

Sadly due to circumstances beyond the control of the Slalom community it has only been possible to run one race in Wales at Llandysul in March. The event at Llandysul was well attended with a good spirit, but with obvious concern about what was potentially going to happen.

Throughout lockdown 1 a big effort was made by various coaches to keep athletes motivated with various online activities and classes. These proved to be very popular with both parents and athletes.

This year we have held the Canoe Wales Slalom Committee AGM virtually. This year Alan Chappell is standing down as treasurer. The committee thanks Alan for his help since taking on the role. The position has kindly been filled by Clare Yates.

Development work is taking place with the present proprietors of Mile End Mill (TNR Outdoors) with the aim of developing the site and running divisional races there in 2022.

Several applications have been received from the committee to assist in funding various schemes/programmes around Wales.

Like many areas due to the lockdowns and lack of racing within Wales we are expecting a reduction in grass roots participation in 2021. Work is taking place to try and address this with possible funding available to assist clubs to do so.

This year will see Dan Golder stand down for his role as Performance Manager. Following the advertising of the position Alistair Dickson has been appointed and will be taking up his position in January 2021.

### **North Wales Update**

North Wales now has 5 training sites and 5 independent programmes. A number of the training sites have had a significant revamp in the last few months.

The newest training site is on the River Dee at Llangollen (Mile end mill) based at TNR Outdoors. After an absence of over 10 years, there are now 12 new slalom gates up and another 10 planned for later this year. Paddlers are already enjoying training sessions there.

The site at Plas y Brenin has had eight new gates and support poles, the Mold training site has a complete set of new gates and new gates and lines have been installed in Llanberis and at Tryweryn.

This has all been possible with funding from the Welsh Slalom committee and materials supplied by Plas y Brenin, TNR Outdoors and DMM.

North Wales also has 52 paddlers on a structured pathway from grass roots level through to premier.

A number of schools and clubs are now feeding into the North Wales programmes.