



2019/20 Re-classification Report

In accordance with the NZRA Rules of Racing 2019 Rule 13.5, NZRA received and considered applications from rowers seeking re-classification of their ability grade. This process has become simpler over time. The Panel wishes to acknowledge the Classification Rule Review Committee and the Domestic Committee for their work in assisting Rowing NZ staff with this process and the alterations to the Rules.

The Reclassification Panel consisted of Tim Wilson (Rowing Coordinator), Tim Babbage (Domestic Committee), Mat Jenson (Domestic Committee) and Annabel Ritchie (Rowing NZ Board Member)

Rowing NZ received 37 applications for reclassification. This was in line with the number received in 2018. All of these applications were to move down to a lower grade.

Application	Received	Granted
Senior – Club	21	13
Club – Intermediate	16	15

After consideration of all applications the Panel wishes to inform clubs of the following points:

- It was pleasing that no reclassifications back to Novice were received.
- This year more applications were received from rowers that had taken time off and were looking to come back to the sport in 2019/20. As the current rule does not have rowers move down automatically over period of non-competition, some estimation was needed.
- Many applications came as a result of one good result in an 8+ which lead to a rower moving up a grade. Where this was the case, if other results from throughout the season were not at a similar standard the panel looked at this favourably. Particularly where an intermediate rower became senior because of 1 result in a club 8+ and had little success in intermediate.
- A number of applications came from crews who were promoted to Finals as a result of other crews scratching from the final. E.g. U18 or U17 1x E or F final the NZ Secondary School Championships. The panel agreed that this type of promotion did not demonstrate the appropriate standard to be moved up a grade.
- Masters aged rowers who were competing regularly in Club grade events with declining results was regraded to Intermediate grade.
- A number of applications were not accepted as clubs missed the deadline. The panel took a harder line on this this year.

The Panel notes the guidelines for reclassification applications will be updated next year. This will take place after the Classification Rule Review Committee has completed its next review and once any proposed changes are adopted at the 2020 AGM.

The RNZ Board has received four appeal against the decisions made by the Panel. These appeals were all successful.