



About Me

I'm Alex Rhodes, and I've been involved in Oxford college rowing for seven of the last eight years, first as a cox for St. Hugh's Men's 1st VIII from 2004-8 and since then as a coach for Green Templeton Boat Club. I coached the women's squad at Hild-Bede College, Durham, in 2008-9, where I also coxed for the university.

I set high standards for my crews – which they continue to achieve – and I strive to make Oxford college rowing legitimate and competitive outside the university, at regattas and head races in the Thames Valley and on the Tideway. I've even sent a crew to compete at the Head of the Charles in Boston. Last summer, I was involved with the organisation of a highly successful pan-collegiate summer squad.

What I will Bring to the Role

1. Time and effort. I've already given thousands of hours to college rowing, with measurable results, both in organisation and participation. With the submission of my DPhil in September, I will have even more time to give.
2. Experience. I have been involved exclusively with college rowing for many years, and dealt with RowSabs since they were first established.
3. Launch Driving. Always executed with flair.

My Plan

I believe that the OURCs team already does an excellent job of organising college rowing, and I do not think that vast changes or the implementation of stringent new policies is something that would lead to improvements. Instead, if elected, I would see that better use is made of the resources and talent available to college boat clubs. In pursuit of this, my three main aims are:

1. Focussed organisation of vacation rowing, networking rowers from different colleges, and co-ordinating coaching, regatta entry, and transportation.
2. A centralised coaching database, enabling colleges to find coaches, and coaches to find work more easily.
3. The refurbishment of the rowing tank at Iffley Road, so that it can once more be used to accommodate a full eight.