stronger refreshments will be available throughout the day. The club also has a seafood and champagne bar which will serve the best of Scottish seafood together with quality wines and champagne. There will be wine and whisky tastings as well as entertainment. Members will also have internet access and use of a private Health and Fitness Club on the regatta site. The cost of joining the Thistle club will be £ 30 for the week of the regatta and numbers will be limited and dealt with on a first come first served basis. **You can book now on our website at www.FWMR2005.com.**



"Lesley Stewart, Ailie Ord, Janeen Collier, Jo Wherrett, Hazel Smith and Alison Hulme pose in their "heather" coloured kit after a good day at the FISA World Rowing Masters 2002 in Racice."



Ailie Ord

When you decide to run a World Rowing Masters Regatta the first thing you do is look at the areas that are going to be most difficult to organise. You then look for someone who has very special skills and knowledge to run that area. If you are really lucky you may have someone who has competed at the Masters Championships since 1989, winning over 25 titles. Scotland has such a person in Ailie Ord who will be Head of the Entries Team at this year's event.

Ailie started her rowing career in 1982 and has been involved in almost every area of the sport. As well as her annual journeys to the FISA World Masters Regattas, a run broken only by pregnancies in 1996 and 1998, she is also a multi lane umpire and co-editor of the Scottish Rowing magazine "Rowing Action". It was her friend Hilary Cook who suggested that Ailie swap two ski poles for two oars, which she did when she joined Stirling Rowing Club. Within a year she had won her first Scottish Championships medal and by 1984 was winning medals at the British Championships. After some time out working with horses, Ailie moved to Edinburgh and joined St Andrew Boat Club in 1988. She became the first lady captain of the club and competed at the World Masters event at Vichy in 1989.

After that warm up the medals started to roll in. Three at the European Masters Regatta in Zagreb in 1990, her first World Masters Medal at Vienna in 1993 followed by three at Groningen in 1994. Ailie regularly competed and won in a double scull with her good friend Lesley Stewart. She then moved on to row in larger boats competing with new friends from all over the world. The one common element was that she kept on winning. In 2000 Ailie made an interesting move from Masters rowing back to senior rowing winning medals at both the Scottish and British Championships and also the Home International Regatta in Scotland's coxed four. A career highlight came in 2002 when, following a win in at the Home International Regatta in the coxed four, she rowed in Scotland's women's eight at the Commonwealth Regatta which finished fourth. During this time she continued to race and win at World Masters.

Add to all that bringing up three young children, coaching mini rugby, officiating at swimming and serving on the PTA there can be little time for anything else. So why wouldn't you take on the Entries at this year's FISA World Masters Regatta? We are glad that Ailie did and hopefully the new on line entry system that Ailie and Mike Morrice have been working on will make entering this year's regatta a more relaxing experience than normal. It only remains to see if Ailie will also be able to keep up her impressive run of wins on the water!!

Transport System

A feature of this year's regatta will be the regatta transport systems that will link all the hotels mentioned on our website and in Bulletin 2 with the regatta course throughout the day and evening.

Two routes will cater for the Hotels where the organisers have booked over 3000 rooms. There will be pick up points close to the hotels. The trip to the regatta site from Glasgow will take about 30 minutes depending on traffic.

If you wish to stay at the course to enjoy some time at the Thistle Club or to have a meal and join in the entertainment, transport will be available to get you back to your hotel at the end of the evening.

To ensure that the organisers provide enough transport it is essential that people wishing to use the service book it well in advance. It will not be possible to buy tickets for the transport system when you arrive in Scotland. The cost is only £20 from the Wednesday to Sunday. **Book now to avoid disappointment.**



Help us to help you!

The organisers want to do as much as possible to provide visitors to the regatta with a special experience. If you have registered by email then we may wish to ask you some questions that will help us improve the event. If you get an email please help the regatta organisers by responding.