

SPORTSROUND

5th June
2006

Round-Up of Sports News & Information for Yorkshire Region

Outdoors for All?

The Diversity Action Plan will encourage young people, people with disabilities, those from inner cities and black and ethnic minority communities to visit and enjoy local green spaces and the English countryside. The consultation (run by the Countryside Agency on behalf of DEFRA) seeks views on a draft action plan that aims, over a 10 year period, to increase the number of people from these groups making use of the outdoor recreational opportunities that exist in both rural and urban areas. The draft action plan is based on the findings of research undertaken as part of the Diversity Review. This Review showed that when people from such groups experienced the outdoors, they were keen to return. The draft plan proposes new ways of working, both with the organisations providing outdoor recreation opportunities, and with the under-represented groups, so that the objective of increasing participation can be achieved.

Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs)

There are now 3761 clubs registered as CASCs with an estimated total cash benefit of at least £12.5 million in rate relief, Corporation Tax savings and Gift Aid repayments. With 66 different sports taking advantage of the CASC scheme, cricket, bowls, lawn tennis and rugby union have the highest number of CASC registered clubs, with a total of 1993 (53% of the total registrations). Football, golf, mixed sports, sailing, shooting and rowing make up the rest of the top ten represented sports with a total of 1199 clubs.

CCPR operates a helpline for clubs and works with DCMS, HMRC, Deloitte, Sport England and Bates, Wells and Braithwaite to administer the CASC scheme. Information on the CASCs scheme is available on the CCPR website www.ccpr.org.uk or by contacting Ben Andersen-Tuffnell: bat@ccpr.org.uk

National Lottery Bill

The National Lottery Bill, which will legally establish the new lottery distributor the Big Lottery Fund, replacing the Community Fund, the New Opportunities Fund and the Millennium Commission, received its Third Reading in the House of Lords on 23 May 2006. A new amendment, welcomed by the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats, would require distributing bodies to make annual reports on their interpretation of the principle of additionality.

Compensation Bill

This Bill will require judges to take into account the nature of an activity when considering duty of care, which is a positive step for sport and recreation activities. The Compensation Bill completed its Grand Committee Stage in the House of Lords and will now go to Report Stage (date yet to be announced).

Health Bill – accommodation and smoking

Within the Health Bill hotels will be able to designate a proportion of their rooms as 'smoking rooms', enabling guests to smoke in them should they wish. Although there is currently no reference to private clubs (including sports clubs) that provide accommodation within the Bill it is expected that they will be afforded the same freedom. This will not prevent sports clubs from having total smoking ban within accommodation should they wish.

Early Years Foundation Stage Consultation

This Department for Education and Skills consultation sets out a framework for childcare providers, covering all aspects of a child's development. The physical development section suggests that 'practitioners must support children in developing an understanding of the importance of healthy choices in relation to food', but it does not make a similar statement about supporting children to develop an understanding of physical activity. This is a missed opportunity, as learning about the importance of physical activity, and of course enjoying physical activity will help to instil a lifelong habit of healthy physical activity. The consultation closes on Friday 28 July 2006. How you can help: Email the consultation manager eyfs.consultation@dfes.gsi.gov.uk with a message stating that:

'With regard to the physical development requirements: we believe that practitioners must support children in developing an understanding of the importance of physical activity to their well-being and health, and should also support children to develop an enjoyment of physical activity. This is absolutely crucial to helping young people develop a physical activity habit that will contribute to their ongoing good health, and physical competence throughout life'

Journal of Sport & Tourism

The **Journal of Sport & Tourism** (formerly the Journal of Sport Tourism) has been re-positioned for 2006, with a new Editorial Team and a new broader scope and focus. **JS&T** is interested in research relating to all aspects of the relationship between sport and tourism, and invites the submission of manuscripts falling within its new aims and scope. Further details about **JS&T** can be found at www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14775085.asp.

If you would like to submit a manuscript for consideration for publication in **JS&T**, or if you have any enquiries about the journal, please contact the new Editor, Dr Mike Weed, at: JSAT@lboro.ac.uk.

European study on the "Education of high-level athletes"

A study will be commissioned by the EU Commission on the "Situation of educational systems for young athletes in Europe as well as their integration into an educational system and/or professional life at the end of their sports' careers". Recommendations will be made by the study's authors to the European Commission.

