



Annual
Review

2023



Guernsey
Sports
Commission

CONTENTS

Introduction	2	Case Studies	19
School Sport & Physical Activity	4	Utmost Community Sport Fun Day	19
School Sports Partnership	4	Youth Games	21
Primary Schools	4	Sport in the Library	22
Secondary Schools	5	Guernsey Institute of Sport	24
Sports Vouchers	6	GiS 2023 Overview	24
Sports Vouchers issued to date	7	Grants & Funding	26
Feedback from professionals	7	Communication & Engagement	28
Support from Ray Lowe Sporting Foundation and Lord's Taverners	8	NatWest International Island Games – Guernsey 2023	28
Leadership & Governance	10	IOD Leadership Shadowing	29
Facilities	11	Sporting Achievement Awards	29
Workforce Development	12	Sport Development Officers	34
Workshops	12	Athletics	34
Placement Students	12	Badminton	37
Community Sports	14	Boxing	40
On Your Marks	14	Cricket	43
Mission Statement	14	Cycling	46
Investment in staffing	16	Football	49
Street Sports	17	Hockey	51
What is Street Sports?	17	Outdoor & Adventure Sports	54
Under 11 Programme - Overview	17	Netball	56
Opportunities	18	Rugby	59
Providing Healthy Eating Choices	18	Sailing	61
11-18 Programme	18	Squash	64
2024 targets	18	Table Tennis	66

INTRODUCTION

Graham Chester, Director of Operations

2023 has been a bumper year for Guernsey sport, and a busy if challenging one for the Guernsey Sports Commission.

One of the highlights of the year has to be Guernsey hosting the NatWest International Island Games for the third time in the event's 38-year history.

Delayed for two years because of the Covid pandemic, planning for the home Games began in earnest back in 2019 to meet the original date of July 2021. The team didn't lose their enthusiasm, despite the disappointment of the postponement, and thanks to a dedicated Organising Committee, a fantastic group of sponsors plus the commitment of the 14 sports involved and an army of volunteers, Guernsey 2023 was a roaring success.



Guernsey not only topped the medal table, winning 19 more than our nearest rivals Jersey and over double third placed Isle of Man, the team also secured 54 Gold medals – an outstanding achievement.

It was a spectacle that will live long in the memory and the size of some of the crowds at a number of venues was something to behold. To see so many Islanders going about their business with huge smiles on their faces showed the power that sport has to bring a community together.

It also showed what Guernsey is capable of being a venue to host sporting events. Something that the new Tourism Management Board is keen to exploit during 2024.

For many of our sports and athletes not involved in the Island Games, and also for many of those that were, it was business as usual for the other 51 weeks of the year and once again there have been some exceptional performances during 2023.

We sent a team to the Commonwealth Youth Games in Trinidad and Tobago and although we didn't win any medals, the step up in quality for our team will bode them well in the future. It is a real shame that it looks as though the future of the Commonwealth Games is in jeopardy and let's hope for a positive conclusion.

You will find further information about the various sporting highlights of the year throughout the rest of this report.


So what of the Sports Commission during 2023?

We have continued our relentless focus on safeguarding in sport and supporting sporting organisations to ensure they have appropriate governance.

The Guernsey School Sport Partnership continues to develop and, from a pupil perspective, the range of sporting opportunities available now has never been greater. In conjunction with Education Services and school leadership teams we are continuing to explore ways of making the offer even better in the future.

Our current team of staff act as positive role models for the children they work with and their enthusiasm for what they do is infectious and delivered with a real passion for sport.

We have unfortunately had to almost completely stop our support for broadening the PE curriculum in secondary schools once our States funding ran out in July. This remains a huge disappointment to us and we really



hope to be able to reinstate this valued support during 2024.

We continue to offer a range of programmes in the community including our weekly Street Sports sessions, our On Your Marks Holiday Programme and various one-off taster events. Details of these can be found later in this report. We are extremely grateful to our sponsors and funders whose support allows us to run these programmes.

Sport in Guernsey simply wouldn't happen without the support of volunteers. Whether coaching, acting as officials, marshalls or serving refreshments, they are critical to the successful running of all sporting activities on and off-Island. The Sports Commission continued to support volunteers by providing safeguarding, first aid and coaching qualifications as well as facilitating DBS checks throughout the year.

Many of our workstreams are dependant to a greater or lesser extent on some level of funding from the States of Guernsey. In the majority of cases these workstreams can only progress if we are able to supplement this funding with privately raised money.

We know that the past two years have been particularly challenging for the island's overall financial position. States Committee budgets have been squeezed and uncertainty about continued government funding for some of our workstreams has made life difficult during 2023.

The Commission has and always will continue to rely on private sponsorship to be able to deliver all our services. It is a constant battle in the current financial climate to achieve the levels of funding we need and our Commissioners and Trustees work hard to ensure we maintain high levels of private support.

We will be publishing an update of our Action Plan during Q1 2024 outlining our priorities for the next two years, once our funding situation becomes clearer.

Although our levels of funding may have changed, what hasn't changed is our role to lead, represent and be a voice for sport in Guernsey.

We believe that everyone in Guernsey should have the opportunity and support to participate and compete, and fulfil their potential no matter what their background, age, or level of ability in a safe and supportive environment.

The evidence is overwhelming that moving our bodies – through community sport, fitness, and physical activity – improves our lives, individually and collectively.

Our mission is to invest in sport to make it a normal part of life for everyone in Guernsey, regardless of who you are.

We believe that the Guernsey Sports Commission can help shape Guernsey's long-term-prosperity, well beyond sporting boundaries.

Please don't hesitate to contact us at info@guernseysports.com if you have any questions about our work.

SCHOOL SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Jeremy Frith, Performance Director and Steve Sharman, Relationship Director.

School Sports Partnership

Primary Schools

Our work with primary schools has become an established service over recent years and continues to go from strength to strength. I am incredibly grateful to our team of PE & Sport Development Officers and their colleagues from within our member sports that work with us and schools to deliver the programme.

Whilst structurally the programme continues as per previous years, we are in a constant state of fine tuning and adding pieces to compliment the core part of our service.

This year we have completed a pilot in consultation with the Educational Psychology Service, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Services to develop a programme of motor skill interventions. Whilst not a new piece of work to the Commission, we have worked hard to identify and implement a validated programme of identification, intervention, ongoing support and onward referral to other services.

These pilots have been positively referenced by a number of professionals and within Ofsted inspections as areas of excellent practice and we are continuing to roll them out across schools.

Other areas of development have been around the work of Outdoor and Adventure Sports Development Officer Alan Jenner who has continued to evolve our beach visits. These have again gone well and, thanks to some additional private funding, will now be expanded to include water entry for year 4's.

With additional funding from Education, through the cultural enrichment programme, we were also able to introduce our Playpals scheme. The scheme looks to support year 2 children developing a better understanding of how to use their school environment better and to play more effectively (safely, creatively and cooperatively).



The business-as-usual work continues with more significant progress supporting vulnerable children and those not accessing sport in the community. Overall, the importance of our officers being based in school and in a position to form positive and potentially transformative relationships with children and professionals supporting them, is key to the success of our service.

The Specsavers Youth Games had a record year (again) with more children and sports participating than ever before. The position our officers hold in schools and their ability to reach ever more children within our community has been key to that success. We were also delighted that our relationship and work with St Anne's has evolved to the point that children from Alderney also participated, for the first time, in the Specsavers Youth Games.

We were again blessed with the fantastic support of our placement students for the

2022/23 year. Lauren Miller from Bournemouth University and Teya Sheppard from University of Bath did a fantastic job across a number of programmes but their work in schools was exceptionally well-received. Teya Sheppard went on to receive a Highly Commended award from Bath for her placement, as well as 2nd prize in the University's academic poster presentations which covered the work of GSC.

Looking forwards to 2024, we will be working closely with colleagues in education, schools and our member sports through the development of a new curriculum entitlement document. This work began in October and will continue in advance of being 'live' for September 2025.

My sincere thanks to everyone involved particularly to those individuals and organisations who support the match funding of the Education grant we receive who make all of this possible.

Secondary Schools

2023 has seen the Guernsey Sports Commission building on the outcomes achieved in 2022 in supporting all secondary schools to deliver a wide range of pupil experiences across KS3, 4 and 5.



The approach of broadening pupil experiences that reflect sporting opportunities on Island and then providing pathways to our Member Sports has proved to be very successful. Pupils want to be able to play different sports and experience different environments.

We have worked with the dedicated PE staff to limit the barriers to participation that exist on Guernsey. These include:

- Supporting the cost of joining Member Sports Clubs
- Ensuring what you wear to play sport is appropriate
- Providing tailored support to those pupils with the most complex needs

Our work has allowed us to curate and innovate within the curriculum but also in the margins before and after school and through lunchtime clubs. We have done this as a partnership ensuring that pupils can back up core fundamentals embedded at primary school with nurtured, fun, and interesting opportunities in over twenty-four different sports.

We have been cognisant of the individual nuances of each school and cohort and provided bespoke solutions for pupils who have found a traditional PE offer difficult to relate to. The pathways from school participation to belonging to a sports club are consistently and empathetically being explored and our coaches are becoming more adept at making those connections.

We are clear about why we are engaging with the Secondary Sector and whether it is the simple message that participating in sport is fun or the more complex use of sport as a vehicle to embed key life skills, 2023 has been successful on all fronts.

It was disappointing that our States of Guernsey funding for this work stopped in July 2023. This meant we had to seriously curtail our activities in secondary schools for the Autumn term, despite considerable demand still being there.

We are hoping to build up our support again during 2024 through a combination of private sponsorship and hopefully the restoration of Active 8 funding, albeit at a lower level than previously.

Sports Vouchers



In September 2021 the Sports Commission introduced a new Sports Voucher scheme, funded through the Active 8 Sports Strategy, providing opportunities for children and young people to participate and enjoy sport where cost may be a barrier. This was based on similar schemes run successfully in other countries such as Iceland, Australia and Canada.

The aim of the Sports Voucher scheme is to ensure that every child and young person has equal access to opportunities to participate, compete and excel in sport, regardless of their socio-economic background.

Vouchers can be issued by any professional working with the child or young person e.g., teacher, learning support assistant, social worker, youth worker, GSC PE and Sport Development Officer, sports coach etc.

The voucher covers the cost of subscription for one full season of the chosen sport. It may also cover attending a sports camp or holiday programme where appropriate. The sport or club must be a member of the Guernsey Sports Commission and must have achieved or be actively working towards achieving the SportsMark quality assurance accreditation.

The process of applying for and issuing a voucher has been kept simple to reduce administration time and cost.

Sports Commission staff working in primary schools have a supply of printed vouchers which they may issue to individual children or families, often through discussion with the headteacher or class teacher. A supply of vouchers

has also been given to various support services working with vulnerable children and families.

Eligibility for a voucher is based on whether the family would be entitled to claim uniform allowance, are on income support or from low income/single parent families. Professionals working with these children and families are able to use their judgement to decide whether the child or young person would benefit from a voucher and the Sports Commission purposely does not require detailed evidence before issuing a voucher.

Where a child has been recommended for a voucher by a sports coach or club, the GSC will cross check with school to ensure eligibility.

Since the launch of the scheme, closer working relationships between the Sports Commission and other agencies such as HSC Children and Family Services, School Nurses and various Education Support Services such as the School Attendance Service have been forged and strengthened. This has also spilled over into our On Your Marks holiday programme where we now receive referrals from various support agencies to provide free places for vulnerable families or places for children with specific needs.

Sports will provide feedback on whether a child attends. They may also ask for help with providing clothing or equipment and the Sports Commission then approaches other charitable organisations such as the Ray Lowe Foundation or Help A Guernsey Child for financial support.

The Commission also has regular contact with the agencies working with these children and families. Many apply for a second or third season of support and all highly value the scheme.

The Commission's Director of Communications oversees the Sports Voucher scheme and is the first point of contact for any enquiries.



Sports Vouchers issued to date

	2021 (part year)	2022	2023
Vouchers issued	25	88	145

Vouchers have been issued to the following sports: football, boxing, gymnastics, trampolining, dance, netball, basketball, tennis, cricket, badminton, squash, climbing, rugby, hockey, swimming etc

Feedback from professionals

Tanya Nesbitt, Community Nursery Nurse

'I work with children and families attending home visits and clinic appointments. I have been asked many times about sports and where to get information from regarding certain sports or an interest in trying a new sport. I often use the sports commission vouchers for children and families that would struggle to pay the cost of sports or those children that may need a confidence boost in themselves. Having these vouchers available for professionals like me to hand out to children and families means that they aren't excluded from an interest they have because of the cost. Living in Guernsey as we all know is expensive and these little vouchers make a huge difference to these children. It makes it more accessible for them to try new sports out, make new friends, gain confidence and self-esteem which helps them in their future making a hobby/interest become something they love.'

'The Island Games has helped to get children's attention/interest in new sports and being able to help those less privileged means they won't be left out. Without these vouchers children would not be able to attend classes and the impact that would have on them would mean they wouldn't socialise as much other than being at school.'

Mandy Hobart, Boxing Development Officer

'The voucher scheme has helped many young children whose parents simply could not afford the yearly subscription.'

'It has also helped us, a charitable organisation, as we would never turn anyone away that could not afford the subscription. Before the voucher scheme was introduced, we were losing around 30% of the revenue due to non-payment of subs. '

Tracy Spearing from the States of Guernsey Supporting Families Team has provided the following case studies:

Case Study 1

A young boy who has no clubs or activities outside of school, was not trusted to be with other children and had no social life.

The Sports Commission gave him a voucher for athletics. He attended every Tuesday, made friends, learnt how to be sociable, learnt how to take instructions, was able to be trusted to take part in activities that were not 1-2-1.

