



# Annual Review

2020



**Guernsey  
Sports  
Commission**

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# INTRODUCTION

## ***Graham Chester Director of Operations***

Welcome to the review of 2020.

I won't spend time here detailing the activities and initiatives that we have run throughout the course of last year; there will be details of those further on in this document.

From the Sports Commission's perspective, and I'm sure for the rest of our community, 2020 didn't go according to plan.

We launched our ambitious 5-Year Action Plan towards the end of 2019 and were looking forward to getting stuck in and start delivering in 2020.

We were also waiting for the publication of the Committee for Education, Sport & Culture's Active 8 Plan for Sport which was unfortunately delayed due to the onset of the pandemic and resulting lockdown.

When the Plan for Sport was finally debated in August, we were delighted to see that it was approved unanimously by the former States Assembly.

This is the first time that the island has had a government-backed Sports Strategy and the Guernsey Sports Commission will be integral to delivering many of the objectives set out in the plan.

Approval of the Active 8 Plan for Sport unlocks further funding now, as well as opening the door for additional investment further down the line and we are excited to be leading many of the Plan's workstreams which complement those within our own Action Plan.

On behalf of the Sports Commission I would like to thank the now former Deputy Matt Fallaize and his Committee for not only leading the adoption of this States of Guernsey Plan for Sport, but for all their support over the past four years, which has been unprecedented and

served to give us a much needed boost both morally and financially. We now look forward to working closely with Deputy Dudley-Owen and her Committee over the coming four years as we continue to be the voice for sport, ensuring we all receive the support we need.

When lockdown began in 2020, Sports Commission staff were soon deployed to individual schools where children of essential staff and the vulnerable were still attending. As it was not possible to move from school to school, our staff stayed in their particular school until education returned to some sort of normality at the beginning of June.

During this time we filmed and posted Virtual Sports Day challenges and PE at Home videos on our YouTube channel for children to try at home.




We were also busy assisting sports to get back to normal as quickly and as safely as possible as restrictions began to be eased. I would just like to publicly thank our staff for what they did in those times as they went above and beyond their normal duties and I know it was greatly appreciated judging by the emails and phone calls that I've received.

Looking forward to 2021, we are working with 1<sup>st</sup>4Sport to become an accredited coach education centre. This will allow us to deliver the Level 2 Award in Multi-Skills Development in Sport Qualification, alongside ensuring that our tutor workforce have the necessary requisites to deliver this qualification.

We are also working with UKCoaching on developing further opportunities for online coach development courses and





qualifications which will be of great benefit to all coaches no matter what sport you are involved in or what level you are at. I have felt that for far too long governing bodies of sports have seen coaching courses as a cash cow for them, which has meant that course fees have rocketed over the past few years, making them unattractive from a cost point of view and too long timewise. What we are hoping to develop is something that addresses both of those issues but is also a more attractive proposition for the aspiring coach. All will be revealed later on in the year.

In 2021 we are also looking forward to launching our SportsMark accreditation scheme. A number of sports that have their own National Governing Body accreditation are close to being given their Guernsey accreditation and we are hopeful of signing them off hopefully within the first quarter of this year.

and the work of the Guernsey Sports Commission in this Annual Review.



We are embarking on a big piece of work on inclusion and trying to ensure that sport is truly available to all.

This year also see the ninth Specsavers Youth Games. For those of you not familiar with the concept, all children in school Years 5 & 6 have the chance to try a sport that they don't currently play, have a series of training sessions and finish off with a fun and competitive Games Day and closing ceremony on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

2021 is certainly shaping up to be a busy year but for now take a look back at 2020

# SCHOOL SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

*Jeremy Frith, Performance Director*

## School Sports Partnership

The schools programme continues to bed in and find its feet within its new format. Both staff and schools are beginning to become more creative and evolve how the partnership works for their schools, the children and teachers.

The range of work covered by the team spans a wide range with the intention of ensuring that our children have a high quality experience of PE, physical activity and sport at school and can then access opportunities outside of school.

In 2020 this included;

- Scheduling visits by 8 different sports across 12 primary settings to deliver over 2000 hours of curriculum delivery.
- Interventions to support children with a variety of needs to access PE, physical activity and sport in school.
- Support for after schools clubs - we deliver on average 39 per week.
- Assisting with running school teams.
- Supporting curriculum development alongside PE co-ordinators and senior leaders.
- Supporting teacher's development and learning from teachers ourselves.
- Promoting opportunities for children to be active outside of school.
- Providing whole school staff training.
- Delivery of 6000 hours of curriculum time sessions.

The situation with COVID-19 in schools saw our staff on the front line in schools


for a sustained period supporting schools to remain open alongside staff from our member sports. This saw them working alongside headteachers and senior staff to support the children of key workers and some of our most vulnerable children.



It was a privilege for us all to be able to support our schools at such a critical time and one that the team grasped with both hands. The result was that out of adversity came opportunity. Such was the quality of work that a full-time role for Marc Boyd emerged at La Mare supporting the Pod and children with social, emotional and mental health needs. Lucas Barker also went to Le Rondin full-time and later moved to a full-time position employed by the school.

We were sorry to see a stalwart of the Commission leave. Ollie Dowding who has had a rich contribution to the Commission over many years left for pastures new but not before setting up and leading the PE at Home programme to support children continue PE during lockdown. A series of videos and lessons were developed online and shared with schools across their various platforms and our own social media. These received huge engagement, not just locally either as schools in the UK shared them too.

I would like to pay a huge thank you to the team for their efforts and resilience through what was an incredibly challenging year. A year that we tackled head on. A thank you also goes to the



children, schools, teachers and coaches who make the work so enjoyable. Also to colleagues in Education who make the work we do possible.

## Secondary PE Curriculum.

It is a key aim of the GSC to support Secondary Education to ensure pupil experiences within physical education and sport, both curriculum and extra-curricular, are extensive and reflect the opportunities on Guernsey.

The outcome intended is that post-16 / 18 our young people will be able to make an informed choice in how they will continue a lifelong love and enjoyment of sport or physical activity. This workstream is part of the pathway that has the GSC establishing key foundations through pre-school and then as part of the Primary School Partnership.

The ability to match Members with Schools to offer innovative and regular opportunities has been successful and has had the secondary benefit of providing new participants for our Members.

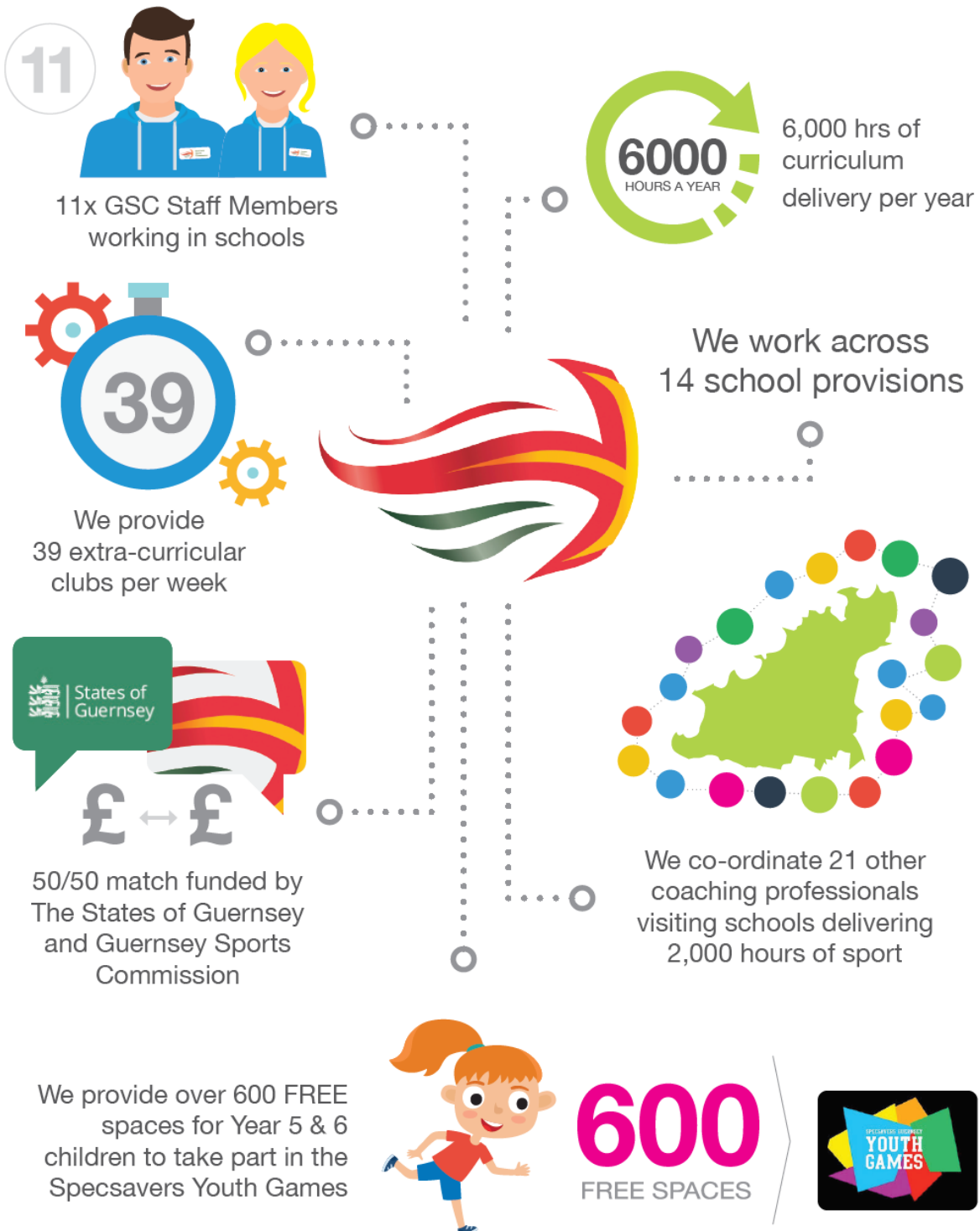


Table Tennis, Golf, Climbing, Judo, Snooker, Motor Sport, Dance, Gymnastics, Squash and Bowls are all sports that have been introduced to certain educational environments that may not have been able to access these opportunities for its pupils previously.



