

# SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES SPORT

ACTIVE • COMPETITIVE • INNOVATIVE



Annual report 2008/09



# Scottish Universities Sport (SUS)

Is a partnership of Scottish Universities' Sports Unions & Exercise Departments who aim to continually develop & improve their sport & physical activity programmes.

**Active • Competitive • Innovative**

SUS is the lead organisation for the delivery and development of 'active, competitive, innovative' sport and physical activity for the tertiary education sector.

## Chair's Report *Filippo Antoniazzi*

I am delighted to present the 2008/09 SUS Annual Report. This summary identifies our major areas of work and highlights our significant achievements of the past 12 months.

Our membership is served by an Executive Council and 3 committees - Physical Activity, Competitions and Professional Development. In addition a number of members input on SUS' behalf into a number of initiatives and organisations within and outwith the sector.

I thank everyone who has contributed to our success and look forward to developing SUS as we move towards 2012 and 2014 and placing the tertiary education sector at the heart of Scotland's sport and physical activity landscape.



## The Executive Council *5 meetings*

### Key areas of focus:

- The development of a 5 year SUS Strategy - completed May 2009 and can be accessed via the SUS website
- Revamping our Active Students proposal
- Ensuring that any investment into a scholarship scheme (subsequently labelled Winning Students) is well spent, utilises the experience and expertise of our network and gives both academic choice and appropriate support to high performance athletes in Scotland
- HR Oversight Group discuss all matters relating to the manner in which SUS recruits, manages and develops full time staff
- Partners and Sponsors - Our key partner **sportscotland** continues to provide both financial assistance and in kind support in terms of sound counsel from Lorna Callan who contributes fully to Executive discussions. Thanks must also be extended to BUCS for their involvement over the past 12 months. Thank you to our main sponsors Linklaters, Powerade and In Spirit. Without this support we would not be able to carry out all that we wish to achieve

## SUS Awards 2008/09

SUS Linklaters sportsperson of the year:  
**Stephen Dick, University of Edinburgh**

Team of the year:  
**University of Aberdeen Rifle Club**

Volunteer of the year:  
**Michael Wright, Heriot-Watt University**

## Contact information

SUS Staff 2008/09  
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- Finance - The audited accounts for 2007/08 were approved at the EGM on 11th December 2008, showing an operating balance for the year of £10427.21 with cash assets of £83602.97

As at end July 09 income and expenditure stand at £240,725.14 and £217,048.91 respectively. Executive expects that outturn for the year will be inline with expectations returning a surplus in the region of £3,500; these figures will be reconciled, reported to Executive, internally audited and presented for approval at SUS EGM in December.



## Physical Activity Committee

**Jackie Davidson, Chair, 4 meetings**

### Key areas of focus:

- Active Age Festival - 3rd AAF held in Dundee in August 2008. There were 90 attendees to the AAF and they enjoyed activities such as moving wisely, indoor curling and Broadway boogie
- Dance Festival - 90 participants took part in various types of dance including jazz, hip hop and contemporary
- Workshops on Special Populations and Exercise as well as Innovation in Physical Activity
- Flyers - new topics continue to be explored and are available for download from the website. Topics include Polefit, Physical Activity Guidelines and Dance
- Quarterly newsletter published on the SUS website detailing news and issues throughout the sector

## Competitions Committee

**Mark Ritchie, Chair, 5 meetings**

### Key areas of focus:

- Development week - the first annual start of season workshops took place across 12 sports and sought to educate clubs on the season ahead and address other areas such as coaching, officiating and club development
- Strengthening sports structures - Development groups for sports that have formalised relationships with SGBs
- Introduction of new SUS sports - curling & cycling
- Introduction of a three year planning cycle for dates and venues for our 150 yearly events
- Performance Sport - a sub group comprised of colleagues working in support of performance athletes has been convened and has provided the catalyst for emerging partnership work with the Scottish and Area Institutes of Sport on marketing and performance lifestyle issues
- College engagement - 2008/09 saw the first involvement of college students in selected SUS events including athletics, golf, rugby and snowsports. Further roll-out of opportunities to college colleagues is planned for the 2009/10 Season and beyond