This young person in school has been noted as a completely different person and shows their feelings and is able to talk instead of hurt now.

Case Study 2

An autistic young person who was very unsocial, in a family where they have other children with disabilities and so they are unable to fund activities due to the cost. The family is currently working with various services for support. This young person was introduced to trampolining supported by a sports voucher and really enjoyed it, due to the independence it gave her; it was for that young person and no one else in the family which made her feel special. Her social life has grown, her independence has grown, so much so that she is now confident enough to walk to school on her own.

'The work you all do to help support these families is amazing'

'It's such an amazing thing you are doing'

Support from Ray Lowe Sporting Foundation and Lord's Taverners



At the end of 2021, the Ray Lowe Sporting Foundation and Lord's Taverners hosted a dinner to raise funds to support vulnerable children and young people to access sport and physical activity.

More than £20,000 was raised at the event providing funding to the Sports Commission to support our work over the next 3 years.

During 2023 we have used the money to help fund:

- 1:1 sport taster experiences for children and young people identified as 'at risk' in conjunction with HSC, including outdoor and adventurous activities
- One to one support to allow a young person to participate in weekly hockey coaching sessions
- Purchase of football/boxing kits for a number of children issued with sports vouchers
- Support towards facilities hire costs for Climb LBG to offer regular inclusive climbing sessions to children and young people with disabilities/learning difficulties
- Contribution towards costs of ensuring Sports Commission events are accessible to all e.g. Sport in the Library

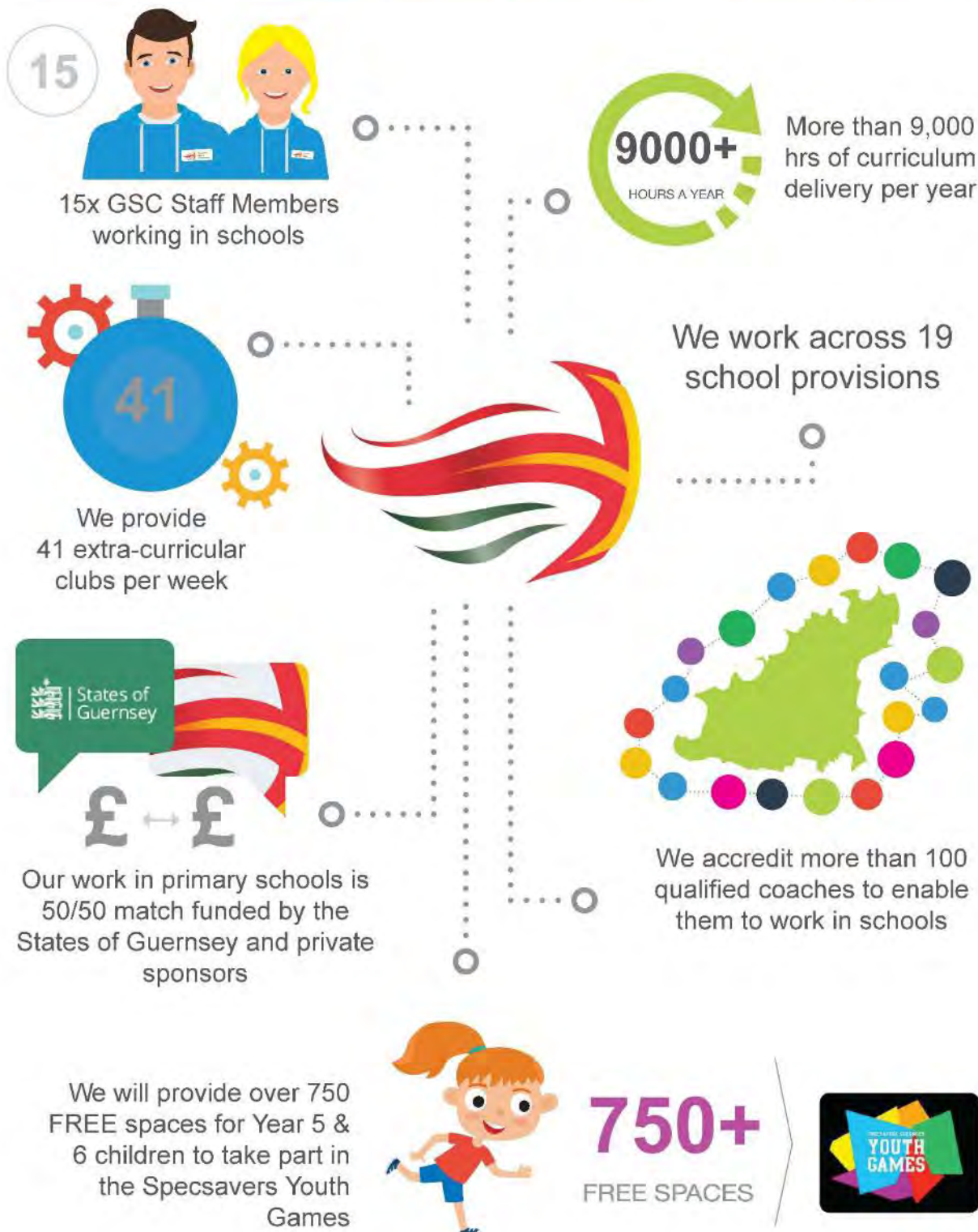
Any remaining unspent funds will continue to be used during 2024 to:

- Provide 1:1 support for children with additional needs to attend our On Your Marks holiday programme
- Expand 1:1 support for children and young people 'at risk'
- Expand range of disability taster sessions during holidays
- Support more requests for help with sports kit/equipment



Guernsey
Sports
Commission

School Sports Partnership





LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

Steve Sharman, Relationship Director

The end of 2023 marks a pivotal moment in the Guernsey Sports Commission's stated aim of supporting every Member Sport to be the best organisation it can be on any given day. Our SportsMark accreditation is central to improving governance of sport as well as ensuring high standards of safeguarding, welfare and financial transparency are priorities for every sport that we work with.

SportsMark was launched in January 2021 and we set ourselves the target of the end of 2023 to have 90% of our Member Sports achieve the award or be working towards it. It is very positive to be able to report that we have achieved that aim.



Outside of SportsMark we have been working with individual clubs and local sporting governing bodies to create sustainable new structures and governance to support the continued growth and/or improve the management of that sport.

We continue to support some key sports such as netball and fencing and the reviews of boxing and junior golf have resulted in some major positive changes to their operation. A review of snooker has been completed and we provided clear guidance for Guernsey Cricket in respect of their review of operational aspects and governance oversight.

These reviews give us the opportunity to take a deep dive into some of our existing sporting organisations and help them re-focus their activities, take a close look at their governance structure, and make any

necessary changes – with our support of course.

One of the challenges that we identified in our previous Report was the difficulty in attracting board members of sufficient high calibre to lead some of our clubs and organisations. We have made some great progress in this area in the last year especially in terms of Financial Directors and Company Secretaries. An initiative we are pursuing is to create an in-house team of Safeguarding Professionals who can provide training and support to those sports clubs, associations and organisations that either have no Welfare Officer / Director or the individual in post is inexperienced.

We continue to be grateful to Source Recruitment for their initiative to advertise volunteering opportunities for free on their website, alongside promoting the value of volunteering. This will help raise the profile of opportunities to support the good governance of sport.

<https://www.source.gg/jobs/volunteering>

Safeguarding remains a high priority workstream and one that takes up a significant amount of senior management time, guiding and supporting our sporting organisations.

We continue to provide regular Safeguarding training sessions specific to the sporting context and have also delivered bespoke sessions to upskill groups from individual sports.

In terms of our own governance, the Sports Commission is still working with the States of Guernsey to secure a long-term funding agreement that will ensure the sustainability of our work and the continued ability to leverage private sponsorship in support of local sport.



FACILITIES

The cost of hiring and difficulty accessing sports facilities has remained a frustrating challenge for much of 2023.

No progress has been made on the recommendations we brought to the Committee for Education Sport & Culture as part of our Facilities Review published in 2021.

These included:

- Consider offering all schools free access to States-owned sports facilities (e.g. Beau Sejour, Footes Lane including hockey pitch) free of charge during term time between 9am and 4pm.
- Review the staffing, operation, management and booking of school sports facilities to ensure increased use by the community.
- Consider piloting a new operational model for the Sports Building at Les Ozouets including the co-location of the Guernsey Sports Commission on the site to manage community usage outside of education hours.

Some schools still struggle to deliver the full PE curriculum on their own sites but also find it a challenge to afford to hire facilities at Beau Sejour or the Footes Lane athletics track or hockey pitches.

We continue to try to broker arrangements between facility operators and potential users to try to ensure costs are affordable and their needs are being met.

Sadly, the Assembly did not support the funding for the redevelopment of the Les Ozouets site for new Post-16 facilities and so the project is now indefinitely delayed. The Guernsey Institute plan included much-needed new community sports facilities which would have provided a boost for sports such as basketball, volleyball and netball who are desperate for more court time. It would also have allowed us to progress our aspiration to offer a sports science degree on-Island.

We will continue to work with the States of Guernsey to ensure sports facilities remain accessible and affordable for all and welcome the news of a review of Beau Sejour to be carried out by the Committee for Education, Sport & Culture during 2024.

Guernsey hosting the 2023 NatWest International Island Games led to some welcome improvements at a number of local sporting venues which will continue to reap benefits in 2024.

In 2023 work also finally began on the GFA's development at Victoria Avenue. It's hoped the facility will be operational in 2025.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Our work supporting the Island's coaching and volunteer workforce continues to make progress. We offered a wider number of courses in 2023 and processed more qualifications than ever before with over 100 to students across the Sixth Form Centre, St Sampsons and the Guernsey Institute. This was made possible by funding from Education Services.

The day to day administration of courses continues to become smoother and simpler as our relationship with UK Coaching Solutions develops strategically and operationally, led by Carmen Smith who continues to do a superb job. We are also hugely grateful to have the experience and expertise of Steve Melbourne overseeing this.

Our list of tutors and assessors has continued to expand which in turn increases our capacity to deliver more courses. We have also begun exploring the possibility of supporting one local sport and their National Governing Body (NGB) to develop an on Island qualification for that sport overseen by GSC. Many sports on the Island are currently unable to access on Island qualifications and training through their own NGB's so if GSC are able to fill this gap it will make a significant difference to all parties.

Challenges of course remain, partly linked to the ongoing funding situation of GSC and the stretch of water between us and the UK, and rising costs. Ensuring all of our sporting workforce remain up to date with both formal qualifications and informal development opportunities remains a big focus for GSC and in need of greater funding.

Workshops

We ran 22 courses during 2023 with 219 people attending (not including the courses delivered in schools and the Guernsey Institute).

Workshop (number of sessions)	Number attended
Safeguarding x 14	158
First Aid x 4	32
Safeguarding for Young Volunteers x 1	9
Time to Listen (for Welfare Officers) x 1	6
Multi-Skills Level 2 x 2	14

Placement Students

The Guernsey Sports Commission's student placement scheme continues to go from strength to strength.

Now in its fifth year, the scheme offers a funded placement year to two 3rd year undergraduates or post graduates with an interest in pursuing a career in sports coaching and development, or sports science. Placements are open to students from Guernsey and from the UK or further afield.

In 2022/23 we were lucky to have Teya Sheppard, a 3rd year sport science student from University of Bath who comes from Devon, and Lauren Miller. Lauren is a local student in her 3rd year of a sport science degree at Bournemouth University. Both were exceptional candidates and brought a huge amount to the work and the wider GSC team. Teya went on to win second place at the University of Bath placement awards for the work she undertook during her year with us.



As part of the placement, students work within the general sports development programme run by the GSC and offer performance analysis and sport science services overseen by the Guernsey Institute of Sport.

Within the sports development work through the 2022/23 academic year the students worked within primary schools supporting PE lessons as well as leading the delivery of our Play Pals scheme. This was the first year of the Play Pals scheme, funded through Education's Cultural Enrichment programme it aims to equip children in year 2 with the understanding and knowledge of how to play safely and fairly within their school environments.



The sport science work has gone from strength to strength and the work each cohort of students has done has built on the work of the previous cohort. We now have a well-developed performance analysis support service that we are beginning to slowly expand beyond our pilot with GFC.



The sport science service is centred around the use of a video analysis package called Dartfish. The software allows the students to code and catalogue matches enabling the

production of video and data packages to inform coaching interventions. This work was started with Guernsey FC 5 years ago and recently expanded to cricket with a view to offering out to other sports as we become more secure in our offer.

COMMUNITY SPORTS

On Your Marks

David Harfield, PE & Sport Development Officer with responsibility for OYM

Mission Statement

- To provide a fully inclusive, financially viable holiday programme, which offers a high standard of sporting and physical activities for all school ages.
- To be positive sporting role models in a friendly, nurturing, and fun environment where staff interaction encourages participation and skill development.
- Using GSC Staff and Sports Development Officers we aim to shine a light on the sporting opportunities and pathways available in our community.

Over the last few years, the Guernsey Sports Commission (GSC) has endeavoured to offer a fully inclusive, low-cost sporting provision for the community through its holiday club, On Your Marks (OYM). It is available for all Guernsey families to access, and booking is through the GSC website. The programme is broken down into three categories.

1. On Your Marks (Fun & Fit) – Year 1 & 2 (Reception to Year 1 in the summer)
2. Get Set (Multi-Sports) - Year 3 – 6 (Year 2 to 5 in the summer)
3. Go (Sports Tasters) – Year 5 to 9 throughout the year.

Three years ago, we were only able to offer spaces for 40 children each day in Multi-Sports, with two 1-hour Fun & Fit (F&F) sessions running a week for up to 20 children. There was also an occasional older group offer as well.



