

Karen Taylor	England Rugby
Anthony Clipstone	English Amateur DanceSport Association
Margaret Peggie OBE	FLexercise & Sport and Recreation Alliance
Cameron Taylor	GB Outrigger
John Court	GB Outrigger
Jason Brisbane	GB Wheelchair Rugby
James Southwood	Great Britain Savate Federation
Leon Safo-Antwi	Greenhouse Sports
Donald Barrell	Greenhouse Sports
Frances White	Greenhouse Sports
Burk Gravis	Haringey Sports Development
Charles Woodhouse CVO DL	Honorary Member, Sport and Recreation Alliance
John Ollard	Honorary Member, Sport and Recreation Alliance
Margarita Sweeney-Baird BEM	Inclusive Skating
James Stockdale	International Dance Teachers Association (IDTA)
Joanne Kirkland	International Dance Teachers Association (IDTA)
Maggie Killingbeck	Laban Guild International
Eve Knights	Language of Dance Trust
Issy Michelson	Lawn Tennis Association
Jack Baker	Lawn Tennis Association / Sport and Recreation Alliance
Mark Ormerod	Leap
Andrew Sutch	London Federation of Sport and Recreation / Panathlon Foundation
Tracy Levy	Margaret Morris Movement International
Hilary Weedon BEM	Medau Teachers Association and Sport and Recreation Alliance
Dave Crisp	National Council for Metal Detecting
Ian Ireland	National Council for School Sport
Nicholas Parkin	NICAS (ABCTT)
Anne Thompson	Northern Counties Dance Teachers' Association (NCDTA)
Ashley Metcalfe	Paddle UK
Ben Seal	Paddle UK
Alan Spelling	Panathlon
Lynda Williams	Panathlon
Paul Kennedy	Plas y Brenin/ Mountain Training
Eugene Minogue	Play England
Marco Boi	Playinnovation Ltd
Susi Pink	Royal Academy of Dance
Jonathon Glass	Royal Navy Sport
Alex Jordan	Skateboard GB
James Hope-Gill	Skateboard GB
Karen Maxwell	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Toby Flannigan	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Deana Levy	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Martin Lindsey	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Leigh Thompson	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Vijaya Panangipalli	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Amie Mills	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Alex Wilkinson	Sport and Recreation Alliance

Benjamin Darby	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Emma Birch	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Max Nicholls	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Serena Mahandru	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Molly Hartill	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Sanchit Mehra	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Duarte Alcada	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Will Spendlove	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Richard Boardman	Sport and Recreation Alliance
Hamid Vaghefian	Sport and Recreation Alliance / London Marathon Events
Katie Fawkner-Corbett	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Caroline White	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Richard Gray	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Dave Strain	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Rupinder Bains	Sport and Recreation Alliance Director
Hitesh Patel	Sport for Development Coalition
Paul Owen OBE	Sport in Mind
Arun Kang OBE	Sporting Equals
Richard Shaw	Sports & Play Construction Association (SAPCA)
Philip Brownlie	Swim England
Charlotte Lawrence	The Football Association
Jane Bateman	The Football Association
Annette Hufton	The National Association of Teachers of Dancing
Robert Oxley	The R&A
Vivien Mills	The Sabre Trust
Mark Gannon	UK Coaching
Vicci Wells	Youth Sport Trust

1 President's Remarks

The President welcomed everyone for taking the time to attend the AGM and commented on the busy year so far. Olympic and Paralympic Years tended to dominate the news and the Games held in Paris had been quite remarkable. The venues in particular were extraordinary and he touched on those for Archery which had made a change from the usual field miles away from anywhere! The President was particularly pleased that the decision had been taken some years ago to integrate the sports and ensure British Paralympians trained alongside their Olympian colleagues and benefited from coaching and all the other requirements necessary to achieve their goals - TeamGB and ParaGB achieved some incredible results this year.

That was not to say that the Games were not without some controversy and there was an issue that would be the cause of much debate for the majority of sports around that of gender. The President was aware that this was a lot of distraction for the membership and would be a lot of time to ensure that the outcome was fair and safe for all involved. He felt that 'fair' would be difficult to achieve in sport as it was a competitive business, and what was fair for one group might not be for another. However, it was important that these issues be resolved and he acknowledged the work the membership already undertook regarding inclusion and diversity and how to make sport a safe space for participation. He knew this was a difficult subject to bring up at the Meeting but felt that everyone should continue to talk about this.

