

Minutes of the 78th Sport and Recreation Alliance Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at 11.45am, at etc venues, 1 Drummond Gate, Victoria, London SW1V 2QQ

Present:

In the Chair, President HRH The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO ADC
Chairman Andrew Moss
Chief Executive Lisa Wainwright

Members and Guests:

Name	Organisation name
Pete Ackerley	British American Football Association
Jo Aldridge	EduCare
Chris Allbut	Greenhouse Sports
Craig Anthony	British Wrestling
Neil Armitage	Archery GB
Saife Azis	SportSide
Kenny Baillie	British Rowing
Jack Baker	LTA
Richard Baldwin MBE	R K Baldwin Consultant
Jane Bateman	The FA
Guin Batten	British Canoeing
Steven Blackwood	Sport and Recreation Alliance
John Boyd	Baseball Softball UK
Ben Breeze	Bristol Sport Foundation
Philip Brownlie	Swim England
John Burns	Gateley Legal
Pam Burrage	National Council for School Sport
Nick Chamberlin	British Cycling
David Christmas	Bluefin Sport
Kerry Cope	British AIKIDO Board
Valerie Copenhagen	UK Deaf Sport
Tim Copley	London Sport
Aidan Cosgrave	Sport and Recreation Alliance
John Court	Great Britain Outrigger Canoe Association
Sandra Deaton	Table Tennis England
Alistair Dickson	Royal Yachting Association
Katie Dooling	Rugby Football Union
Michelle Draper	British Ice Skating
Kevin East	Canoe Camping Club
Sarah Finney	British Inline Puck Hockey Association

John Flinn	Bath Recreation Limited
Hayley Foster	Sport and Recreation Alliance
John Gerrie	The R&A
Michelle Ginn	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Mike Gunston	British Balloon & Airship Club
Katie Hall	Gateley Legal
Gary Harris	British Rowing
Peter Hart	British Orienteering
Will Hawkes	British Foosball Association
Rob Hayne	Active Essex
Sally Higham	Groop
Simon Hill	UK Ultimate
Kath Hipwell	Association of British Climbing Walls
Elaine Holmes	Traveleads
James Hope-Gill	Skateboard England
John Hudson	PFA
Richard Irving	The Football Supporters' Association / Supporters Direct
Tim Jones	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Rhys Jones	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Barry Jones MBE	Police Community Clubs of Great Britain
Mumtaz Khan	Onna Ju-Jitsu Club
Maggie Killingbeck	Laban Guild for Movement and Dance
Diana King OBE	British Gliding Association AND Royal Aero Club AND British Model Flying Association
Joanne Kirkland	IDTA
Will Lambe	British Horseracing Authority
Kate Lawrenson	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Tracy Levy	Margaret Morris Movement International
Duncan Lewis	Sports Leaders
Toby Manning	British Go Association
Lisa Marucci	Language of Dance Trust
Lee Mason	Active Partnerships
Florrie Maxwell	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Asma Mayat	Onna Ju-Jitsu Club
Ryan McCullough	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Patrick McGeough	Para Dance UK
Simon McGrath	The Camping and Caravanning Club
Andrew McLellan	Microtrading
Tom Morgan	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Kathryn Morris	British Roller Sports Federation
Ed Nicholas	Ramblers
Jane Nickerson	Swim England
Vijaya Panangipalli	Sport and Recreation Alliance

Steven Parker	Howden
Nicholas Parkin	National Indoor Climbing Awards Scheme
Andy Parkinson	British Rowing
Brett Pearson	EMD UK
Nick Pearson	Parkrun
Margaret Peggie OBE	Flexercise / S+RA Vice President
Robert Pettigrew MBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Terry Platt	Guild of professional Teachers of Dance
Brian Pollard	National Council for Metal Detecting
Paul Priest	Traveleads
Liz Prinz	Women in Sport
Brendon Pyle	Golf Foundation
Helene Raynsford	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Andy Reed OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Matt Rhodes	AoC Sport
John Richardson	LARA
Rasteen Riyahi-Boni	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Thomas Rowland	British Olympic Foundation
Adrian Ruth	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Chantel Scherer	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Alex Sexton	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Monica Shafaq	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Brigid Simmonds OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Alison Skinner	Halliwick Association of Swimming Therapy
Kathryn Smith	Guest
Roy Smith MBE	Metro Blind Sport
Giovanni Sofietto	British Martial Arts & Boxing Association (BMABA)
Kelvin Speirs	Stoolball England
Damian Stevenson	Swim England
Adrian Stockman	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Matt Stocks	GreaterSport
Jude Taylor	SASSOT
Siobhan Thomas	Great Britain Outrigger Canoe Association
Professor Peter Thomas MBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Daniel Thompson	Bluefin Sport
Anne Thompson	NCDTA
Leigh Thompson	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Ann Thomson MBE	EXTEND Exercise Ltd
Shirley Timms	British AIKIDO Board
Karen Tonge MBE	British Para Table Tennis
Sarah Treseder OBE	Royal Yachting Association
Ron Tulley	England Boxing
Lucy Valerio	British Mountaineering Council
Louise Voyce	Active Essex (Active Partnership)

