

## **Inverness Rowing Club's Report written by Tim Latham.**

This year's British Masters in Nottingham was attended by a small group of Inverness Rowing Club members who elected to travel down to participate in this year's event, specifically on Sunday, 16th June. IRC fielded entries in the following categories:

- Op B 2- (a composite crew comprised of Conor Burgess (s) of Chesterton RC and Steven Andrews of IRC)
- Op C 2- (Tim Latham (s) and Adrian Hopkins of IRC)
- Op E 2- (Robert Gordon (s) and Dave Rothwell of IRC)
- Op D 4- (Robert Gordon (s), Adrian Hopkins, Tim Latham and Dave Rothwell)

The first event of the day was Heat 1 for the Op B 2-, with the Inverness/Chesterton crew moving into the final after finishing a commanding first place (4:03.26) ahead of a Tyne RC crew. This achievement was mirrored in the Op C 2- initial heat, with the Inverness crew also finishing first (3:56.25) ahead of their nearest rivals from Bradford Avon.

The finals followed for both crews, with the Op B 2- Inverness/Chesterton crew of Steven Andrews and Conor Burgess narrowly missing out on gold to take silver in a time of 3:57.64, against the Tyne RC crew. Gold was to follow in the Op C 2- final for Tim Latham and Adrian Hopkins however, in an incredibly close finish against Bradford Avon - their time of 3:58.35 winning the race by a mere 0:00.04.

The Op D 4- was next with Robert Gordon, Adrian Hopkins, Tim Latham and Dave Rothwell finishing second in their heat (03:12.13) to London RC. The final was hard fought however, with the Inverness Crew staying in the race but placing 5th out of 6.

The final event of the day for Inverness was the Op D 4- with Robert Gordon and Dave Rothwell placing second (04:37.62) to York City RC. The wind was getting up and the water getting increasingly choppy for their final, resulting in a difficult race for the IRC crew who only just missed out on a bronze to York City with a time of 04:31.78.

A gold and silver medal for Inverness was certainly cause to celebrate. Regardless however, all competitors had a memorable and enjoyable day and are looking forward to coming back for 2026. A first for all involved to come down and race at Nottingham to experience the thrill of lane racing against so many experienced crews from all over Britain. Racing on new water is always a bit daunting, and certainly the conditions took a little getting used to. That said it was a brilliant experience all round.