Regarding sport and recreation, the President thanked all the members for their continued hosting of major events over the past 12 months of which there had been quite a few. He congratulated the

Royal Yacht Squadron's INEOS Britannia and for the first time in 60 years Britain was challenging for the Americas Cup [yachting]; he wished them well in their endeavours.

More information would be shared about the Alliance's work and the President referred to the Wheelchair Curling World Championships and the Women's Rugby World Cup both to take place in 2025. Other milestones included:

BMC which would celebrate 80 years since they were officially founded [1944].

England Golf would celebrate their centenary.

It had been 75 years since the national parks were established.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 12 September 2023 were approved and signed by the President as a true record of the meeting.

3 Annual Report

Janet Beer, Chair of the Alliance, commenced her report but stating that it was wonderful to see everyone and thanked His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh for making the time to join us today in his role as President. This was her third AGM as Chair of the Alliance, and she was overwhelmed as she looked back at the amazing work of the organisation and its members.

Reflections

What made the Alliance special was that it was much more than just a collection of organisations - it was a network of CEOs, officials, athletes, volunteers, coaches, campaigners and participants from across the country. Through this network we had made important steps forward this year, some of which had been reported on at the earlier members' meeting.

The Alliance continued to advocate for the benefits of sport and recreation, as it published original research into the activity levels of similar European nations. The findings were stark – the UK ranked joint 11th out of 15 comparable nations – and the potential, therefore, to use this knowledge to improve the health and happiness of the nation was enormous.

Alongside this we've engaged in an extensive member consultation process so as to better understand the views of our members, the challenges they faced, and what we can do to best support them.

We've showcased the social value of movement and dance, with a launch event for the research report in Parliament with special guests including Shirley Ballas. And our in-house governance, policy and research teams had continued to provide their excellent services to evidence the benefits of sport and recreation in all its forms.

We have continued to advocate for those in the sector who faced discrimination and exclusion, including commissioning and launching SportingQueer: a unique photography exhibition showcasing LGBTQ+ diversity and inclusion across sport and recreation.

Our work within the National Sector Partnership was continuing to be fruitful, as we launched the #TakeTheLead campaign in June 2024, and hosted a parliamentary reception in September where the Alliance introduced the sport and recreation sector to over 40 new MPs.

As always, Alliance events had proved to be some of the best in the sector and we were thrilled to have – for the first time – both The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh join us at our Community Sport and Recreation Awards. It was a fantastic celebration of some amazing grassroots clubs and inspirational individuals and made even better by a pre-event engagement with Their Royal Highnesses, the Rugby Football League and the Pioneering Years Project, to mark International Women's Day - and Janet stated how remiss she would be not to remark on what a special treat it was to hear the HRH the Duchess of Edinburgh wish her husband a special 60th birthday at the event too!

And of course, the Alliance could not reflect on this past year without acknowledging the fantastic performance of TeamGB's Olympic and Paralympic athletes, who brought home 189 medals in total across both games. Janet acknowledged that many in the room would have played a part in supporting the athletes in those incredible achievements.

Looking ahead

The Sport and Recreation Alliance had accomplished a great deal, but - excitingly and importantly - there was much more to come. Next year the organisation would celebrate its 90th anniversary, which was a huge opportunity to celebrate the work of its members and set out our vision for the future of sport and recreation. Next year we would also be concluding a Member Review and launching a new organisational strategy, to build on the accomplishments and progress generated over the last cycle. The Alliance would also set out a plan for more progress over the years to come, making sure that we, as an organisation, and in concert with our members, were equipped to address new challenges and seize the opportunities on the horizon.

We will continue to work hand-in-hand with our members and partners, supporting one another to thrive. And we will continue to be a champion for the sector, playing a leading role on cross-cutting issues and ensuring that as many people as possible could enjoy the benefits of accessible, affordable, sustainable and life changing, sport and recreation.

Bereavements

In more solemn news, Janet Beer took a moment to remember some of those close to the Alliance, who we had lost since our last Meeting:

- David Moseley, Finance Director at British Fencing, who served on the Alliance's Finance and Audit Committee
- Mike Hamilton, British Orienteering Federation CEO, formerly of England Hockey; and
- Kris Kent from the Angling Trust, who – amongst other things – attended and supported our Water Recreation Division.