Hermione Way	SportSide
Hilary Weedon	Medau Society
Caroline White	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Mark Williams	England Squash
Lynda Williams	Panathlon Challenge
Keir Worth	England Squash

1 President's Remarks

HRH The Earl of Wessex, President and chair of the meeting, welcomed members and guests to the 78th Annual General Meeting of the Sport and Recreation Alliance.

“Each year I look forward to seeing you here and learning more about the great work you do to get the nation active through sport and recreation. Collectively you help people lead healthier lives, develop new skills, drive our economy and bring people and communities together.

Whether this be on a national-scale with events like The Nation’s Biggest Sports Day that took place on 24 August with I AM TEAM GB Games Makers organising activities in local communities, or the thousands of grassroots sports clubs, groups and individuals week in and week out getting people active in sport and recreation.

But we have a challenge facing us as many of you in the room know. Not everyone is active enough or routinely taking part in sport. This year, as Swim England celebrates their 150th Anniversary, we know that some children only have the opportunity to learn to swim through their school as part of the national curriculum requirement. Swimming pools can play an integral part of the community but with funding restrictions, these facilities continue to be at risk.

But the even more worrying statistic is that over 82% of our children and young people are not getting at least 60 minutes of physical activity a day. This impacts their mental and physical wellbeing and development. I know that as a sector you are working hard to change this.

It is also important that children and young people from all backgrounds can benefit from being active too. Inclusive Skating is a member of the Alliance and I was fortunate enough to first-hand see in July some of the good work they are doing when I visited Murrayfield Ice Rink to watch skaters prepare for the Scottish Inclusive Championships. The charity provides ice skaters with challenges from all backgrounds with opportunities to compete and develop as both skaters and individuals.

Sport and recreation helped connect the most disconnected and it could give direction to the lost. A finalist in the Community Sport and Recreation Awards this year, Snow Camp, takes youths from disadvantaged backgrounds and develops programmes with them building activities that fit around their interests and circumstances. The charity encourages young people to become young leaders. They gain an instructor qualification after completing their year-long programme in skiing or snowboarding and then they are able to volunteer for the charity, teaching the next cohort of young people; and it is working. The charity evaluated their impact this year. Of the 820 young people in the programme, 91% of them who completed the full year programme moved on to either further education, training or employment.

There are so many excellent examples like this taking place, and I would encourage all of you to make sure you are sharing these success stories. We need to make sure we are shining the light on the impact sport and recreation can have and the grassroots heroes and organisations making a difference.

This afternoon you will be discussing the social impact of sport and recreation with a spotlight on crime reduction. Now more than ever sport and recreation can be a compelling intervention in the lives of young people to enhance self-esteem, instil values and help reduce anti-social behaviour. Together we can help build a better tomorrow by getting our children and young people more active today.”

2 Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Imperial College, London on 25 September 2018, having been made available on the website, were signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

3 Annual Report

Andrew Moss, Chairman of the Alliance, welcomed everyone to the Meeting. He made reference to the Annual Conference which would take place later in the afternoon and hoped everyone would stay for that event.

It had been a busy year – both in terms of the country and all the political changes taking place around Brexit, but also within the sport and recreation sector. Currently at the beginning stages of the Rugby World Cup in Japan, which of course would also host the upcoming Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Cricket World Cup was held this summer and just this month saw the World Para Swimming Championships.

The Alliance moved offices at the end of 2018 to Holborn Tower and was now settled into the new offices – which were shared with Commonwealth Games England – so it too was now on countdown for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

In addition to all the major championships taking place across the country, we've also had some leadership changes within many of the membership organisations, with Government and also within the Alliance.

For example, a new CEO was about to start at UK Sport – Sally Munday MBE from England and GB Hockey and of course the new CEO at Sport England. Tim Hollingsworth would speak at the Annual Conference on the social value of sport and recreation as would the new Sports Minister, Nigel Adams MP.