Guernsey  
Sports  
Commission

# School Sports Partnership



# GOVERNANCE

*Steve Sharman, Relationship Director*

## Covid-19 response.

The first lockdown that began in March 2020 presented the GSC with several opportunities to show how the organisation was able to work with the States of Guernsey to ensure that exiting through the phased approach included the return to physical and sporting activity.



A purposeful dialogue with Public Health and States Deputies was established and we were able to make the relevant case, backed up by evidence, to allow not only sport to return for participants, but also ensure that financially our sporting organisations could return to some form of income generation as well as staff returning to work.

Our priority was always to protect jobs, ensure member organisations remained viable and were able to continue to contribute to the health of the Island, both mental and physical.

The GSC was also successful in brokering financial support from the Social Investment Fund that saw 30 Members benefit from an overall grant of £135k., part of which was used to set up a Sport Recovery Fund for smaller organisations impacted by the lockdown.

## Member (Sports) Reviews and SportsMark.

A key part of my role as Relationship Director is to challenge our member sports to operate as fit-for-purpose organisations that at their core have embedded strong corporate governance, sound financial management and the highest standards and policies in terms of safeguarding and welfare.

The GSC has developed its own quality assurance award, SportsMark, and has set the target of all members achieving this award within three years. The aim is not to tell but rather support each member to ensure they are the best version they can possibly be.

The GSC has challenged members to raise their game and has clearly defined that if agreed levels of operation are not met, then those members will cease to receive the many benefits that are now delivered by the Commission.

Netball is one such Sport that has shifted in its culture over the past 18 months. Working together with the GSC, those leading netball are keen to ensure that as the largest participation sport for girls on Guernsey it complements the long tradition it has on Island with a forward thinking strategic outlook and operation.



# FACILITIES

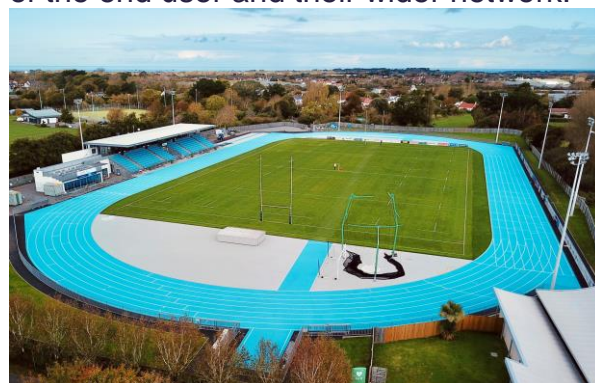
On such a small Island, Guernsey is blessed with an extensive portfolio of sporting facilities that are owned, maintained, and operated in a disjointed manner. Some exploratory work in 2019 highlighted the fact that States-owned community facilities were significantly under used during the year and the GSC provided evidence to the Committee for Education, Sport and Culture to support this.



The outcomes of this piece of work not only allowed Primary Schools in St Peter Port and La Mare De Carteret High School to access Beau Sejour as part of a free credit-system for PE lessons, it has also led to a much wider ranging piece of research carried out as part of the Active 8 Plan for Sport. This research will identify every sporting facility by category on Island and provide the most comprehensive guide to the stock of facilities as well as providing some solutions to their overall operation and where the gaps in provision are.



In tandem with this workstream is the strategic aim of creating 'hubs' around the Island that allow complimentary activities to run alongside each other benefitting the community but also maximising usage for each venue. The key aim here is not to work in a silo, rather work in a more efficient and co-ordinated manner for the ultimate benefit of the end user and their wider network.



# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Whilst 2020 presented a number of challenges for the delivery of training and workshops it also created significant opportunity for the Commission's workforce programme. The pandemic accelerated UK Coaching's drive nationally to move more learning online and the Commission's team have been at the heart of the collaboration nationally.

The Commission was part of a national pilot of digital certificates designed to be transferable across sport aligned to the new CIMSPA standards of 'Assistant Coach', a Level 1 in old money. Through 2021 this pathway will be developed up to 'Coach' standard (Level 2). The Commission's aim is to develop a pathway for every coach from every sport to be able to access a qualification that allows them to coach independently. With this in mind the Commission is also setting itself up as a 1<sup>st</sup>4Sport delivery centre allowing it to award qualifications accredited by Ofqual.

Throughout 2020 the Guernsey Sports Commission continued to deliver its core provision of workshops through a range of delivery partners. In addition to this it continued to provide grants and funding to member sports through the Sport Development Fund to meet their training and development needs. Many accessing learning through online provision.



Through the autumn Jeremy Frith and Jenny Murphy delivered the Multi Skills

UKCC2 qualification to the third cohort of coaches to enter in to the programme. This programme continues to be an important part of developing a pathway to UKCC2 qualification on Island for many sports.

Much of the training provided by the Commission facilitates sports remaining up to date with essential good practice such as First Aid and Safeguarding workshops. The Commission was also delighted to link with Liberate for the first time to provide training and awareness around how sport can continue to become more inclusive.



In 2020 we delivered the following:

**First Aid** – 3 sessions (would have been 4 but one was cancelled due to lockdown)

**How to Coach the Fundamentals Of Movement** – 1

**LGBTQ+ Inclusivity in Sport** – 1

**Multi Skills Level 2** – 1

**Safeguarding and Protecting Children** – 4

**Time To Listen** – 1 (should have been 2 but one was cancelled)

**Safeguarding For Young Volunteers** – 1 (should have been 2)

We were also helping promote/taking bookings for Guernsey Mind's 'Team Talk' workshop, but unfortunately this session also had to be cancelled during lockdown.



# COMMUNITY SPORTS

***Jenny Murphy, Sports Development Officer / Child Welfare Officer***

## On Your Marks

The On Your Marks Programme, supported in 2020 by Help a Guernsey Child & Guernsey Sports Commission funds, provides children and young people with the opportunity to take part in various activities during the school holidays (February – October).

The sessions focus on developing confidence, physical literacy and social skills through playing sport. The support from Help a Guernsey Child enabled the Guernsey Sports Commission to offer the activities from just £1 per hour, ensuring that the barrier of cost is removed from preventing children and young people to participate.

Due to lockdown we had to cancel our Easter and May On Your Marks sessions, however with the island being back open again for the summer our programme was busier than ever, with us running a 7 week programme for the first time ever.



More than 670 children and young people took part in the activities in 2020. Primary school aged children had the opportunity to attend a Fun and Fit Club (Year R - 2) or Multi Sports (Year 3 – 6). Fun and Fit club sessions focused on the fundamental movement skills, such as running, dodging and rolling. The Multi Sports sessions included; athletics,

badminton, basketball, cricket, dodgeball, fencing, football, frisbee, handball, hockey, longball, rounders, table tennis, tennis, tag rugby, tri-golf and volleyball and more! Young people in Year 6 and Secondary school had the chance to try Badminton, Beach Sports, Cricket, Dodgeball, Football, Rounders, Softball, Team Sports and Volleyball.




In February we also ran two successful indoor football tournaments, for those in school years 7-11, with over 80 young people taking part. Young people could either sign up as a team or an individual. The two one-day tournaments were filled with fun, fair play and competition and showed us there is a real desire for more opportunities to play football outside of the traditional club format.

## Street Sports

Street Sports is a community programme that aims to improve sports provision for young people. Through the Street Sports programme we offer access to free sports and physical activity sessions at locations across the island where a number of young people may experience social or economic difficulties.



We have been lucky to benefit from the support of BBC Children in Need and an



anonymous trust which has been invaluable to the continued provision of Street Sports. Each year we deliver three Street Sports sessions a week, 50 weeks a year. We rely on funding for this to happen, which covers everything from staff, equipment, training, excursions etc.

Street Sports provides an opportunity for young people to be active, socialise, have fun, play sports and learn new skills. Staff provide the equipment and deliver a variety of sports including games and variations of many traditional sports that lend themselves to a 'street' setting. With guidance from staff, participants are very much involved in the plan and decision making for each session and are given the choice of which activities they would like to do. Young people can just turn up, register with a member of staff and join in.

