

MINUTES OF THE 81st SPORT AND RECREATION ALLIANCE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St James's Palace, Marlborough Road, St. James's, London SW1A 1BQ

Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 11.30 am

In the Chair, President	HRH The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO CD ADC
Chair	Dame Janet Beer CBE
Chief Executive	Lisa Wainwright MBE

Members and Guests:

Abbi Blakey	ABC Training Trust (NICAS)
Helen Rowbotham	Access Sport
Nicki Couzens	Active Partnerships
Ray Ashley	Activity Alliance
Andrew McLellan	Air IT
Jonathan Miller	Air IT
Diane Corbett	Association of Dance and Freestyle Professionals (ADFP)
John Boyd	Baseball SoftballUK
Russell Seymour	BASIS
Donna Fraser OBE	Birmingham 2022
Piers Cooke	British Aikido Board
Shirley Timms	British Aikido Board
Christopher Hawkins	British Dance Council
Ben Waterhouse	British Dressage
James Eyre	British Equestrian
Diana King OBE	British Gliding Association; British Model Flying Association; Royal Aero Club
Rob Hughes	British Microlight Aircraft Association
Joelie Chisholm	British Mountaineering Council
Karen Tonge OBE	British Para Table Tennis
Gary Harris	British Rowing
Hamish McInnes	British Shooting
Kayleigh-Louise Wilkinson	British Tenpin Bowling Association
Deana Morris	British Wheel of Yoga
Kevin East	Canoe Camping Club
Andrew Sutch	Chair Panathlon Foundation
Jessica Melling	CIMSPA
Edward Lord OBE JP	City of London Corporation
Robert Taylor	Clubforce
David Bean	Countryside Alliance
Jerome Pels	England Boxing
Chris Smith	England Handball
Anthony Clipstone	English Amateur Dancesport Association (EADA)
Barbara Taylor	English Pool Association

Mike Spinks	English Schools Football Association
Andrew Hicks	GameDay
John Burns	Gateley Legal
Kathryn Ritson	Gray Dawes Travel Group
Catriona Lewis	Guest
Gina Saunderson	Guest
Jonathan Weedon	Guest
Marcus Weedon	Guest
Sheila Baker	Guest
Daisy Baldwin	Guest
Susan Wressell	Guest
Katie Fawcner-Corbett	Guest (New Director)
Richard Gray	Guest (New Director)
Tim Lamb	Guest and Former CEO
Hester Brierley	Herts Sports Partnership
Charles Woodhouse CVO DL	Honorary Member
Richard Baldwin MBE	Honorary Member
Rosemarie Breitenstein	Honorary Member
Thea Longley	Honorary Member
Margarita Sweeney-Baird BEM	Inclusive Skating
Annamarie Phelps CBE	IWG Women & Sport
Elizabeth Pike	IWG/University of Hertfordshire
Maggie Killingbeck	Laban Guild International
Eve Knights	Language of Dance Trust
Isabelle Michelson	Lawn Tennis Association
Sandra Procter	Lawn Tennis Association
Michael Procter	Lawn Tennis Association
Jack Baker	Lawn Tennis Association (New Director)
Tracy Levy	Margaret Morris Movement International
Dave Crisp	National Council for Metal Detecting
Pamela Burrage	National Council for School Sport (NCSS)
Anne Thompson	Northern Counties Dance Teachers' Association Ltd (NCDTA)
Alan Spelling	Panathlon
Lynda Williams	Panathlon
James Stockdale	Royal Academy of Dance
Sara Sutcliffe	Royal Yachting Association
Nicholas Langley	Rugby Football Union
James Hope-Gill	Skateboard GB
Martin Lindsey	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Leigh Thompson	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Vijaya Panangipalli	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Dirk George	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Alex Sexton	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Florrie Maxwell	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Harry Osborne	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Aidan Cosgrave	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Amie Mills	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Justin Idahosa	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Deana Levy	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Karis Longden	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Dion Barnaby	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Ricky Boardman	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Molly Hartill	Sport and Recreation Alliance

