

SPORTSROUND

13th August
2007

Round-Up of Sports News & Information for Yorkshire Region

IFI makes top three in National Lottery Favourite awards

The Inclusive Fitness Initiative has been short-listed as one of the best three national lottery projects in the Best Health Project category. IFI is based at the Sport England Yorkshire Regional Office, and managed by MLS in Sheffield. Board members include Bernard Atha, CBE (Chairman), Mel Welch and David Heddon. Find out more and cast your vote at www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/

Leeds Olympic and Paralympic Task Group

Leeds submitted a facilities audit in January, identifying that the city and the city region is able to provide training facilities for a large number of the Olympic and Paralympic sports. The London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games is assessing the facilities submitted across the UK for inclusion in a directory, which will be distributed to international Olympic teams. The Yorkshire Committee for the 2012 Games recently published *Yorkshire Gold*, a strategy about how Yorkshire and Humber can make the most of the 2012 Games. The *Leeds Prospectus* will be revised to align it with the regional strategy. The Leeds task group will also look at how it can work with partners to deliver the prospectus. For further information on the Leeds Olympic and Paralympic Task Group contact Peter Smith on (0113) 247 4043 or email peter.a.smith@leeds.gov.uk

Job Vacancies with the Regional Forum

The Regional Forum is seeking to fill the following position within the organisation: NJC equivalent pt 41-50 (£32,487 - £39,992 pay award pending) 5% pension contribution, 35 hours per week. This exciting and challenging senior role will develop the VCS's voice and its contribution to Yorkshire & the Humber. Its focus is the Forum's policy work and on new, practical opportunities. Essential experience required includes:

- * senior management of a VCS organisation;
- * in depth knowledge of the policy agenda facing the VCS;
- * strategic planning skills;
- * creating and delivering new initiatives;
- * commitment to team work and to promoting diversity.

Application closing date: 3rd September at noon;
Shortlisting: 5th September; Interviews: In Leeds, date TBC

Please download the application pack by visiting http://www.regionalforum.org.uk/job_tender_opportunities.php?id=50

Alternatively please Email : jobs@regionalforum.org.uk or Telephone : 0113 394 2300

The Regional Forum is seeking to fill the following position within the Organisation (previous applicants need not apply): Administrative Secretary; NJC

equivalent pt 18-21 (£16,137-17,985) 5% pension contribution 35 hours full time post. This vital role will provide secretarial support to a wide range of regional projects. In addition, the successful candidate will also provide secretarial support to the Trustee Board. You will be part of a small administrative team providing administration support to both staff and external partners. Essential expertise for this role will include:

- * Experience of providing secretarial support and of office and administrative systems.
- * Experience of computer packages: Microsoft Word and Email systems including mail merge, spreadsheets, MS Outlook, data entry with databases.
- * Proven minute taking skills.

Application closing date: 16th August 2007 at 12 noon;
Shortlisting: 17th August 2007; Interviews: Thursday 23rd August 2007

Please download the application pack by visiting www.regionalforum.org.uk/job_tender_opportunities.php?id=49. Alternatively please Email : jobs@regionalforum.org.uk or Telephone : 0113 394 2300

New Sports Minister Speaks Out

The new sports minister, Gerry Sutcliffe, has made increasing participation in sport his top priority and said that he wants to enlist the support of other government departments to achieve the goal of a more active nation. He has dismissed concerns that grassroots sport would suffer because of the diversion of national lottery cash to fund the 2012 Olympics. Sutcliffe, who was the prisons and probation minister at the Home Office, said being sports minister was the job he had always wanted. "It is quite amazing that only 50 to 60% of people get involved in sport. We have got to find ways of developing that," he said. "Participation is the goal that I want to achieve and make sure that sport remains high profile and colleagues in other departments understand what sport can achieve. 98% of people live within 20 minutes of a good sports facility - the challenge is how to encourage them to use them.

