



The Equality Standard
A Framework for Sport

NEWS

Edition 81 December 2011

Equality in Sport
A monthly e-news publication

Welcome

Hello and welcome to the 81st newsletter. The Paralympics has just got a whole lot closer with the London International Goalball Tournament, held earlier this month at the Handball arena, being the first test event to be completed. After a few initial teething troubles (well that's the point of a test event), all went smoothly and athlete feedback was very positive. It was a female only tournament and, although the British women are not yet guaranteed a place at the games next summer, both Head Coach and Performance Director are hopeful that the effort from the team at the tournament will make the case for their inclusion.

More good news is that the future of this newsletter has now been secured until the end of 2013 and, on behalf of all recipients, we would like to thank all supporters that have made this possible. So at least we know that, in the fluctuating times after the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the inevitable changes that will occur for some organisations post March 2013, this publication will continue to make a small contribution in supporting sporting bodies to become more equitable. What it also allows us to do is to plan a series of features for future editions and, if you have any ideas about topics that could be covered in this way, then please send us your suggestions.

A major element of the Foundation level is the creation of an equality policy. However, it is not simply enough just to create a policy, but it needs to be of sufficient quality to make a difference. We are aware that a number of organisations have reviewed and revised their equality policy since the introduction of the Equality Act in October 2010 and we would like to share these with other organisations that would benefit from this support. If you do have such a policy and would be happy for us to list it in a future edition of this newsletter and perhaps create a link to it on the Equality in Sport Website, then please let us know and we will put together a list that can be referenced.

Hoping that you survived "panic", or should that be "manic" Saturday" in terms of shopping and we wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a successful and healthy 2012.

Please forward this newsletter to anyone you think may be interested, or get them to contact Roger Clifton at roger@vagaassociates.com if they would like a copy sent directly to them. The deadline for material for the next edition is Friday 6 January.

This edition contains features on:

- The Sportswomen of the Year awards
- A shooting club for visually impaired people
- Scottish Swimming's Swimark programme
- Football's Black List Award winners
- A look at ways of tackling mental health stigma in sport
- A variety of general information of interest and new resources of use
- Achievements
- Calendar of forthcoming events.

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VAGA

Taekwondo World Champion Sarah Stevenson Hailed Sportswoman of the Year 2011

Our thanks to Louise Tanner, Communications Manager at the Women's Sport and fitness foundation (WSFF) for providing the bulk of the information for the piece below.

The best of British women's sport was celebrated at The Sunday Times Sportswomen of the Year Awards 2011. The ceremony, hosted by the BBC's Gill Douglas, attended by a host of stars from the sporting world including Lord Coe, was held at the Sunday Times headquarters in Central London.

On winning the title award of the evening, Sarah Stevenson said: "It's a great honour to have been voted Sportswoman of the Year for 2011. I never expected to win against such other amazing nominees and I'm so happy to receive this and raise the profile of Taekwondo. I'm proud to be a woman in sport and want to take this opportunity to recognise all the fantastic athletes who make this a genuinely exciting time for women's sport in the UK. I collect this award on behalf of all the amazing women out there in British Sport"

The official charity partner of the awards was WSFF. Sue Tibballs, WSFF's Chief Executive, said: "This is a fantastic showcase of the richness and breadth of British female sport right now. I congratulate all the winners and nominees on their awards and all that they do to fly the flag for female athletes across the country. The Sunday Times deserves huge credit for running these awards for the last 24 years."

Other successes included:

- Team of the Year 2011: The European Solheim Cup team
- Young Sportswoman of the Year 2011: Lucy Garner
- Disabled Sportswoman of the Year 2011: Anne Dunham.