Max Nicholls	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Kenny Baillie	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Adrian Ruth	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Dave Strain	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Hamid Vaghefian	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Caroline White	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Adrian Christy	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Margaret Peggie OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Robert Pettigrew MBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Michael Power OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Andy Reed OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Brigid Simmonds OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Professor Peter Thomas MBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Howard Wells OBE	Sport and Recreation Alliance Vice President
Phil Smith	Sport England
Hitesh Patel	Sport for Development Coalition
Jane Nickerson MBE	Swim England
Simon McGrath	The Camping and Caravanning Club
Sabina Voysey	The Camping and Caravanning Club Ltd
Jane Bateman	The Football Association
Kelly Simmons OBE	The Football Association
Hilary Weedon	The Medau Society/Vice President
Huw Edwards	ukactive
Samantha Jamieson	Volleyball England
Martin Birth	WGC Ltd
Melanie Troiano	WGC Ltd
Sallie Barker MBE	World Lacrosse

1 Welcome and House Rules

The Chief Executive, Lisa Wainwright, welcomed everyone to St James's Palace for the Sport and Recreation Alliance Annual General Meeting 2022. She was delighted to bring the AGM back to this wonderful setting, which has hosted this event on many occasions.

Lisa went through a couple of bits of housekeeping regarding photography and the alarm and safety procedures.

She then handed over to the President, HRH The Earl of Wessex, for the President's Remarks to start the 2022 AGM.

2 President's Remarks

The President welcomed everyone to the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

[There is not a full transcript of HRH's speech but the following points were made:]

HRH provided his personal reflections on the previous year and the fantastic national spirit shown across many wonderful weekends of celebration including the Platinum Jubilee.

He also reflected on how sport has brought the country together this year from England's Lionesses becoming European Champions, the Commonwealth Games, with baton bearers representing their communities across the country and elite athletes from all the Home Nations putting in amazing performances.

There were more exciting events to come across the UK in coming weeks such as the...

- Rugby League World Cup (October – November)
- World Gymnastics Championships in Liverpool
- World Rowing Coastal Championships in Wales (next month)

The President thanked Alliance members for the contribution they were making – particularly work they were doing to make sport and recreation more inclusive and accessible.

Their clubs, their facilities, their coaches, would be the first port of call for every young person wanting to follow in the footsteps of the elite athletes witnessed this summer. By supporting them, the Alliance was helping to build an exciting sporting future for the whole country.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 12 October 2021 were approved and signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

4 Annual Report

Dame Janet Beer welcomed everyone to the Sport and Recreation Alliance's 2022 Annual General Meeting and commented on how wonderful it was to see so many in attendance at the special venue. She also thanked everyone for the warm welcome she had already received in her new role as Chair.

She provided a few words to introduce herself: she was currently – until 31 December - the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool. Before this was the VC at Oxford Brookes University and had quite a lot of trustee and advisory experience in other organisations including the British Council, the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Government Skills and Curriculum Unit, and the Council of the All-Party Parliamentary Universities Group.

In joining the Alliance, Janet would be championing another side of her life – a deep commitment to fitness for life and an intent to promote the value of the activities we all cared so deeply about. Janet grew up in a household where they all had a commitment to sport – many and various. She was a dedicated, lifelong swimmer, and keen walker and knew without those activities that her life would be incomplete. Sport and recreation were key to healthy individuals and to a healthy society. Sport and recreation help us to develop leadership, teamwork, confidence, resilience and so many other things that were crucial to fulfilled and happy lives.

The Alliance would continue to show how the benefits of sport and recreation should be accessible for every single person, in every single community. It has been a year since the Alliance launched its *Support. Recover. Achieve.* strategy and it was fitting that so many of the people the Alliance had worked alongside on its implementation were in attendance. The spirit of collaboration had underpinned many of the shared successes enjoyed over the last twelve months.

