

# Slalom Development

Slalom Development over Covid has been a challenging task for all clubs.

Some Clubs have shown growth by the number of paddlers that have entered Division 4 events, but over all Slalom Numbers have dropped considerably.

With British Canoeing membership numbers growing at record rates it would be good to see some of these new members attracted to Slalom.

For any Club to grow its Slalom squad, it really depends on individual coaches and instructors encouraging paddlers into the Slalom direction. For this we rely mainly on volunteers. Most of these being ex Slalom paddlers and this is a challenge to keep people motivated.

So going forward there is No easy solution and I am open to any help or suggestions as to how we can grow this fantastic sport. Hopefully things will just bounce back in 2022, but I believe we all need to work hard to make this happen.

As we speak I am looking at way to get more access to Lee Valley, as I believe it would be good for the sport to have open trains for all on the legacy and Olympic Courses, especially over the winter when so many paddlers leaving the sport.

A participation sub-group has been set up with view of looking into how we as a sport can attract more paddlers into the sport, and how we can improve our retention levels. Please contact me if you are interested in being involved in this sub-group.

At Wyedean Canoe Club we have probably had are best ever year for growth in membership and Slalom, this has been hard work and I have had the time to put in to develop this, if anyone wants to contact me for help or ideas please do not hesitate.

Thanks

Mike Mitchell