Speaking of her success, Para-Equestrian Dressage rider, Anne Dunham MBE said: "I'm absolutely thrilled. I'm just so amazed and happy to have won it, it's a great award to have won and a wonderful end to a brilliant year. I arrived just in time to hear my name being read out, the traffic on the way down was so bad we ended up being stuck on the motorway for four hours but it was definitely worth while! I'm absolutely amazed to have won it and feel really privileged." In 2010, Anne won team and individual gold and individual freestyle silver medals at the World Equestrian Games and went on to take team and two individual gold medals at the European Championships in 2011.

To find out more about Women's Sport, visit www.wsff.org.uk or to learn more about Anne's sport, go to [British Dressage](#).

Target shooting for visually impaired people, it really is true!

Our thanks to Mike Gurney of the Deanshanger air rifle club for the article below.

Deanshanger air rifle club is a sports target shooting club specifically for blind and visually impaired people. The club is a self funded organisation that is run by visually impaired people, for visually impaired people and meets once a week to hone their skills.

Most people's reaction when they hear about the club is simply disbelief, but no, it really is true. The club members are all either visually impaired or completely blind. The club uses state of the art audio targeting equipment which allows each shooter to aim and shoot using audio tones that are heard through a pair of headphones that are worn when firing. This class of shooting is known as Acoustic Shooting and is recognised all over the world as a competitive sport. Each of the clubs rifles is fitted with a special sight that utilises a luminous intensity captor device that pinpoints where the shot will land. This combined with the audio equipment means that each shooter is capable of shooting as well, or in some cases better than a fully sighted person. The rifles used by the club are standard match air rifles that fire a .177 calibre pellet at 6 ft lbs, which is the competition standard power rating for indoor match shooting over a ten metre range all around the world by both sighted, and visually impaired competitors.

As well as it's visually impaired members, the club has several volunteers that help make the club possible by providing transport, setting up the range lanes, loading the rifles and scoring the targets. All of the volunteers are fully competent in guiding and assisting visually impaired people as most either have friends or family that are visually impaired themselves.

The club is registered with both the NSRA (National Small-bore Rifle Association) and the BBS (British Blind Sport) organisations and operates within the guidelines and legal parameters set by these organisations. In addition to their standard weekly meets, the club also participates in both regional league and national championship competitions in which all competitors are blind or visually impaired. Although it is not widely known about, target shooting for visually impaired people is a growing sport in the UK, with many counties having one or more clubs either as independent organisations, or as part of existing shooting clubs for sighted people

Each member of the club is registered and covered by insurance as dictated by NSRA guidelines, as such all members are required to pay a small annual membership/insurance fee of £20. In addition to this a £6 session fee is required each time a member attends the club for their weekly meet. This of course covers the clubs costs of targets, pellets, rifle maintenance, venue rent, and the all important tea and biscuits. A major barrier for disabled people is often transport and, particularly for visually impaired people, the availability of public transport. So the club is delighted that, thanks to the recent changes in the bus service, it is now possible to get the number 89 bus from Northampton to Deanshanger.

The club is always looking for new members and welcomes enquiries and actively encourages those who are interested in visiting the club so they can see what it is all about. Everyone over the age of 9 is welcome although people under 16 must be accompanied by a carer/responsible adult. The Club meets on Monday between 2 and 4 PM at the Community Centre, Little London, Deanshanger, MK19 6HT. If you are interested in trying your hand at this fun and challenging sport, or you would like some more information about the club, please contact Mike Gurney on 01908 571 347.

Scottish Swimming encourages clubs to become more equitable

Our thanks to Gillian Innes, Lead Equality Officer with Scottish Swimming, for the following article.

Swimark is Scottish Swimming's accreditation scheme, awarded to clubs who demonstrate best practice and standards of high quality in club management. One component of Swimark's criteria requires clubs to have an equity policy in place. Most recently, two clubs have been working on the advanced level accreditation, Swimark plus. To achieve this, clubs are further stretched to explain how equity has an impact on club development.