Researching Youth Sport: Diverse Perspectives

On Wednesday 20th September 2006 the Institute of Youth Sport and the Institute of Sport and Leisure Policy, Loughborough University, are hosting a conference on 'Researching Youth Sport: Diverse Perspectives'. The conference will examine research across a wide range of themes including youth development through sport, youth sport and diversity, youth sport and inclusion, promoting physical activity among young people, and the use of sport in international development. Full details about the conference, including the outline programme, are available at www.youthsportconf.org.uk. Delegates with an involvement in Leisure Studies may also be interested in attending the Leisure Studies journal's 25th Anniversary celebration event. This takes place at the same venue immediately following the Researching Youth Sport Conference. Further details can be obtained from Shane Collins: s.e.collins@lboro.ac.uk

European Commission White Paper on Sport

The European Commission Sports Unit has announced that it intends to produce a White Paper on sport during 2007. Taking forward the dialogue started with the European sports sectors in 2005, the paper will look at the role of sport in Europe - particularly the societal and economic role - and also how the structure of sport can be maintained, promoted and improved. The paper will include a discussion on the special status of sport and will focus strongly on the grassroots.

European Commission Expert Meeting on Sport and Volunteering

There is a desire at EU level to help promote sports volunteering, resulting from the inclusion of volunteering on the Minister's agenda during the UK Presidency. The European Commission therefore held an Expert meeting on Volunteering and Sport on the 17 May 2006. The meeting built on the work of the 'Matching Expectations Conference' in June 2005 and included the collection of data on sports volunteering from Member States (a key recommendation of the Conference). In many aspects the UK appears to be leading the field in relation to volunteer training, reward and recognition and government support for volunteers (such as the CASCs scheme) but is also suffering the same problems over retention and risk as the Scandinavian countries.

Professional sport in the internal EU market

During the April meeting of the European Parliament Internal Committee, the Liberal MEP Toine Manders (NL) presented a report on the economic and consumer policy aspects of professional sport in the internal EU market. The report concentrates primarily upon football and addresses UEFA's rules concerning national restrictions. The report suggests that freedom of movement already exists for professional footballers

but that the rules restrict clubs' freedom to provide services across national borders. For example, the Belgian club Excelsior Mouscron was prevented from hosting a UEFA Cup match in Lille, northern France due to the UEFA rule that home games must be played in the club's own stadium. Manders believes this to be an infringement of Article 43 of the European Treaty, which guarantees freedom of movement within EU Member States. However, in the debate that followed the report many MEPs were critical of Manders' findings and have recommended that the whole report be revised.

Sport included in 'Active European Citizenship' Programme

The EU Sports Office has successfully lobbied the European Parliament to include sports activities within its Active European Citizenship programme. The Parliament was persuaded of the value of sport as tool to promote citizenship and the text of the programme now includes references to sport, amateur sports clubs and European amateur sports events. It is hoped that this will allow sports clubs and organisations to apply for funding for projects which promote citizenship in the future.

Additional €4 billion for EU programmes

The Council, Parliament and Commission have agreed the financial framework for the 2007-2013 budgets, which includes an increase of €4 billion for Funding Programmes. The extra money has come via savings in administration costs etc. This will provide an extra €800 million for the Life-Long Learning programme and €500 million for youth and culture programmes, both of which have given to sports organisations in the past.

SPORTSROUND is compiled by Weltech Solutions on behalf of the Federation of Yorkshire Sport and Leeds Sports Federation and contains information supplied by Sport England Yorkshire, the CCPR, and various other contributors throughout the region. Whilst every care is taken in producing this Bulletin, neither the Federations, nor CCPR nor Sport England Yorkshire can accept liability for any inaccuracies or omissions. Inclusion in the bulletin does not represent any endorsement of the projects or initiatives it contains and readers are recommended to take their own steps, where necessary, to verify the reliability of any organisation or project featured herein.

***Further information about the Federation of Yorkshire Sport can be obtained from the website at www.yorkshiresport.org.uk
Further information about Sport England Yorkshire can be obtained from www.sportengland.org/yorkshire_index.htm***