



Précis and action points from the Scottish Student Sport Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023 via Zoom

11:00-12:00

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Institution/ Organisation</b>
Iain Houston	City of Glasgow College	Pete Burgon (SSS Chair)	Scottish Rugby
Jonny Pearson	Edinburgh College		
Lucy Grant	Edinburgh Napier	Asif Nasser	BUCS
Ryan Cairns	Edinburgh Napier		
Gordon McTweed	GCU	Alison Craig	<b>sportscotland</b>
Emma Cartmill	Heriot-Watt		
Ross Campbell	Heriot-Watt	Stew Fowlie	Scottish Student Sport
Hope Reilly	Heriot-Watt	Ian Lowe	Scottish Student Sport
Louise Ford	QMU	Sean Berthelsen	Scottish Student Sport
Phoebe Moncur	RGU	Totty Sinclair Roads	Scottish Student Sport
Rory Anton	RGU	Eilidh Patterson	Scottish Student Sport
Danielle Grieve	University of Aberdeen	Jo Foster	Scottish Student Sport
Satu Askainen	University of Aberdeen	Cameron Wright	Scottish Student Sport
Tonis Tilk	University of Aberdeen	Jess Baillie	Scottish Student Sport
Marie Sherriffs	University of Aberdeen	Ben Rowlings	Scottish Student Sport
Christine McRobert	University of Aberdeen		
Kelly Moonlight	University of Dundee	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Institution/ Organisation</b>
Paul McPate	University of Dundee	Michelle Burnett	NESCOL
Mark Munro	University of Edinburgh	Karen Wilson	Forth Valley College
Millie Doherty	University of Edinburgh	Anna Wallace	SFC
Katherine Corbett	University of Edinburgh		
Neil Rankin	University of Edinburgh		
Polly Pearse	University of Edinburgh		
Peter Sawkins	University of Edinburgh		
Amber Campbell	University of Glasgow		
Keith Joss	University of Glasgow		
Ian Gaunt	University of St. Andrews		
Rachel Turton	University of St. Andrews		
Sophie Charlton	University of Stirling		
Cathy Gallacher	University of Stirling		
Murray Bushall	University of Stirling		
Neil Brown	University of Strathclyde		
Abby Irvine	University of Strathclyde		
Johnathan MacLeod	UWS		
Nicole Gray	UWS		
Ciaran O'Brien	UWS		
Nadia Mathieson	West Lothian College		

PB welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM, thanking everyone for attending.

### **I. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting, proposed by Neil Brown and seconded by Ian Gaunt. Apologies were noted from Michelle Burnett, Karen Wilson and Anna Wallace.

### **II. Strategic Update**

It has been an excellent year, the good news bureau rolls on, though of course we aren't blind to the societal factors facing our students at our network currently, not least the cost of living crisis. Plenty of progress has been made and there is clearly much still to do.

Development- 64 students have been put through umpire and officiating courses across 6 sports. We've continued to support the campaign to combat initiations and improve culture, working alongside key partners. 31 people attended the Active Health forum with 4 institutions working towards the silver HBHM award. Partnerships have been nurtured with key organisations such as SDS and LEAP Sports and boccia kits were rolled out to 7 institutions, thanks to the special projects funding. Lastly, connecting to the membership remains a high priority and we've successfully hosted our annual conference and Festive Gathering plus a number of small, more specific events.

Competitions- we've seen an excellent year in which we've held 120 events in 36 sports, reaching about 10,000 participants, and received encouraging feedback. Always balancing value for money, the student experience and profitability. 1205 medals awarded to 22 institutions, so all members received at least one medal, which is great to see. Good spread across the 1205 medals awarded, with 22 institutions. We're proud to have the highest fixture completion rate in the UK. Finally, we ran 6 national squad programmes, providing valuable experiences to the students involved, with more to come next year.