The sessions are a way of channelling young islanders' energies into constructive physical activity. There is no pressure to perform so the focus is on young people enjoying being active. Through sport, the aim is to improve young people's confidence and self-esteem. The programme is also committed to making young people aware of other activities and services on the island that may also benefit their wellbeing. Street Sports staff work closely with other youth agencies that can offer young people advice and support in other areas of their lives.

## Street Sports Case Studies

### Case study 1

Child A has been attending our under 11 Street Sports session for about 2/3 years. A physically smaller member of the group, they have shown great resilience in participating in the activities that may not suit them.

This child is very often awarded player of the day for their positive attitude and perseverance when taking part in the session (player of the day is awarded at the end of each of our under 11 sessions). This highlights children that have shown good attributes during the

evening. Some examples are Team work, having confidence, being helpful, working hard, perseverance etc.

When Child A first joined us they were very quiet, shy and lacked confidence to engage in the session or speak to staff. This young person is now thriving in confidence, self-esteem and is more assertive when at the session and playing sports.

If Child A gets a knock, then it does take them a long time to pick themselves up and get involved again. Whilst other children may argue over such instances, Child A gets on with the game or activity. Child A has started to communicate with staff members and is becoming more open and happy to engage in conversation. Not only will this have an impact at the session but when attending school these skills will help Child A to develop as an individual.

### Case Study 2

Child B has been attending sessions on an ad-hoc basis over the past couple of years but never really engaged with the sport. Child B has now started to attend much more regularly.

This young person is starting to engage in the sport more frequently and is showing an interest in basketball as she often plays this at school. This young person has provided feedback that she wants to do a job like the staff members at the Street Sports sessions and to help support young people herself in the future.

Street Sports is providing this young person with a great opportunity to develop their confidence and communication skills. If, in time, this young person wants to proceed with becoming a young leader, We believe this is something that could be supported by the Sports Commission through the training and development opportunities they can provide.

## Netball Camp

2020 saw the first ever Guernsey Sports Commission netball camps. These took



place in the summer and were an opportunity for children in year 5 & 6 and 7 & 8 to learn the basics of how to play, the skills required and the rules of playing a game. The netball camps ran across 2 full days (9-3pm) and participants had the chance to make new friends, have fun and try something different.

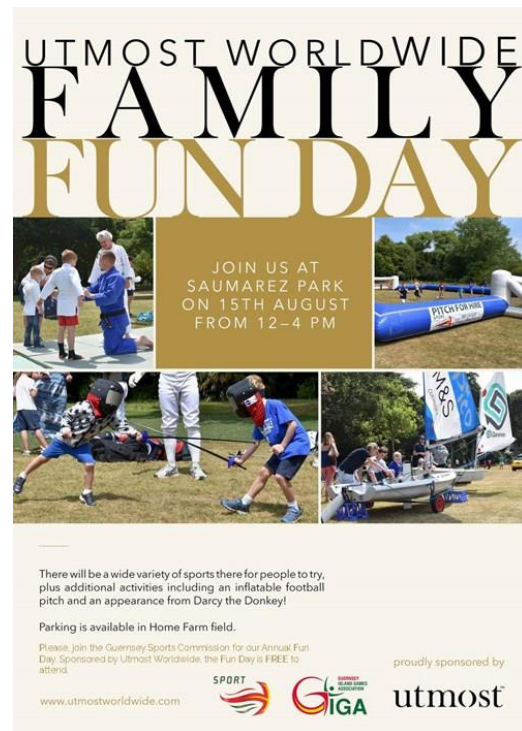
The camps started with everyone getting to know each other and then each day had a different focus. Day 1 was based on attacking principles of netball and skills to support playing a match. The afternoon was focused on learning the rules and match play in various teams. Day 2 was based on defensive skills and also an activity on strength and conditioning and why it is important. The afternoon was a round robin of games. At the end of both camps all participants received a certificate for taking part and some individuals were given medals for most improved / fair play awards.

Over 40 young people took part in the netball camps. There was great engagement in the sessions and the feedback included "I learned something new", "I really enjoyed myself" and "The best part was playing matches". The camp was run by GSC coaches who are UKCC level 2 netball coaches, who brought different knowledge and intensities to the session. It was a really positive experience for the coaches as well as the participants, and we are keen to run more netball camps in the future!

## Utmost Family Fun Day

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August we held our annual Family Fun Day. Islanders were once again encouraged to get active, enjoy themselves and try something new during the event at Saumarez Park.

The event offered a variety of free sports taster sessions for all ages to get involved in. The Guernsey Sports Commission hopes that, through the free activities, islanders will have the chance to discover new hobbies or sports they can continue to enjoy as a family.



It was a fun filled day with lots to try. We were really pleased with how the day went, lots of people, smiling faces and luck was on our side with the weather. Activities on offer included walking football, cricket, netball, tennis, fencing, golf, sailing, squash, petanque, athletics, badminton, basketball and hockey.

In addition we had a Guernsey Sports Commission information stand, Free Play area and an Inflatable Football Pitch. Sports coaches and volunteers were additionally on hand to help people make the most of the sessions and answer any questions.

We've had lots of great feedback and we had over 250 entries into our Activity Challenge raffle. We would like to pass on our thanks to our sponsor Utmost and all of the sports who chose to be part of the day and the activities which they put on!

# GUERNSEY INSTITUTE OF SPORT

*Dan Guillemette & Dr Conor Osborough*



## GIS 2020 Overview

In 2020 the GIS has continued to maintain support services to the cohort of athletes on the initial “case study” programme. The pandemic has had a big impact in our development of services. We had hoped to officially launch the Institute this year but at present remain in hiatus until a confirmed budget/ funding stream is established.

Despite COVID lockdowns we were able to service athletes in Guernsey while the rest of the world was in various states of lockdown. Overall all our athletes on the “start-up” pathway received the following input during 2020.

- Performance support – developed links with performance staff in the UK to provide services.
- Delivery of physiotherapy services and medical/ injury management.
- Assistance in returning to Guernsey and providing sports performance science support as required.
- Performance support: including S&C (strength and conditioning) reviews and implementing programmes based upon functional athletic screening and demands of the athlete’s sports. Developing practical skills & application of knowledge with Commission staff and support

overseen by Dan Guillemette, facilitated by Andy Perkins/ Lucas Barker.

- Facilitated a GIS Healthspan Elite discount.

### Cameron & Alistair Chalmers

- Assistance and advice on finding a new coach and optimal training environment.
- Liaised with corporate sponsors to secure personal sponsorship to continue as a full-time athlete leading up to the Olympic Games.
- Alistair finished the season as National Champion.

### Sam Culverwell:

- Provided critical advice and assisted with contract negotiations with current international U-23 team. Advice on training, travel and health maintenance during the pandemic.
- Positional analysis/ Biomechanical review to optimise new bike position.

### Maya Le Tissier


- Performance support – developed links with performance staff in the UK at her club to ensure delivery of training protocols during pandemic.

### Seb Priaulx

- Reviewed and implemented new strategies to race preparation and recovery.
- Implemented new hydration/ rehydration protocol.

### CJ Hallett:

- Initial discussions with UK University for provision of nutrition support.
- Biomechanical analysis and training to optimise swim



technique, performed by Conor Osborough.

- CJ made the Commonwealth selection A standard in the 100 metres breaststroke this year, which was also a personal best for the event.

## Projects:

- Advisory role within the potential development of a Guernsey-based Sports degree programme and how a visible Institute of Sport can assist with the delivery of performance science.
- Advising Performance Sport NZ, English, Irish & Australian Institutes of Sport and how that can be applied to the environment in Guernsey.
- Continue to act as a source for professional development for Guernsey-based practitioners seeking experience in “elite” sport. Offering observational experience and educational advice to assist with professional developmental pathways.
- Guernsey Football Club data analysis project: Overseeing the delivery of End of Season performance analysis and presentation of data with the Commission Internship Sports Science graduates.



# INCLUSION

*Casey Osborough, Guernsey Institute of Sport*

## Accessible/Para-sport

Despite COVID having a significant impact on sport in 2020, accessible/ para-sport has continued to flourish in Guernsey.

Here's a brief description of work carried out using key wording from the 7 pillars of inclusion.

### Policy and Communication

- The Guernsey Sports Commission's (GSC) Inclusion policy was brought to life with much of the content being produced in an easy-to-read leaflet. This leaflet was widely distributed with incredibly positive feedback.

### Partnership and Communication

- Work currently being undertaken by the GSC in terms of disability and inclusion was communicated within the States of Guernsey Disability and Inclusion Highlight report.
- The GSC visited numerous accessible sports to further understand what is currently being delivered and where the gaps are. Two key aspects need addressing; 1) need for more volunteers to be involved in disability sport and 2) lack of choice and opportunity for competitive sport options for individuals with an impairment.
- The GSC partnered with Guernsey Mobility Let's Go (GMLG), supporting areas such as:
  - Club governance
  - Delivery of sessions

- Promotion of the organisation

### Access and Partnership

- Initial work with Gill Evans, States of Guernsey's Disability Officer, regarding the AccessAble report.