A short video looking back at some of these achievements was played at this point and this is available on the Alliance's website <https://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/pages/about-us>

Dame Janet expanded more on our progress over the past year as well as giving a short review of what was to come in the next twelve months.

The Alliance Management and Leadership Programme was launched following the AGM as part of the commitment to supporting members in an ever-changing landscape. The aim of the programme was to increase the breadth and capacity of senior leaders working in member organisations and it there were nineteen exceptional individuals enrolled onto the course.

The Alliance's revamped calendar of events and training sessions returned to an in-person format after a virtual hiatus during the pandemic. This allowed our members to reconnect, share best practice and network with new and familiar faces.

We continued to proudly support our five divisions across the year in interactive meetings, including a series of Talking Topics sessions on issues such as safeguarding, youth engagement and leadership, to ensure that the sector was kept up to date on the most relevant issues affecting their organisations.

Towards the end of last year, the Alliance received a record number of entries for the *Community Sport and Recreation Awards*, which included eight accolades for the first time and a whole host of inspiring finalists. As part of the build-up to the Commonwealth Games, we headed over to the Coventry Building Society Arena in March with His Royal Highness to recognise those outstanding individuals for their incredible work.

This was swiftly followed by the *Fit for the Future Convention* in Birmingham, where more than 120 guests attended to learn from experts who discussed sport and recreation and technology. The ability to innovate and think differently would continue to be an opportunity for all of us, and it is hoped that events such as this would help the membership to achieve their goals by working smarter and more flexibly.

Through our advice, advocacy and research support, our members had been enabled to respond to the challenges of the return to in-person activity.

In August, the Alliance published a new report on the role that movement and dance could play in creating a healthier and happier nation and why these activities should be perceived as much more than an art form. By working closely with a large number of movement and dance teachers, supporters, and administrators, the Alliance was able to shine a light on the wonderful benefits that were associated with this activity, for both individual and community wellbeing.

We also acknowledged that there remained long-term threats to the delivery of the activities we provided.

With climate change seen as a clear risk both to our way of life and to our sector, we collaborated with sector partners to create the *Sport Environment and Climate Coalition*. We hoped that through this group we could drive positive action and help safeguard the future of our planet.

In a turbulent year in world politics, the Alliance also issued a response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine - producing a briefing which summarised the sanctions introduced by the government and how these would impact the sport and recreation sector.

One of the most wide-ranging threats we faced as a society was the cost-of-living crisis. The Alliance recognised the challenges this posed for the delivery of grassroots participation and the potential effect on activity levels for our communities. The Alliance would continue to work with members to identify solutions, answer questions and share learning to ensure that our nation can use the power of sport and recreation in its recovery.

It had also been a year of opportunity and earlier this summer the Alliance was able to join in the celebrations at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. We were pleased to see not only so many of our members flourish on the elite international stage, but to also hear of the legacy - aimed at supporting community sport - that would endure.

The Alliance was honoured to use the Games for the official handover of the International Working Group on Women and Sport and the Chair was personally delighted to be joined by Lisa Wainwright, CEO, at New Zealand House to mark the passing of the secretariat over to the UK.

After two years of passionate, collaborative work led by the Alliance and endorsed by many stakeholders in the sector including Sport England, UK Sport and over 100 national and international organisations – the Alliance was ready to play its role in supporting the objectives of the UK IWG team to achieve gender equity in activity.

Dame Janet acknowledged that many in the room played a role in backing the UK bid and was pleased that she would be sharing the video from the handover event a little later this morning.

Much had been accomplished, but the Alliance was aware that its work must continue unabated as the sector faced up to the challenges and opportunities outlined. The Sport and Recreation Alliance would provide the tailored support that its members required to achieve the best possible outcomes for the sector and for a nation which needed the positive benefits of accessible, affordable, and sustainable grassroots activity, now more than ever.