We have worked hard to develop and grow our offer and now, this summer, we were reaching numbers of over 100 children attending each morning, with 3-hour sessions for Fun & Fit each day, multi-sports and a sports taster camp all running simultaneously at the same venue, ensuring an easier start to the day for children and parents dropping off at a single venue. In total, 744 children attended OYM over the year, up slightly on 736 the previous year.

Breakdown of participants:

220 - Reception to Year 2.

443 – Year 3 to 6

81 – Year 7 to 9



The largest number of children we have spaces for is in the multi-sport session, where we can now take up to 90. Sports camps and tasters range from 12 to 50 participants per session, depending on the sport and staffing availability.

It is clear from the registration period though, that the biggest demand is in the younger age groups, with session days selling out within hours of the booking

system going live. We also know that there is potentially demand for the whole day and a trial one-day event in the May Half term, linking On Your Marks with the Island Games, sold out the 80 available spaces within 3 hours. However, we recognised that this was not only an exhausting day for the staff, but the children were also tired to the extent that attendance was noticeably lower the following day. Facility hire costs may also be prohibitive to running full days in future.



A large part of our work recognises that not all children are able to access sporting clubs outside of school and a great deal of work also goes in to addressing this. PE & Sport Development Officers working in schools help by identifying individual children, with support from the school, who might benefit from accessing OYM. These children can be identified for a number of reasons, including physical, financial, or social and emotional support. These are then recognised in our system as “Green Spaces,” where priority is given to allocating a space. Thanks to our funding from the Social Investment Fund, we have been able to provide two schools (St Martins and La Mare de Carteret) with a minibus service directed at children that otherwise wouldn’t be able to attend because of transport issues.

Other local organisations, such as social workers and family support services, also receive advance enrolment links to the OYM programme, helping them to access the programme bookings earlier and ensuring we can plan for the needs of the


children attending. This might be practical things like organising transport, to ensuring that a one-to-one was in place; either a GSC member of staff or someone provided by an external organisation.



Although our goal remains achieving 25% of spaces allocated for this, no children who we recognised as suitable candidates for a Green Space were turned away. In total, 112 “Green Space” children attended OYM over the year, up from 101 the year before, slightly over 15%. The only criteria children must meet, is to be able and willing to access the main activities they are signed up for. This means that we need to employ additional staff to enable these children to access the sports to the best of their ability, as well as allow an opportunity to take a moment out if they need to.



The success of OYM and its growth in numbers over the last few years has led to an increase in costs with the need to hire additional facilities and employ more staff to cope with the number and needs of the children. We are hugely grateful for the financial support from the Social



Investment Fund (SIF), who have provided us with a three-year grant which is currently covering around 80% of the total cost of providing the programme. This is more important than ever before, with the 'cost of living' crisis affecting so many families, allowing GSC to keep the cost of registration free for those who need it most and keeping our fees as low as possible for others. It has remained at £5 per morning and £2 for Sport Tasters for 2023.

We hold the bulk of our sessions at St Sampson's High School, however, due to maintenance work, we have also used Les Varendes (previously known as the Grammar School). For the Sports Tasters ('Go' sessions), we aim to use the sport's own facilities as much as we can, getting children to 'Go' to the venues and experience what it is like in their environment. One of our aims is to break down barriers to children attending sports clubs outside of school and this opportunity to experience new venues with the comfort of familiar faces of our staff, helps us to do that. Sports that have offered their time and skills include Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Netball, Padel Tennis, Petanque, Rugby, Sailing, Squash, Table Tennis and most recently Skateboarding and Water Polo. Some of these sports also deliver at the multi-sports sessions as well.



Investment in staffing

With the number of children looking to attend, we have had to make a significant investment in staffing this year to ensure we remain well-placed for the future.

Increased numbers as well as more children with additional needs means our workforce must be of a high standard and able to deal with issues as they arise. We have been fortunate to keep many of the staff from previous years, as well as attracting several new members who demonstrate the necessary skills to work with children and be part of a dynamic team. This has been achieved by advertising in the local community and pro-actively working with learning centres such as the College of Further Education and Elizabeth College.



The staff are the real strength of what OYM is all about, embodying the ethos of inclusivity and engagement, with a mature and incredible team spirit in which they can rely on others when needed. There is a recognition that some of the more experienced staff who are currently at university may be leaving soon so there has been a drive to use their experience to support new members of the team and help them experience and understand what it takes to work at OYM and ensure its continued success. Staff development is valued, recognising the importance of shared responsibility when dealing with such large numbers of children.

Leadership is rotated, with younger team members getting the opportunity to take on this role, alongside experienced members of staff, enhancing their development. Roles are allocated evenly, using the skills of individuals to demonstrate the sports and engage children, whilst helping to upskill other staff. This has been reflected in the staff questionnaire, where 100% rated their training as good or excellent, and the same for their experience working at OYM.

Of course, the programme is all about the offer for the children, and it's been important to get feedback on their experience. Overall, 96% of the children felt their experience was good or excellent, with the parents also experiencing a similar level of ease in using the system to book and pay.



We believe our figures for 2023 show that On Your Marks is meeting the children's and parent's needs and expectations, but it comes at a cost. With the increase in the number of children, more facilities and staff are required, increasing expenditure. To counter this, and to try to keep the impact to a minimum, we will unfortunately have to increase our fees to £7.50 for the morning activities and £3 for the sports tasters. This should mean that the programme remains financially sustainable within the funding being provided by the Social Investment Fund. The future for On Your Marks looks good.

Street Sports

Josh Smith, PE & Sport Development Officer with responsibility for Street Sports



What is Street Sports?

Our Street Sports Programme 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. 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.

Street Sports is funded by a grant from BBC Children in Need.



Under 11 Programme - Overview

The under-11 programme has flourished again during 2023. This session has seen the return of familiar faces but also the programme continues to welcome new participants to engage in sporting activity. Based down at the Les Genats Estate on a Thursday night, children actively take part in a variety of sports such as Dodgeball, Netball, Football, Circus Skills, Parachute Games, Tag Games, Hockey, Basketball and more. The children have the opportunity to feedback to the staff every week on what sports they would like to play which creates healthy participation numbers every week.

Opportunities

This year, children taking part in the under 11 programme have had the opportunity to access different facilities and benefit from working with Sport Specific Development Officers (SSDOs). The Guernsey Table Tennis Centre has been used on many occasions for children to partake in this sport and they have thoroughly enjoyed it. The children have also had the opportunity to visit the nearby Up-Climbing Centre. This involves an indoor climbing wall where children can challenge themselves in a different environment. The children have also been visited twice on a Thursday night by the Guernsey Skateparks community. The skateboarding coaches have provided the chance for our children to try skateboarding. They have brought down ramps for the children to challenge themselves but also provided support for children who have never tried the sport before.



Providing Healthy Eating Choices

We offer free fruit and vegetables at our sessions, and these are especially popular on Thursday nights where a variety of different options are provided each week thanks to sponsorship from the Sarah Groves Foundation and Les Cotils. Some of the healthy options this year were: bananas, oranges, apples, pears, cucumbers, peppers, carrots and more. Children love having a healthy snack during the session, as there is rarely any left at the end of the evening. A survey conducted showed many children were not eating more than one piece of fruit or vegetable a day. At the Sports Commission we believe it is important to give children access and exposure to these healthy options not only to ensure the child's healthy growth and

development but remind them why healthy eating is so important.



11-18 Programme

Our 11-18 programme has suffered from a lack of attendance again this year. Meetings had taken place during the early months of 2023 on how to seek the participation of young people within this age bracket. With a great effort from the team advertising strategies such as leaflet drops, school presentations and social media posts were all tried but unfortunately resulted in limited success. This session was also moved to La Mare de Carteret playing fields during the spring months to try to attract more participation. The team has yet to find a solution for the future of this programme, but we will continue to target this as a main goal for next year. It is difficult to say why this programme has diminished since the COVID pandemic, but our team will continue to work to find a solution to create more opportunities for young people within a sporting environment.

2024 targets

In 2024, the Guernsey Sports Commission will continue to strive to increase the participation of young children across the island in sport whilst promoting healthy active lifestyles. The

staff will look to devise a plan around the 11-18 programme and how to boost participation within this age group. We will continue to provide our 6–10-year-old age group programme with a variety of sporting opportunities within a safe environment whether this be at Les Genats or off-site. As cited by UNCRC article 31, 'Children and young people have the right to engage in recreational activities such as sporting activities'.

Case Studies

This year our staff have highlighted two participants that have shown progression within 2023. These children have been recognised for their improvements in sports but also social interaction with the staff and with their peers.

Child A:

Child A joined street sports in 2021. This participant was very shy which can be expected within an active and lively environment. They struggled to speak within groups and only spoke when GSC staff engaged in a conversation. Over the last two years, particularly over the last 12 months, child A continues to be a regular attendant to Thursday night Street Sports sessions. Their social interaction has improved drastically over the last 12 months, regularly starting, and engaging in conversation with staff. Child A doesn't always have the greatest motivation and aspiration to engage in sporting activity. However, this year, they have shown confidence to engage in more sporting activities. They enjoy a variety of games such as Dodgeball and Hockey, but their favourite is the game of splat. In turn this continues to develop his social skills with other children his age.

Child B:

Child B joined Street Sports in 2023. This participant is a very vibrant member of the programme, and their energetic and confident nature makes it easy for them to engage with people they know. Child B loves to engage in all sports but takes a main interest in dodgeball. The staff have seen improvement in this participant's fundamental movement skills (FMS) and

gross motor skills, especially throwing for accuracy and catching. The Street Sports sessions are so important for this child to engage in physical activity. When developing a relationship and having conversations with this participant, we have learnt that they do not play in any club-linked physical activity on the island. We will look to work closely with this child and recommend clubs that they can access.

Utmost Community Sport Fun Day

We were once again blessed with fantastic weather for the 2023 Utmost Community Sport Fun Day at Saumarez Park on Saturday 2nd September.



With 20 sports taking part in the park and free sailing sessions on the Model Yacht Pond in the morning, the event attracted hundreds of people keen to try out the various sporting challenges and ready to have fun being active.



New for this year was the chance to find out more about motor sport on the Island thanks to the Guernsey Kart and Motor

Club who are keen to return even bigger and better in 2024 after the success of their first outing at the event.



The Community Sport Fun Day is all about showcasing sporting opportunities for the whole family giving people the chance to come along and give them a try. The sports are encouraged to share information about how to carry on with the sport or join one of the sports clubs.



One of the highlights of the day was the second ever Mascot Challenge which saw Guernsey Rugby's Rocky the Raider, Owlzat from Guernsey Cricket, Darcy the Donkey representing the Guernsey Island Games Association and Vern the Wyvern

from Butterfield compete in two heats of an obstacle course which saw them jump mini hurdles, throw bean bags at a target, balance a tennis ball on a racquet and try to score against goalkeeper Jet the Puffin. Vern and Owlzat made it to the final when they had to tackle the additional challenge of a space hopper race back to the start line with Vern just edging out the Guernsey cricket mascot on the finish line.



This free event can only happen thanks to the support of sponsors Utmost who also provide an army of volunteers to help out on the day. All the sports provide their services for free, and we also welcomed the Health Improvement Commission who were handing out free fruit on the day with Guernsey Dairy keeping us all hydrated with Guernsey milk.

There was also the chance to meet some of Team Guernsey's Island Games medal winners as they popped into the event during the day.

We are looking forward to returning to Saumarez Park on 31st August 2024.



Youth Games

This year's Specsavers Youth Games smashed all previous records.

The biennial event for Guernsey children in school years 5 and 6 attracted nearly 730 pupils who signed up to try one of 23 different sports they don't usually take part in.

The Youth Games is jointly organised by the Guernsey Sports Commission and Specsavers and in 2023, in honour of Guernsey hosting the NatWest International Island Games, the children competed for one of six teams named after some of the islands competing in the home Games that took place in July.



This was the tenth Specsavers Youth Games and we were excited to have so many sports for the children to try, including a few new ones such as skateboarding, stand-up paddle boarding, gymnastics and padel tennis.



The Games provide a fantastic opportunity for young people to take part in a large-scale and exciting event. It encourages them to establish new friendships, build their confidence and improve social and life skills, while getting free access to a new sport.

We were also delighted to be able to extend the Youth Games experience to pupils from St Anne's School in Alderney who were able to choose one of six sports to take part in that they can continue to play in Alderney after the Games finish.



Thanks to support from the Alderney Sports Foundation we were able to bring all the children over from Alderney for Games Day and sent some of our sport specific development officers over to the island to run specific training sessions there in the run up to the big day.

The aim of the Youth Games is to promote the value of sport to young people with the emphasis on fun and fair play. In order to learn as much as possible about each sport, free coaching sessions take place in the weeks before Games Day on 20th May.



The Guernsey Sports Commission couldn't do this without the amazing support from our member sports and their coaches and volunteers who go out of their way to make sure the children have the opportunity to learn about their chosen sport, understand the skills and tactics needed, and get the chance for plenty of practice before the final competition on Games Day.

Since the first Games in 2005, the event has hosted nearly 5,000 children and fortunately Specsavers has been happy to continue supporting us to make this biennial event an unforgettable day in the island's sporting calendar. Specsavers kindly cover the costs of all facility hire, t-shirts, medals and water bottles for all the children plus all other event costs including the staging of the Closing Ceremony. There is no States funding for the event.



The children compete for their allocated teams with points being scored in each individual sport competition contributing to a final overall team score, which is announced at a fun Closing Ceremony at the end of Games Day.

The winning team in 2023 was St Helena with the Falkland Islands team being awarded the Fair Play trophy.



Specsavers co-founder, Dame Mary Perkins, hoped that the event along with the NatWest International Island Games later in the year continue to inspire a new generation of athletes.

