

Championship of the Dee 2006

The Championship of the Dee is the victor ludorum award for the main rowing event in Aberdeen. It is calculated over both days of the North East Regatta. Each winning finalist in an event earns his (or her) club two points. Runners up (losing finalists) are awarded one point.

Club	Saturday Points	Sunday Points	Total Points	Final Position
Aberdeen Boat Club (ABC)	57	93	150	1=
Aberdeen University Boat Club (AUBC)	63	87	150	1=
Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association (ASRA)	97	28	125	3
George Heriots Rowing Club	32	0	44	4
Inverness Rowing Club	16	5	21	5
Victoria Bridge Rowing Club (VBRC)	7	6	13	6
Strathclyde Park Rowing Club (SPRC)	2	0	2	7

A small entry from 'foreign' clubs resulted in even more of an inter-Aberdeen tussle for the top award at the North East Regatta.

In traditional fashion, **ASRA** led at the end of Saturday's racing after entering a large number of junior and open crews. Looming school exams took their inevitable toll on ASRA's Sunday entries but they still accumulated a further 28 points to take them into a credible third place overall.

AUBC were leading ABC at the end of day one and a string of early victories on Sunday by the university club made the organisers think that they would walk (or paddle!) away with the award.

ABC, however, fought back - especially amassing points in the smaller boats events. At one stage, the organisers thought that the Championship would depend on the result of a single race (the Mens R2 Pairs final between ABC and AUBC). To add extra excitement, this race was started no less than four times before reaching a conclusion - it was stopped at the top of the wall following a collision and restarted there; this was repeated above the Suspension Bridge but the crews again exhibited mutual attraction coming through the QE2.. At that point the umpires sent them back up to the start for their fourth start when the ABC crew finally triumphed. The ABC winners amused onlookers at the prizegiving by taking a meandering course to collect their tankards!

After the regatta there was considerable debate about which club a squad double scull had represented during their race - this affected the points total and the organisers finally concluded that it was impossible to separate ABC and AUBC's achievements so they were jointly awarded first place.

The recently-formed **VBRC** featured on the points table and notched-up their first ever wins at an open event (not their last, I would suspect!)