This is why the members would hear from the Alliance more often over the coming year, as it used the collective voice to strengthen the policy and research functions and to guide the events and training provided to help their activity flourish. The Alliance understood that not only does the sector have the need to be flexible in order to identify opportunities and create a meaningful difference, but so must the Alliance.

The annual general meeting also provided a chance to show our gratitude to those who have served the Alliance, and the sport and recreation family.

Dame Janet extended her sincere thanks to Andrew Moss who retired as Alliance Chair in July after serving six years with the organisation. She also thanked Tim Jones, Adrian Ruth and Jacqueline Sebire for their unwavering support, professionalism, and commitment as they stepped down from their respective roles on the board.

As those respected colleagues departed, the Alliance welcomed new members, as Jack Baker, Katie Fawcner-Corbett and Richard Gray joined the Board. She was also pleased to confirm that Kenny Baillie had been re-elected for a second four-year term.

Dame Janet also took a moment to remember a committed friend of the Alliance who sadly passed away in May 2022. Maurice Lindsey was the former CEO of the Rugby Football League, an Executive Committee member of the CCPR from 1995-1999 and was a former Chair of the Major Spectator Sports Division.

In addition, we noted with regret the death of Dr Ann Hutchinson Guest MBE, who was a world-renowned expert in dance notation, a highly acclaimed author and researcher on dance, and the founder of the Language of Dance Centre and Trust.

As with any organisation, there was always a remarkable team working behind the scenes to deliver the support and services. The staff at the Alliance had once again been central to the success seen over the past year and, on behalf of the Board, Dame Janet thanked them for their continued commitment and hard work.

Finally, Dame Janet thanked everyone for attending. Over the past twelve months, she felt the Alliance had seen many fantastic examples of the work the members were doing to better the lives of the people they were engaged with and would work side by side with them over the coming year to ensure that they and their organisations continued to thrive and flourish.

5 Annual Accounts

Adrian Ruth, Independent Non-Executive Director, presented the statement of Accounts, Balance Sheet and Report of the Auditors for the 12 months ended 31 March 2022.

Adrian drew attention, to a few notable points from the Accounts as follows:

The Alliance's largest source of funding continued to be Contractual income from Sport England. Many Members will be aware that 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 2022, the funding under that Contract remained the same as the previous year at £1.25 million. Our level of Sport England funding has also been confirmed, in principle, at the same rate of £1.25 million per year for the next five years. The Board is aware of and was actively monitoring the risk that a flat level of funding may have over the coming years with the current rate of inflation.

In terms of other income, the Alliance successful secured £302,000 of project and event income during the year which included hosting the Sport for Development Coalition, our new Management and Leadership Programme, a new partnership for an Erasmus+ funded project on sports volunteering, providing the independent board evaluation service and delivering the events programme. We also secured investment for the future hosting of the International Working Group on Women and Sport.

The Alliance continued to keep tight control on other costs during the year, and overall, finished with an operating loss for the year of £97,000 (before interest) which included the increased notional pension service and admin costs of £236,000. The year closed with a healthy cash position of £1.26 million.

The other point to raise concerned the pension fund. The Alliance is obliged by accounting rules to present this in a particular way, which created a negative net asset position on the balance sheet. This year the actuarial calculation of the pension liability decreased to £2.6 million giving a net liability on the balance sheet of £1.3 million. Members would be reassured to learn that the triennial valuation completed in 2019 by the fund's managers indicated the fund was in a healthy position, carrying a surplus of £334,000.

Adrian completed his speech by announcing the end of his maximum term on the Alliance Board and as such would also be stepping down as the Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee. He thanked all members for their support and wished them well for the future. He left everything in the capable hands of the new Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Dave Strain.

There were no questions, and the meeting was handed back to the President for the next agenda item.

6 Ordinary Resolution to Re-Appoint Auditors

To consider and, if thought fit, resolve by ordinary resolution that UHY Hacker Young LLP be re-appointed 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.