'The atmosphere at the Games is always electric and the smiles on the children's faces remind me what this event is all about – encouraging and nurturing sport among our young people in Guernsey, building their confidence, having fun and giving them a chance to make new friends,' she said.


You can watch a video showcasing the highlights of the 2023 Specsavers Youth Games

www.guernseysports.com/programmes/youth-games

Sport in the Library

The Commission joined forces with the Guille-Allès Library in November to hold the first ever Sport in the Library event.





We took over the second floor of the Market Square building installing a skateboard ramp, using the library tables for table tennis, bringing in a portable dart board and other equipment to run boxing, boccia and carpet curling sessions.

Running from 10am until 3pm the event was a huge success with all sports busy throughout the day and lots of really positive feedback from those attending.

The mix of sports allowed children and adults of all abilities to take part and enjoy playing sport together.



Volunteers from all the sports gave up their time to make the event such a success. Our staff also made sure the activities were safe and inclusive.

The Library were delighted with the day and we hope to be able to make Sport in the Library an annual event in future.



GUERNSEY INSTITUTE OF SPORT

Dan Guillemette & Dr Conor Osborough



GiS 2023 Overview

The Guernsey Institute of Sport (GiS) receives an annual funding allocation from the Guernsey Sports Commission in support of its work.

In 2023, the GiS continued to build on the foundations it laid during previous years, albeit with limited funding, working with a select group of athletes both within the Bailiwick and off-island. During 2023, the GiS undertook the following:

Guernsey Elite Athlete Support

We provide sport science and medical support to our elite-level sports performers, both on- and off-island, including to professionals and performers in the lead up to international competitions and the 2023 Natwest International Island Games, held in Guernsey during the summer.

Athletes include Cameron Chalmers, Sam Culverwell, Jack Reed, Charlie-Joe Hallett, Vicky Yabsley, and Thierry Le Cheminant. This work has been on-going during the year with coordination and implementation of support services to our institute athletes, including medical and sports science interventions. As part of this work, two athletes in 2023 (Jack & Vicky) were nominated and selected for grant support via SportAid. Specific athlete support is detailed below:

Cameron Chalmers continued to receive support medically and in helping to find sponsorship and with injury support and advice. This continues into 2024 in the

lead up to the Great Britain trials for the Paris Olympic Games.


Sam Culverwell had a challenging year with his cycle team folding and had a lot of support for bike fitting and biomechanical analysis, strength and conditioning support and then assistance with transition to different teams. He was successful at the 2023 Natwest International Island Games and in representing Great Britain at the Gravel World Championships in Italy in October.

Jack Reed received strength and conditioning support, biomechanical analysis on optimal bike position and intervention from a medical viewpoint to access a nutritionist regarding an illness that he picked up in August. Jack has said that:

"The help I received from SportsAid this year was a huge part in being able to achieve what I did. With paying for travel to races and for stuff that I needed in day-to-day life living on my own. I cannot thank them enough for supporting me. I will be going back to France in 2024 and continue racing with the aim of going professional."

Charlie-Joe Hallett received swimming biomechanical and race analysis, strength and conditioning support and advice regarding accessing the Ray Lowe Foundation for financial assistance for competition and travel. He was successful at the 2023 Natwest International Island Games and highly competitive at the recent Swim England National Winter Championships in December, finishing third in the 50-metre breaststroke.

Vicky Yabsley received grant support via SportAid. This has helped Vicky to attend the London Pulse Prospects netball training and tournament in March and April and contributed to the financial costs of attending the senior island netball training camps and the Isle of Man tournament. Vicky has continued to play in the Guernsey U19 squad and regional league. She was also selected to play in the inaugural Isle of Man Senior Islands Tournament held in November. This was



a highly competitive week of netball playing against other islands such as Jersey, Isle of Man and Shetland.

Thierry Le Cheminant received biomechanical analysis of his swimming stroke, positional analysis work on optimal bike position and medical support for injury rehabilitation. He was successful at the 2023 Natwest International Island Games became Age Group (U19s) Triathlon World Champion in Spain during the summer.

Additionally, we continue to identify those who could make up the next generation of potential athletes via a talent identification programme, for example, those who fit the profile of the GiS and would benefit from the GiS support services in the mid- to long-term. This work has been on-going during the year with support given to those athletes and their parents, with regards to training and competition advice and how to best fit these with their educational studies.

TASS (Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme) Research Project

Following our participation in and contribution to a national-level project in 2022, with researchers at Liverpool John Moores University, that aimed to improve our understanding of best practice for athlete progression from an initial island-base to a national pathway and/or to professional sport, we have continued to implement the most relevant of the recommendations from the project within the set-up of the GiS for the benefit of Guernsey athletes.

Dartfish

We have continued to provide performance analysis support to Guernsey Football Club (GFC) via Dartfish analysis software and its associated Dartfish TV channel. The software and channel allow support staff to provide detailed performance analysis for both teams and individuals (e.g., match, tactical & technical) and aids communication. During the year, the Commission's intern students, overseen by the GiS supported the GFC, have

been using Dartfish to analyse matches and load the associated video clips and analysis to Dartfish TV. This support package was extended during 2023 to Guernsey Cricket (GC), with the Commission's intern students, overseen by the GiS, providing performance analysis support.

Enhancing Links and Engaging with Stakeholders

We continue to proactively work to strengthen the links with both the Guernsey Island Games Association (GIGA) and the Guernsey Commonwealth Games Association (GCGA), as well as selected National Sporting Bodies both on and off-island. This has helped to raise the profile of the GiS and the athletes that it supports. Additionally, the GiS oversaw the delivery of two performance analysis projects using the Dartfish software and channel with GFC and GC utilising the Commission's intern students.

Funding and Growth

Regarding the growth of the GiS, overcoming the current limited funding is a high priority. To that end, knowing what our funding stream looks like is critical to understand how we can manage our resources effectively and grow with any investment. Funding opportunities with potential partners continue to be explored.



GRANTS & FUNDING

Funding has been a huge challenge for the Sports Commission during 2023. This was the last year of funding for the Active 8 Plan for Sport as, although the States unanimously supported the ten-year government sports strategy, they only ever approved three years of funding towards it. Despite the Commission's management team continuing to put pressure on Policy & Resources and Education, Sport & Culture at officer level seeking to confirm ongoing funding, at the time of writing we still do not have confirmation of ongoing funding. We are hopeful that an amendment to the Government Work Plan will receive majority support early in the new year, securing the Commission a further seven years of funding to support the objectives of Active 8.

Although grateful for the proposed continuation of funding, the amount the amendment is asking the States to approve is some way short of the amount required to fully fund all the workstreams included within Active 8. The Commission has completed a prioritisation exercise to confirm which actions and activities would have the biggest impact should funding be secured. We have included these within a new refresh of our Action Plan which we will publish early in 2024.

On a positive note, the Committee for Education, Sport & Culture continue to provide a grant towards our School Sports Partnership work and our general grant supporting sports development in line with our Service Level agreements.

We are still reliant on sourcing a significant amount of private funding to continue our work and are extremely grateful to our many sponsors and supporters who continue to help, although it is a continual challenge to attract the funding we need.



Guernsey
Sports
Commission

Active 8 Plan for Sport

100



We support over 100 children and young people to access sports outside of school every year through our Sports Voucher scheme

80,000
EXPERIENCES TO DATE

We've delivered more than 80,000 experiences for children in secondary school across 22 different sports



Over 800 people have successfully completed the following training courses on-Island since 2018

L2 Multi Skills - 72 (+12 in progress)
L1 Activators - 49 (+6 in progress)
Safeguarding - 440
First Aid - 252

34

35 member sports and clubs have achieved our SportsMark accreditation to date

Nearly 25% of children who attend our On Your Marks holiday programme are from families in need



We have raised nearly £3.5million from private sources since we were established in 2004



61% of students were physically active for 60 minutes on at least 4 days in the last week*

**Young People's Survey 2022*

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Nicky Will, Director of Communications

The Guernsey Sports Commission maintains a high profile within the community as the voice for sport. Our staff regularly appear in the media talking about all things 'sport' and we continue to grow our presence on social media.

We also try to support a range of community events and activities throughout the year including the Association of Guernsey Charities Governor's Fete, the Dementia Friendly Sports Day and the BBC Guernsey Children in Need 'Bearpees Challenge'.



NatWest International Island Games – Guernsey 2023

We were delighted to be part of one of the biggest sporting events of a generation when Guernsey hosted the NatWest International Island Games in July.

Our staff in primary schools were actively involved in the Youth Engagement Programme working alongside the Health Improvement Commission to inform and enthuse children about the Games, the 24 member islands and the 14 sports included. This included helping the

children access some fun and informative work books produced by Grammar School Sixth Form students which help[ed] the children learn more about all aspects of the Games.

We hosted a special Island Games themed On Your Marks day during May half term when we extended our holiday programme to a full day, including a healthy lunch and fruit break, and focused our activities on some of the sports and events included in Guernsey 2023. Places to attend were sold out within a matter of hours.

The new Island Games mascot Jet the Puffin joined us for a special sports-themed dance warm up at the beginning of the day.



During Games week itself our staff accompanied children from their schools to dedicated fan zones where they could watch some of the sporting competitions and support their chosen islands. Hand made flags and supportive chants became the norm as children and young people of all ages enjoyed watching some top-level sporting competitions.



We were also involved at all levels during Games week from hosting the Opening and Closing ceremonies to handing out

medals, managing the media, writing articles for the website and supporting the fantastic social media coverage throughout the event.



Our work didn't stop when the Games finished. We were also involved on the judging panel for the Legacy Grant scheme providing funding support for new activities inspired by the Games. We have also helped distribute left over kit to sports organisations in Guernsey and further afield.

IOD Leadership Shadowing

The Guernsey Sports Commission hosted a student as part of the IOD's Leadership Shadowing Scheme in April

Leo Smith from the Sixth Form Centre at the Grammar School spent three days working alongside the Commission's Relationship Director Steve Sharman. He attended various meetings and programmes including the Commission's On Your Marks holiday club. He was able to use one of the Commission's electric bikes to get around the Island.



'I found my experience shadowing Steve Sharman and the Guernsey Sports Commission as part of the IOD

Leadership Shadowing Programme invaluable in exposing me to the key qualities of a leader and their importance in maintaining a healthy, structured workplace environment,' said Leo.

'My time shadowing Mr Sharman outlined how a leader should act, displaying high levels of emotional intelligence, significantly developing my understanding of key leaders who have impacted me in the past, such as my cadet leader and my athletics coach.'

The Sports Commission was delighted to be part of the scheme.

Using Sport as a vehicle to instil key life skills is at the core of our work streams and if we can help nurture the next generation of leaders then we will have contributed to the wider societal picture. We look forward to continuing this relationship with the IoD.

Sporting Achievement Awards

2023 was a truly fantastic year for Guernsey sport and arguably one of the most outstanding in the Island's sporting history.

The year will long be remembered for the incredible NatWest International Island Games which returned to Guernsey for the third time. And what a week of sporting action it was, with thousands of people enjoying 14 sports across 25 venues.

It was a spectacle that will live long in the memory and really showed how sport has the power to bring people together.

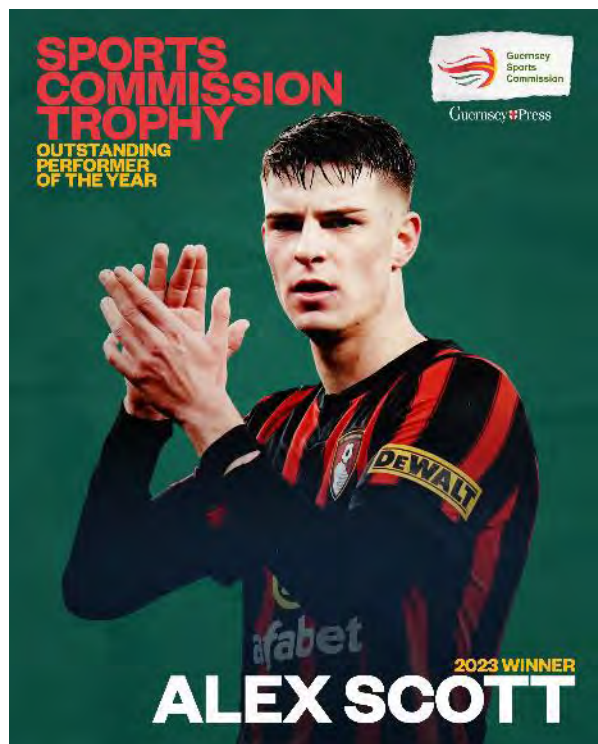
Many of the outstanding team and individual Island Games performances were celebrated at the Guernsey Sports Commission's 2023 Sporting Achievement Awards in January.

The event is a celebration of all the top performers of the year and the judges had a tough task selecting the winners from a record number of nominees.

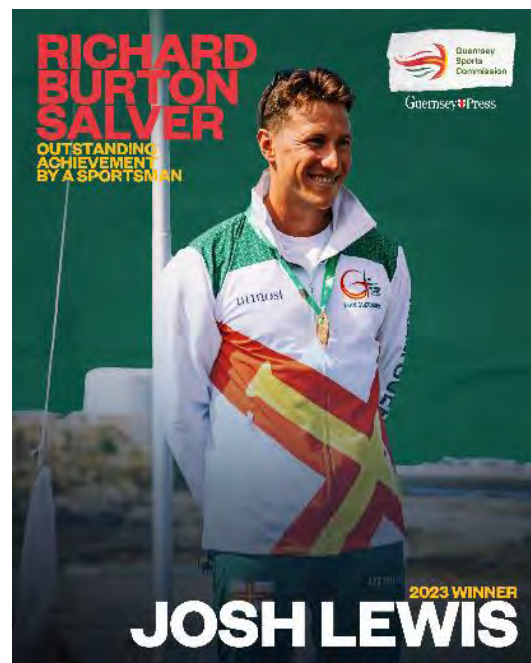
The main award of the night, the Sports Commission Trophy for the Outstanding

Performer of the Year, was awarded to footballer Alex Scott for the second year running. Alex played a starring role for his previous club Bristol City last season, being named the EFL Championship Young Player of the Season. He also received the Bristol City Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year Awards.