Aberdeen Amateur Swimming Club has been actively planning projects on how they can offer more services to their local community. Progressing through Swimark plus has challenged the club to consider how they can offer a valuable experience to sectors within the community that would not normally have access to the club environment. The club are based at Aberdeen International School and work in partnership with the school management team. Here are some examples of additional sessions the club provide in reaching out to their local community. Their aim is to be totally inclusive to all, and enable members to enjoy the benefits of participating within their club environment:

- A French group of swimmers who were unable to participate in early morning sessions have a specific session in the evening where they receive coaching.
- 25 children participate in Rookie lifeguarding sessions on a regular basis, where they learn about lifesaving skills.
- Adult lessons, junior and senior fitness programmes work alongside competitive squads. This enables the club to provide an alternative for those who do not wish to compete, but have a desire to develop their skills, or enjoy swimming for fitness and healthy wellbeing.
- A new group of physically disabled children is currently being organised to commence in January 2012. This is aimed at giving children the opportunity to enjoy the experience of swimming. This group will also link into the club, should any child wish to compete.
- A new group for families whose children have suffered from illnesses, such as cancer, is planned for January 2012 too. This session is specifically linked to the school, and seeks to provide an opportunity for families going through similar experiences to relax, and enjoy a community activity outside the hospital environment. The club aims to provide support as necessary, such as volunteers providing support in the water.
- A waterpolo group is currently being promoted through the club and although participation for all abilities is welcome, the club are aware of the need for encouraging females in particular to participate. The club now has a member specifically dedicated to waterpolo to ensure this project progresses. Scottish Swimming's Water polo development manager is in contact with the club to provide ongoing support.
- A Master's section for the club was introduced in October with the intention of developing further from January onwards. The club embraces the fact that the competitive pathway should be inclusive to all Scottish Swimming members who wish to compete, regardless of age, and has a plan in place to develop this area.

Perhaps the last of these was encouraged by the Christmas Gala where many parents participated. Head Coach, Alison Low, commented: "The gala was rounded off by a new event, the adult relay race and it was a very positive way to finish. The swimmers were so supportive. Well done to all the parents who took part. We have some very game parents and some very talented Masters swimmers. One dad had a time of 26.6 seconds for his 50 Free, which is brilliant. We are hoping to start a Masters squad after the New Year and it seems we could have a squad of keen parents and maybe their friends too."

Heart of Midlothian Amateur Swimming Club (ASC) is another club who were working through the process of Swimark plus recently. They have been proactive in reviewing and evaluating their equity policy, and as a result have produced a Hardship Policy for those experiencing financial difficulties.

Irene Brownlee, the club's President, highlighted how the club developed through the Swimark plus process: "I am delighted that Hearts ASC has achieved Swimark plus, the first Scottish swimming club to meet this highest mark of accreditation and quality. We have worked very hard as a Club over the last couple of years, firstly to achieve Swimark and now Swimark Plus. Going through the Swimark plus process has been a very beneficial experience, enabling us to revisit and update our policies and procedures, as well as giving us an increased focus on training and development of our coaches and volunteers. It has also encouraged us to develop wider partnerships with the local community and sporting bodies. Hearts celebrated its 125th anniversary last year and we are now in an excellent position to celebrate success for many years to come. I would like to thank Sarah Pryde of Scottish Swimming for her advice and support through the process and all the coaches and volunteers in the Club for their efforts"

For more information about the Swimark programme, contact Gillian Innes on 07730 661 789, or via email g.innes@scottishswimming.com

Success for Arsenal and for football's Black List Awards

Kick It Out Chair, Lord Herman Ouseley, received the Keith Alexander Special Award as the African Caribbean community's football family came together for the fourth edition of the Black List Awards (BLA). Taking place on 26 October, the occasion was held at the offices of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in Canary Wharf, where Ouseley was recognised for his contribution to combatting racism in the game.

