

Saturday 5th of September saw some 300 competitors racing in the North of England Sprint Rowing Championships 2015 on Hollingworth Lake near Rochdale, within easy reach of the M62 Motorway. The 500 m, fully buoyed, three lane course saw 23 clubs competing in 159 events throughout the day. In contrast to last year the weather was benign, with blue skies over the shimmering water, embraced by the low lying hills of the Pennines.

Nottingham Rowing Club competed in the final of novice quadruple sculls, taking on Agecroft Rowing Club from Salford and local rivals Nottingham & Union RC. After some pre-race equipment issues, the quad of **James Kell** (bow), **Albert Bracun**, **Matt Thompson** and **Andy Rae** (str) coached by Stuart Sykes, rushed to the start, making it just in time. After drawing a couple of deep breaths and calming themselves they started sharply, moving marginally ahead after a couple of strokes, a lead that they were able to grow to a boat's length by the finish. This win was notable as the 100th win of the season for the club - congratulations to the crew for being the ones to reach that milestone!

The majority of this crew came through Nottingham Rowing Club's Learn To Row course at the beginning of 2014, so to lose their Novice status in their first full season of racing is an excellent achievement. It's also the first men's win in novice quads this season, following several successes by the junior girls, who have now been joined by 20 new members since the recent 'Summer School'.

Results: <http://www.hollingworthlakerowingclub.co.uk/images/finalresults2015.pdf>

Below: the winning quad with their medals

North of England Sprint Rowing Championships 2015: Nottingham RC wins Novice quads to bring up 100

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