All made great contributions to the sector and to the Alliance, and they will be sadly missed.

Acknowledgements

Now, our AGM affords us the chance to show our gratitude to others too, including those who have served on the Board of the Alliance.

On behalf of the Board, Janet thanked Caroline White for her contribution and dedication to the Alliance, as she stepped down from the Board after seven years of outstanding service.

It also gave her pleasure to announce and welcome two new members to the Board: Ruth Hall, CEO of Archery GB and Alex Jordan, Chair of Skateboard GB.

Lastly, the Sport and Recreation Alliance would not be what it was without the fantastic team working tirelessly behind the scenes to deliver our work and support all our members and partners.

The Alliance Team had been central to the success we had seen over the past year and their achievements over the past 12 months had been especially impressive. On behalf of the Board, Janet thanked all, for their continued work, dedication and enduring spirit.

Closing Remarks

To conclude, Janet thanked everyone for attending– our members, partners and key stakeholders. Since we were last together we had seen many fantastic examples of the work you are doing to improve the lives of the people you serve, and it gave her great pleasure to reaffirm that the Alliance would continue to work side by side with you over the coming year to ensure we can build on these successes together, to deliver for the sector, the economy and society in general.

Janet then handed the meeting to Dave Strain for the financial accounts.

4 Annual Accounts

Dave Strain, Independent Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee presented the statement of Accounts.

Dave reported that he was Appointed Director of the Alliance and had been Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee for the past two years. His role was to present the statutory accounts for the year ended March 2024 on which the Alliance's auditors, UHY Hacker Young, had issued a clean, unqualified report.

He drew attention to a few notable points from the Accounts as follows:

The Alliance's largest source of funding continued to be contractual income from Sport England. As many were aware, this Contract between the Alliance and Sport England was signed in 1972. In return for transferring ownership of some sporting properties, Sport England agreed to fund the reasonable costs of the Alliance in perpetuity. In the year to March 2024, the funding under that Contract remained the same as the previous year at £1.25 million. Our level of Sport England funding had also been confirmed, in principle, at the same rate of £1.25 million per year for the next three years.

In terms of other income, the Alliance was successful in securing £635,000 of project and event income during the year which included:

- Hosting of the Sport for Development Coalition and the International Working Group on Women & Sport (IWG).
- Involvement with the Erasmus+ funded project on sports volunteering,
- Sponsorship for our Community Sport and Recreation Awards,
- Funded Sport England projects and
- Governance and Research consultancy projects.

The Alliance continued to keep a tight control on other costs during the year, and overall, we finished with an operating loss for the year of £83,000 (after interest) but this did include the notional pension interest, service and administration costs of £85,000. We closed the year with a healthy cash position of £1.7 million.

The other point to raise was concerning the Alliance's pension fund. We were obliged by accounting rules to present this in a particular way, which typically created a negative net asset position on our balance sheet. However, after a successful challenge to our risk categorisation in 2022/23 and an improvement in market conditions, this year the actuarial calculation of the pension liability was a surplus of £1.1 million compared to a surplus of £686,000 last year. As the pension surplus was notional this had been recorded as nil in our accounts leaving our balance sheet with net assets of £1.4m. The triennial valuation completed in 2022 by the fund's managers showed our pension fund in a healthy position, carrying a surplus of £1.8 million.

Looking forward the Board had approved a break-even budget for 2024-25 and we would continue to actively monitor the risk that a flat level of funding might have over the coming years.

There were no questions and Dave handed the Meeting back to His Royal Highness for the next agenda item.

5 Ordinary Resolution to Re-Appoint Auditors

The President read out the Ordinary Resolution, "To consider and, if thought fit, resolve by ordinary resolution that UHY Hacker Young LLP be re-appointed auditors of the company to hold office from the conclusion of this meeting until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which accounts are laid before the company, at a remuneration to be fixed by the Directors".

There was no indication that anyone wished to vote against the resolution and, with a show of hands that indicated a majority of those voting members were in favour, the resolution was passed.

