

Chris Bailey

What I'm done in the last two years

I would like to continue on the Exec Committee for the next two years and feel excited about building on the work done so far. Working with Tim and Jenny on writing the new [strategy](#) has established what we will be doing as a sport over the next five years and is fundamental to progress. As well as this I have:-

- Led on the new digital platform which will provide an on-line membership and league entry system for individuals and clubs. This will allow us to better understand and communicate with our members going forward.
- Written the [Race Entry Conditions and Race Classes](#) document to summarise the National League structure for clubs
- Established a selection procedure for clubs wanting to enter international club crew competitions ensuring fairness and transparency as these competitions become more popular with clubs
- Undertaken a detailed analysis of the clubs and members attending 2019 league events, looking at attendance, travel distances and costs
- Established changes to the National League moving the sport closer to gender equality and enabling the sport to grow

If re-elected these would be my priorities going forward

- Strategy – continue to review and implement the strategy working particularly within the “Supporting our Clubs” and “Increasing Participation” pillars
- Roll-out the new digital platform, training up users and club administrators
- Use the new digital platform to replace paper processes and free up Exec members from routine paperwork to move the sport forward. This will include moving processes such as coaching qualifications and DBS checks onto the new platform
- Use information from the 2019 league analysis to review the structure of the National League
- Establish a group in the southern half of the country to help educate and qualify Level 3 coaches
- Carry out a governance review to ensure we comply with Sport England best practice
- Providing information and support to new clubs joining the BDA

A little bit about me

Over the last 22 years I've paddled at over 130+ national league events and been to more than 18 national championships. I have rebuilt a club from the bottom up, starting with a small team of enthusiastic O1 paddlers, and finishing with two competitive crews who achieved fourth in the national league. I've paddled, helmed and coached at both club and international level. I have won National, European and World championships multiple times all in 20 person boats.

I work in Olympic sport as an engineer/bio-mechanist in the Performance Innovation team at the English Institute of Sport (provider of sports science, medicine and technology services to Team GB). I spend my days searching, designing and implementing new, novel and innovative equipment and technology predominantly for the GB Rowing and Canoeing teams. But, best of this is access to truly innovative thinking, to constant challenge and an environment of being “chronically restless” in the pursuit of success.

It's this challenge and innovative thinking I bring to the Executive Committee. My day job is to take big, bold ideas, to make them real under tight deadlines (there's nothing like an Olympics start date to focus the mind), to mobilise teams of people, show them the vision and above all make it happen. This is what I bring to the Exec.