Attendees were made up of those that ply their trade in the industry. On the night, players, administrators, media, agents and those that work at community and grass roots were able to network for the one time of the year when the black football fraternity comes together. Among the former and current players to grace the occasion were Arsenal's Alex Song, Tottenham's Sebastien Bassong, Reading captain Jobi McAnuff, Les Ferdinand, Paul Elliott, Chris Ramsey and Chris Powell.

The Black List Awards recognises the contribution of the black community for achievements across all levels of football and is supported by The Football Association, Professional Footballers' Association, Kick It Out, the Black Collective of Media in Sport (BCOMS) and Horizon, with The Voice newspaper as a media partner. Founded by journalist Leon Mann and Voice sports editor Rodney Hinds in 2008, the initiative has fast become an indicator of the British African Caribbean community's progress in the game.

The list goes beyond simply recognising the achievements of the growing number of black players taking to the field. Instead it emphasises the community's contribution away from the thick of the action, acknowledging those working tirelessly at grass roots level and administrators operating and members of the media.

The awards attracted a number of personalities including: Big Brother star Heaven, Olympic 2012 hopefuls, Louis Smith and Chris Tomlinson, and Choice FM presenter Daddy Ernie.

As well as Lord Ouseley receiving the Keith Alexander Special Award, other award winners were:

- Off-the-pitch Award: Benoit Assou-Ekotto
- Special Award: Howard Holmes
- Community Award: Lincoln Moses

Meanwhile, Arsenal has become the first club to be awarded the Advanced Level of Kick It Out's Equality Standard. Speaking on the day the award was made to an invited audience of the game's administrators, governing bodies and equality organisations, including Ivan Gazidis, Arsenal's Chief Executive Officer, broadcaster and lifelong supporter Tom Watt, showcased the club's community work and some of the individuals that bring it to life. Singling out the Arsenal For Everyone community scheme, he said: "Football is the one thing in the world that unites people more than anything else. That notion of the game connecting people, giving them that sense of togetherness, is what football and Arsenal For Everyone are all about."

On being presented the award, Gazidis commented: "A football club is about more than just the game. I am profoundly proud to see what has been achieved here at Arsenal. It is fundamental that a football club is representative of its community, and the most visible manifestation of this is what happens on the field. We have over 20 different nationalities in our squad and this is something that reflects the multiculturalism that is inherent in the world's game, but also in the Islington community and London on a broader scale. In the community, Arsenal is promoting and celebrating the diversity and multiculturalism of our community. I am proud of the work we are doing, but I want to also emphasise how far we still have to go to eradicate all forms of discrimination."

Faye White, Arsenal Ladies and England captain, said: "This club has given me a great platform to perform and to chase a dream. I am very fortunate to say that I have achieved a lot and I have been able to reach the top of my game whilst here at Arsenal. I have seen so much progress. Above all, my experiences have proved that the game is for everyone. I feel so privileged and lucky to be part of a great club and to accept this award."

Sport can make a positive difference to people with mental health problems

Our thanks to Kate Stringer at Time to Change for providing the article below.

Time to Change is a programme run by the charities Mind and Rethink Mental Illness to end the stigma and discrimination that people with mental health problems face. Despite one in four of us experiencing a mental health problem in any year, nearly nine out of ten of those who do still say they face stigma and discrimination as a result. The examples of Frank Bruno and Marcus Trescothick, and indeed the recent tragic death of Gary Speed, have highlighted that mental health issues are as relevant to people in sport as they are anywhere else in life.

Sport can make a positive difference in the lives of people with mental health problems. The benefits of sport and exercise on mental as well as physical health are well documented, and sport can also be an important way of improving social inclusion and community participation for people with mental health problems. It's also important that sport is inclusive and accessible for people with mental health problems, as across other equalities strands.

With all these things in mind, Time to Change has been working with partners in sport including the FA, the Premier League and Sport Relief to challenge mental health discrimination in sport, make mainstream sport more inclusive for people with mental health problems, and harness the power of sports to change community attitudes towards people with mental health issues.