Advocacy- continue to support institutional strategic plans. Very well connected, contributing to national discussions- Student Mental Health & Wellbeing, Active Scotland Delivery plans and Strategic Forum for Sport & Leisure. Proud to display high quality multi-channel comms- thanks to CW for this excellent output. Funding picture is a mixed bag- working closely with BUCS as we enter a new partnership to ensure it is well managed and of good value. Funding hurdle with the Scottish Government, with the HBHM funding not being renewed. SFC funding is stable. Relationship with **sportscotland** is excellent, we feel well connected and very well supported.

Strong organisation - we are in a good financial position, well-managed, good external endorsement with top rating in KPMG policy audit and IIP, where we were shortlisted for employer of the year. Staffing changes a blessing and a curse. The governance review continues apace and we expect to bring constitutional changes to the GM in December.

In summary, in a good position but still much to do. Next year will be important to set us up for the future. Strong organisation and advocacy will continue to be the solid foundation upon which we can deliver our core offer. We are well connected but a number of partnerships can still be improved. Most importantly, we must continue to nurture relationships with our members.

PB congratulated the team, staff and volunteers for their efforts and urged the membership to take the opportunity to be involved in the governance review and restructure.

### **III. Financials**

a. 22-23 End of Year Forecast

SF presented the 22-23 year end position. We have seen a full and varied year with costs managed very closely. Thanks to TSR for the careful stewardship of the finances. Finishing position very close to £0. Grant income is levelling out now after a bumper year in 2021-22. Medium to long-term position will become clear in the next 24 months. Sports programme continues to do well and we hope strikes a balance between returning a small surplus whilst remaining of good value to the membership. The rest is predictable with no great moves compared to budget so overall a strong position and carefully managed year.

b. 23-24 Budget

SF moved on to the budget for 23-24. The picture is a little more challenging, due in particular to the HBHM funding, a mainstay in recent years, not being renewed. Budget presented shows a £20K deficit. A deficit isn't a desirable trend, but is necessary in the coming year and very manageable given our strong financial position. We will of course closely manage our costs and seek to bring in additional income if possible in sponsorship and in the sports programme.

The current reserve position is just over £300K of which £200K is our fixed reserves, as per our policy, and £100K represents our Special Projects fund and we are comfortable in position.

PB thanked TSR and the wider team, including Exec and Management for continued efforts and ongoing support of processes, scrutiny and control of the finances.

#### **IV. Review and Set Membership Fees**

The members were asked firstly to approve a new formula for calculating annual membership fees, as outlined in the membership fees paper circulated in advance of the meeting. Secondly, to approve the fixing of the 23-24 membership fee totals at the published figure, and lastly to vote to indicatively support a 3% rise annually in membership fees per year, subject to annual Executive Council recommendation and confirmation by members at AGM. All three elements were approved by the membership, via a Zoom poll.

#### **V. Appointments**

- a. Drummond Laurie were approved by all as the Auditors for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024.
- b. Ann-Marie Hughes and Jim Aitken MBE were both approved to receive Honorary Life Memberships to SSS.
- c. Mark Beaumont was approved by all as the (ongoing) Honorary President for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

Thanks was recorded to them all for their contribution.

#### **VI. Elections**

Firstly, PB thanked all the volunteers who had given their time and expertise for the 22/23 season, and then those who had sent in nominations for 23/24.

a. Executive Council

The members voted onto the committee the following uncontested positions en masse: Jonny Pearson (Edinburgh College) as SSS Chair, Ross Simpson (Edinburgh) as staff member, Murray Bushell (Stirling) as student member, Peter Sawkins (Edinburgh) as student member and Molly McHugh (Strathclyde) as student member.

b. Development Committee

The members voted onto the committee the following uncontested positions en masse: Neil Rankin (Edinburgh) as Learning & People Lead, Jordan Moore (Heriot-Watt) as Active Health Lead, Hope Reilly (Heriot-Watt) as student member, Nicole Gray (UWS) as student member.