This summer Alex became Guernsey's first Premier League footballer since 2001 when he signed for AFC Bournemouth in a deal worth up to £25 million. He made his debut against Wolverhampton Wanderers in October and scored his first top-flight goal on New Year's Eve against Spurs.



The Richard Burton Salver for the outstanding individual sporting achievement of the year by a sportsman, was awarded to triathlete Josh Lewis. In his first year as a professional triathlete, Josh placed 5th in the 2023 Ironman 70.3 Vinfast World Championships making him the first Brit across the line and the highest placed British male since Alistair Brownlee in 2019. But his most treasured accolade for the year was his superb gold medal winning performance in front of a home crowd at the Island Games in July.



Swimmer Orla Rabey, the most decorated Island Games competitor with 6 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals, added to her bulging trophy cabinet with the Guernsey Brewery Salver, awarded for the outstanding individual sporting achievement by a sportswoman during 2023. The butterfly specialist rewrote the record books with a series of exceptional swims in both the individual and relay events.

Orla was also part of the Women's 4 x 50m medley relay team who won the Sports Commission small team of the year award.



The top junior performer of the year and winner of the Lambourne Trophy was triathlete Thierry Le Cheminant. In another standout year, Thierry was crowned World Age Group U20 Champion in the standard distance triathlon in Pontevedra, Spain, as well as winning two silver medals on home soil as part of the Island Games squad.



Top junior team was the Guernsey Golf team who successfully defended the 2023 junior inter-insular with a dominant performance against Jersey to win 13 matches to one, with the other game halved.

The senior team award was another hard-fought category dominated by Island Games performances. Just edging it were the Women's 4 x 100m relay team taking gold for Guernsey for the first time in 12 years in a tense final at Footes Lane.

There were deserving winners of the two para-sport awards. Sophie Veron collected the Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson Trophy for the para-sport athlete with a physical impairment for her determination to complete her first wheelchair half marathon, as well as returning to training with the British para-cycling squad after a year of setbacks due to ill health.



Dynamics footballer Jolyon Morton was delighted to receive the Ferbrache & Farrell LLP Trophy for the para-sport athlete with a learning impairment.



There was another strong field of nominees for the Sir John Loveridge Trophy, awarded to the sportsperson making the most progress in the year. 16-year-old junior golfer Conor McKenna took the honours for his huge improvement during the year, reducing his handicap by a massive four points and helping both the senior men's and junior teams to inter-insular wins.

The Dave Dorey Memorial Award is presented to the sport or individual who has been involved in coaching or development and made an outstanding contribution to that sport.

The 2023 award went to bowls stalwart Garry Collins who has been a qualified coach, umpire, and island official for over 25 years. Garry was the driving force behind the formation of Bowls Guernsey 20 years ago, creating one combined body for international bowls on the island. Since then, over a hundred islanders have travelled away to compete on the international stage, winning over 150 medals including British, European, Commonwealth and World gold medals.



Island Games performances naturally dominated the nominations for the 2023 Sporting Achievement Awards. The event brought the whole island together in a spirit of friendly competition showcasing the absolute best of what Guernsey has to offer.

Despite the Games being delayed by two years because of the covid pandemic, the organising committee never lost their enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring the Guernsey Games were arguably the best yet in the competition's 38-year history.

Everyone will no doubt have their favourite memory of the Games and hopefully the legacy of Guernsey 2023 and the organising committee's aim to inspire islanders will continue to live on long after the Games.

The organising committee were presented with the Sports & Nautical Events Shield for the year's outstanding events organiser.



For a full list of nominees and citations and to watch a video of Awards Night please visit

www.guernseysports.com/programmes/sporting-achievement-awards/



**Guernsey
Sports
Commission**

Other GSC Workstreams



We have established a new playtime programme for Year 2s called Play Pals across all primary schools

2023 NatWest Island Games - Guernsey 2023

Medal Table	Gold	Silver	Brass	Total
Guernsey	5	15	3	23
Jersey	11	1	11	23
Isle of Man	20	14	27	61

Team Guernsey won 2 medals at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. We topped the table at the 2023 NatWest International Island Games with 145 medals



**Outdoor &
Adventure
Sports**
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

We have delivered the AquaSmart Schools Course to 600+ Y4 pupils during 2022/23



We help fund 13 Sport Specific Development Officers who work in schools and the wider community



Individuals and teams from 25 different sports were provided with financial support from our Sport Development Fund in 2022 - the Fund has not increased since 2002



**Alderney
Sports
Foundation**

In partnership with the ASF we are facilitating visits by Sport Specific Development Officers to Alderney on a regular basis



**Guernsey
Institute
of Sport**

Supporting Excellence

Since its inception in 2020, the GiS has had 2 athletes progress to elite professional careers and 2 placed within professional academies on pro-contracts

SPORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Athletics



www.guernseyathletics.org.gg



GuernseyAthletics



@GsyAthletics

As expected, the home Island Games proved to be the pinnacle event of the year for athletics. Guernsey proudly topped the medal table for athletics, winning a total of 22 medals, 8 gold, 8 silver and 6 bronze.



Development Officer Tom Druce invested significant time to assist the organisers of the week-long sporting event. He also sought to work to ensure that the Games would be a vehicle for successful development of the sport as a whole, both in the build-up and beyond July.

Away from the Games and associated work – the club as a whole has aimed to enhance its brand position with a new

website and enhanced social media presence. Investment in the area was identified as a requirement in order for the club to continue to grow and improve.

All major local events took place in 2023 including the Easter Festival, Half Marathon, All-Terrain Challenge, FNB Cross Countries and a summer-long Aztec Track & Field Series.

Schools


The Zedra X-Challenge brought together the island's schools for a cross-country event like no other. This unique event combined traditional cross-country running with thrilling obstacles, offering an exciting challenge and experience for the students. The event created a buzzing atmosphere, with the enthusiasm of the students and teachers making the occasion particularly special.



The participation numbers for this year's event soared to an impressive total of 617 participants, marking an increase from the previous year's total. One key feature was the 'fun run' where schools could bring down an unlimited number of their year 5 and 6 students. This saw a record-breaking 240 students get involved!



Event organiser, Lee Merrien, was pleased with the turnout. He highlighted



that “One of the reasons we created this event is to try and break the stigma surrounding cross-country running, and probably one of the most rewarding aspects of the event was seeing so many students of all abilities coming in with a smile on their face and doing their best.”

The primary schools Track & Field Championships again drew a large crowd as the event draws on its strong traditions but is ever evolving in its format.

Tom Druce, Lee Merrien and George Mason all contributed to PE and Games lesson delivery – with lessons conforming to current theoretical research in order to enhance fundamental movement skills and physical literacy.

Community

Guernsey Athletics held 3 holiday camps in 2023 for primary school children. The three-day camps were priced to be easily accessible for all and over half of the attendees were not members of the club.

At the other end of the age spectrum, the club again supported the externally organised mass participation Guernsey Marathon through providing official chip timing and officials. Similarly, the club held the popular Half Marathon event. The Half Marathon saw over 300 competitors, including wheelchair racer Sophie Veron and Tom Oswin who navigated the race with a cane due to a visual impairment.

Numerous other endurance events were again accessed by non-member participation runners and experienced club athletes alike. The FNB Cross-Country Series has again proved popular with fields of nearly 150 runners.



Performance

The majority of highlights came unsurprisingly from the Island Games. A highlight from the last day came from the 4x400m men's and women's relays who both took gold in Guernsey and Island Games record-breaking times. The women's 4x100m also won gold.

Alastair Chalmers, retained his British 400m hurdles title for the fourth consecutive year. Although, perhaps more memorable was his stunning performance at the Island Games. The hurdles star obliterated the field, taking the gold in 49.83sec which was an Island Games record.

Other gold medallists include Sarah Roe, Vicky Hancock, Abi Galpin and Rhiannon Dowinton.



Away from the Games, Darcey Hodgson had another outstanding year in the 800m. The young Sarnian placed an impressive 6th at the English Schools Athletics Championships in a time of 2m09.72sec. This stellar performance broke the U17, U20 and U23 Guernsey records whilst placing her second on the all-time list.

Workforce/Coach Education

Guernsey Athletics have continued to support the development and training of its technical officials who it relies on to deliver high quality and professional track meets. Officials not only were supported through formal online qualifications but also financially assisted to attend mainland competitions in order to elevate their level of qualification. The Island Games was certainly a catalyst for

enhanced numbers and standards of officials.

Time and financial investment in the successful delivery of the Island Games detracted slightly from overall investment in coaching, which has received significant attention in the past few years. However, informal education and sharing of best practice amongst the team continued.



Future Plans

Youth Athlete Development continues to be at the forefront of the Development Team's priorities and this remains the case for 2024 without the distraction of a home Island Games. Identified tasks particularly include:

- Re-publication and heightened emphasis of our 'Philosophy', Athlete Pathway and Coaching Structure
- Parent Education
- Identifying areas for improvement within the Athlete Pathway
- Continuing to make our events increasingly accessible, after building on the success of the half marathon.
- Utilising the positive impacts of the home Island Games for long-term development of the sport

Badminton



<http://badminton.org.gg/>



Guernsey Badminton Association LBG



gsybadminton

Being an Island Games year, our major event competing was undoubtedly the home Island Games. We participated with a team of 10 players. Guernsey Badminton won 6 medals: Silver in Men's Singles (Jordan Trebert), Bronze in Women's Singles (Emily Trebert), Men's Doubles (Jordan Trebert/ Stuart Hardy), Women's Doubles (Elena Johnson/ Chloe Le Tissier), Mixed Doubles (Chloe Le Tissier/ Stuart Hardy) and the Team Event.

On-Island we had our Island Tournaments for Seniors and Juniors (Senior Open, Senior Closed, Junior Open and Junior Closed) and also travelled to a number of off-island events. We competed in the Inter-Counties Championships with 2 senior teams.

Our Juniors U-11 to U-17 had a Tournament with Redbridge London Club.



Our veterans had a home match against Wales winning 31-21.

We also organised a third Training Camp with Chris Langridge, Olympic Bronze Medallist in Rio 2016, in preparation for the Island Games and our juniors participated in an International Camp in Portugal.

Schools

Guernsey Badminton continues to extend our outreach work in schools programme providing badminton lessons to Year 5 & 6 pupils in all primary schools. We had very successful Year 3 and Year 4 Festivals (154 participants); the Year 5 & Year 6 Inter-Schools competition (72 participants); the Y7 Inter-Schools (40 participants); and Y8 Inter-Schools (35 participants).

This was a Youth Games year as well and Guernsey Badminton was able to provide 6 hours of training sessions and a singles competition on Games Day for both boys and girls for 42 participants.



This year Guernsey Badminton continued to visit Sark Primary School and Y5 and Y6 at Elizabeth College Junior School.

Guernsey Badminton has seen an increase in the number of pupils coming into badminton after the schools' programme.

Regarding Secondary Schools, Guernsey Badminton has been working with Elizabeth College, La Murier and Les Voies.

Community

We started Casual Badminton on a Saturday (16:00 – 17:00) once a month

for any people to just turn up and play. These sessions were promoted as very family friendly.

Guernsey Badminton supports the Sports Commission's On Your Marks holiday camps and Community Sport Fun Days to provide badminton opportunities and participated in the Elizabeth College Fun Sports Day.

We also continue to offer a beginners course for adults that want to start playing Badminton.

A new booking system has been designed to simplify and streamline the process of reserving a court for casual play.

Performance

Our Highlight Performance must go to the Island Games that participated in the Team Event and got the Bronze Medal. Every player in the team played at least 2 games. In alphabetical order: Alex Tapp, Carys Batiste, Chloe Le Tissier, Daniel Penney, David Trebert, Elena Johnson, Emily Trebert, Grace Edwards, Jordan Trebert and Stuart Hardy.



Guernsey Badminton won 5 additional medals: Silver in Men Singles (Jordan Trebert), Bronze in Woman Singles (Emily Trebert), Men's Doubles (Jordan

Trebert/ Stuart Hardy), Women's Doubles (Elena Johnson/ Chloe Le Tissier) and Mixed Doubles (Chloe Le Tissier/ Stuart Hardy).

Other Highlights:

Junior Tournament with Redbridge Badminton Club:

U11 Boys Doubles 3rd Nate Colley and Henry Falla

U13 Boys Singles 1st Mahidhar Vallapureddy

U13 Boys Singles 2nd James Cox

U13 Boys Doubles 1st James Cox and Lennon Sturgeon

U13 Boys Doubles 2nd Barney Ogier and Dinis Pombo

U13 Boys Doubles 3rd Seb Lawlor and William Lesbirel

U15/17 Boys Singles 1st Robert McVean

U15/17 Boys Singles 2nd Simon Hearne

U15/17 Boys Singles 3rd Luca Sidaner

U15/17 Girls Singles 1st Medha Vallapureddy

U15/17 Girls Singles 2nd Jay Webber

U15/17 Girls Singles 3rd Melanie Hansen

U15/17 Boys Doubles 1st Robert McVean and Simon Hearne

U15/U17 Boys Doubles 3rd Luca Sidaner and Mahidhar Vallapureddy

U15/U17 Girls Doubles 1st Jay Webber and Lipika Fangoo

U15/U17 Girls Doubles 2nd Medha Vallapureddy and Anihita Fangoo

U15/U17 Girls Doubles 3rd Ava Baldry and Melanie Hansen

U15/U17 Mixed Doubles 1st Robert McVean and Medha Vallapureddy

U15/U17 Mixed Doubles 2nd Tristan Clarke and Tithi Bhagra


U15/U17 Mixed Doubles 3rd Simon Hearne and Jay Webber

Workforce/Coach Education

We delivered a BWF Coaching Course Level1 to have more active coaches and delivered some workshops regarding coaching Badminton.