### Access, Opportunity and Choice

- Work is currently being undertaken to identify potential sport pathways for individuals with a physical impairment. The first pathway currently being worked on is Boccia as this sport can be played by any individual no matter the severity of their impairment. It was felt that Boccia would have the greatest reach and breadth of playing opportunities.
  - The new Boccia Club is in its infancy but the sport is currently played weekly by GMLG members and children from St Martins School.
  - Headway Guernsey were due to have a session delivered by the GSC and GMLG but had to be postponed due to COVID.
  - GSC is supporting coaching opportunities for individuals with an impairment to gain a coaching qualification in Boccia
  - GSC assisted with the promotion of Boccia through various media outlets.
- Four other para-sport pathways are initially being explored, providing individuals with the opportunity and choice to compete in sport.

### Opportunity and Partnership

- Partnership with Guernsey Disability Alliance (GDA) and Tri-a-





Tri to develop an Inclusive Triathlon. Initially scheduled for May 2020 and postponed to May 2021

### Attitude

- The GSC Sports Awards received numerous nominations for both the physical and learning impairment trophies, which is tremendous progress considering there were no nominations for either award the previous year.
- A Para-athlete has been selected as a case study for the Guernsey Institute of Sport

# COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

**Nicky Will, Director of Communications**

2020 was a busy year as the Commission sought to grow and further develop its communication and engagement following the launch of its 5-Year Action Plan towards the end of 2019.

## Impact of Covid

Regular communications became even more important when the island went into lockdown in March 2020. The Commission stepped up its role as the voice of sport providing advice and guidance to individual sporting organisations and ensuring that any financial losses were mitigated as far as possible by working closely with the Social Investment Fund (SIF) and securing grants through the establishment of a Sports Recovery Fund.

## Active 8 Plan for Sport

The States of Guernsey finally got around to debating the Committee for Education Sport & Culture's Active 8 Plan for Sport in August.

The Commission played an important role in lobbying politicians and explaining why further investment in sport was vital for the community's health and wellbeing. We were delighted that States Members unanimously approved the Active 8 Plan with Year 1 funding approved as part of the 2021 Budget.

The Guernsey Sports Commission has a clear platform to build on during 2021 as it delivers many of the outcomes of the Plan.

## General Election 2020

In the run up to the General Election in October the Commission launched a Manifesto for Sport and encouraged candidates to show their support for sport and the overall vision of the Commission by signing up to #IVote4Sport. We were delighted with the level of engagement

and encouraged that so many candidates recognised the value of sport.

We were also delighted to be invited to take part in the Speed Hustings event organised by the Guernsey Disability Alliance ahead of the election. It was a great opportunity to increase awareness of the Commission's work, especially our focus on making sport more inclusive.



## Events and Campaigns

Once again we've supported Pride in Sport, Parents in Sport and other local and national sporting and physical activity campaigns. We continue to work closely with our colleagues in the Health Improvement Commission.



## Newsletters, website and social media

We've continued to send out monthly newsletters to our member sports and mailing lists as well as regularly publishing updates, events and news stories on our website and promoting these to our ever-growing followers on social media.

These included a regular series of articles on some of our Sport Specific

Development Officers. We hope to continue these during 2021.

We also printed the first in what we plan to be a series of information leaflets to help promote a wider understanding of the work of the Commission.

Inclusion in Sport helps support our work with other third sector organisations including as the Guernsey Disability Alliance.



## Media

We maintained excellent relationships with our local media during 2020 being regularly interviewed and acting as a voice for sport.

Our staff have also regularly featured on island FM's Sport Saturday show.

## Sporting Achievement Awards

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Sporting Achievement Awards were once again a great success attracting a large audience and celebrating the depth and diversity of sporting talent on the island.

Although the main Guernsey Sports Commission trophy wasn't awarded for the sake of fairness in a sporting year devastated by Covid, there were still plenty of outstanding performances to be honoured.

It was really heartening to receive so many nominations for each of our awards especially when you consider the limitations imposed by the cancellation of so many off-island competitions and events.

Guernsey sport has always been quick to adapt and it was great to see that competitive sport on the island continued to thrive, even during lockdown, and hear about the creative ways that our sporting organisations worked to ensure activity and competition carried on.

Congratulations to young swimmer Tatiana Tostevin who scooped the first award of the night – the Lambourne Shield for outstanding individual sporting achievement by a young person aged between 11 and 18. It was Tatiana's performance represented England South West at the Arena Lisbon International Meet in Portugal in February where she claimed two silver medals in the 50 and 100m backstroke A finals.

Next up was the Beau Sejour Trophy for outstanding U18 team performance which was awarded to the U11s Schools Football Association team. In what was probably one of the only Inter-Insular matches played in any sport in 2020, the U11 team managed to win their Muratti match in Jersey. This was the first time that Guernsey had won since 2015 and to make the match just that little bit more historic, Chloe Ingrouille scored the winning goal, the first schoolgirl ever to score in the match.

There were lots of nominations for the Sport Guernsey and nautical Guernsey Shield for outstanding event organiser but the winners this year for their week of competition utilising the air bridge with the island of man were Guernsey Cricket.

This year's small team trophy went to the Guernsey Ladies Fours Bowls team of Alison Merrien MBE, Carol Ingrouille, Shirley Petit and Catherine Snell who were crowned British isles Ladies Fours Champions after beating Scotland in the final.

It was great to see nominations for both our para-sport trophies this year. The Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson Trophy for an athlete with a physical impairment was awarded to triathlete Sophie Veron. Badminton star Jay Webber won the Ferbrache & Farrell LLP Trophy for the



para-sport athlete with a learning impairment.

Guernsey Raiders strong performance in the 2019/20 season won them the GSC trophy for the outstanding team of the year.

Perhaps the most popular winners of the night were Amos Ozanne and John Bichard, stalwarts of Guernsey Autocross who were awarded the Dave Dorey Memorial Trophy for outstanding contribution to sport.

Between them they have given nearly 100 years of service to Autocross in Guernsey and have no plans to give up yet!



Athletics had two of the three shortlisted nominations for the Sir John Loveridge Trophy for the sportsperson making the greatest progress in the year.

400m hurdler Peter Curtis just pipped distance runner Rosie Williams and water polo player Grace Bennallick to the award.

The final two awards of the night were for the outstanding individual sportsman and sportswoman of the year.

Sprinter Abi Galpin came out on top winning the Guernsey Brewery Salver with cyclist Karina Bowie and golfer Veronica Bougourd also shortlisted.



The Richard Burton Salver for the top sportsman was equally competitive with athlete Ala Chalmers, Janick Radford from squash, golfer Tom Le Huray and swimmer Charlie-Joe Hallett all shortlisted.

It was Chalmers' gold medal winning effort at the British Championships in September that saw him come out on top and take home the silverware.



The Guernsey Sports Commission congratulates all those nominated for the awards and is looking forward to another great year of sport in 2021.

## Guernsey Sporting Hero

Congratulations to Guernsey Athletics Sporting Hero Lee Merrien who was inducted into the Sporting Hall of Fame at the 2020 Achievement Awards.

Lee is the first and only Channel Islander to break 4 minutes for the mile and holds every major Guernsey and Channel Island record from 1500m to the Marathon.

Olympian Lee is the 22<sup>nd</sup> sporting hero to be inducted into the Sporting Hall of fame.





# SPORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

## Athletics



Covid-19, the lockdown and all other restrictions that ensued meant a complete shift in duties, responsibilities and accountabilities for Guernsey Athletics Development Officer Tom Druce.

He led the organisation through the many twists and turns that included everything from producing risk assessment documents for Footes Lane at various stages of lockdown exit, to putting into practice safety protocols to ensure we were compliant with States of Guernsey guidance, to planning the actual return to sport in a phased manner.

I'm pleased that with the support of GSC that I was able to navigate through a difficult time that posed varying challenges and curveballs.

Guernsey Athletics' success was recognised nationally and Tom was able to share his experiences with various key figures at UK Athletics and England Athletics who were keen to learn how the sport had successfully plotted the return to activity and ensured compliance throughout.

Upon exiting lockdown we were able to hold a full complement of events – the Track & Field series yielded international class performances from Alastair Chalmers, whilst the Half Marathon and All-Terrain Challenge promoted mass participation on large scales.

## Schools

Unfortunately, little schools' involvement happened in 2020 due to Covid-19 with exception of seeing one primary school just prior to lockdown.

Zedra Primary X (cross-country) has now been held for 3 years and is proving a popular fixture with 14 primary schools taking part this year. 2020 also incorporated the secondary schools as means of adding some variety to secondary schools' cross-country format and making it one big event by having year 5 through year 10 at the same event and venue.



Whilst Secondary school exposure during the summer this year was limited for obvious reasons, we did manage to hold 2 x 60min mini track and field fixtures for the schools which was supported by all four high schools. Colleges had already broken up for summer so unfortunately did not take part. We did however hold another Zedra Super 6 set of school fixtures in the winter of 2019-2020 and hosted the final just prior to lockdown which again went down well with some 60-70 participants throwing, jumping & running in an indoor fixture.

## Community

Guernsey Athletics resources were on hand to facilitate the successful co-ordination of key aspects of the large mass-participation event the Guernsey Marathon. This is a key example of the benefits of building relationships with such event providers and thus making their offerings better for people who may not be club members.