But there had been changes in leadership at the Alliance too. The AGM always brought a change in the Board: Elected Director, Lee Mason, CEO, from the Active Partnerships would step down and Kenny Baillie would be joining from British Rowing. The Chairman took this opportunity to both thank Lee for his contribution over the past three years and to give a warm welcome to Kenny.

He also gave an official welcome as part of the AGM to the new CEO, Lisa Wainwright. Many of the membership knew Lisa from her long career in sport and she took over from Emma Boggis on 1 May this year. Emma did a wonderful job repositioning the Alliance as the respected independent voice of members and the wider sector and the Chairman knew that Lisa would continue to build on this work.

The Chairman also made reference to the personal journey that Lisa was currently on. She had been very brave in her fight against breast cancer and thankfully she was now just about half-way through her treatment. The Alliance was very pleased she was able to be present today as the Chairman knew just how tough this has been on her. She had the full support of the Board, staff and of course the membership.

Earlier this morning there had been a members' meeting to provide an opportunity to ask questions of the Board and Senior Management Team about the organisation's progress against its current strategy, *The Heart of an Active Nation*, which was launched in April 2017 and now just over halfway through – as well as to raise any issues or concerns the membership may have.

This strategy directed the organisation's work across four main areas: social impact; volunteering; children and young people; and governance. And over the past year the Alliance had been working hard to support the membership in getting the nation active, changing lives and bringing communities together. A short video was shown to share how it brought the work to life. One area of work to be proud of was the Governance Training Programme. This provided expert guidance and advice on implementing *The Principles of Good Governance for Sport and*

Recreation, which in turn helped organisations meet the required tiers in *A Code for Sports Governance*.

The Alliance had also launched its governance services, offering tailored support, guidance and training in a range of formats. For example, training all 50 County FAs on a bespoke training programme and working with the British Paralympic Association, GB Hockey and Activity Alliance.

The Chairman also highlighted the fact that 1 in 4 of us would experience a mental health issue at some point during a year. And everyone was aware that being physically active could help manage both physical and mental wellbeing – which was why the Alliance had created the Mental Health Charter for Sport and Recreation with Mind, the mental health charity, and the Professional Players Federation nearly five years ago. This mental health work had really brought the sector together and as the Chairman looked ahead to October and World Mental Health Day – he wondered if children and young people was another area where bringing us all together could really make a difference to the lives of children and all of our futures, like the Alliance’s work on mental health had.

Building on the work the Alliance did last year with the *Why are we failing our children?* report, it had launched a physical inactivity map at the Houses of Parliament at the Summer Reception this year highlighting to MPs the levels of inactivity facing their constituencies. This online map provided a breakdown of childhood activity levels by local authority in England – 82% of children and young people FAIL to meet the recommended guidelines of 60 minutes of physical activity a day. Even more shockingly, in some areas, nearly half of children were active for less than 30 minutes a day.

The Chairman urged the sector to continue to collaborate in order to play a central role in getting more children and young people engaged in physical activity and the Alliance would continue to pressure Government to work with the sector, schools, communities and families to get more youngsters active. This would include making sure that Government formally committed to ringfencing protected time during the school day for children to be active. The recently released *School Sport Action Plan* proved that there was much work needed to make sure that the Plan delivered a substantial shift in the activity levels of children – and the Alliance would continue to work with its members to make sure Government delivered on their promises to support the sector – including long term funding and cross-departmental working.

This past year was also the first time the organisation had held a stand-alone Community Sport and Recreation Awards luncheon. His Royal Highness attended the event at Edgbaston Stadium in March to hear about the great work of the 15 finalists and to present the winners with their awards. The event was also fortunate to have had a very motivational talk from Emily Campbell, weightlifting bronze medallist from the Gold Coast 2018. She spoke so passionately about what volunteers had meant to her career and to her personally. This was why the Alliance knew it was so important to continue the great work of Join In, putting volunteers into grassroots sport and recreation. The online tool to help clubs up and down the country find the local volunteers that they need continues to grow and the Alliance continued to work hard to support clubs and members recruit and retain volunteers. During the past year the Alliance had supported England Badminton, England Squash as well as British Gliding plus holding a free workshop for over 70 volunteers on Grassroots Sports Governance with Birkbeck University in March.

Another area of work for the Alliance over the past 18 months has been its work in preparing and supporting members to become GDPR compliant. The work on this started in 2017 and the new legislation came into effect on 25 May 2018. The Chairman was extremely proud of this work where the Alliance hosted workshops, produced toolkits, other resources and templates and made everything available on the website. The final review of the work, approved by Sport England, concluded that this work has represented a contribution value of £24 million for the sector.