Future Plans

- U-12 South West Inter-Counties Team Championship

- 
- U-14 South West Inter-Counties Team Championship
 - Y3 & Y4 Festivals
 - Y5, Y6, Y7 & Y8 Inter-school tournaments
 - Junior Badminton Camps & Matches
 - Senior Inter-County Championships

Boxing



Guernsey Amalgamated Boxing Club

We held 4 dinner boxing shows and one boxing open show in 2023.

Our success in growing our junior boxers is continuing with the club registering over 20 junior boxers and 4 youth boxers. Our October open show showcased 3 new boxers, two of whom were matched against boxers from the RAF. They both won on points and have added more strength to our ever-growing team.

Due to the continuing success of our Development Officer promoting boxing within schools, we have added two more junior sessions for our more advanced boxers.

There was great success with our first ever involvement with the Specsavers Youth Games. We ran a 6 week training session which lead to the team finals. Parents were encouraged to watch the finals held at The Amalgamated Boxing Club premises.



Schools

The Boxing Development Officer has extended her outreach into more schools' programmes providing boxing sessions to Le Murier, Grammar School and Sixth Form Centre, Les Beaucamps, St Sampsons High, Ladies College, Vauvert, Vale, Hautes Capelles and Melrose. The session size ranges from 12 to 22 children years 8 and over.

The Boxing Development Officer ran sessions as part of the curriculum and lunch time and after school activities.



The Boxing Development Officer has also worked closely with the Youth Commission running a number of sessions for around 30 children. Sessions are held at the club's premises in St Martins, which proves a good venue choice for the youngsters.



Community

The Boxing Development Officer continues to offer one to one sessions for

young people referred through school or family support agencies.

She also works with the Bailiwick Social Prescribing Link Workers and has helped a number of adults learn boxing giving them confidence, improving their fitness and mental health.

The Boxing Development Officer has run an over 65's session one a week for over a year but due to its popularity is now running two sessions every week, alongside the ladies Sunday session.



The club holds six weekly sessions for children aged 8 - 17.

There are approximately 35 children attending each session.



To help in our development of our boxers and to give everyone an opportunity to compete we held our first ever skills show

at The Amalgamated Boxing Club premises. We had over 30 boxers competing in front of family and friends. The skills ranged from demonstrating on the pads, touch sparring to conditioned spars. This gave our youngsters the opportunity to show their friends and family the skills they have learnt as some of these juniors might not want to go on to compete at amateur level.



Performance

The club is now running 10 sessions a week to accommodate the increased numbers of members. One of the big achievements for the year has been the growth of juniors training and looking to compete. The team will see this come to fruition in 3 years as we see our junior boxers transition into youth boxers, and our youth boxers become seniors. We envisage that we will have a team of over 50 boxers by 2026.

2023 has seen some outstanding performances by our local boxers, who will develop further over the forthcoming season, with some progressing to compete at championships.





Workforce/Coach Education

A number of our coaches are looking to further their skills by completing a judging course, this can then lead to them becoming referees.

We have a number of parents volunteering at sessions who we hope to continue to develop and progress to complete their Level 1 coaching course this year.

We continue to train our coaches in-house.

Future Plans

- We have one open show planned for February 2024 which will showcase a further 3 new junior boxers, with a total of 10 juniors looking to compete on this show.
- Continuing to work with referrals for one-to-one sessions.
- To assist the new PE teacher at St Anne's School in Alderney to enable him to deliver boxing to the students.
- To hold 2 Skills Shows every year to give all our juniors the opportunity to compete.

Cricket



www.guernseycricket.com



[Guernseycricket](https://www.facebook.com/Guernseycricket)



[Guernseycricket](https://www.instagram.com/Guernseycricket)



[@Guernseycricket](https://twitter.com/Guernseycricket)



[Guernsey Cricket](https://www.youtube.com/GuernseyCricket)



[guernseycricket](https://www.tiktok.com/guernseycricket)

2023 was another fantastic year for Guernsey Cricket. The year began with a half term batting masterclass camp with Gary Palmer where he worked with many of our budding young batters and the senior women's team.

The Womens side then went on to show real progress throughout the year. Beginning in May with a tour to Somerset their season included matches against a touring RAF side, an inter insular against Jersey and was brilliantly rounded off in style with a 3-1 series victory against Austria in August. They demonstrated remarkable progress throughout the season which led to their first ICC world ranking of 51. Womens social cricket also continued to grow with the introduction of softball cricket via corporate matches and Bubbles and Bats evenings.



On the Mens front, the side began the season with series of games against Hampshire Academy which also gave the visitors an opportunity to see some of our up and coming players. The Men then had an impressive 2-1 series win against Germany (our first ICC series win) plus games against a strong Netherlands A side. In terms of T20 World rankings Guernsey progressed from 42 to 37. The side rounded off the season with a European Cricket Championship T10 competition in Spain where they picked up wins against Croatia, Bulgaria and Belgium.

August saw the Mens U19s participate in the ICC U19's Mens Cricket World Cup Qualifiers in the Netherlands. The team performed well and picked up excellent wins against Norway and Italy which saw the side finish 2nd and narrowly miss out on the finals in South Africa.

In the pathways the U11's headed to Kings College Taunton to play California, Worcestershire and Northamptonshire. The u13's hosted Dorset whilst they and the U15 sides toured Liverpool playing against Northern CC, Pro Cricket Academies and Ormskirk CC.

This year has also seen the introduction of a new u9 programme and our largest number of players across the age group pathways.



Schools

The coaching team of Ben, Lee, Hannah and Dec delivered cricket to all primary schools across this island and working with over 800 pupils along the way. Hannah also made four trips to Alderney to work with their school children. In secondary schools we delivered to Les Beaucamps, Ladies College and Elizabeth College. Furthermore secondary inter-school girls matches were a success and these took place between Ladies College, Les Beaucamps, La Varendes and Elizabeth College.



The primary schools' programme culminated with the Kwik Cricket festival hosted at the KGV with both a boys' and girls' competition and included an appearance from our mascot, Owlzat. With 16 schools and nearly 150 players attending each day the whole of the KGV was alive with cricket. Winning the girls competition were Amherst whilst Beechwood were victorious in the boys festival.



Community

Outside of our school delivery we continued to attend events such as the Upmost Community Family Fun Day in September and the Elizabeth College open day. At these events we ran free cricket stations to allow people outside of cricket to come and have a go. Throughout the summer we also ran our annual Future Stars programme plus various summer camps

Alongside these events we also played host to various company cricket evening including HSBC's beach cricket evening and worked with Accent Language School and ran cricket sessions for their visiting French students.

Youth Games was another success with many girls trying cricket for the first time including a cohort from Alderney.



Further afield members of our u19 squad distributed cricket equipment on their school trip Kenya and at the end of the year Lee will be taking excess Future Stars kit to schools in Namibia.



Performance

Firstly the mens side securing their first ever T20 series win against a strong and experienced German side. A fantastic achievement that hopefully is the foundation for many more to come.

Secondly the women's teams 3-1 series win against Austria. After travel delays the side performed way above expectation and showed what they have worked so hard to achieve. This included particularly impressive performances from Claire Jennings with the ball, Rosie Davies with the bat plus strong displays from the youngsters making their way into the side.

Finally the U19 Mens World Cup Qualifiers in which two matches stand out; firstly an impressive win against Italy where Harry Duke (33no) and Charlie Forshaw (55no) negotiated a tricky pitch and strong bowling line up to secure victory, and secondly versus Norway where Guernsey posted a very low score of 80. In response the team bowled and fielded incredibly well to dismiss the opposition for 59.

Exceptional performances led to Charlie Forshaw and Harry Johnson joining up with the Hampshire squad for games against Surrey, Wales and Somerset. This winter they will head across to train with their U18 and Academy sides.

Workforce/Coach Education

Hannah and Lee have completed the ICC Coach Tutoring programmes in Finland and Gibraltar and join both Jeremy Frith and Ben Ferbrache as qualified tutors to be able to deliver courses on Island. Lee

is also finishing his ECB Advanced Coach qualification which should be complete in early 2024.

Our workforce has been bolstered with a number of new volunteers. Whilst training has currently been in session, most will be undertaking their Core Coach qualification at the start of 2024.

In terms of visiting coaches, we were fortunate to have Gary Palmer across as a specialist batting coach and then more recently James Tomlinson from the Hampshire Pathways has worked with our coaches and pace bowlers.

Future Plans

- Hosting an ICC Mens T20 World Cup qualifying tournament in August
- Continuing a strong focus on women's cricket development including our first appearance in the T20 Nordic Cup
- A full age group programme including tours for every age group both on and off Island.
- Charlie Forshaw and Harry Johnson representing Hampshire in their pathways
- Another exciting domestic season of cricket

Cycling



www.gvc.gg



[VeloGuernsey](https://www.facebook.com/VeloGuernsey)



[gvc](https://www.instagram.com/gvc)



[@veloguernsey](https://twitter.com/veloguernsey)

The year itself has proven to be an exciting & successful one with obviously the Island Games being one of the major standouts, with cycling featured every day.

We've seen strong representation and performances across most, if not all, disciplines both locally and off Island.

This includes representation at the:

World Championships in Glasgow
(with one podium Andrea Nightingale)

Youth Commonwealth Games (with
Chay Kennedy-Cook & Helena
Duguid)



Other club members regularly appeared in the Southern Region MTB XC with some taking overall age group series wins.

We've seen one of our Academy riders compete in his first MTB Downhill event in the UK

More recently a select few of our members competed in the Wessex Cyclocross League.

For the youngsters we had of course the Specsavers Youth Games – another fun filled morning at Delancey Park with great racing on view.



We also have a larger Cyclocross Series, of 6 races which finishes in January 2024 when we hopefully will see the first inter insular in Jersey.



Schools

We have continued to work in some schools in short coaching blocks. We provided support to Elizabeth College for their Cyclocross races held at the end of term and at La Houquette School.

More recently coaching has started at Le Murier School providing opportunities for children to ride adaptive bikes, some for the first time, around the playground. This being the highlight of the week for some of the young people.

During 2023 we also carried out some coaching in St Annes School (Alderney) in the build-up to Specsavers Youth Games providing up to 5 sessions in a day to various year groups.

Community

It's been exciting to provide some off-bike Winter strength & conditioning sessions for Velo Club member varying between 10-12 people per week from October through to April.

For the First time Road Coaching was on the calendar between May and August. The sessions were held at the Go Kart Track. 6- 8 Novice Cyclists attended with the aim to bring in new faces and help novice riders build those all-important race skills. We saw some great improvements within riders leading to some making their race debut later in the summer.



Cyclocross and MTB Coaching, with numbers varying between 8-20 attending these sessions at Delancey Park and Grande Rocque being used as locations.

Our Junior Racing League during from May to August for the first time since Covid posted an average of 90 children attending from Year 1 upwards.



Performance

Our highlight must be Island Games week. Being involved in every cycling event was special. Standout memories, especially being in the lead car, were the Road Race gold medals won by Sam Culverwell and Jamie Lee Wright. The crowds lining the roads that day out West were special.

Sam's victory on the Friday Crit in Town was an exhibition on how to ride in those tough conditions and it was a pleasure to have witnessed his performance.

The other end of the scale was the recent Under 6/Balance Bike race we held at Delancey Park post our Cyclo cross Race. The children just reminded us how much fun to have whilst racing.

Not to forget Megan Dowinton winning her overall Sports category in the Southern MTB XC series. A marvellous achievement coming back from injury.

Workforce/Coach Education


Cycling Development Officer Paul de Garis managed to secure another qualification as a British Cycling Level 2 Cyclocross Coach.



On top of this he is now a BC Trainee Regional B Commissaire in Cyclocross, MTB XC and Circuit Racing.

Recently he assisted as a commissaire in the Central CX League meet in Milton Keynes and London/South East CX League just outside Crawley. This on top of using the Island MTB events as part of his MTB Commissaire training.

We hope now with British Cycling's new Education framework finally set up, this will allow better access to specific



discipline coaching. This will massively benefit the Island with the hope of maybe a start on the Coaching pathway for MTB

Future Plans

- Continued expansion of our off Island racing programme for all ages / levels.
- Tour of Guernsey 2024 MTB
- Easter Road Cycling Festival 2024
- Summer MTB Series
- Inter Insular Junior event weekend TBC
- Continuation of the Pump Track Development project

Football



www.guernseyfa.com



[GuernseyFootballAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/GuernseyFootballAssociation)



[guernseyfa](https://www.instagram.com/guernseyfa)



[@Guernsey_FA](https://twitter.com/Guernsey_FA)

During 2023 the Guernsey FA hosted the following regular sessions; Weetabix Wildcats (for girls 5-11), Squad (for girls 12-14), Aztech Academy and Mourant Girls Academy for elite players from 9-16.

We delivered the BWCI Mini Soccer Festival at Footes Lane and Memorial Field with 16 teams taking part including Bristol City and three teams from Jersey.

The Men's and Women's Muratti was held on the same day at Footes Lane for the first time in recent history.



We hosted the football for the NatWest International Island Games across 5 venues ensuring that each ground met the minimum requirements.



Work on Victoria Avenue HQ project has started, we hope to be moving back in March 2025.