6 Board of Directors – Notification of re-Election/Appointments

The Meeting noted the outcome of the election process of Jack Baker and Ruth Hall, by the Membership by electronic voting process during the period 15 April – 3 May 2024, in accordance with Article 25 of the Articles of Association, for the four-year period 2024–2028 and that it would be Jack's second term of office.

It was also noted regarding the appointment of Alex Jordan and Hamid Vaghefian in accordance with Article 26 of the Articles of Association, for the four-year period 2024-2028 and that it would be Hamid's second term of office.

The above Directors would join those already in place on the Board:

Kenny Baillie
Rupinder Bains
Dame Janet Beer
Katie Fawkner-Corbett
Dame Sally Dicketts
Richard Gray
David Strain
Lisa Wainwright MBE

7 Awards

7.1 Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award

Lisa Wainwright introduced the Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award which recognised volunteers in the sector who had dedicated their lives to helping to get the nation active.

For over a decade, this award had recognised volunteers in our sector who had dedicated their lives to helping to get the nation active.

Volunteers who, for many decades, had been the basis for the great successes and experiences that we had all enjoyed and benefitted from – in our parks, in our studios, on our streets or in our stadiums.

This includes those who had supported the Alliance with its work over many years, helping the organisation and its members.

This year's winner was testament to the transformative power of volunteerism, having volunteered with the British Wheel of Yoga for over 30 years. Her lifelong dedication to enriching the lives of older adults through yoga was nothing short of inspirational.

Monica's journey with yoga began in the early 1970s when she was inspired by the 'Yoga for Health' TV programme. As a full-time Nurse specializing in Geriatric care, she became intrigued by how yoga could benefit older adults with complex health needs.

This led her to pursue Yoga Teacher Training with the British Wheel of Yoga (BWY) in 1982, after which she began offering free remedial yoga classes at Eastham Memorial Hospital. Her innovative approach proved highly effective, drawing referrals from GPs and demonstrating yoga's potential to enhance both physical and mental wellbeing among older adults.

Since then, Monica had gone on to huge success, from organising free yoga sessions across London, spearheading the work to see Yoga included in The Central Council of Physical Recreation (now the Sport and Recreation Alliance) and pioneering the first training programme on yoga for older adults for the British Wheel of Yoga.

Monica's tireless advocacy and pioneering spirit earned her the nomination for the British Empire Medal, supported by her GP friends and yoga students whose lives she has touched.

A video was provided to further showcase all the fantastic work Monica did in her community and for the sector more broadly.

The 2024 winner of the Spirit of Sport and Recreation Award was Monica Burton BEM and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh presented her Trophy.

7.2 Arthur Bell Trophy

The Arthur Bell Trophy was presented to an individual or organisation that was deemed to have made a phenomenal contribution to the development of community sport or recreation. Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, Sir Bobby Charlton and Dame Kelly Holmes were just a few of the many sporting greats to have won this award.

Dame Janet announced that this year's winner was Britain's most successful Olympic or Paralympic athlete in history, winning a total of 30 medals, including 19 golds, in swimming and cycling at eight separate Paralympic Games to date from her debut at Barcelona 1992, to securing two more gold medals in Paris this year, 32 years after her games debut.

She completed an incredible change in sport – after competing in swimming at four Paralympic Games, winning 16 medals, she took up cycling. Appearing at her first World Championships in 2006, she won two silver medals, before winning two gold medals at the Beijing Paralympics in 2008.

As well as inspiring an incredible number of people through her sporting achievements, she was an ambassador for Youth Charter – a charity 'providing sport, art, cultural and digital activity to develop the mental, physical and emotional resilience and life-skills of young people and in particular the disadvantaged and disaffected in communities'.

She was a patron of the following charities: Boot Out Breast Cancer, Children's Adventure Farm Trust, Macclesfield Seals, Sreepur Village and What About The Children.

Janet was delighted to reveal that the winner of the 2024 Arthur Bell Trophy was Dame Sarah Storey.

A video was provided before Janet announced that Dame Sarah was unable to join the Meeting and welcomed Jon Dutton, CEO of British Cycling, to accept the award on her behalf.

7.3 Community Sport and Recreation Awards

The President congratulated the richly deserving winners and stated that it was with pleasure that he was able to announce the plans of commemorating 90 years of the CCPR/Alliance in 2025 followed by the launch of Young Community Ambassador Awards.

Following this information, the President confirmed that this concluded the AGM.