7 Board of Directors – Notification of re-Election/Appointments

The Meeting noted the outcome of the re-election of Kenny Baillie, by the Membership by electronic voting process during the period 4 April – 22 April 2022, in accordance with Article 25 of the Articles of Association, for the four-year period 2022–2026; this would be Kenny's second term of office.

It was also noted that there had been the appointment of two new Appointed Directors by the Board, in accordance with Article 26.1 of the Articles of Association, for a four-year term 2022-2026: Katie Fawkner-Corbett and Richard Gray. In addition, the appointment of Jack Baker in accordance with Article 27 of the Articles of Association, for the two-year period 2022-2024 was duly noted.

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

Janet Beer
Adrian Christy
Helene Raynsford
Jackie Sebire
Dave Strain
Hamid Vaghefian
Lisa Wainwright
Caroline White

8 Awards

Dame Janet thanked HRH and reminded the Meeting that at each AGM the opportunity was taken to present awards to the sport and recreation community for long-standing and excellent contributions to the sector.

The Alliance recognised the incredible work of its volunteers with the newly renamed Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award - formerly the Emeritus Award - and thanked those who had contributed to the success of sport and recreation with the Arthur Bell Trophy.

As today marked the first time we would be handing out the Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award, it felt like a good time to pay tribute to the volunteers up and down the country who were so vital to sport and recreation. Everyone in the room understood the contribution of volunteers to the sector, and the time and effort they put into grassroots clubs and organisations was incredible. From the wonderful array of helpers who made the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham such a success to those coaches, administrators, drivers and supporters who help grassroots activity to run every week – we all owe them an enormous debt of gratitude.

8.1 Long Service Award

Before the announcement of the winners of these awards, Dame Janet took some time to recognise a trio of individuals who had helped the Sport and Recreation Alliance to deliver its services over the previous decades.

The Long Service Award paid tribute to the excellent contribution that each of these people had made in progressing the work of the Alliance and thanked them for their continued advice, guidance and support.

The first of our winners had been an Honorary Member of the Alliance since 1980 and attended the Outdoor Pursuits Divisional Meetings since 1970; he was elected Chair of the Division from 1997 – 2005.

While at university, he represented Loughborough University in First XV rugby, athletics and cross-country running, and was Chairman of Loughborough University Mountaineering Club. An active mountaineer and mountain explorer on foot and ski, he has completed several first ascents of peaks and passes in Great Britain and Ireland, and the European Alps – from Lyngen in Arctic Norway to the Central Italian Alps.

He was well known for his significant mountain exploration over many seasons in the Kulu region of the Punjab Himalaya of India, including several more first ascents of peaks and passes between 16,000 ft and 22,000 ft. He marked his 80th birthday with a return to the Kulu region.

Congratulations were extended to Robert Pettigrew MBE, for 50 years of service to the Sport and Recreation Alliance. Robert accepted a certificate and award from HRH.

Our second winner attended her first meeting at the CCPR, as we were then known, in 1971. When she became the representative member for the Medau Society. She was already a teacher and trainer for the Society, working to get people of all ages and abilities involved in Medau work, and movement and dance in general.

After becoming Deputy Chair of the Movement and Dance Division in 1979, she became a member of the CCPR Executive Committee, among others, including the Sports Council/Health Education Authority's Fitness and Health Advisory Group.

In 1989 she became Chair of the Movement and Dance Division and was active in promoting the work of the Division for many years through large scale events around the country and, in particular, helping to organise the regular Festivals of Movement and Dance every five years at the Royal Albert Hall, coinciding with Alliance anniversaries.

She is a Vice President of both the Medau Society and the Alliance. She has five children, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren, and has still to retire completely.

Our second winner is Hilary Weedon, for 50 years of service to the Sport and Recreation Alliance. Hilary accepted her certificate and award from HRH.

Our third Service Award winner joined the CCPR in 1997, having previously been a Civil Servant in the Benefits Agency for ten years.