Schools

During 2023 our development team have been delivering PE across different Primary Schools for Year 5 and Year 6 students.



The Women and Girls Officer has supported High Schools with delivering PE to offer football to girls in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Girls only lunch clubs and afterschool clubs have been delivered across the island on school sites both at Primary and

Secondary schools encouraging girls to join out of school sessions.



Year 5+6 girls had an interschool festival, thanks to La Houquette and Hautes Capelles for hosting on their grass pitches.

Secondary girls in Year 7 and Year 8 took part in a festival based indoors at LBHS during December.

Community

The Guernsey FA continues to support local clubs in achieving England Football Accreditation status to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults are offered a safe and inclusive environment.

We have also completed regular validation visits with all clubs to ensure that they are keeping up to date with Welfare and Safeguarding requirements.

The GFA Youth Council delivered Friday Night Football at Aztech offering a fun and safe session for young people aged 11-16 to take part without the pressure of coaches and parents, purely just fun football. The GFA Youth Council are looking to run this again in 2024.

Performance

The U18's and U21's won their respective Murattis.



The Mourant Girls Academy U10 and U14's went to Jersey in April to participate in the first ever Girls Football Club Festival hosted by Jersey Wanderers. Both Guernsey teams finished second in their tournaments.

The Jersey FA Girls Player Development Centre travelled to Guernsey to play the Mourant Girls Academy U13 and U15 teams at KGV.

Workforce/Coach Education

The FA Coach Development Programme has evolved since 2019 and the focus has shifted towards CPD along with Formal Coaching Qualifications. Several CPD sessions were delivered by FA National Staff and local staff and made available to all local clubs who have achieved the England Football Accreditation Status, this year we hosted events at Aztech, Rangers, Vale Recreation and Sylvans.

The GFA has also delivered its first UEFA C Licence with 12 candidates attending the course.

Coach mentoring is taking place within the Aztech Academy

Future Plans

- BWCI Mini Soccer Festival in July 2024
- Fun Football for 12-16 year olds run by the GFA Youth Council

Hockey



www.guernseyhockey.com



Guernsey Hockey



[guernseyhockey](https://www.instagram.com/guernseyhockey)



[@guernseyhockey](https://twitter.com/guernseyhockey)

It was great to participate in the Specsavers Youth Games in May. We had over 60 children involved over 6 hours of sessions. On competition day it was fantastic to see them in their 6-island teams taking part in our 7 a side tournament. Furthermore, it was great to see the Guernsey Hockey facilities used during the Youth Games ceremony and during the Island Games for players warmups and broadcasting.



We have expanded our Walkers Junior Development League for Year 7, 8 and 9s to run over 2 pitches. We have over 80 juniors taking part in the league. It has been great to see so many juniors participating. Several older juniors come down and help umpire. This provides a chance to develop this skill in a relaxed environment.

A new division has been created to formalise junior fixtures and accommodate new players. The league includes a development ladies' side, two U16 girls sides, a junior boy's side, an U14 girls side, three Elizabeth College teams including their first ladies' team and one Ladies College side. The league has started off successfully and has ensured lots of competitive games for juniors.

This year we have welcomed Dawn Welsh to the team at Guernsey Hockey. She will be taking on the role from Katy Taylor as club administrator. We also welcome Lucy Meadows as club secretary.

Throughout May and June, the ladies 1st XI ran a junior 7 a side league for Year 7, 8 and 9. This was a great competition and really helped inspire the junior girls in the club.

Schools

Throughout the year our school outreach programme across all primary schools on the island has continued. Our outreach programme involves providing 6 sessions to year 5 and 6 classes. Throughout the year we delivered sessions to 47 States school classes as well as supporting the private schools. This culminated in our annual Year 5 and 6 hockey tournaments at Footes Lane with La Mare De Carteret winning the year 6 competition.



Several schools have received after school clubs. It was great to offer sessions to Year 2, 3 & 4 students at Hautes Cappelles. Additionally, we have recently started running an after-school club at Le Murier.



We continue to support the secondary school 7 a side hockey tournament for boys and girls. This allows us to really help improve the quality of secondary school hockey and encourage players to join our club programme

Community

We have continued our partnerships with three local charities— Headway, Guernsey Mind and The Eleanor Foundation. All three charities appear on our new playing shirts that have been provided by our new kit supplier, Akuma. We were able to host Guernsey Mind in our clubhouse as they delivered seminars and courses.

Performance

The men's 1st XI enjoyed a successful cup run reaching the semifinals where they lost to eventual champions Tunbridge Wells after beating Jersey on shuffles in the quarter finals. The ladies enjoyed a successful cup round losing in the quarter finals to Reading Hockey Club. Unfortunately, in the adult interinsulars we lost 4-2 to Jersey and 3-1 in the junior competition.



We took part in Jersey's junior hockey festival. Highlights involved an impressive 3-2 loss for our U16 Girls side vs a strong

Gibraltar U17 side. And a 3-1 win for the U14 Girls against East Grinstead.

This year saw the introduction of the Guernsey Pro League. This was a draft tournament for the best male players on the island to take part in over the course of a weekend. The event was a big success seeing a high standard of hockey played throughout the weekend.



For the 2023/24 season we have entered the England Hockey Over 35's women's tournament. The start to the tournament has been successful after winning in the first round 4-3 to a strong Teddington side.




7 players this year were accepted in the South West England Hockey Talent Academy at Havant Hockey Club.

There were closely fought matches in all three adult leagues this season, with the guest junior teams also proving strong opponents for their adult counterparts. Yobbos retained their title in the Men's Division 1 and Indies came out on top in both the ladies league and men's division 2.

Workforce/Coach Education

A highlight of this year has been seeing an increase in juniors 14-18 help with our junior programme. We have had over 30



juniors assisting our sessions on Sunday mornings

Future Plans

- Introducing a Guernsey Hockey academy
- Competitive Mixed games in the Summer
- Increasing our support to secondary school hockey

Outdoor & Adventure Sports



www.guernseysports.com



[guernseysports](https://www.facebook.com/guernseysports)



[Guernseysports](https://www.instagram.com/Guernseysports)



[@guernseysports](https://twitter.com/guernseysports)

It's only when you look back, do you appreciate what has been achieved. A successful Specsavers Youth Games was so rewarding and getting young people racing in Havelet Bay was a particular highlight. The foundation work undertaken in 2022 also meant the **Hold Fast Water Skills Academy** was introduced to the community with well over 100 local children and young people participating in lessons based around the British Stand-Up Paddle Board Association 'Born to Ride' lessons together with water skills based around water confidence, self-rescue and third-party lifesaving.

It was also a pleasure to take out a number of pupils from secondary schools, during their activity weeks, and working with organisations such as the Youth Commission in order that opportunity is offered to all aspects of our younger community.



Our Outdoor & Adventure Sports Development Officer, Alan Jenner (AJ) continues to support the wider community with activities, support and providing whatever advice and guidance is required

so that the population of Guernsey can enjoy the ocean, while staying safe.

Schools

The 2023 AquaSmart School programme takes up about 3 months of the year and this continues to be a primary focus, ensuring that year groups get knowledge, water and life skills, which is important for an Island-based community.

With the Hold Fast Water Skills Academy, we can now provide holiday opportunities for the youth of the Island with the primary focus being their safety and the safety of others and we continue the drive, within the schools that we deal with, to change the culture to a society that understands risk, at whatever age, and what actions to take to mitigate our dynamic risks




With the opportunity for water confidence being threatened, due to school pool closures, the life skills that we offer will come more into focus as families use our 'free' World Class water activity environment.



Community

A lot of work has been undertaken drafting a Guernsey Water Safety



Strategy. AJ has been working with 3 UK water safety experts so that the GSC can deliver, thanks to private funding from Mourants, a draft document to the Islands stakeholders and the States of Guernsey.

In addition, we continue to develop the structure required for the Island's first Snorkel Trail and we are pleased to report that we are on target for delivery for the 1st May 2024. We are also working hard to bring a swimming platform to a popular Guernsey beach which again offers opportunity for people to enjoy our environment, in a safe manner.

AJ is now an Atlantic Crest Trainer, and is able to offer the Aquatic Safety Qualification which is now recognised by the SoG and accredited by 1st4Sport. Water safety training has been undertaken with 8 members of the GSC which means that we can support and even deliver water-based activities safely and professionally.

Performance

A few highlights, of a special year.

One that springs to mind is a young SUP racer who didn't really take to SUP racing, with the Youth Games, and we were even concerned that he might not turn up to the race day. However, not only did he turn up but he had a haircut and focus and we felt that perhaps we had completely underestimated him. He went on to win his race and was excellent.



With Hold Fast, AJ was able to offer a series of lessons and was delighted that 6 children achieved their Born to Ride award and were then able to organise and take control of a tour, with their parents, around Grande Havre. It was so rewarding to see their development, confidence and knowledge.



Workforce/Coach Education

Overall, the Aquatic Water Qualification is going to be such a bonus for the Island. Anyone in the community now has easy access to a course which provides all the necessary information they will need to stay safe around water.

At the end of the season, AJ also managed to take our first registered blind paddleboarder out into Havelet Bay. What an experience and it is so pleasing to see people taking on challenges such as this.

Future Plans

- The Guernsey Water Safety Strategy
- The first Guernsey snorkel trail
- A swimming platform with full safety features
- A primary school swimming gala at the Bathing Pools
- A Year 5 in-water Beach Day for all primary schools

Netball



www.guernseynetball.gg



[guernseynetball](https://www.facebook.com/guernseynetball)



[guernseynetball](https://www.instagram.com/guernseynetball)

Engagement with and enjoyment of netball continued to grow in 2023! Our Saturday morning Ravenscroft GNA Future Panthers programme has attracted 130 children in school years 2-6.



Our Monday night Ernst and Young Youth program has increased by 60% seeing nearly 80 participating in netball from school years 7-9. These girls attended 6 weeks of training and were then put into teams to play a league style netball fixtures each week.

Walking Netball also continues to be popular, with thanks to our volunteer Walking Netball Host for facilitating the weekly Sunday morning sessions and the GSC for supporting court costs.



This season sees 42 teams compete in the very competitive Deloitte GNA Winter League. These teams are spread over 5 divisions including a youth division.

The GNA have appointed the first ever paid Head Coach, Sally Carns who is head of all performance netball which includes the Player Development groups.

Schools

The Netball Development Officer (NDO) provided opportunities for students to play Netball. The main focus this year was on taster sessions for year 3 & 4 students across primary schools. Most of these children had not played any netball before and she provided an after school or lunch time club in most schools for this age group.



The NDO also helped with PE lessons, clubs and fixtures in secondary schools.

This year saw Guernsey Netball host a Mixed Netball tournament for primary schools which was a big success.

We supported Ladies' College in helping students become confident in umpiring, with students supporting the primary

schools netball tournament by umpiring the games.

The NDO supported Deloitte with a Sixth Form netball tournament on International Women's Day.

Community

During the school holidays the NDO supported the Sports Commissions On Your Marks program, helping with the multi-sports club as well as delivering netball taster sessions for those who may not have tried netball before.

May saw the return of the Specsavers Youth Games. This year we had 30 boys from years 5 & 6 learn to play netball over the course of 3 training sessions. They then got to put these skills into practice on Games Day in a 5-a-side tournament.



We were part of the fantastic Community Sports Fun Day at Saumarez Park in September which was a successful event and enjoyed by all.

Performance

The U19s are currently competing in the Netball South U19s Regional Division 2 League which they currently sit 7th in the league at the midpoint stage with 2 games in hand. This is a fantastic opportunity for the girls and for spectators to watch some great matches.

March saw the return of the Inter Insulars for the first time since Covid struck. Guernsey travelled to Jersey with U11s A & B, U12s, U14s, U19s, Senior A & B and


Over 30s. There were some excellent games over the weekend with a very close Over 30s game and U19s coming away with a win.



The Guernsey Senior Netball Squad attended the first Invitational Island Game, held in the IOM in November. The teams competing were Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man, Orkney, Shetland and Ynys Mon. It was a week-long competition with each team playing each other once. This was a fantastic competition to be part of and was fantastic for the profile of netball.



All teams live streamed with commentary. The standard of netball was very high and gave Guernsey a great opportunity to



play at a higher level. The competition also hosted a showcase match between Guernsey Men and Isle of Man Men's team. This was a fantastic and competitive match with Guernsey coming away with the win from both matches.

Workforce/Coach Education

Thanks to support from the Ravenscroft Coach the Coaches programme, the GNA have continued to recruit new coaches and provide them with development opportunities. Over the last year we have 4 newly qualified coaches who have completed and passed their England Netball Level 1 Coaching Qualification. With the appointment of Head coach, Sally Carns she has provided coaching of coaches sessions for our up and coming performance coaches. This year a total of 37 people have completed and passed their Into Officiating Course allowing now to be able to umpire competitive netball in Guernsey. We now have an on-island assessor who is able to assess umpires for this course.

Future Plans

- interinsulars
- mixed netball tournaments
- welcoming new volunteers
- more coaches qualified
- run more umpiring courses

Rugby



GRA
GUERNSEY RUGBY
ASSOCIATION



www.grfc.gg
www.guernseyrugbyacademy.com
www.stjacquesrfc.co.uk



Guernseyraiders StJacquesRFC
raidersrugbyacademy



@GuernseyRFC @GLRugby
@gsyrugbyacademy @StJacquesRFC



Guernseyrugbygra stjacquesvikingsrfc

In March the largest Junior Tag/Contact Rugby event was run at the Garenne Stand, 52 teams (500 Players), played 146 games at years 3/4/5/6.

April was a busy month with the Easter Sunday 10's which saw adult teams from Guernsey and Alderney enjoy a fantastic afternoon's rugby, which was preceded by a mix of schools and Academy teams playing X7's in the morning.

