

#### DIVISIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This year we have been mainly looking at the geographic spread of races across all divisions, and considering whether the current divisional clashes criteria are sufficient given the lower number of events and the apparent readiness of competitors (and their parents) to travel. There needs to be further analysis on this, but we would welcome any views or offers surrounding in particular hosting division 4 events alongside higher divisions (particularly Prem & division 1) and whether the current distances between races of the same division on the same weekend are sufficient.

There continues to be funding available for events that are likely to make a loss due to unforeseen circumstances, races that are impractical to run otherwise (water costs in an important geographic location would be an example of this), or the introduction (or reintroduction) of an event to the calendar. Questions surrounding this should in the first instance be addressed to the Slalom Committee Secretary.

There has been some feedback from athletes who have dropped out of the ranking system that they would welcome the opportunity to race outside the divisional structure. This could be facilitated for example by hosting an open event alongside a ranking event allowing these paddlers the opportunity to compete in a small number of races per year. We are aware that many events are already full with divisional entries, but should organisers wish to add an open event alongside their new or existing ranking event that would be welcomed.

Finally, should anyone have any ideas, comments or questions about hosting lower division events, please get in touch with the committee and we will do all that we can to assist.

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