Our own endurance running events remain the main area of our regular activity where the club can positively affect non-members. This aspect is a key consideration when devising and advertising certain fixtures – many of which are fully inclusive and offer more advanced levels of organisation without any feeling of elitism.

### Performance

Alastair Chalmers and Peter Curtis travelled to the Covid-secure British Championships – coming first and sixth respectively in the 400m Hurdles. Alastair performed superbly on local soil to set himself up for his championship-winning run.



Manchester, 5.9.20. ALASTAIR CHALMERS celebrates winning the men's 400m hurdles. photo by Mark Sheerman.

Abi Galpin broke record after record in the women's sprints, entering a new class of performance with her 200m performances.



Sarah Mercier broke her own 5,000m record set at the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Joe Chadwick came fourth at the U20 National Indoor Championships over 200m

Locally, Rosie Williams won the Guernsey Marathon and came second to Ulrike Maisch in the Half Marathon. Ulrike's husband Richard Freidrich won the Marathon with Will Bodkin taking the Half.

Sophie Porter, Jordan Kelly, Chris Bain and Josh Allaway were other leading performers during the successful Track & Field programme.

### Workforce/Coach Education

Formal face-to-face qualifications and courses were planned for the summer and autumn but were cancelled or postponed. We still however saw both Field Officials and Starts Officials undertake the adapted England Athletics Level 1 qualification online which starts them on their path to becoming qualified officials. In addition, some coaches undertook various online learning provided by various outlets such as England Athletics, Welsh Athletics, ALTIS and Speedworks.

Locally, myself and Lee Merrien delivered a session for parents, coaches and athletes on the subject of Youth Athlete Development and what our vision and model of this looks like.

### Impact of Covid

Clearly the pandemic affected most of the aspects detailed above. This is probably more so given that much of the club's main activities take place in the early summer.

The club coped with the pandemic in multiple ways, broadly this included:

- Extensive and continual planning and adapting of return to play protocol

- Widespread remote coaching contact with relevant club members
- Reacting swiftly to the changing situation
- Clear communication with members at various stages
- A focus on providing a large number of events as soon as was viable in order to achieve a positive boost amongst members and enhance engagement of athletes of various ages.

### Future Plans

- Enhanced T&F fixture programme that will include targeted opportunities for U13 and U15 age groups (this didn't happen in 2020 due to the timescale of return)
- Projects with Secondary Schools that were planned for 2020 but couldn't happen – this includes more fundamental athletic skills into lesson time and also opportunities for coaching in athletics events in after-school clubs
- New Primary Schools Championships format to include more athletics disciplines
- Full programme of endurance fixtures open to all

## Badminton



Unfortunately due to the pandemic situation that started early on in the year, we only had a major event with the Inter-Insular U-19 picking up a win by 23-7.

### Schools

Guernsey Badminton continues to extend their outreach into the schools programme providing badminton lessons to most of the Year 5 & 6 pupils, but unfortunately some of the programmed schools were affected by the lockdown as well as the Sports Commissions year 4 festivals and an annual year 5 & 6 inter-school competition that didn't happen. There was however some Badminton lessons with Y4 in Houquette.

Guernsey Badminton has seen an increase in the number of pupils coming in the number of students that start training badminton after the schools programme.

### Community

We continue to work on ways to increase community involvement into the sport, most successfully has been the Team Challenge event that involves teams of 4 competing in a fun team environment involving participants that aren't members of Guernsey Badminton.

Guernsey Badminton supports the Sports Commission Holiday camps and family fun days to provide badminton opportunities.

### Performance

Due to the pandemic, we had lots of tournaments and camps being cancelled.



So, the only highlight would be the Inter-Insular U-19 that won 23-7.



### Workforce/Coach Education

We finished courses for Young Officials last year. Guernsey Badminton is aiming to develop a solid Coach Education structure which will allow young players to start themselves on this pathway as young as 14 with Young Leaders Award and develop along the pathway towards becoming coaches. Young Officials is a similar structure to train Young Officials from 14 years of age and provide them training opportunities to further develop their skills to qualify as full umpires once they are old enough.

### Impact of Covid

We were fortunate to be able to train most of last year with the exception being from mid-March to June, but the competition side has been affected. We continued to compete in Guernsey, but since the outbreak, there was very little competition off-island.

### Future Plans

- BWF Coach Education Course Level 1
- Youth Games
- Y3 & Y4 Festivals
- Y5 & Y6 Inter-school tournament
- Badminton Camps

## Cricket



2020 as we know was a strange year. We started off with our winter programme that had to unfortunately be cut short due to the pandemic. We had to stop all sessions from the 16th March through until the 12th May. During this time, we put out various social media posts including lots of stay-at-home drills.

Once we were able to come back to coaching, we ran a full season condensed into 3 months. We ran a full junior league culminating in a finals day at the Memorial Field.


We hosted a cricket week making the most of the air bridge set up with the Isle of Man. The week saw 12 games being played from under 11 age groups through to a full international T20I game for the senior side. The week saw more than 120 parents and players come to the Island.



### Schools

Again, due to COVID we were unable to deliver a full schools programme. We did however deliver 4 weeks of cricket to two secondary schools in Spring 1, this allowed us to work with up to 50 children from each school and introduce them to





cricket. We then returned to coaching in junior schools after lockdown and delivered a condensed 3-week programme to Amherst, Vale and Notre Dame schools. We delivered 26 hours and saw just under 300 children in doing so.

Alongside the junior schools work we also attended all of Elizabeth College's games lessons and 18 hours across the 3-week period and saw over 100 children in the process. Alongside this work we also took on the full responsibility of the Elizabeth College First XI who entered the Guernsey Cricket Bowl competition. We delivered 2 hours of training to 20 first XI members throughout the summer.

### Community

Throughout the early part of 2020 we were obviously unable to coach. During this time, we put out various social media posts including lots of stay-at-home drills using household items making it accessible to anyone. Alongside the stay-at-home drills for the members of Guernsey Cricket we also sold 94 Kwik Cricket kits and donated all proceeds to the local COVID appeal. We then emailed everyone who purchased a Kwik Cricket set a link to YouTube where we created a series of fun skills and drills using the kit.



We also assisted with the Guernsey Raiders and Guernsey FC COVID appeal match by training both sides ahead of the match supporting fellow clubs.

**Guernsey Cricket Podcast** - We also created Under the Covers, Guernsey cricket's own podcast trying to engage

with not only Guernsey Cricket fans but also fans around the world.

**COVID Shirt Design** - We created a 'design your own' cricket shirt competition interacting with the community during lockdown and sent it to all primary schools. We had over 150 entrants and selected a winner from Amherst Primary School.

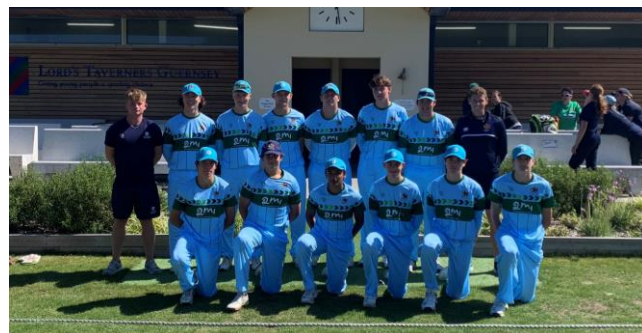
### Performance

Our big highlight for the year was the Ravenscroft Future Stars course. This is a 6-week course covering not only cricket skills but key fundamental movement skills. This year we had a record sign up with 133 children attending the course.



We hosted a cricket week utilising the air bridge set up with the Isle of Man. The week saw 12 games being played from under 11 age groups through to a full international T20I game for the senior side. The week saw over 120 parents and players come to the Island. This was a great showcase for local sport.

Another highlight was from the Elizabeth College First XI side who had an excellent season losing out in the final of the Bowl and defeating the Over 45's in a three-match series. The College topped off an excellent year by being voted in to the top 100 cricketing schools in the United Kingdom.



## Workforce/Coach Education

During the 2020 season we had 7 people who qualified as Level 2 coaches. We have also created a coach workshop that will be delivered in 2021 as this has been delayed from 2020 due to the pandemic.

## Impact of Covid

The pandemic obviously affected what we delivered in schools as we could not deliver the full programme we originally had scheduled. However, we managed to deliver a full season just in a condensed period. The way we coped with lockdown was to move to a lot of online workshops, quizzes and skill sessions via Zoom. As well as uploading content to YouTube and social media.

## Future Plans

- Specsavers Youth Games – This event is brilliant for our intake of girls and great fun.
- We plan to launch a new Primary Schools Programme including the launch of a Guernsey Cricket Mascot.
- Kwik Cricket Schools Tournament – Unfortunately, we had to cancel last year's tournament.
- ICC European Under 19 World Cup Qualifier (Denmark) – We have a scheduled World Cup qualifier if travel will allow it to happen. This is a great way to showcase our juniors and a great test for the players.
- Outside of the junior system the men's first team have an ICC European T20 Division 2 qualifier in Finland if travel allows.

## Fencing



This is the first time that fencing has featured in our Annual Review.



Due to the pandemic Guernsey En Garde (GEG) were forced to stop fencing practices and move onto online Zoom classes. After lockdown we also had to switch location. Fortunately we were able to resume practices at a new site at the Rohais Badminton Hall.