The following weekend the Academy travelled to Jersey for the annual Junior Siam which turned in to a very successful trip with some exceptional rugby being played by both Academies.



Senior Rugby wise The Guernsey Raiders finished mid table of National 2 South East and the Guernsey Raiders Ladies, who are still in their re-building phase, finished towards the lower end NC1. Vikings /St Jacques playing in their first season in the national leagues won all of their Hampshire 3 league games so were promoted to Hampshire 2.



Schools

The Rugby Development team was again present in every school on Guernsey covering from Yrs 4-13 and College of FE delivering at total of 568 sessions of Basic rugby (Tag), Touch Rugby, Skills Sessions, 7's training and How to coach (CoffE) as well as some specific sessions at Le Rondin and Le Murier.

The Rugby Association continues its work with Duke of Edinburgh Awards at all levels as well as Work Experience Work placements.

Community

An ever-increasing number of girls attending contact rugby this season saw them have their own age groups from U12 to U16 during the Summer Rugby Camp. The increased numbers in girls' rugby within the Academy has 20+ girls

attending weekly sessions run by former and present players and female coaches from Guernsey Raiders Ladies.



We also took part in the 2023 Specsavers Youth Games with nearly 50 boys and girls from years 5 and 6 taking part in the training sessions and fun competition on Games Day.



Performance

We have a number of young players selected to play off-Island during 2023.

Fraser Kent – Sussex County U18 and Bristol Bears Colts Academy

Felix Godet – Sussex County U18 and Welsh Exiles

Yvie Coyde – Hampshire U18's

Aideen Le Prevost – Exeter Chiefs Centre of Excellence

Raif Carrie – Sussex U18's

The following were signed off at 17 to play adult rugby:

Will Creber (St Jacques Vikings), Macey Rushent and Poppy Inder, Guernsey Raiders Ladies.

All of these players came through the Academy and Guernsey Rugby

Association Player Development Pathway.

Workforce/Coach Education

The Guernsey Rugby Association in partnership with the England Rugby Union ran the following training and award courses in 2023.

RFU Leadership Network – 10 volunteers
-38 hrs over 6 months

Play It Safe (Safeguarding) – 49 volunteers.

England Rugby Coaching Award – 10 new Level 2 coaches by Apr 2024

Kids First Tag – 10 Volunteers and 3 from Education

Tackle Safe – 58 coaches and players.

Principles of Scrummage – 15 volunteers.

Emergency 1st Aid Rugby Union 52 volunteers

Future Plans

- Continue increase in Schools 7's Rugby.
- Summer Walking Rugby
- Continue to develop Girls Rugby
- Improve Rugby Experience for younger players.
- Succession Planning in Rugby Development using on island workforce

Sailing



www.sailingtrust.org.gg



[guernseysailingtrust](https://www.facebook.com/guernseysailingtrust)



[guernseysailingtrust](https://www.instagram.com/guernseysailingtrust)

Despite some tricky weather in 2023, the Guernsey Sailing Trust and Guernsey Yacht Club ran a full season of sailing with training and racing available. The Guernsey Sailing Trust and Guernsey Yacht Club continue to provide sailing courses for young people and adults over weekends, evenings and school holidays. In 2023 the Sailing Trust saw 329 children attend sailing courses in school holidays. The Guernsey Yacht Club coached 70 'Pirates' on the pond.



The Guernsey Sailing Trust ran a successful and fun Youth Games, which also included competitors from Alderney.

The sailing section of the Island Games was very successful. There was a great atmosphere around the Model Yacht Pond and the excitement from the event was infectious. Andy Bridgman achieved a Gold for Guernsey in the ILCA 7 class. Jess Watson and Arthur Collenette also

competed for Guernsey in the ILCA 6 class.

Schools

In 2023 the Guernsey Sailing Trust worked with children from every Bailiwick School, including Alderney, Sark, Guernsey Institute, private schools and home schooled groups. Children from Year 2 up to Year 6 attended sailing on the Model Yacht Pond. This teaches new skills, offers experience of a new sport and also develops skills such as resilience, team work and determination.



Secondary School children learnt to sail dinghies on the sea, Hawk20 keelboats and power boating. For some students, this led to achieving the Powerboat Level 1 and 2 qualifications. The Guernsey Sailing Trust works closely with the Inclusion groups at the secondary schools and work with the teachers to create the most beneficial sessions for the students.

Elizabeth College and Ladies College both held School Sailing Championships in 2023.

We again ran our free After School Sailing Club for children in years 6 to 10, which was popular this year.

The Guernsey Sailing Trust also assisted with the Set Sail weeks, providing extra boats so that every child in a year group was able to experience sailing on the sea.

Community

In 2023 the Guernsey Sailing Trust and Guernsey Yacht Club held a free Discover Sailing Open morning. 116

people attended and tried sailing and powerboating.



The Sailing Trust continues to work closely with disability groups on the island to provide free sailing for their users. In 2023 Alzheimer's Association Guernsey started sailing and enjoyed some very successful sessions. The Sailing Trust continues to offer a free Sailability Club for children that need any type of extra support. 37 children used this service this year.

The Sailing Trust provided sailing sessions for Beaver, Cub and Scout groups, both from Guernsey and visiting groups.



Every Saturday in July and August the Guernsey Sailing Trust and Guernsey Yacht Club combined to run 1 hour drop in sessions from 9am til 12pm. Despite the windy weather over the summer, the boats were sailed 449 times on Saturdays.

Performance

A highlight for the Sailing Trust was working with the Guernsey Alzheimer's Association and enabling people who never thought they would get back on the water to sail again. These sessions also

highlighted the positive impact that sailing can have on mental wellbeing.



On the racing circuit:

- After success in the Optimist fleet, Luke Elliott has now transitioned into the Nacra 15 semi foiling catamaran. This will provide an introduction to the mixed gender Nacra 17 foiling Olympic class. Currently he is a member of a small select training group based in Weymouth and will compete in international events in 2024.
- Monty Desforges and Jess Watson were inducted into the ILCA 4 RYA Southern Regional Training Squad and have both graduated into the ILCA 6 class. Monty finished 52nd out of 111 youths and adults in the gold fleet at the UK Open National Championships. Jess has consistently placed in the top 4 girls under 19 at ILCA 6 UK Open Qualifier events.
- Leo Rivers was offered a place in the RS Tera Southern Training Squad.
- Monty Remfrey competed at the UK Optimist Open National Championships in the Regatta fleet and finished an impressive

24th out of 68, with 2 individual top 10 results.

Workforce/Coach Education

In 2023 the Sailing Trust held RYA Assistant Instructor and Dinghy Instructor courses. We have 6 newly qualified Assistant Instructors and 8 Dinghy Instructors.



Future Plans

- Instructor Development Training with RYA Coaches. This will include development for current instructors and RYA Keelboat Instructor Indorsement, RYA Advanced Dinghy Instructor course and Powerboat Instructor course.
- RYA Dinghy and RYA Assistant Instructor courses.
- Continued work with the community through free sailing events, Sailability sessions, drop in sailing and bursaries.
- Guernsey Sailing Trust 35th Anniversary Dinner with professional sailor Hannah Diamond coming to speak at the event. Tickets (individual and full tables) are still available from the Guernsey Sailing Trust.

Squash



www.guernseysquashandracketball.co.uk



[GuernseySquashRacketball](https://www.facebook.com/GuernseySquashRacketball)



[@GuernseySquash](https://twitter.com/GuernseySquash)

Our weekly beginners squash and racketball events became increasingly popular in 2023 allowing us to increase the number of players taking part in our sport. A number of the players that took up racketball, are parents of juniors that attend our clubs, which helps to get families playing together.

Schools

We once again introduced squash and racketball to over 1100 pupils from primary and secondary schools, who came to Beau Sejour during their PE time. These introductory sessions link closely with our inter schools festivals to encourage pupils to take up squash on a regular basis.

This has become more challenging with the withdrawal of funding, however this is an important area for development so we will continue to support schools where we can.



Community

Where possible we always try to take part in as many community events as possible. The Sports Commission / Specsavers Youth Games proved as popular as ever and we once again saw players join after the event.



The Sports Commission and Elizabeth College Family Fun Days were another opportunity to promote our sport. We invested in new equipment to allow us to have more players trying squash and racketball.



Performance

The 2023 European Team Championships took place in Gibraltar and one again sent a team who finished 12th overall.

Unfortunately we were not part of the Island Games in Guernsey, however we are really looking forward to the inclusion of squash in the next two events.

Our Ogier Island Squash and Racketball Championships saw players of all levels compete to be Island Champion.



Three junior players attended the British Junior Open, one of the biggest junior events in the world. Although an individual event, they were still playing under the Guernsey Flag.

Workforce/Coach Education

One of our best areas of development in recent years, we continued to increase our number of leaders and coaches. Leo Ware and Ben Anderson-Relf both qualified as Level 2 Coaches which will help us to strengthen our junior programme.

Future Plans

- We would like to hold an open day at Beau Sejour and introduce more new players to both squash and racketball.
- We look forward to the European Team Championships in Bucharest, Romania as this event encourages our top players to improve and raises the profile of Guernsey Squash.
- The Guernsey Junior Open will hopefully attract some UK players to travel to Guernsey to compete against our local players.

Table Tennis



www.gtta.org.uk



Guernsey Table Tennis Association



@thegtta

2023 was a busy time for the table tennis Association. Our Junior table tennis groups from Beginners to High Potential continued to grow. Our Monday morning and Saturday Morning Open groups have grown and seen more adults participate and engage in our adult mornings. This season the GTTA Doric senior league have 35 teams of 3 playing in our local league from the age of 10 to 83. (105 players) played over a Wednesday and Thursday Night.



The Junior table tennis teams travelled In April to the 'Primary Schools International' in Peterborough England with nine U12 players, Then in June they went off to Galway, Ireland for the 'Senior Schools International' with 14 U18 players. They played against, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man and Jersey, gaining some excellent results and experience.

In August we also went to a summer Camp in Worthing where 13 players participated in a 5-day intense training camp. They trained with players from all over the UK which prepared 8 of the players to compete in the Home Nations International in November which was held in Bangor, Wales. One individual junior player went on to be asked to play in the Junior British league team for an Irish team and won 85% of her matches in October with another weekend to go in February 2024.

Senior Table Tennis wise, 2 teams of 4 players have participated in the Senior British league where our A team won their Division which was National B1 so are now competing in National A in 23/24. The teams travel to Widnes 4 times in a season. 4 senior players also participated in the Home Countries in Bangor Wales.

The veteran teams of O40, O50, O60, O70 and O75's participated in the annual Veterans Home Countries International in Dublin again competing against England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Isle of Man.

The major home event held at the GTTA Centre was the 2023 Island Games which saw us take medals in all disciplines.



Schools

We continue to work with Schools at the GTTA centre from Y6 to Y12 where they come for their PE lessons.

Schools using the centre during 2023 include:

Blanchelande

Les Voies

Les Varendes

La Mare De Carteret

St Sampson's

St Martin's

Le Murier

Numbers vary from week to week but on average 100 pupils attend per week.

We had a successful taster session with Year 3 and 4 pupils in 2023 which we held in June.

Community

The GTTA try to promote and deliver table tennis within the community as much as possible and try to support all community events, Sports Commission, Specsavers Youth Games, Family Fun days in the Parks etc.



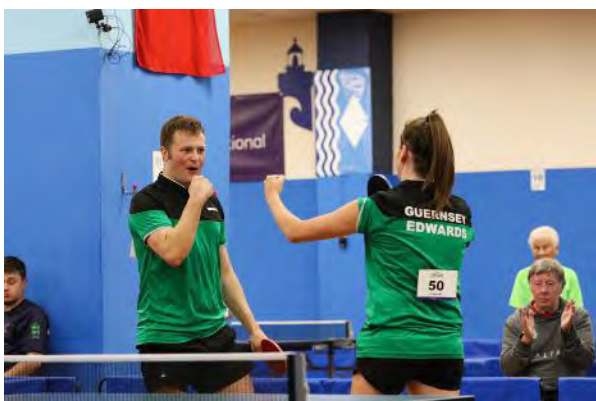
Performance

Highlights include:

The British league team competing in the UK leagues with the A team gaining promotion and winning their division.

Junior player Shelby Timms competing in the Junior British league with Irish team Ormeau and winning 85% of her games against tough opposition from other UK teams.

Island games was a major Highlight with a medal in many of the disciplines.



Team Silver: Alice Edwards, Ben Foss, Charlotte Casey, Dawn Morgan, Garry Dodd, Joshua Stacey, Lawrence Stacey, Shelby Timms

Ladies Singles Bronze: Alice Edwards

Ladies Doubles Gold : Alice Edwards, Dawn Morgan

Mens Doubles Bronze: Ben Foss, Garry Dodd

Mixed Doubles Gold: Alice Edwards, Garry Dodd

Workforce/Coach Education


A few of our volunteer coaches are looking to further their skills by completing a Level 1 coaching course.

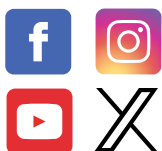
One of our members gained his International Umpires badge by completing an International Table Tennis Federation exam. Many other umpires attended off-island events to keep their knowledge and practice current.



Future Plans

- Visiting coach and player from UK March 15th – March 17th 30 players involved
- Primary Schools International Jersey, U12 Boys and Girls April 05th – April 07th
- Senior Schools International Isle of Man, June 28th – June 30th, U14, U16, U18 boys and girls

- 
- Southampton West Table Tennis Club, visiting June 7th to June 9th
 - Summer off-Island Junior Training Camp, Worthing, August.



Follow us on social media or visit

info@guernseysports.com

www.guernseysports.com

