

BUCS Update

SUS Executive - February 2011



Sports Department

BUCS Championships – All venues in order and team moving forward with officials and equipment etc. Volunteering is being managed between SIV and Sports Development and we are looking to deploy volunteers at every venue and for all sports. Some of these will be sports specific delivered through the NGB and the majority will be generic sourced locally through either the Universities or local people.

Sport strategy waiting input from Performance group deadline for final draft 17th February 2011, presentation to Board. Aim is to have a session at conference to formally launch the sport specific strategies. Draft SMG roles have been drawn up with a view to each member having specific roles and responsibilities. Most SMGs will have a core set of roles with a couple of positions left to take into account specific requirements of that sport. The process of recruitment will be open to all and take place over the summer with a view to having all SMGs in place by September.

Restructure of Sports Department (re-classifying White sports to Blue) is working well and Ed Curran currently working on redefining relationship with providers of the out-sourced / franchised events

Disability Sport

Gordon McTweed (Glasgow Cal) is leading on Stage two of the research project which consists of focus groups held at five institutions; University of Abertay, Leeds Metropolitan, Nottingham Trent University, Aberystwyth University and Ulster University. The focus groups are expected to be completed by the end of February 2011.

Dialogue continues with UK Athletics regarding the Outdoor Championships and Parallel Success branding and subsequent responsibilities.

The swimming long course looks set to be the first event with an enhanced inclusive offer. Though numbers of disabled swimmers entering this remains low the changes made are a crucial step that will ultimately result in more entrants in future years.

Initial communications have taken place regarding the Inclusive Club Toolkit. The pilot for this is with community clubs in Staffordshire. Further work will be needed to make this resource more relevant to the HE sector.

Communication, Commercial & Marketing

BUCS Life copy deadline 21st Feb, produced by 7th March and TV coverage of Super 8's was successful

National Express are interested in the membership network and about offering there 'go compare' service and possibly some campaign management through our student network.

100% Me have agreed in principal to partner BUCS using The Championships as a key educational event and for us to support their messages across other events and marketing channels.

Professional & Regional Development

Member Services Questionnaire – Headline findings presented at Senior Managers event in December and shared with Advisory Group in January. Working on final report and actions to share with Members in February. Based on feedback survey will be repeated in April/May and then kept on a 12 month cycle.

Senior Managers Event - A successful event with excellent presentations from Hugh Robertson and Chris Lightfoot and presence and input from Board members appreciated by members. Event for 2011 in diary for Thursday 8th December in London.

Senior Manager Professional Network – Request was received from members prior to December event for consideration to be given to establishing a Senior Managers Professional Network. The structure and function of the proposed group was discussed, a summary of which has been circulated to all Senior Managers and a further meeting has been scheduled to take place on Wednesday 16th March at The Championships.

Regional Development Manager – James Birdsey has taken up this new post on an initial 6 month contract. This position was created in response to the feedback from the Member Services Questionnaire and discussion at Advisory Group regarding regional support and engagement. James will also have responsibility for the management and delivery of the FE project.

NBS & Quest – Work continues with Leisure-Net and Right Directions to consult with group of members in the review and updating of the assessment modules so improving relevance to HE where appropriate. New product being launched to market on 1st March and meeting planned with HE group on this day.

International

A delegation of 74 are currently in Erzurum for the World University Winter Games with athletes competing in Alpine, Freestyle, Women's Ice Hockey, Curling, Snowboard, Figure skating and Short-Track.

World University Summer Games (Shenzhen, China, 2011) and meetings are continuing to take place with a variety of the sports included within the programme, including British Gymnastics, Weightlifting, Swimming and Archery. Selection criteria have been agreed for Taekwondo, Open Water Swimming and Swimming and are currently available through the website. A pre-Games Taekwondo training / sparring group has been established for student athletes aspiring to meet the selection criteria.

A booklet entitled 'Information for Volunteer Team Officials' has been produced to help support Team Managers, Coaches and Physiotherapists at future BUCS events.

Sports Development

Coaching Development Day is being held at University of Birmingham on 1st March with keynote from Toni Minichiello, coach to Jess Ennis. The event is being supported by Sportscoach UK and is intended to support those with responsibility for the recruitment, training and deployment of coaches.

Advisory Group

Productive meeting held in Nottingham in January and minutes and papers have been circulated to Chairs. Progression on Projects for 2010/11 has been disappointing and Project Leads have been asked to drive these forward and report back at March meeting.

Student & Staff Chairs have been asked to consult with members in their region / nation on BUCS Alcohol Policy report, Conference Programme suggestions.