We hosted our Junior Championship on October 24th and Senior Championship on December 13<sup>th</sup> at our new venue.




## Schools

In 2020 GEG was able to work with a number of schools including; St Mary & St Michael, St Martin's, Amherst, Castel, Vale, Le Murier and Vauvert.

During these sessions we reached over 150 children of varying ages and abilities,





averaging 16 pupils per session. Working in schools supports our aim to allow everyone access to our sport, whether that is through using full metal weapons and professional kit or by using our junior plastic kit.

### Community

We took part in multiple public engagement events over the summer including two Seafront Sundays, two Farmers Markets at Sausmarez Manor, an event at Government House and the Utmost Family Fun Day at Saumarez Park where anyone, regardless of age or ability, was able to have a go at fencing.

During lockdown we also offered public Zoom sessions to anyone via the community platforms on Island FM and the Guernsey Staycation website.

### Performance

We have managed to compete in three local fencing competitions this year.

We had high engagement from our fencers, especially the younger fencers (under 12). It was fantastic to see them compete with great enthusiasm with some coming out with multiple wins at the competitions. Our older fencers have also taken part in two competitions, again winning multiple Island titles.



### Impact of Covid

As with most sports, we were not able to travel and compete off-Island which was disappointing for many of our fencers. However we were able to focus on our work in schools introducing fencing to a new group of children.

### Future Plans

- more competitions
- Easter camp
- Summer camp
- Raising fund to support fencing

## Football



The following programmes took place during 2020:

[Little Champs Sports Academy](#)

[Guernsey Soccer School](#)

[Wildcats](#)

[Club Safeguarding Validation Visits](#)

[GFA Girls Academy](#)

[Girls PDC](#)

[GFA Academy](#)

[GFA Academy Futsal Competition](#)

[Girls Lunchtime & After School Clubs](#)

[Coach Mentoring](#)



The following events and competitions took place during 2020:

[BWCI Festival of Football](#)



## Schools

During 2020 we delivered year 5 & 6 PE lessons at the following schools: Castel, St. Martins, Forest, St. Mary & St. Michael, Le Rondin, Notre Dame, Vauvert, La Mare De Carteret, Vale & Amherst.

The following schools had Wildcats sessions for Year 1-Year 6 girls: Castel (28 girls), Hautes Capelles (26 girls), Amherst (18 girls), La Mare De Carteret (10 girls) & La Houquette (26 girls).

Girls Lunch Clubs: Vale, St Mary & St Michael, St. Martins, Melrose & Blanchlande.

Girls After School Clubs: Forest, Vauvert & St. Martins.

The GFA assisted the Junior Schools Football Association to run the primary school football festival for Year 5+6 teams at KGV in January were due to support the girls festival and Year 3+4 festival but these were unfortunately cancelled due to COVID.



La Mare De Carteret High School received assistance in Girls PE to deliver a half term of football for Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 age groups. Les Beaucamps High School received a lunch club which was well attended by girls in Year 7-9.

There were interschool 5v5 girls' festivals held at Beau Sejour over the course of two weeks for Year 7 girls, Year 8 girls and Year 9 and 10 combined girls. The event was very well attended with every school present, some with more than one team.



## Workforce/Coach Education

We completed two FA Level 1 in Coaching Football Courses during 2020. We also completed five FA Safeguarding Children Workshops.

We also provided CPD for grassroots coaches and Wildcats Coaches.

Unfortunately, several training events were cancelled or postponed due to covid-19. Most notably our medical (First Aid) courses.

## Impact of Covid

COVID prevented us from any activity for a long period of time. We began to offer 1-2-1 and small group sessions through the Guernsey FA Academy Focus sessions as and when permitted before returning to squad training. We were affected by the FA as our governing body was not ready to allow grassroots football to recommence, so we had to request special dispensation to start the Guernsey Football League. To continue to interact with everyone with a footballing interest we started to create videos to be posted on YouTube and promoted on our Social Media channels encouraging people to complete the challenges.



## Future Plans

- BWCI Festival of Football

- FA FIVES event
- Youth Games for Girls Football
- Primary School Festivals
- UEFA B Coaching License: Block 4

## Golf



In this unprecedented year the golfing community continued to support the development of junior golf with the further implementation of the Guernsey Junior Golf Pathway which was established in 2019.

Following a delayed start to the season, the clubs worked closely together to provide a full complement of junior competitions played from three different tees allowing juniors of all abilities to compete. The Ray Lowe Order of Merit entered its second season allowing juniors to play in 17 competitions at the island's courses. Juniors have been welcomed into senior events with many excelling. Ollie Chedhomme became La Grande Mare Club Champion and GGU player of the year at the age of 16.

### Schools

A major development for 2020 was the addition of golf to the curriculum for Year 5 primary school children. Each child will have an introduction to golf through 6 sessions in their PE lessons.

Funding of the golf coaches is through a partnership of the Sports Commission, Ray Lowe Sporting Foundation (RLSF) and the GGU.

A pathway into the island's clubs has been facilitated by RLSF. Group lessons for interested children have been

organised at the golf club partnered with a particular school. The pilot schemes, involving 60 children, were run at Castel and Hautes Capelles Primary Schools. These were very well received and the feedback was very positive. The programme will now be fully rolled out to all States primary schools in the remainder of the 2020/21 academic year.



The golf club at St Pierre Park have, for a number of years, organised an inter secondary school competition. This is targeted at students who are not currently players of the game. They receive coaching in the fundamentals of the game and represent their school in a team event at the end of the course. The 2020 event had a good uptake from the schools and introduced around 70 young people to the game.

### Community

Golf continues to support initiatives to be inclusive and available to all. All the clubs have memberships available to juniors at a highly discounted rate (La Grande Mare (LGM) has free membership for under 12s.) Equipment is also available for beginners to use. Royal Guernsey partnered with the Youth Commission to deliver a program for young people and LGM gave free range tokens to children at the Utmost/Sports Commission Family Fun Day.





## Performance

Three Guernsey Juniors were selected to play at county level for Hampshire. Rory McKenna and Conor McKenna made the Under 14s squad and Ollie Chedhomme was picked for Under 16s team.

Ollie had an exceptional season in 2020. Now playing with a scratch Handicap, he is recognised as one of the best players on the island. Ollie won the LGM club championships, Junior Boys Island Championships and Alderney Open and was awarded the prestigious GGU player of the year title.



2020 saw the welcome return of the junior girls island championship. The final was closely contested between two very talented players, Chloe Domaille and

Chloe Gaudion with Chloe Domaille coming out on top at the fourth extra hole.



The Ray Lowe Order of Merit allowed juniors to play in seventeen competitions through the year at three different courses from three different tees. The White Tee Under 28 Category was fiercely contested throughout the season. Lewis Marley has enjoyed a superb run of form and his five wins meant he eventually ran out a comfortable winner by 8 points.

In the Over 28 Handicap Category Thomas Chamberlain was the runaway winner with five wins over the season amassing 77 points, and the Blue Tee winner was Theo Hollyer-Hill with 6 wins in 2020.


## Workforce/Coach Education

Alex Murrell (LGM) and Natalie Goodall (RGGC + SPPGC ) are the golf coaches who deliver the golf program within Primary schools. To help broaden their coaching skills both attended a Level 2 Multi Skills program organised by the GSC. Both have expressed the benefits of gaining this additional qualification. The islands golf professionals that work with children have been registered with the PGA SafeGolf list and the clubs are working with Golf England to qualify for SafeGolf club accreditation.

## Impact of Covid

The early part of the season was delayed by the Pandemic. However, due to the ability of the sport to be played in a socially distanced manner, golf was one of the first to return.





Coordination between the clubs allowed the rescheduling of all the postponed events.

The scheduled rollout of pilot schemes in primary schools was also affected. Initially intended to start in May, the first courses took place in September.

The greatest impact for golf was the loss of representative golf. It was not possible to play an inter-insular, for county players to travel or players to enter the County Championships. To support the talented juniors, the island squad was maintained and fixtures were played against adult teams. During 2020, the 15 person squad collectively reduced their handicaps by 44.7 strokes.

### Future Plans

- Full roll out of the primary schools project to all States schools
- Building links with secondary schools to introduce golf as an available option
- 2021 Junior Inter Insular
- Third year of the Ray Lowe Order of Merit
- Ability for travel to the Hampshire Championships and selected players to represent the county.

## Hockey



In 2020 our programme of hockey for all ages continued relatively uninterrupted by the lockdown restrictions. During the summer we held our first summer league, with circa 75 people taking part, making it a great success. At the start of the new

season, HockeyFest was held again, albeit in a slightly scaled back way, as we were unable to have a GB hockey star visit. Early in the season, we welcomed four junior teams from the Isle of Man to Guernsey for a festival of hockey. This was a great way to begin our season. This season we have also relaunched the Junior Development League, which is 7-a-side for U14s and have created a new Badgers' League, based on a model used in several places in England. This format brings adults into junior teams, acting as player coaches to support their development.


