

England Canoe Slalom Report

England Canoe Slalom was pleased to support 14 English athletes in attending European and World Junior and Under 23 championships and World Cup races over the summer. All athletes performed well at the Championships and international races that they attended.

The Slalom Talent team and non-programme athletes have completed a packed summer schedule of summer international training and racing, with 100 athletes gaining a varied mix of training and racing exposure at sites in Austria, Germany, Slovakia, France and Slovenia.

At the World Junior Championships there were individual finals for Bethan Farrow (K1W & C1W), Phobie Spicer (K1W), Ben Haylett (C1M) and a C1W team silver for Bethan Farrow, Ellis Miller and Daisy Cooil.

At the European Junior Championship there were individual finals for Ben Haylett (K1M), Ellis Miller (C1W), Daisy Cooil (C1W) and Sam Maingay (C1M) and a K1W team silver for Nikita Setchell, Lili Bryant and Lois Lever. The standout performance at the event being Nikita Setchell becoming the European K1W Junior Champion! The first junior championship medal since 2013 and the first championship title since 1997.

At the start of the year Rob Softley stood down as England Team Manager, thanks to Rob for all his efforts.

Our new Team Manager, Alison Setchell took the reins and set about organising the teams and managing team kit and branding. England enjoyed success throughout all legs of the Pan Celtic races and ended up winning the overall competition so congratulations to all paddlers for their valiant efforts. Both the English leg trophy and the Pan Celtic Cup itself were on show and the trophy is currently being engraved to bring all the results up to date. Team managers from all Home Nations are discussing how to increase the prominence of the Pan Celtic competition, clarify and publish the competition rules as well as improving publicity around the events

Plans are in place for various winter training slots at Lee Valley to support English Athletes preparing for 2019 selection races. Thanks to Nick Maingay for organising, taking applications and managing these sessions.

The revised Slalom Committee Terms of Reference clearly state that the committee has responsibility for both UK wide aspects of Slalom and English specific matters. This mirrors British Canoeing's responsibilities. England has traditionally been run as a separate committee with membership including regional reps, England Team Manager, Treasurer and Secretary. The Slalom reps have a key role in encouraging Slalom to flourish around the country and it is an appropriate point to focus on what works best and to decide the best structure for the group moving forward.

Dave Spencer (acting Chair)
November 2018