The Alliance was also the volunteer partner to I Am Team GB and the Nation’s Biggest Sports Day on 24 August. Recruiting volunteers who organised local events and activities up and down the country on that Saturday to get the nation active and would become an annual event taking place on the August bank holiday to inspire more people to get active.

The Alliance also started a podcast series this year to hopefully make it easier for members to keep up with the things they needed to know. On the event app today, there was the latest edition which focused on the social impact of sport. Two of the Community Sport and Recreation Awards finalists, London Youth Rowing and Snow-Camp, were featured alongside a new initiative, Knives Down Gloves Up, in an open discussion on how they were targeting hard to reach communities in order to get children and young people active – developing them, giving them opportunities and helping to keep them out of danger. Episodes also included a conversation with Tim Hollingsworth, recorded at the Fit for the Future Convention in January, on behaviour change, and a chat with Sports Minister, Tracey Crouch MP.

The Chairman was always hesitant to mention Brexit for various reasons, and the Alliance's role in supporting the sector was still somewhat undefined. However, there were real issues and concerns to the sector and the organisation had taken part in Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Roundtable discussions and had issued various updates over the past year or so, including live videos from Parliament Square, trying to simplify what was going on and importantly, what it may mean for sport and recreation. The Alliance had also produced 6 tests for Government to help members with their own discussions, as well as written guidance to help them in the event of a 'no deal' - these were made available on the website and also in the 'useful reading' folder of the event app.

The Chairman confirmed that the Alliance would continue to follow the Brexit process and share the key considerations and how members could better prepare. It would continue to work with DCMS to make sure it was best placed to support its members when it becomes clearer what the impact will be.

Lastly, with a rich history of over 80 years, inevitably the Alliance AGM would share news of some of the people that the sector had lost over the past year. The Chairman apologised if he missed anyone as the list was not exhaustive, but he took a moment to mention Denis Molyneux, Honorary Member. Denis worked closely with the Alliance since before 1973 and he was the first Deputy Chief Executive appointed from the then CCPR to the English Sports Council. He passed away from Parkinson's Disease this past August. The Chairman also pointed out that Pat Smith, Honorary Member and Vice President, was unable to be here. Due to failing health, he is now in a nursing home in Nottingham. Pat was awarded an MBE for his services to school sport and would love to be with everyone today. Like many, he has dedicated a large part of his life to both the CCPR and the Alliance – and the Chairman spoke on everyone's behalf's when he wished him well.

4 Annual Accounts

Adrian Ruth, Director, presented the statement of Accounts, Balance Sheet and Report of the Auditors for the 12 months ended 31 March 2019.

Adrian firstly explained that he was a Non-Executive Director of the Alliance and had been Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee for the past two years. He was an independent director not working in sport or recreation and was in fact overseeing all the very tricky equal pay cases at the BBC!

His role was to present the statutory accounts for the year ended March 2019 on which the auditors UHY Hacker Young had issued a clean, unqualified report and he drew attention to a few notable points from the accounts:

The Alliance's largest source of funding continued to be contractual income from Sport England. This contract between the Alliance and Sport England was signed in 1972. In return for transferring ownership of some sporting properties, Sport England agreed to fund the reasonable costs of the Alliance in perpetuity. In the year to March 2019, the funding under that contract was £1.25 million, 3% lower than the previous year. The funding under this contract had been decreasing consistently in recent years and Adrian was aware that many in the room would have felt similar, or even greater, funding squeezes in these times of constrained public funding.

He reported last year that the Alliance had reached an agreement with Sport England which provided financial certainty until 2021. As a result, he was pleased to confirm that there would be no further decreases in the Sport England funding for the next two years.

Another important income stream for the Alliance was funding for projects where the Alliance was commissioned to carry out specific pieces of work. This year, projects for Sport England, Sport Wales and others, generated £530K income, a slight increase on last year.

The Alliance worked very hard to keep costs as low as they could be. Overall, the costs increased by around 3% last year, mostly because of the costs associated with relocating the Alliance's offices. However, it was worth noting that if the Alliance had stayed in its old offices, costs would have gone up around £100K a year as the old lease was up for renewal, so money had been saved by moving. In addition, the move had provided an opportunity to sub-lease some of the space to our new office neighbours, Commonwealth Games England.

