

## UK DEAF SPORT HONORARY PRESIDENT

### ROLE DESCRIPTION

#### Overview

UK Deaf Sport (UKDS) is the leading organisation for deaf sports in the UK. Our vision is *Every Deaf Person Active and Inspired by Sport and Physical Activity*. We provide support, raise awareness for fairness and campaign for deaf people, ensuring equal opportunities in sport and physical activity. Our mission is for more deaf people to participate in sport throughout their lives and more deaf athletes to perform on the world stage.

We increase opportunities by collaborating in partnerships with key organisations creating a sporting future that is fair and inclusive from grassroots to elite sport, empowering deaf people to reach their full potential. We support deaf children, young people and adults, and work with decision-makers and professionals to overcome the challenges and barriers that prevent equal opportunities for deaf people in sport at all levels.

As the National Governing Body for Deaf Sport, we are responsible for ensuring good governance, raising awareness, increasing participation and winning more medals on the world stage. This includes working with partners domestically, working with Government and the administration and coordination of all National Teams competing abroad, at both a British and Home Nation level. UKDS is responsible for the management of the DeaflympicsGB Team that competes in the Summer and Winter Games.

#### Equality and Diversity

UKDS is committed to championing equality and diversity in all aspects of employment and in the services that it provides. All UKDS employees, Board Members and honorary roles are expected to understand and actively promote the Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and influence and encourage the empowerment of disabled people within sport and physical activity.

UKDS uses the term 'deaf' in this job description to cover a range of potential definitions of deafness, including those who are profoundly deaf, have significant hearing loss or are hard of hearing. It is acknowledged that definitions and understanding of Deaf and deafness can be complex. Within the deaf community there are perceptions around the level of deafness where some who are completely deaf consider themselves to be different compared to those with hearing loss. This also includes the use of the terms Deaf and deaf whereby the use of a capital D in Deaf can denote those who identify as having a cultural and shared experience of being Deaf, usually with profound or little hearing and may use sign language, whereas the use of lowercase d in deaf can refer to those who have both a significant hearing loss or are hard of hearing.

## **Honorary President Role Description**

The UKDS Honorary President role is:

- An honorary one, appointed by the UKDS Board and ratified by the membership annually, at the AGM.
- For 2 years, commencing 1 January and ending 31 December in the following year after appointment.
- Strictly non-political and exists to serve the interests of UKDS, its members, and DeaflympicsGB. On all political matters, the Honorary President must defer to the wishes and views of the UKDS Board.

There are three principal responsibilities of the Honorary President:

- To act as the ceremonial representative of UKDS at events at the request of the UKDS Board.
- To act as an ambassador for UKDS, including working with the Board and CEO to represent and to promote the activities of UKDS.
- To act as an influencer, to raise awareness of deafness, hearing loss, and of the barriers of deafness in relation to sport, to our stakeholders and the wider public

## **Honorary President Person Specification**

- Has given outstanding service to deaf sport.
- Has acted positively to influence and raise awareness of UKDS and of deaf sport in general.
- Ideally known widely to, and can therefore represent, the majority of members and the deaf community.
- Has lived experience of deafness.