The members then voted onto the committee the contested position of Inclusion and Culture Lead and Jenny Beedie (Glasgow) was successful in securing the role over Danielle Grieve (Aberdeen). The Chair encouraged Danielle to get involved in a different position and EP will be in touch to discuss the various opportunities.

c. Competitions Committee

The members voted onto the committee the following uncontested position: Ryan Cairns (Edinburgh Napier) as student member.

Following the elections, three positions remain unfilled: a Colleges Lead on the Development Committee and a student member and a Sports Chair on the Competitions Committee. Interested individuals are to submit an application form (this can be found on <https://www.scottishstudentsport.com/events/agm2022-3/>) to Stew Fowlie by the 31<sup>st</sup> of August '23.

## VII. Acknowledgements

PB praised the sector for its collective passion and dedication. He then went on to offer specific thanks to Vince Mayne from BUCS, to Andre Reibig, who supported SSS, the sport of judo and the wider student cause so fervently and is a huge loss to so many. Further, PB expressed his gratitude to our funders **sportscotland** and the SFC, and to our friends and partners at BUCS with whom we look forward to building a new relationship with different roles and responsibilities in 23/24. Huge thanks to SF and the full staff team for their continued hard work and of course lastly thank you to the army of volunteers, without whom student sport simply could not happen in Scotland. Final thanks to SF and TSR for organising the AGM and the papers.

RC then praised PB, on behalf of the members, for his outstanding contribution to the sector as SSS Chair, and his various roles since 2006.

SF echoed these thanks, noting PB's exceptional qualities as a wonderful boss, tireless and positive throughout.

PB closed the meeting at 12:00 and handed over the reins to JP, the new SSS Chair.

# APPENDIX 1

The Committees for 2023/24 are as follows:

## Executive Council 2023/2024:

Name	Institution	First date elected	End date current term	6 years in role
SSS Chair- Jonny Pearson	Edinburgh College	August 2023	July 2026	July 2029
Dev Chair- Katherine Corbett	RGU	June 2021	July 2025	July 2027
Comps Chair- Eamonn Laird	Dundee	June 2022	July 2025	July 2028
Chris Sellar	Heriot-Watt	June 2022	July 2024	July 2028
Ian Gaunt	St. Andrews	June 2022	July 2024	July 2028
Ross Simpson	Edinburgh	August 2023	July 2025	July 2029
Murray Bushell	Stirling	August 2023	July 2024	July 2029
Peter Sawkins	Edinburgh	August 2023	July 2024	July 2029
Molly McHugh	Strathclyde	August 2023	July 2024	July 2029

Please note that representative(s) from **sportscotland**, **SFC** and **BUCS** may also be present at Executive Council meetings.

## Competitions Committee 2023/24:

Name	Institution	First date elected	End date current term	6 years in role
Comps Chair- Eamonn Laird	Heriot-Watt	June 2022	July 2025	July 2028
Sophie Charlton	Stirling	June 2022	July 2024	July 2028
Johnathan Macleod	UWS	June 2022	July 2024	July 2028
Ryan Cairns	Edinburgh Napier	August 2023	July 2024	July 2029
Student- vacant				
Sports Chair- vacant				

Please note that the Fixtures Forum Chair may also be present at Competitions Committee meetings.

## Development Committee 2023/24:

Name	Institution	First date elected	End date current term	6 years in role
Dev Chair- Katherine Corbett	Edinburgh	June 2021	July 2025	July 2027
Sport & Active Health Lead- Jordan Moore	Heriot-Watt	August 2023	July 2025	July 2029
Inclusion & Culture Lead- Jenny Beedie	Glasgow	August 2023	July 2025	July 2029
Learning & People Lead- Neil Rankin	Edinburgh	August 2023	July 2025	July 2029
Colleges Lead- vacant				
Hope Reilly	Heriot- Watt	August 2023	July 2024	July 2029
Nicole Gray	UWS	August 2023	July 2024	July 2029