Changing the culture of sport

From the elite level to the grassroots, many people in the world of sport are affected by mental health issues as in the wider population. To make the culture of grassroots sport more accessible for people with mental health problems, we have run the first ever national mental health training for people in sport – 70 sessions attended by 825 coaches from a range of sports, from football, rugby League and cricket to athletics, dance and even roller derby. The training was delivered by people with direct experience of mental health problems, and covered general mental health awareness as well as how coaches can support and work with players and athletes with mental health problems. Evaluation from the University of Nottingham showed that it had a positive impact on the attitudes and behaviour of those who attended. We worked with mainstream sports clubs, mainly through the Premier League and the rugby Super League, to host and promote these sessions.

Imagine Your Goals

Sport is an important part of community and social life, and can be a helpful way of breaking the isolation that people with mental health problems can experience and ensuring people are involved in their communities. Through the Imagine Your Goals scheme, funded by the Premier League and Sport Relief, we work with 16 football clubs to use football and the community facing role of Premier League clubs to raise awareness about mental health, bring people with mental health problems and others from the community together, and support people with mental health problems to improve their wellbeing and confidence.

As well as providing football sessions that bring people with mental health problems together with others in their community to benefit from the positive effects of exercise, clubs taking part help engage players, management, fans and the wider community with anti-stigma messages. “The football project has given me a second chance. I went from being a service user to being a coach, and now I run the project at Arsenal”, said Jason Kelvin, Arsenal in the Community

Mental health best practice in sport

The Imagine Your Goals projects and others like them have had huge benefits both for the wellbeing and confidence of people with mental health problems, and on the attitudes and behaviours of the communities they work in. We have produced two best practice guides to help others set up sport and mental health projects. Hosted on the FA website, the toolkits bring together some of the best examples of this work and give practical advice on commissioning and setting up similar projects. “Miracles are being achieved every day...Football groups are saving lives”, said a Football focus group participant

Find out more

Anyone involved in any sport can access the mental health and sport toolkits on the FA website at www.thefa.com/timetochange

For more information about the wider Time to Change programme and how you or your organisation can get involved, go to <http://www.time-to-change.org.uk/>

A selection of general information of interest

This section contains a variety of information that may be of interest as well as useful new resources.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) news round up

On 7 December 2011, the Government published its transgender action plan 'Advancing transgender equality: a plan for action'. The document sets out specific actions across government to advance transgender equality. It includes firm commitments to improve the lives of transgender people and support businesses and public bodies so they have the right tools to support transgender people. A PDF version can be found at [Action plan](#) and other related information can be found at [Government Transgender E-bulletins](#).

The latest edition of the LGBT History Month bulletin is now available and contains news, information, notices of upcoming events and quotations. It can be accessed via [LGBT HM bulletin](#).

LGBT Youth Scotland are running a survey to find out about LGBT sports groups and clubs across Scotland, where they are and who attends them. It has been written by volunteers interested in making improvements to physical activity opportunities for the LGBT community. The survey is targeted at existing groups but also aims to get information from the wider LGBT community, sporty or not! The LGBT sports survey is open to anyone interested in completing it, providing they currently engage with, or have an interest in, LGBT sports club activities. The survey can be accessed at [LGBT Sports Survey](#).

On Monday 21 November, Lynne Featherstone, Minister for Equalities, launched a competition to find a logo for sports clubs, fans and players across the country to mark their support for the Government's campaign to tackle homophobia and transphobia in sport. The competition is targeted at young people, but is open to anyone with creative flair who can produce an emblem that helps spread the message that hate of any kind in sport is not acceptable. The competition will run until 18 January. Rugby Union star, Ben Cohen will shortlist the top designs from all the entries and then it will be over to the general public to vote for the winning design. There is a fantastic selection of prizes for the winner and runners up, kindly donated by the Football Association, the Football League, the Lawn Tennis Association, Rugby Football League and Ben Cohen. To find out more, including how to enter, please visit [Create a logo](#)

Hyde FC, who became the first Blue Square Bet North football club to officially sign up to the Government 'charter against homophobia and transphobia in sport' earlier this month, have stated they will look at hosting a celebrity match or training session and invite LGBT players to attend to help celebrate LGBT History Month in February of next year. Until stepping down earlier this year, former Director of Hyde FC, Julie Whitehead was the only 'out' lesbian involved in the semi-professional game in a senior managerial role.

