



## UK Deaf Sport

Minutes of the UK Deaf Sport (UKDS) Board meeting held at Carmelite Chambers, London  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 16.00

Approved by the Board at the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016

<u>Present</u>		
Piers Martin	Executive Chair and Director	PM/Chair
Vincent Dickson	Director	VD
Philip Gerrard	Director	PG
Graeme Knight (part)	Director	GK
Gordon Hay	Director	GH
Paul Huggins	Director	PH
Danny Lee	Director	DL
Christof Niklaus	Co-opted Member	CN
<u>Also in attendance (non-voting)</u>		
Clive Breedon (part)	National Participation Officer	CB
Interpreters x 2		
<u>Apologies for absence</u>		
Gareth Hunt	Co-opted Member	GH
Lara Lill	Co-opted Member	LL
Craig Crowley MBE	Honorary President	CC

REF	MINUTE	ACTION
<b>15.</b>	<b>CHAIR'S WELCOME</b>	
15.1	The Chair welcomed all Directors, plus CB to the meeting and thanked GK for the use of his Chambers.	
15.2	The Board noted apologies as recorded above.	
<b>16.</b>	<b>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST</b>	
16.1	The Chair noted no new conflicts and no conflicts in relation to the Agenda.	
<b>17.</b>	<b>PARTICIPATION</b>	
17.1	The Board agreed to bring forward the Participation part of the Agenda to allow CB to leave.	
17.1	The Chair explained that he, CN and LL had spent time with CB to produce targets for participation, based on the Board's strategy.	
17.1	CB gave a presentation on the results from the English Federation of Disability Sports' (EFDS) survey into deaf sports	
17.1	The Board emphasised the importance of this insight in driving the direction of the UKDS Participation Strategy and asked that this survey be expanded and repeated.	CB
17.1	CB presented a summary of potential targets for each of the areas of the Participation strategy, with a focus on Start, Community and Education.	
17.1	The Board questioned CB on the level of some targets given the Sport England (SE) investment and time spent on some areas. CB replied that it was difficult to deliver as UKDS could not deliver directly in the way other organisations could. CN agreed that the Participation Committee would work further with CB to ensure clear targets matched priority areas.	CN
17.1	DL asked CB why the Reaching Communities bid had been unsuccessful, having been informed by Lee Dolby previously that it had been agreed. CB said he did not know why the bid had been turned down.	

17.1	The Board thanked CB for his presentation.	
	<i>[CB left the meeting]</i>	
<b>18.</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b>	
18.1	The minutes of the meeting held on the 13 <sup>th</sup> July were approved.	
18.2	There were no matters arising and all actions had been completed.	
<b>19.</b>	<b>CHAIR REPORT</b>	
19.1	The Chair reported to the Board on activity since the last Board meeting focusing on the following priorities:	
19.2	Leadership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensuring the Board was fit for purpose and had the information required to carry out its duty.</li> <li>- Moving the back office functions from Deaf Direct to the EFDS, specifically finance.</li> <li>- Ensuring the Executive was restructured to deliver, specifically the appointment of a Head of Participation and the focus of the Engagement Officer.</li> <li>- Building the relationship with SE and key partners.</li> <li>- Fulfilling our governance obligations, specifically for SE.</li> <li>- Establishing an international relations strategy.</li> </ul>	
19.3	Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensuring a Participation Strategy and budget was in place to deliver on the Board's strategic outcome for this area.</li> <li>- Developing clear insight, specifically into why deaf community participation was so low, especially compared to other disabilities.</li> </ul>	
19.4	Performance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Performance Committee was now established and running well, with independent advisors appointed. The Chair thanked DL for his work on this.</li> <li>- Deaflympics 2017, preparing the DeaflympicsGB team and finding funding.</li> </ul>	
19.5	The Chair proposed that a committee be established to oversee the work of the Executive Chair role in the interim and that CC, PG and PH form this committee. Further, that the Executive Chair be granted delegated authority to run the organisation on a day to day basis and that the Oversight Committee be granted the delegated authority to make oversight decisions in the interest of the company which, by waiting for a full Board meeting, may be to the detriment of the company. <u>The Board agreed the proposal.</u>	PM/CC/ PG/PN
19.6	The Chair explained that there were 2 key areas that he had stepped out of for the interim, in order to focus on other priorities: Deaf Football and international relations. Although he would be part of discussions on these, he thanked those Board members who were leading on these areas.	
19.7	The Board thanked the Chair for his report.	
<b>20.</b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS</b>	
20.1	GH Reported to the Board on his trip to the European Congress in Armenia with CC and GH. He mentioned that due to financial difficulties globally, there were many events without hosts and proposed UKDS look at the potential. The Board discussed this and agreed that the focus should be on developing the organisation and supporting existing events first.	
<b>21.</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE</b>	
21.1	DL reported to the Board on the work of the Performance Committee, specifically in relation to the Deaflympics 2017, which remained the priority.	
21.2	DL explained that due to costs and concerns over safety in Turkey, Chris Ratcliffe would be travelling to Sansum on his own and that, with the Chair, the Performance Committee would monitor the situation.	
21.3	DL explained the budget projections for the DeaflympicsGB Team, which equated to approximately £2.5k per athlete. The Board discussed the risk to the organisation of ensuring	

	all costs were covered by the budget, including administrative and oversight expenditure. <u>It was agreed that the overall budget must include any costs and overheads associated with the Deaflympics, but to identify specific costs, rather than a flat rate or percentage, and to discuss overall costs with the Athlete Representatives prior to communicating.</u>	DL
21.4	DL explained to the Board an issue with audiology reports within Tennis. The Board asked for DL to look into the issue with Chris Ratcliffe and make proposals to the next Board.	DL
<b>22.</b>	<b>GB DEAF FOOTBALL</b>	
22.1	<u>CN tabled a proposal regarding GB Deaf Football which was agreed by the Board.</u>	
<b>23.</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
23.1	The Board congratulated CC on his appointment as Chair of the UK Council on Deafness.	
<b>24.</b>	<b>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING</b>	
24.1	<u>The dates of the next Board meetings are agreed as:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- September 28th 16.00-19.00, Loughborough</li> <li>- November 12th AGM and Board, London</li> </ul>	PM
<b>25.</b>	<b>CLOSE</b>	
25.1	There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 18.50.	

*P. Martin*

28<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Piers Martin  
Chair