## Professional Development Committee

**Catriona McAllister, Chair, 6 meetings**

### Key areas of focus:

- SUS Audit - Summary page available on SUS website
- The Christmas "Go Green" seminar, hosted by Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh offered networking and professional development opportunities
- 'Homecoming' Annual Conference - With higher numbers than ever and a jam packed programme the SUS Conference 2009 held at Heriot-Watt University was a great success
- Special Interest Groups - held a second administrators forum and a Quest seminar for Operational Staff
- Creating a marketing sub-committee to drive forward the SUS marketing strategy



# Scottish Higher Education Sports Provision Audit 2008

## Athletic Union Sports Programmes

44% of institutions organise competitive leagues/intra-mural sports programmes. The most popular sport being football followed by rugby and hockey

## Activities

71 sports/activities are covered by affiliated clubs (1 less overall than 2007, however some activities no longer have clubs this year and new activities are being covered).

Football is the most widely available sport (in 15 out of 16 institutions).

## Club membership

The clubs with the highest number of members (football and hockey have altered position from last year):

2,226 - Snowsports  
1,287 - Football  
1,145 - Hockey  
857 - Rugby  
755 - Badminton

Top male sports: snowsports, rugby, football, hockey

Top female sports: snowsports, hockey, netball, football (These are slightly different to last year)

## Audit Response

16 HE institutions were included in the audit:

- There was a 100% response rate to the questionnaires

## Student Population

c.220,000 attend the 16 institutions included in the audit - (data source: Higher Education Statistics Agency)

## Membership of Sport and Exercise Facilities

It is estimated there were around 66,000 members of institution sports facilities - of which c.43,400 were students.

These figures demonstrate an overall increase in membership of over 6,000 and an increase in student membership of 3,400 since 2007.

## Sport and Exercise Facility Throughput

It is estimated that around 2.5m visits were made to institution sports facilities in 2007/08, an increase of over c300,000.

c.335,000 visits were to organised exercise and physical activity classes (up by 35,000 compared to last year) - the most popular classes being

- circuit training (60,617 visits),
- aerobics (48,992) and
- body conditioning (38,788).

## Audit of Sports Provision in the HE Sector in Scotland - Summary Findings

### Athletic Union - Clubs and Members

516 - Total number of affiliated clubs

21,532 - Total number of Athletic Union members

The number of clubs has increased but the numbers of AU members have dropped over the year

### Athletic Union - Budgets

The total funding for the 16 Sports/Athletic Unions in 2007/08 was c.£2m (An increase of £0.4m on last year). This has not been an across the sector increase as some AU's have seen their budgets cut this year.

The average budget is £126,745 (range £2,500:£487,050).

### Sports Scholarship/Bursary Students

75% of institutions provide students with sports scholarships/ bursaries. In total, 419 students were in receipt of a sports scholarship/ bursary - up from 397 in 2007.

Spending on support services to elite athletes in 2007-08 was £245,537. (Data missing from two institutions).

### Volunteers

Institutions benefit from the services of around 4,000 volunteers. It is expected that this is an underestimated figure.

### Coaches

Institutions benefit from the services of 428 coaches. (Data missing from one institution).

### Sport Department Budgets

Total revenue budgets for 16 institutions was £12.8m. This budget was obtained from:

- 58% Income generated (est. £7.4m)
- 39% Internal funding (est. £5m)
- 3% External sources (est. £0.4m)

This shows a total decrease of c.£0.5m over the last year, including a decrease in internal funding.

### Academic and Vocational Courses

In 2007/08, there were 2,386 students enrolled in sports related undergraduate degree courses. With 153 students on sports related postgraduate degree courses. (Showing an increase since last year's study).

(Three institutions did not provide numbers for students on sport/exercise/ physical activity related courses at undergraduate level).

564 students obtained coach education awards in 2007/08 and 273 obtained vocational qualifications. This indicates an increase in coach education but a decrease in those obtaining vocational qualifications.