

## EU Sports Directors' Meeting

The EU Sports Directors made the following conclusions during their recent meeting in Naantali, Finland:

### The role and status of voluntary sports organisations

The meeting concluded that:

- It is important that the specific nature of non-profit sports organisations be recognised and the difference between voluntary non-profit sports organisations and profit-seeking business enterprises be taken into consideration in Community law.
- A working group on sport and non-profit organisations in relation to Community law chaired by the European Commission should be established.
- The Ministerial Conference, 'The EU & Sport: Matching expectations', will be invited to call for the recognition of the specific nature of voluntary organisations and the consideration of their role and status in the White Paper on Sport currently being prepared by the Commission.

### Sport and Health Policies

The meeting concluded that:

- Health-enhancing physical activity over the whole lifespan should be integrated into different policy sectors by strengthening cross-sector co-operation both in the European Union institutions and in the EU Member States.
- Health-enhancing physical activity should be included in both the White Paper on Sport and in a possible White Paper on Diet, Physical Activity and Health and that the preparation of these two documents should be coordinated.
- There is need for further cooperation regarding the exchange of best practices, research to develop good practice and development projects undertaken together with sports organisations, as well as the need to draft common European health enhancing physical activity recommendations. What does this mean for UK sport? It is hoped that these proposals will empower organisations such as ENGSO, of which CCPR is a member, to have an increased role in the development of European policies and to be supported in the networking and sharing of best practice already advocated.

### Fight against doping

The meeting concluded that:

- The candidacy of Mr Jean-François Lamour, French Minister for Youth, Sports and Associations, as the common candidate of the EU Member States in the election of WADA Vice-Chair was strongly supported.
- Mr Brian Mikkelsen, Danish Minister for Culture, was also supported as the common candidate of the EU Member States for the European seat on the WADA Executive Committee.
- The Directors' commitment to the ratification and implementation of the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport was reconfirmed.

### Revision of the TV without Frontiers Directive

The meeting concluded that:

- The Directors discussed the draft of a new Article 3b of the Directive, which deals with short news reports on events of high interest to public and highlighted the importance of cooperation and

mutual exchange of information between the sports and media sectors in the EU Member States. This was with a view to obtaining a balanced solution that takes into account the interests of various stakeholders, including sports organisations. What does this mean for sport? The recognition that the interests of sport must be taken into account is an important step - particularly due to the vital income generation that television provides for sport. National and European sports organisations must now ensure that sport and the media achieve an equitable agreement.

### Council of Europe

The meeting concluded that:

- It is important that sport policy cooperation at pan-European level continue within the framework of the Council of Europe.

### Future Ministerial Meetings

'The EU & Sport: Matching expectations' Conference, organised by the European Commission and the Finnish Presidency, will be held in Brussels on 27-28 November 2006. Ministers from the EU Member States will attend and the agenda is expected to include the White Paper on Sport and the Arneau Report. The European Ministers responsible for sport will also be attending the Council of Europe 17th Informal Meeting in Moscow on 20-21 October 2006.

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***Further information about the Federation of Yorkshire Sport can be obtained from [www.yorkshiresport.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiresport.org.uk)***

***Further information about the Leeds Sports Federation can be obtained from [www.leedssport.org.uk](http://www.leedssport.org.uk)***

***Further information about Sport England Yorkshire from [www.sportengland.org/yorkshire\\_index.htm](http://www.sportengland.org/yorkshire_index.htm)***

## Consultation on nutrition and exercise

The European Commission has published the results of the public consultation on promoting healthy diets and physical activity. The consultation was launched as a Green Paper in early 2006. Over 274 responses were received including from governments of Member States, public health community, the food industry, universities and the general public. These papers have been summarized in a conclusive report prepared by the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (NL):

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_determinants/life\\_style/nutrition/nutrition\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_determinants/life_style/nutrition/nutrition_en.htm)

