

SPORTSROUND

4th Sept
2006

Round-Up of Sports News & Information for Yorkshire Region

Culture, Media & Sport Committee inquiry into London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

The Culture, Media and Sport Committee is taking evidence in the autumn as part of its long-term inquiry into preparations for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and will consider:

- The costs of staging the Games and the methods by which the Games are being funded;
- Ways of maximising the value of the Olympic legacy both within London and across the UK;
- How the nations and regions of the UK might derive lasting benefit from the staging of the Games, in particular through encouraging participation in sport and increasing tourism.

Managed migration

The Home Office launched its new points-based Migration System in March 2006. Although the operation of the new framework still awaits clarification, there are concerns about the potential financial and regulatory impact of the system on NGBs, tournament operators and leagues.

Private Security Industry Act 2001

The Home Office has announced that all in-house staff who carry out security activities in premises covered by the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 or the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987 should be removed from the remit of the 2001 Act. This will be done via an amendment to the Violent Crime Reduction Bill when the Bill reaches Report stage after parliament's summer recess. The amendment will also cover football.

Health and Safety Commission consultation - Work at Height (Amendment) Regulations

The Health and Safety Commission (HSC) in collaboration with the Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee (AAIAC) has produced a consultation document which sets out the proposals to amend the Work at Height Regulations 2005. The consultation document includes:

- Draft amended Regulations that resolve the outstanding issues identified by the outdoor and adventurous sector relating to double rope working; plus greater clarification that single rope working is permissible under the Regulations.
- Detailed guidance drawn up in conjunction with sector experts on the application of the amended Regulation to those paid to lead or instruct climbing and caving activities.

The draft Regulations propose a test of an 'equivalent level of safety', i.e. that adherence to NGB guidelines for climbing and caving should be sufficient to comply with these Regulations. The full consultation is available at:

www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd204.htm

Community Amateur Sports Clubs

Figures provided by Deloitte show there are now 3,950 clubs registered as CASCs with an estimated total cash benefit of at least £14.1 million in rate relief, corporation tax savings and Gift Aid repayments. Mixed sports clubs have the highest number of new registrations with nine additions. The popular spectator sports of lawn tennis, rugby, football and cricket continue to grow and make up 45% of the total registrations.

CCPR operates a helpline for clubs and works with DCMS, HMRC, Deloitte, Sport England and Bates, Wells and Braithwaite to administer the CASC scheme. Information on the CASC scheme is available on the CCPR website - www.ccpr.org.uk - or by contacting Ben Andersen-Tuffnell (bat@ccpr.org.uk).

General Permitted Development Order 1995

This consultation invites comments on proposed amendments to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 and the proposed repeal and replacement of the Town and Country Planning (Demolition – Description of Buildings) Direction 1995. The consultation emphasises that the Government wishes to encourage increased participation in sport, and that ensuring adequate protection for sports buildings is an important part of this. 77% of respondents to a Government consultation in July 2000 supported proposals to require a planning application for the demolition of sports buildings, where this did not form part of the redevelopment granted planning permission. This consultation now takes forward this recommendation and defines sports buildings as swimming baths, skating rinks, gymnasiums or other buildings used for indoor and outdoor sports. By virtue case in 1998, the Court ruled that both hard and soft tennis courts (and by implication other pitches) are not buildings for the purposes of the 1990 Act, and as such proposals in this consultation do not cover such works. The draft Circular offers guidance on exclusion of the demolition of spectator stands from the need for planning permission. The consultation seeks views on three questions that relate to the demolition of sports buildings:

1. Do the proposals achieve a suitable level of protection to prevent the loss of sports facilities?
2. As the proposals are designed to ensure protection for facilities for the participation in sport, should a definition of sports buildings include spectator stands and/or other non-participatory structures?
3. Do you have any evidence as to how often an application would be required where this was not part of a wider planning permission?

The consultation document is available at www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501905.

Commission on the Future of Volunteering

The Commission on the Future of Volunteering was established by the England Volunteering Development Council to develop a long term vision for volunteering as a legacy of the Year of the Volunteer 2005. The findings from the Commission's first consultation emphasise the need for a positive legislative environment for volunteering and are available at www.volcomm.org.uk.

European Association for Sport Management Conference

The EASM Conference takes place in Nicosia (Cyprus) on 7-9 September 2006. Full details of the Conference programme can be found at www.easm2006.com

The Finnish Presidency of the EU

During the Finnish Presidency of the EU, which started on the 1st July, both a Sports Directors and a Sports Ministers' meeting will be held. The Sports Directors meeting (which is attended by DCMS Officials from the UK) will be held in Finland from 4 to 6 October, with the Ministers' meeting held in Brussels from 27 to 28 November. Items on the agenda include the European Sport Review and the planned European Commission White Paper on Sport.

European Year of Equal Opportunities for All

The European Union has officially declared 2007 as the 'European Year of Equal Opportunities for All'. The purpose is to raise awareness amongst men and women of their right to equal treatment and to promote equal opportunities in areas such as work and healthcare. The 'Year' will have four main themes: rights, participation in society, recognition and respect. The total budget for all activities is estimated as 15 million euros. Member States are required, amongst other things, to establish national implementation bodies, which will be responsible for involving the voluntary sector and other stakeholders in implementing the 'Year' at national level. There will be an EU-wide campaign and a new Eurobarometer survey on discrimination. An equal opportunities summit, including Ministers, equality organisations, the voluntary sector and trade unions will also be held.

Health and safety publications

A book providing basic health and safety advice and information to charity and voluntary organisations has also been published by the Health and Safety Executive, working with the Charities Safety Group and the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. It can be accessed here:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/charity.htm>

Blog for do-it.org.uk

Do-it.org.uk is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to write for their sports blog. The aim is to show how passion for events can go beyond just watching them. Do-it is the national database of volunteering opportunities in the UK. This opportunity could be a powerful marketing tool to get people involved in your sport or activity. If there is someone who works within your activity who is involved with supervising activities, campaigning or coaching on a voluntary basis, then they could be an ideal candidate. Participants will need to add regular updates to the blog and full training will be given. Volunteers seeking more details should e-mail volunteer@youthnet.org%20 with 'blog for

doit.org.uk' in the subject heading. For more information visit www.do-it.org.uk/magazine/blogs.

SPORTSROUND is compiled by Weltech Solutions on behalf of the Federation of Yorkshire Sport and Leeds Sports Federation and contains information supplied by Sport England Yorkshire, the CCPR, and various other contributors throughout the region. Whilst every care is taken in producing this Bulletin, neither the Federations, nor CCPR nor Sport England Yorkshire can accept liability for any inaccuracies or omissions. Inclusion in the bulletin does not represent any endorsement of the projects or initiatives it contains and readers are recommended to take their own steps, where necessary, to verify the reliability of any organisation or project.

Further information about the Federation of Yorkshire Sport can be obtained from www.yorkshiresport.org.uk

Further information about the Leeds Sports Federation can be obtained from www.leedssport.org.uk

Further information about Sport England Yorkshire from www.sportengland.org/yorkshire_index.htm