Award for disabled sports club pair

The founders of a club for disabled athletes have been honoured with a national award. Janice Eaglesham and Ian Mirfin jointly won the 2011 BBC Scotland Sports Unsung Hero award for their work at Red Star Athletics Club in Dennistoun, Glasgow. The pair continue to coach and organise the club which has helped more than 150 athletes since 1990. Red Star Athletics Club often train with a mainstream athletics club, the Shettleston Harriers, and the 2 clubs have a close and friendly relationship, with members socialising together and parents, friends and family often volunteering at both clubs. Some of Scotland's world class Paralympians spend time coaching younger members of the club. The close relationship between the disability and mainstream club and the tireless work of parents, friends and family, have helped to make Red Star a powerhouse of disability athletics in Scotland.

Ms Eaglesham, who recently retired as a sports development officer with Glasgow City Council, said: "We get as much out of running the club as the athletes do by taking part. It's a pleasure - we have been very fortunate to have worked with so many exceptional people." Mr Mirfin, a staff development officer with South Lanarkshire Council, added: "We have gained far more in return than we have ever invested. It's humbling to work with these athletes and to watch them progress and achieve their goals." Veteran athletics coach Tommy Boyle, who has worked with many Scottish athletes such as Tom McKean and Yvonne Murray, presented the trophy and said: "It's fantastic for Janice and Ian. They have inspired so many athletes to be the best they can in sport and in life." The coaches will now represent Scotland in the Unsung Hero category at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year on December 22 and Ewan Angus, Head of Sport, BBC Scotland said: "Janice and Ian are worthy winners of this accolade. Their record in helping athletes at the Red Star Club reach their targets over many years is first class."

Christians in Sport

Christians in Sport aims to reach the world of sport for Christ, by working daily to see Christians living out their faith in every one of the 150,000 sports clubs in the UK. At the centre of all their work is the 'Christian in sport', sportspeople of any ability or age who are actively involved in the world of sport and who see their sport as a gift from God and want to honour him in the way they play. So, how do they support them to do just this?

Firstly, they train them to pray for their friends in sport, play in a way that honours God and say something of the Good News of Jesus Christ. This is done through training events, resources, youth and university groups scattered across the UK as well as Sport Networks connecting people to others from their sport.

Secondly, they support and help Christians in sport share their faith with their friends by hosting sports events that they can invite their friends along to, where they can hear the Christian message. These include sports quizzes, dinners, tournaments as well as university and school missions and their youth camps Sports Plus. With the 2012 Games just around the corner, the next year brings with it a unique and exciting opportunity for more sportspeople than ever to hear the Christian message. One way they are looking to help churches make the most out of the Games is by helping them host the 2012 Sports Quiz; an interactive, multimedia sports quiz with a live 10 minute talk on Christianity relevant to sportspeople.

For more information about the work of Christians in Sport please visit www.christiansinsport.org.uk or follow @CIS_UK on twitter.

News from the Rugby Football League (RFL)

The December edition of RFL's Equality and diversity newsletter is now available to download from [In League Together](#) and includes articles on:

- Ben Noble becomes Rugby League's first blind coach
- Gina Smallwood the first female Wheelchair Rugby League player to represent England
- Equality and Diversity Conference for club staff – Book Now!
- Sport Light on... Sheffield Eagles – a celebration of a year of LGBT inclusion
- Deaf Rugby League in the North East
- Contributions to the Rugby League Club Disability Guidance needed
- Free one day Equality and Diversity training places for community and club staff and volunteers

Include and inspire: Sports and fitness services in higher education

Participation in higher education has changed and increased over time, creating more diverse student and staff populations. This is also the case in communities local to institutions. Different people have different needs and requirements. Sports services that are aware of these differences and are inclusive and accessible to all staff, students and local community members will maximise participation and inspire people to get involved in sport and exercise.