## G-14 takes legal action against FIFA

G-14, the interest group of Europe's 18 economically most powerful football clubs, filed a case on 20 March 2006, with the Belgian Premiere League team the Royal Sporting Charleroi FC, against FIFA. The club filed the case before Charleroi Commercial Court after one of its players was injured during an international match in 2004 and the club lost the championship. According to the G-14, the compulsory release of players for international matches under FIFA's rules, without providing any compensation or without insurance against injury, constitutes abusive conduct by a dominant undertaking, thus contravening European law (Articles 81 and 82 of the EU Treaty). Although the judges dismissed G-14's further demand for damages for players unavailable to play in the last ten years, the Commercial Court has submitted the fundamental question of the compatibility of compulsory releases with Community law to the European Court of Justice for a preliminary decision. The ECJ will have to examine whether the FIFA regulations do actually constitute abuse of a dominant position and comply with the provisions on the free movement of workers and services. It is unlikely that the European judges will take a decision before 2008.

## Sports-related town-twinning programme receives award

The 'Yes to sport – no to drugs, violence and racism' project carried out by Zierenberg (GER) and Gattatico (ITA) has been awarded a 'Golden Star' by the European Commission for its outstanding civic commitment within the context of the 'Europe for Citizens' programme. The German-Italian city twinning project highlights how young people can be involved in local life through sport and can learn to recognise and support the values on which their activities are based. The project, in which young people from Zierenberg and Gattatico took part, included presentations and discussions on combating racism and violence through sport as well as a football tournament. What does it mean for the UK? It will continue to be possible in the future to involve sport in EU-funded civic town-twinning activities and NGB clubs are advised to contact their local borough or town councils for information about the town twinning initiatives in their area.

## Sport gains exclusion from Private Security Industry Act 2001

Existing good practice in sports stewarding was rewarded on Monday 16 October as the Government accepted an amendment to the Violent Crime Reduction Bill tabled by Lord Pendry. This change excludes venues already regulated under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987 from further regulation by the Security Industry Authority. This will lead to significant cost savings to sport, and ensure continued good practice.

## Managed migration meeting

The Government intends to amalgamate the 80 existing UK migration schemes into a 'Points Based System' which would categorise potential migrants into one of five tiers. This has implications for sport, both in terms of long-term employment of non-EU nationals and short-term visits for tournaments. Home Office officials have agreed to consider further a number of issues relevant to sport prior to holding further discussion.

## Gambling Premises Licences

DCMS is consulting on conditions that the Government intends to attach to gambling premises licences, including betting facilities at professional sports grounds. The consultation includes a range of proposals related to 'tracks', which are defined as 'premises on any part of which a race or other sporting event takes place or is intended to take place'. Issues covered include the supervision of bet receipt terminals, opening hours and children's access. You may wish particularly to consider paragraph 10.2 which proposes removing a requirement for football, rugby and cricket grounds to exclude children from areas where betting takes place. The consultation document is available at:

[www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdoonlyres/D8D11069-4A34-498D-BB59-8380D72F6CF8/0/Cons\\_MandatoryandDefaultConditions.pdf](http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdoonlyres/D8D11069-4A34-498D-BB59-8380D72F6CF8/0/Cons_MandatoryandDefaultConditions.pdf)

Responses to this consultation should be sent to [frances.macleod@culture.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:frances.macleod@culture.gsi.gov.uk) by 10 November 2006. It would also be helpful if you could copy your response to [ahanson@ccpr.org.uk](mailto:ahanson@ccpr.org.uk).

## Natural England

Natural England was officially launched on the 2 October 2006. Natural England brings together English Nature, the environment activities of the Rural Development Service and the Countryside Agency's Landscape, Access and Recreation division. Natural England's new website is: [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk).

## Bulgaria and Romania to accede to the EU

Bulgaria and Romania will become members of the European Union on 1 January 2007. Following accession, Romanian and Bulgarian sports professionals will have access to the same rights and work permits as other EU nationalities. It will also be easier for UK citizens to visit those countries and access medical attention and other public services whilst there.