### Schools

In 2020, Guernsey Hockey coaches have been into every school in the island, delivering both curriculum PE and extra-curricular clubs. The work in Primary Schools has continued as part of the GSC PE in Schools programme, supporting curriculum PE for every children in Year 5/6. This has also been extended out to the three independent schools and the Special Schools. Unfortunately, the tournament held at the end of the season was unable to take place in 2020.



Our work in Secondary Schools has increased throughout 2020. One of our coaches has supported curriculum PE during their hockey blocks and set up a very successful Guernsey Schoolboys Hockey club, which now has a team entered into the Junior Development League. Guernsey Hockey has also supported Secondary Schools hockey tournaments throughout 2020.

### Community



In 2020, Guernsey Hockey set up the Vets Foundation, which has been used to bring older members of the community back to hockey, either as supporters or casual players. This has been hugely successful so far.

We have continued to encourage the wider to take part in hockey and have recently rebranded the sport as 'a sport for all' using the message of 'The Guernsey Hockey Family'. We are now spreading this message and are encouraging people to take part in any form of hockey that they can enjoy.



### Performance

One of the biggest highlights of 2020 was the U16 boys' qualification to the Tier 2 Area Finals in the England Hockey Championships. They were, sadly, unable to travel to take part. Our representative teams have been unable to take part in any national competitions at the end of 2020 so our performance focus has been closer to home. The performances of the junior teams against the Isle of Man was a big highlight. There have also been matches between our Men's and Ladies' first teams against the 'Student Nomads', which produced entertaining and high quality matches.

Our more local focus this year has brought about some fantastic games in all three of our local adult leagues, with more young people taking part. The Junior Development League and new Badgers' League have also seen some fantastic hockey being played.



### Workforce/Coach Education

In 2020, there have been a couple of local opportunities for coaches to take part in forums, as we begin to create a community of practice. There will be further coach development and umpire development in 2021, alongside England Hockey.

### Impact of Covid

Fortunately, hockey was relatively unaffected by the pandemic, as the lockdown restrictions began as the season was concluding. However, there have been few opportunities for anyone to play off-island or against non-Guernsey opposition. This has forced us to look more locally and develop our programme, particularly for juniors, to ensure that there are opportunities for everyone to train and play competitively or semi-competitively. The matches against the Student Nomads were particular successes and will likely remain in the calendar.

### Future Plans

- High quality local hockey
- Expanding our offer for children and young people
- The first Guernsey Hockey Premier League
- Developing a tight-knit Hockey Family within the community
- Specsavers Guernsey Youth Games



## Rugby



2020 started out in a positive way with all of the adult teams doing well. The Raiders topped their league and were hunting for promotion, the Ladies started the season slowly owing to a significant amount of new players and some retirements. However, they were to get their just rewards drawing at home to a team that had beaten them by 50 points earlier in the season.

St Jacques Vikings were holding their own in their first ever run in the Zoo League, playing at a higher level than ever before.

The Academy were going from strength-to-strength numbers wise especially from within the TOT's age group as their numbers grew well above those expected.

Coach and Volunteer training programmes continued, and a new batch of Level 1 referees were about to take the whistle for the first time at the Annual Tag Festival. Then it happened. Lockdown 1, and restrictions that lasted until June. This meant no Senior or Junior Siam, League's finished early and positions were calculated by the RFU, meaning the Raiders still got promoted to National 2 South. The Ladies finished their season in 5th place. The air bridge between the Isle of Man and Guernsey allowed for some rugby to be played with the Raiders taking on Douglas whilst the Guernsey

Ladies and St Jacques travelled to play Vagabonds Ladies and Douglas 2nd XV. The Academy and local schools managed to play some home and away fixtures before the air bridge closed.



### Schools

The popularity of rugby within Island continues to grow with more sessions than ever before being requested by schools. This has led to an increase in the number of staff being employed from 2 F/T to 3 F/T and 1 P/T members of staff who have delivered three hours of rugby every school day in the Academic Year.

As COVID and Lockdown hit Guernsey this meant the cancellation of the Annual Junior Schools Rugby Festival, Inter Secondary Schools rugby leagues, Lord Jersey Cup and the Annual Secondary Schools rugby festival. However, what was good to see was the visit from teams from the Isle of Man allowed Elizabeth College Senior boys to play against IoM and then the following day Academy U13 boys and U15 girls to gain experience playing against new opposition. A work strand that is continuing to grow is to use the Rugby Core Values to support children who are struggling to focus at school. It is not a new area to Rugby Development as most of the staff already



provide support to specialist schools and organisations in Guernsey.



## Community

Looking towards a promotion winning season the crowds at the Raiders games have grown significantly, added to this is the work that has gone on to run Double (Guernsey Ladies) and Triple Headers (St Jacques Vikings) on the Garenne Stand pitch. Support to RFU funding has led to drainage and floodlighting now installed on the Guernsey training pitch. Eventually this should mean having a training pitch for most of the season as opposed to losing it to flooding between Oct and Mar. This also offers an opportunity for the Academy to use the pitch during time when the Adult teams are not training.

Community Rugby days have seen Intra Club games at 15, 10 and 7 a-side games from U13 upwards (Boys and Girls) to Adults and even having teams coming over from Alderney. Sadly, the Easter camp had to be cancelled. However, the Summer Camp saw the largest number every attending 146 from TOTS to U17.



## Performance

The Player Development Pathway (PDP) has run for several seasons and has seen many of the players move on to play for the Raiders and Guernsey Ladies if not higher levels. A restructure during

2020 of the Pathway brought Guernsey Raiders Director of Rugby onto the coaching staff. The players started just after the schools broke up for summer. They continued to work both in the gym and on the field 4 days per week. This was an open invite that saw over 40 players attend from U14 to Colts (boys and girls). At the end of the summer if a player showed that they had a good work ethic, willingness to learn and push themselves, then they were invited to join the Player Development Pathway after they returned to school. Those players were constantly reviewed and if they did not continue positively, they were not invited back the following term. New players were given the opportunity to join the PDP during every half term.

During the season, 3 boys and 5 girls at 17 years of age made adult appearances for the Raiders, Guernsey Ladies or Vikings, all of which are a product of the Player Development Pathway.

## Workforce/Coach Education

The only location in the UK to run coaching and refereeing courses in 2020 was Guernsey. This saw the Education Team of Melbourne and Reynolds run Level 2 Coaching and Refereeing awards, First Aid, Safeguarding and new courses were trialled for the RFU covering Tag and Contact Rugby as well as testing out new variations of the game that could be played by UK teams whilst still under COVID restrictions.

In total 8 new Level 2 Coaches, 10 Level 2 Referee's and over 40 volunteers and coaches attending CPD and training.

## Future Plans

- Junior Schools Rugby Festival 27 Mar 2021
- Junior Siam Sep/Oct 2021 DTBC and 24 Apr 2022
- Senior Siam 28 Aug 2021 and May 2022
- Secondary Schools Festival Jun 2021

- Level 2 Coaching and Refereeing Award on Island Aug 2021

## Sailing



2020 was a surprisingly busy year for sailing, when Covid restrictions allowed. The Guernsey Sailing Trust ran a full summer program, a new sailability program which was bigger and better than ever before and school sessions during the Summer and Autumn terms. The Summer Saturdays drop in Centre was hugely successful.

The Guernsey Yacht Club ran club racing for adults and juniors, race training for the junior section and hosted the very successful Guernsey Regatta. Their 130th Anniversary was celebrated with a sail past which all boaters; dinghy, yacht and power took part. They also held online virtual racing for their members during lockdown.

### Schools

The Guernsey Sailing Trust saw 20 schools, including a homeschool group and Herm school, in 2020 once lockdown was lifted and schools were allowed off site visits. Students ranged from 7-18 years old and took part in dinghy sailing on the pond or sea, keelboat sailing and powerboating.



A year 4 and a year 5 & 6 sailing festival was run in July, 48 students took part representing their school.


### Community

The sailability program exploded this year:

- A dedicated instructor each week on the Sailing Trust summer courses to help anyone, on a 1:1 basis, who needed a little extra support.
- This fed nicely into an after school club for anyone with additional needs. Instructors as young as 14 taught these students on the model yacht pond on a 1:1 basis. These sessions were free for all those who took part.
- Fridays saw two instructors teach a full day of sailing and powerboating to Adults with additional needs. 4 adults sailed weekly working towards RYA qualifications.



The Summer Saturday drop in centre was again hugely successful allowing the



island's students to try sailing with instruction at an affordable £5 for the hour, the busiest Saturday saw 96 children take part over the three hours.

The Guernsey Sailing Trust revamped its bursary places offering for 2020, each week of the summer holidays an 11 and over plus an under 11 year old were offered a place on our summer courses for free. Nominations were received from front line workers, schools, friends and families.



### Performance

Paul Outrum placed 2nd in the South Regional finals of the online virtual racing. Luke Elliot and Jessica Watson competed off island and the RYA regional championships in Weymouth, their performance at this event gained them each a place in the South Regional Training Group. This is the highest training group possible for their age group.

As a youth (17 years old) Arthur Collenette won the Guernsey Regatta racing against Adults and Masters.

### Workforce/Coach Education

The Guernsey Sailing Trust qualified 9 Dinghy Instructors, 4 Keel boat Instructors, 6 Powerboat Instructors and 10 Assistant Instructors. bringing our total of qualified active instructors to 81.

