

Bands and Divisions

Bristol Avon Regatta is one of the early regattas helping to pilot the new competition system and BROE 2. So one of the issues we face is that of banding and this note sets out our approach. It also tells you about divisions, which are different, see below.

Banding

The idea of this is that we, as organisers, can see every crew's ranking points. So we know a crew's CRI (crew ranking index) and its CRI max – the CRI which it would have if it repeated at each of eight races its average performance so far. If a crew's CRI is equal to its CRI max, then it has already been ranked on eight races.

The maximum points available are 145 per event, so a brilliant rower ranked on his 8 events would have 1160 points and his equally brilliant eight would have over 9000 points. We have borne this in mind when setting the banding, as it means that a lot of the differences in CRI that we see in our regatta are not significant.

Further, we have taken into account the number of crews in an event. If you have 20 open eights entered in your regatta, it might be relatively easy to split them somewhere near the middle of the point range and still give everyone a satisfying number of races. We do not have this luxury and we have not banded any event with fewer than six crews.

For events with six or more crews we have looked carefully at the points but even then the best split is not always straightforward. We have not banded events where two crews appear to have noticeably higher CRI than the rest.

Divisions

For some junior events, we have split the event as we cannot accommodate all the crews in one event in our regatta format. But these divisions are not based on ranking points which, in any case, are patchy at J14/15 level. So we have called these divisions to distinguish them from bands. If we had called them bands, BROE would, we think, have given the crews in Band 1 more points than those in Band 2. So we have called them Divisions and will reflect this distinction in BROE.