# SPORTSROUND

24<sup>th</sup> Oct.  
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## Round-Up of Sports News & Information for Yorkshire Region

### Community Amateur Sports Clubs

CCPR has launched [www.cascinfo.co.uk](http://www.cascinfo.co.uk), a website dedicated to the promotion of the community amateur sports club (CASC) scheme. The website is designed to provide NGBs and clubs with up-to-date, accessible information about the CASC scheme and to help more clubs register as CASCs and reap the significant financial benefits. CCPR continues to operate a helpline for clubs and to work with DCMS, HMRC, Deloitte, runningsports, Sport England and Bates, Wells and Braithwaite to administer the CASC scheme. Figures provided by Deloitte show there are now 3,950 clubs registered as CASCs with an estimated total cash benefit of at least £14.1 million in rate relief, corporation tax savings and Gift Aid repayments. Mixed sports clubs have the highest number of new registrations with nine additions. The popular spectator sports of lawn tennis, rugby, football and cricket continue to grow and make up 45% of the total registrations.

### 'Healthy Living' Social Marketing Campaign

The Department of Health has published its draft Healthy Living Social Marketing strategy which aims to halt the increase in obesity amongst the age of 11 by 2010. The strategy aims to improve eating habits and increase physical activity, through a combination of communications and delivery interventions. To view the strategy visit [www.ccpr.org.uk](http://www.ccpr.org.uk) and click on briefings and responses.

### Sports Aid Yorkshire Grants

Grant applications received in the first window have been considered by the regional grants committee. Grants will be approved by Governors on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October and successful applicants will receive their grants directly in November.

### 63<sup>rd</sup> Sports Aid Luncheon

This will be held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Leeds North. Guest speaker at the event is Dr Terry Crystal, former RFU doctor from 1993-2001 and current doctor for Leeds Tykes and Leeds United. Tickets are priced at £14 if booked and paid before 1<sup>st</sup> December or £15 after this date. All money raised at the event will go towards the Frank Taylor OBE Memorial Award and the Allan Roche Memorial Award. To book contact Lynne Baird, SportsAid Y&H, 4th Floor, Minerva House, East Parade, Leeds LS1 5PS Tel: 0113 242 7627 or Fax: 0113 242 2189

### 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tribute to Sport Dinner

Celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year, the Tribute to Sport Dinner is one of the most important and popular fundraising events for Sports Aid Yorkshire. The event will take place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007 at Headingley Stadium Leeds. It will be attended by around 350 of

Sports Aid supporters from around the region including many partner organisations, Olympians and Paralympians from the region and some of the recent grant recipients who we hope will be our champions of the future. For more information about the event, contact Lynne Baird, SportsAid Y&H, 4th Floor, Minerva House, East Parade, Leeds LS1 5PS Tel: 0113 242 7627 or Fax: 0113 242 2189 or visit: [www.sportsaid.org.uk/regions/index.php?region=yorkshire](http://www.sportsaid.org.uk/regions/index.php?region=yorkshire)

### Healds Hall, Pre Christmas Celebrations

Join the loyal Sports Aid supporters at the annual pre-Christmas celebration held at Healds Hall Hotel on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2006. This year there is a fantastic speaker in the form of Michael Dann, the leader of the winning team in the Sony Polar Challenge – a trek of 350 miles to the Magnetic North Pole. Tickets are priced at only £20. Contact Lynne Baird (see above) if you would like to book.

### The White Paper on 'The role of sport in Europe'

The European Commission has launched the consultation process on the White Paper on 'The role of sport in Europe'. A first meeting between representatives of European sports federations and Jan Figel, the Commissioner responsible for sport, took place on 20 September in Brussels, during which the European Commission indicated that the White Paper will focus on the governance of sport, the social role of sport and the economic impact of sport. It also became clear during the meeting that the 'Independent Review of European Sport' (also referred to as the Arneau Report) is only supported by a few European sports federations, mainly the larger commercially-orientated ones. Despite this, however, there has been discussion that some of the recommendations in the Review may be adopted by the Commission into the White Paper.

### Workshop reports from the EU & Sport Consultation Conference

The findings from the European Commission consultation conference held in June are now available on the internet. The reports of the workshops on the societal function of sport, the economic impact of sport and the organisation of sport in Europe can be found at: [http://ec.europa.eu/sport/whatsup/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/sport/whatsup/index_en.html)

### Olympic legacy delivery plan

The Government has set a range of legacy objectives to be achieved as a result of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has released its draft plans for achieving the objectives for which it is responsible. To view the plans visit [www.ccpr.org.uk](http://www.ccpr.org.uk) and click on briefings and consultations.