We continue to run The RYA first Aid, Safe and Fun (safeguarding) and Marine Radio Short Range in house.

The GYC and GST arranged a joint Safeguarding & LBGTQ+ talk delivered by the sports commission and Liberate as CPD for Instructors and Volunteers working across both sites.

### Impact of Covid

The Covid-19 Pandemic completely stopped all operations, no training, racing or even boat maintenance was able to take place.

Sailing was very lucky to have multiple volunteers that helped us get up and running with regards to boat maintenance and also instructing, meaning we could book in as many schools as possible once sessions were able to restart.

With no local restrictions in place and with so many of our most experienced instructors (Uni students) on Island we were able to run a full and successful summer holiday program.

### Future Plans

- Discover Sailing Open Morning in May - We are looking forward to welcoming Islanders to the GYC and GST to give sailing and Powerboating a try.
- Free sailing on the pond - these sessions are scheduled throughout the year in the school holidays.
- Youth Games - We love this island wide multi-sport event and are honoured to be taking part again. We are looking forward to welcoming the new sailors and watching their skills and confidence grow.
- GYC Guernsey Regatta - It is always an amazing sight, seeing so many adults, youths and juniors competing in the same event across a multitude of different boats.

### Squash



Although the coronavirus pandemic had an impact on our sport, we were quickly able to resume a near normal programme



during the summer months. This continued at the start of a new season in September with all on island activities taking place.

It was a real shame not to be able to take part in the Inter Insular (March), European Team Championships (April) and Channel Island Championships (November). Our Island Championships provided the highest level of competition throughout the year and were boosted by a number of players unable to travel due to the pandemic. Events for both junior and senior players were well attended, with the usual high level of competition in all events.



### Schools

During 2020 we continued to work with primary schools from year 4 upwards giving pupils their first introduction to squash. We continued our regular programme with Grammar School year 11 and towards the end of 2020 we started work with St Sampson's High School year 10. We hope to offer this programme to more Secondary Schools in 2021.

2020 also saw the reintroduction of the year 5 and 6 primary inter schools festival, with 11 teams from 8 schools took part in a fun competition. This event adds to the year 4 festivals that we already run, providing another stepping stone for introducing new young players to the game.

### Community

The family fun day was another event which provided us with excellent links. While people did not sign up straight

away, there was a keen interest towards the end of the year.

Racketball provides an entry level for adults to get started and progress to squash. We worked with two local companies through their sports and social programme to introduce employees to racketball and we hope to offer this to more companies in 2021. Both our racketball social morning and adult coaching numbers have increased which is an excellent sign.

### Performance

The start of 2020 saw the Ogier Island Squash & Racketball championships. Janick Radford beat Martin Watts to win the squash event while Laurence Graham won the racketball event beating Jack Tacon in the final. Janick Radford also went on to win the Guernsey Squash Open event beating Pip France from the UK in the final. The Inter Insular and European Team Championships were both unfortunately cancelled due to the coronavirus.




### Workforce/Coach Education

During 2020 we continued to increase the number of volunteers who support our system. Lots of these were through the DofE programme enabling young players to get an insight into coaching. Mike Workman and Tim Vail were not able to travel to Guernsey to run our leaders and level 1 courses and we were unable to send any coaches for their level 2 courses. We are looking into other ways of training these coaches including online training. Our current coaches updated their core training (safeguarding / first aid) on island.

### Impact of Covid

The lockdown in 2020 caused the cancellation of our Inter Insular (March)



and European Team Championships, it also meant a short-term postponement of our on-island leagues, competitions and coaching. While we had a good plan in place to restart our programme which was implemented smoothly.

Once our programme was up and running, we completed all but one of our leagues. From September we re-started our normal on-island programme, the lockdown saw our junior numbers drop by around 5%, however through the year 5&6 inter schools event we introduced a number of new junior players and the numbers are getting back to normal.

We have also seen more adults involved in our activities, these players would usually be travelling. The financial impact of the coronavirus will not be shown until our year end accounts June 2021.

### Future Plans

- The running of our of major events (Inter-Insular, European Team Championships & Hampshire Closed) as these give more incentive for our elite players to improve which intern encourages the next level and the next level etc.

## Tennis



Overall, 2020 has been an exciting and busy year for Guernsey Tennis despite some pandemic disruptions. With a new (and full time) development officer, a new car and a new logo, we were able to deliver more tennis in schools than ever before, had more juniors playing in tournaments and usage of courts around the island has increased.



One event in particular that has seen real success this year has been our Pay&Play sessions. These started in 2019 where we had a maximum of 6 kids attending. This year we had 47 children coming along to play tennis – for many it was their first experience of tennis outside of their school PE lessons which was amazing to see.

### Schools

Although our busiest term was affected by lockdown, we were still able to deliver tennis in schools to approximately 300 children in year 5 and 6. The sessions were mostly delivered by myself and some by fellow coach Richard Smeed.



As always, the school sessions were delivered in a way that allowed the students to build from their fundamental movement skills and start to practice those sport specific skills needed in tennis. We did loads of work on coordination and agility through fun games and drills, all using tennis specific equipment to build that familiarity with the rackets, balls and court space. Even though the schools sessions are run in

blocks of just 6 weeks, by the last session we usually hold a mini tournament and it's amazing to see the competitive side of all the players as well as giving them the opportunity to umpire matches. A good understanding of the rules and etiquette is super important!

## Community

The main goal for tennis development in 2020 was simply to increase participation. A huge part of that came down to making tennis more accessible to people from all walks of life! Here are a few ways the Tennis Development Officer Lauren Barker has tried to do that over the year:

- Increase usage of the courts at Beau Sejour – I started up some new kid's sessions at Beau Sejour, targeting those who attended Pay&Play and my summer sessions. The sessions were for ages 6-8 and 9-11 and were significantly cheaper than a typical block of tennis lessons. So as well as making more use of Beau Sejour courts, we were increasing accessibility and keeping keen kids involved and improving. Win win win.
- In July I took a trip to Alderney to visit the tennis club there. I carried out some coaching sessions for all of their junior members and some adult. Some of the juniors now travel regularly to Guernsey to train and play in the competitions. The facility is amazing with 4 courts and we are still hoping to boost membership over 2021.
- This year, all 3 tennis clubs in Guernsey - Guernsey Tennis Club, La mare Tennis Club and St Martins Tennis Club – have all seen an increase in memberships and the courts busier than ever. (Perhaps helped by people not being able to go on holiday but nonetheless it's exciting for tennis!)
- In the later stages of 2020, I started our first block of sessions for toddlers in partnership with Little Champs. These sessions are for 2-4 year olds and it was great to see how quickly

the little ones were able to get the hang of the skills. Definitely some future Heather Watson's to look out for!



## Performance

Despite Covid and the LTA cancelling almost all competitions and tournaments, we were very lucky in Guernsey to still be able to run our two main Junior championships competitions (the open and the closed) over the summer. Both saw high entry numbers which in itself was a highlight to me! Across the two competitions, we saw just over 200 entrants across all the age groups. We saw some of our strongest and most promising athletes taking home the trophies including Marcus Thomas, Amelie Clark, Daniel Thomas, Jenny Hutchins, Liam De La Mare, Rea Moore, Chloe De La Mare and Luca Robertson to name a few.

We also had a huge number of entries from players who had never competed before. It was amazing to see how quickly these players fitted in to the structure of the tournament and even improved their tennis in just a few days!





We also established a new autumn junior league to allow all of our players more opportunities to get match practice which proved to be a great success. Fingers are crossed that we can take our junior county teams away in 2021 to compete against other counties!

### Workforce/Coach Education

We now have an additional two qualified referees (Lauren Barker and GLTA chairman, Gerald Hough) on the island to be able to organise, run and oversee tournaments. All coaches on the island have been able to keep up to date with their first aid and safeguarding requirements thanks to the Sports Commission running courses throughout the year. Unfortunately, we were unable to run a level 1 or 2 coaching qualification as we have to get a tutor over from the UK and this has not been possible in 2020. I am hopeful that 2021 will see many newly qualified coaches in Guernsey.



### Impact of Covid

As tennis is a summer sport, the pandemic sadly took out a huge chunk of our delivery time, particularly in schools. We missed out on our tennis festival for years 5&6 and the Island mini championships.

When lockdown first started, I (safely and contactlessly) delivered home tennis bundles to families containing mini tennis rackets and balls to play with in the garden and practice some skills. We were also super lucky to be allowed to play tennis very early on the exit from lockdown seeing as it is naturally quite a socially distanced sport! Guernsey tennis then saw its busiest summer of tennis, with the island's courts seeing more action than ever.

### Future Plans

- Spring league – the return of the junior league with more divisions and participants than the first time. A great chance for our players to get some match practice while trips to the UK are suspended.
- Youth games – tennis is taking part at the youth games this year! We are super excited about this because tennis hasn't been involved before.
- Junior championships – looking forward to seeing the progress our juniors have made over the year and hopefully seeing the number of entries grow yet again.
- The return of the inter school tournament for secondary schools
- Getting some more coaches qualified as a level 1 or 2 coach
- Bonus one - Wimbledon!!! Cannot wait to have those grass courts back on the TV screen!



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