A guide for HEI sports service managers and students' unions explores participants' diversity, the benefits of providing an inclusive service and how to take a strategic approach. The guide has been awarded the Inspire Mark by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in recognition of the guide's contribution to supporting the Olympic legacy. It can be downloaded from [Include and inspire](#)

League Managers Association back HIVsport's World AIDS Day campaign

To mark the occasion of World AIDS Day, which is held every year on 1 December, the League Managers Association (LMA) once again supported the annual HIVsport World AIDS Day campaign to raise awareness of the global threat of HIV and AIDS. To support the campaign, the LMA sent the HIVsport red ribbon 'Badge of Hope' to all 92 football Premiership and league managers and asked them to wear the badge over the World AIDS Day period to show their support for people living with HIV and AIDS across the world.

Andy Harvey, Chair of HIVsport said: "For the past five years the football managers and their association have shown magnificent support in helping to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS. Every manager who chooses to wear the badge does so voluntarily and this is an incredibly powerful message of hope they give to everyone around the world who is affected by HIV and AIDS." Richard Bevan, Chief Executive of the LMA, says: "We are delighted once again to support this important campaign and to show that the football world can help raise awareness of HIV and AIDS at this time of year."

Started on 1st December 1988, World AIDS Day (WAD) is about increasing awareness, fighting prejudice and improving education.

According to UNAIDS statistics, there are approximately 33 million people living with HIV/AIDS across the world, the majority of them in sub-Saharan Africa. However, HIV is present in every country in the world and there are approximately 100,000 people living with HIV in the UK.

As a not-for-profit organisation, HIVsport uses the Badge of Hope™ to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS and promote sexual health and wellbeing in sport. They work in partnership with professional sporting associations, umbrella HIV and sexual health organisations, the media, medical and corporate bodies to:

- Create, through sport, greater public awareness of the global epidemic of HIV and AIDS
- Provide education and training to people in all roles in sport around HIV and sexual health
- Support sports-related HIV and sexual health education projects.

For more information, visit [HIVsport](#).

Achievements

The following organisations currently have assessment reports being verified, with a result due by the end of December.

Foundation level

- Cambridgeshire County Football Association
- Golf Union Wales
- Sheffield and Hallamshire County Football Association.

Intermediate level

- British Rowing.

Calendar of forthcoming events

Dates for your diary include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| • 2 Dec 2011-6 Feb 2012 | Paralympic tickets on sale |
| • Feb 2012 | LGBT History Month, throughout the UK |
| • 3-10 March | Swimming Paralympic test event, London Aquatics Centre |
| • 2-6 May | Wheelchair Tennis Paralympic test event, Eaton Manor |
| • 4-6 May | Archery Paralympic test event, Woolwich |
| • 5-7 May | Boccia Paralympic test event, Basketball Arena |
| • 8 May | Athletics Paralympic test event, Olympic Stadium |
| • 1-3 June | Bingham Cup, Manchester |
| • 25-29 June | National School Sport Week, throughout the UK |
| • 27 Jul-12 Aug | Olympic Games, Various UK venues |
| • 29 Aug-9 Sept | Paralympic Games, Various UK venues. |

How to Get the Most Out of this Newsletter

Hopefully you have enjoyed the variety of information in this newsletter. You can contribute! Do give us some information about your governing body, home country, sporting organisation or project. Our schedule is:

Production Date	Deadline for Contributions
16 January	6 January
20 February	10 February
19 March	9 March

Please e-mail any contributions or comments to roger@vagaassociates.com.