Overall, the Alliance finished with a consolidated deficit for the year of £186,000 (before notional interest on the pension fund), which reflected the costs of office relocation. The Board had agreed a plan to replenish the reserves over a number of years so that the organisation was not weakened by moving to a new home.

Touching briefly on the balance sheet, the organisation closed the year with a healthy cash position of over £1.2 million.

The other point to raise was the pension fund deficit. The valuation produced by the pension provider was around £1/4 million. It was a large number but felt to be manageable. However, the Alliance was obliged by accounting rules to present the deficit in a particular way, which actually created a negative net asset position on the balance sheet. Adrian pointed out that the actual deficit calculated by the fund's managers was one tenth of the deficit produced by the accounting rules.

Looking ahead, the Alliance was not alone in facing the twin challenges of constraints on established sources of income and inflationary pressures on costs. The Board would keep the focus on diversifying the range of income and would continue to look for project funding and new commercial relationships that fit the organisation's strategic objectives.

There were no questions and Adrian handed the meeting back to HRH for the next agenda item.

5 Ordinary Resolution to Re-Appoint Auditors

The President read out the resolution to the meeting that UHY Hacker Young LLP be and are hereby reappointed auditors of the Company to hold office from the conclusion of this Meeting until the conclusion of the next General Meeting at which accounts are laid before the Company, at a remuneration to be fixed by the Directors.

There was no indication that anyone wished to vote against the resolution and, with a show of hands that indicated a majority of those voting members were in favour, the resolution was passed.

6 Board of Directors – Notification of Election/Appointments

The meeting noted the election of Kenny Baillie, by the Membership by electronic voting process during the period 19 July – 2 August 2019, in accordance with Article 25 of the Articles of Association, for the three-year period 2019–2022.

Two Appointed Directors were made by the Board, in accordance with Article 26.3 of the Articles of Association, for their second and final three-year term 2019-2022:

Tim Jones
Adrian Ruth

All the above Directors will join those already in place on the Board:

Barry Horne
Cathryn Moses-Stone
Andrew Moss
Helene Raynsford

Monica Shafaq
Lisa Wainwright
Caroline White

7 Awards

7.1 Emeritus Award

Lisa Wainwright introduced this award which had been in existence for over ten years and were awarded to an individual for their life-long or sustained service to grassroots sport and recreation.

This year's recipient was Roy Smith MBE who was receiving the award for his long service to blind sport. Mr Smith gave a short acceptance speech before receiving his award from HRH.

7.2 Arthur Bell Trophy

Andrew Moss introduced the Arthur Bell Trophy which was awarded to an individual, or organisation, that has made an outstanding contribution to the development of community sport and recreation. The trophy was first presented to the then CCPR President, the Duke of Edinburgh, by Professor Raymond Miquel, who was the Chairman of Bells Scotch whisky and the trophy was presented as part of the CCPR's Golden Jubilee celebrations in 1985.

Last year the winner was Brendan Foster CBE for creating the Great North Run and previous winners include Baronesses Tanni Grey-Thompson and Sue Campbell CBE, Sir Bobby Charlton CBE and Lord Sebastian Coe.

This year's recipient was Paul Sinton-Hewitt CBE, in recognition of the contribution he had made to sport in the UK as founder of Parkrun and for his services to grassroots sport participation.

Regretfully Mr Sinton-Hewitt was not available to attend the meeting and a short video clip was given at the meeting where he gave a few words of acceptance and Nick Pearson, Global Chief Executive of parkrun accepted the Trophy from HRH.

7.3 Community Sport and Recreation Awards 2020

The President concluded the meeting by officially opening the 2020 Community Sport and Recreation Awards.

These Awards had been celebrating grassroots sport and recreation for over twenty years, and championing grassroots work on a national scale, using examples of best practice to drive positive change.

HRH explained that there were around 150,000 grassroots sports clubs across the country, all helping our nation to keep active, but they also helped people to develop important life skills such as leadership and teamwork.

Better communities and futures could be made by sport and recreation and the Awards were the perfect opportunity for clubs and groups to celebrate key achievements and successes over the last year.

The Awards were free and easy to enter, and the Alliance wanted to hear about projects and initiatives that worked with people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

The winner of the Community Engagement Award for 2019 was the London Youth Rowing. This charity was established in 2004 to give young people access to a traditionally niche sport and in turn help the rowing community become more diverse and inclusive and a short video clip from London Youth Rowing was shown to the meeting.

In summary, HRH thanked the membership and everyone for attending the meeting today and for helping the Alliance spread the news to clubs and groups about the Awards.

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