In her time with the organisation she has worked for five CEOs and seven Chairs, across three different offices. When she joined, there were only word processors with no internet capability, and memos were still in use before the arrival of the fax machine. Among the enormous amount she has seen change in the 25 years since, she witnessed first-hand the CCPR rebranded to become Sport and Recreation Alliance.

In 2005 she was officially made the Company Secretary and had the opportunity to represent the organisation at the Buckingham Palace Garden Party in 2006, alongside her sister, who herself worked for the CCPR and the Alliance.

Everyone at the Alliance is incredibly grateful for the work she continues to do, and I know that throughout her time with us, she has supported all of the members that join us in the room today.

For 25 years of service to the Sport and Recreation Alliance, our third winner was Kate Lawrenson. Kate accepted her certificate and award from HRH.

8.2 Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award

Lisa Wainwright introduced the Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award which recognised volunteers in the sector who had dedicated their lives to helping to get the nation active.

Volunteers who, for many decades, have been the basis for the great successes and experiences that we've had in sport and recreation, be that in our parks, on our streets or in our stadiums.

Our 2022 winner's impact on the sport of tennis had been transformational, particularly among children and young people.

Previously a representative for Kent on the LTA Council and still sitting on the Kent LTA Board, this individual had been involved in a wide range of tennis activities and projects in the county for over 25 years.

She was also a member of the LTA's Development Tennis Advisory Group and the Board Nominations Committee, and at an international level served on the Tennis Europe Development Committee and the ITF Olympic Committee.

Today's winner also became just the second female to hold the position of LTA President after the late Cathie Sabin OBE and hoped to drive further progress towards gender equality as the LTA puts a special focus on women and girls tennis this year.

The 2022 winner of the Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award was Sandi Procter and HRH The Earl of Wessex presented her with her Trophy.

8.3 Arthur Bell Trophy

The Arthur Bell Trophy was presented to an individual or organisation that was deemed to have made a phenomenal contribution to the development of community sport or recreation. As the nation, and our sector in particular, made a recovery from the pandemic, this award represented the perfect opportunity to recognise the outstanding work taking place in our communities and celebrate.

You only had to look at the Lionesses' heroics this summer to see the incredible impact our winner's work had on football. Her unrelenting dedication to the game helped pave the way for those women to go on and achieve something that had not been achieved in the sport for 56 years – England's first senior football trophy since 1966. An entire country had been inspired and a whole new generation of girls now wanted to take up the sport as a result.

As the FA's Director of the Women's Professional Game, she had been central to fueling the growth of women's football in England, from grassroots right through to the Women's Super League. During her 30 years at the FA, she had helped develop one of the leading league competitions in world football and had worked tirelessly to attract new audiences to the game, maximise media coverage

and secure commercial partners, all of which had safeguarded the future of the sport for women across the country. Women's football had never been in a stronger position and so much of that was down to this individual.

Her efforts resulted in the professionalisation of the Barclays FA Women's Super League, and a new broadcast deal with Sky Sports and the BBC. The prospect of being paid to play the sport for a living had no doubt enticed many more girls into taking up football from a young age in the hope of eventually becoming good enough to have a football career. She made girls dream and gave them something special to work towards. Never had the future of women's football in England looked so bright.

The winner of the Arthur Bell Trophy in 2022 was Kelly Simmons OBE and HRH The Earl of Wessex presented the Trophy.

9 IWG Handover Video

Lisa Wainwright provided a short speech regarding one of the Alliance's big projects over the past few years which had been the bidding, and subsequent taking over of the IWG on Women and Sport from New Zealand.

She reported that it had been a long, occasionally difficult, but fantastically rewarding process, and as mentioned by the Chair, she was delighted to finally be able to attend the official handover event last month in Birmingham, during the Commonwealth Games.

It had been wonderful to be surrounded by so many people who helped the Alliance secure the IWG and the video was played to give everyone a flavour of the day – and Lisa hoped everyone enjoyed it.

Following the video, the President confirmed that this concluded the AGM.