Putting Sport Centre Stage

The Yorkshire Gold: Putting Sport Centre Stage event brought together 100 stakeholders in sport from across the region on July 6th – two years on from the day London won the right to stage the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Presentations from the event can be downloaded from

www.sportengland.org/yorkshire_index/yorkshire_get_resources/lyr_yorkshire_yorkshire_gold_seminar_06_july_2007.htm

International Journal of Sports Marketing & Sponsorship (IJSMS)

Call For papers: "Marketing the Olympic Games"

The aim of this special issue is to examine the unique aspects of marketing activities surrounding the Olympic Games. Submissions are welcome on any analysis

related to the Olympic Games. International submissions are encouraged as a global perspective on the Games is sought. All marketing topics associated with the Olympic Games are welcome. The original article should be submitted electronically with double-spaced typing preferred and a wide margin on the left. The author(s) name(s) and affiliation should appear on the cover page. Manuscripts should normally total approximately 4,000 to 8,000 words. Each article submitted for consideration should include an Executive Summary of approximately 500 words which should give a flavour of the article, include the rationale for the study, methods used, key findings and conclusions. A shorter abstract of about 70 words should also be included. Interviews are welcomed, but should be discussed with the Editor. Book Reviews should normally be less than 1,500 words. For more specific style questions, please consult a recent edition of the journal, which can be found at: www.im-reports.com/SM/IJSM/. The date for submitting completed manuscripts is 31st October 2007. All papers submitted will be double-blind peer reviewed. Authors will normally receive a decision regarding the paper status by January 15th 2008. For further information about this special issue, for expressions of interest or to submit a finished paper you should contact: Dr Frank Pons e-mail: frankpons@sandiego.edu

Active Leisure Skills Academy

SkillsActive has won government endorsement for its proposal to develop a National Skills Academy for the active leisure and learning sector. The first regional hub will be developed in Yorkshire. Speaking of the announcement, SkillsActive chief executive Stephen Studd said: "I am absolutely delighted by the decision. The Academy will transform access to learning, specifically to quality learning in the sector for the current workforce and the new recruits we so need to capitalise on our growth. The Academy will provide a radical opportunity for the sector to meet the productivity challenge and to increase participation in sport. We see the Academy as the delivery mechanism for the employer-led, reformed national system of vocational education and training desperately needed by our sector." Rather than being 'bricks and mortar', the SkillsActive Academy will be led by a virtual website and underpinned by learning 'hubs' and centres of excellence across England. Not only does this provide a crucial joined up approach to training provision, but it also directly addresses specific regional skills needs. This regional approach allows SkillsActive to address the challenges facing a sector with a large workforce, working primarily across small organisations, and the huge army of volunteers paid and unpaid. Those businesses and individuals that cannot identify the right training or commit to the cost of training will now, through the development of the Academy, benefit from clear routes to quality learning and come together ensuring financial restrictions are no longer a barrier to training.

Sports, Fitness & Outdoors Training Survey

Sport England Yorkshire & the regional Learning & Skills Council are co-funding a research project to map sport sector training provision across the region. The research consists of two questionnaires, which partners in the Delivery System for Sport to complete. Read more at www.sportengland.org/yorkshire_index/yorkshire_get_resources/iyr_yorkshire_workforce_development.htm

YOUTH Call for thematic network projects

On 30 May 2007 the European Commission (EC) published a call for proposals for 'network projects'. The aim is to support youth exchange projects, youth initiatives and youth democracy projects with the following objectives:

- to establish links between projects tackling the same theme;
- to pool experiences in a specific thematic field;
- to increase the links between youth exchanges, youth initiatives and youth democracy projects;
- to evaluate, disseminate and exploit the results of the projects.

The projects must involve partners from at least ten different countries (applicant body included). The EU-budget for this call amounts to €1 million, with a maximum ratio of co-financing of 65%. Projects must start between 1 January 2008 and 31 March 2008 and should run for at least six months and at most twelve months. Applications must be sent to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency by 1 September 2007 at the latest. Additional information can be retrieved from eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/calls2007/action1/index_en.htm

Bureaucracy and Sport

The "dead hand" of bureaucracy is causing severe problems in many areas of sport and recreation, according to CCPR President, HRH The Prince Philip. Speaking at the CCPR AGM, he criticised the ever-increasing load of legislation, regulation and bureaucracy and appealed against all risks being removed from sports. CCPR Chair, Brigid Simmonds, echoed these sentiments in her speech, saying that the government spent much of its time promising to remove red tape while, at the same time, imposing new regulations. The biggest problem didn't arise from the DCMS, but from other departments who do not consider the implications of their actions on the sport and recreation industry, she said. The CCPR is spending an increasing amount of time lobbying against such legislation, says Simmonds. The Private Security Industry Act has been one example of a lengthy, time-consuming campaign. Initially brought in to regulate pub and nightclub door supervisors, this has had knock-on effects for volunteer stewards at sports events. The CCPR is hopeful of an exclusion for sport though an agreed framework. Similarly, Working at Height, a regulation emanating from Europe, was designed to protect window cleaners, builders and scaffolders, but required mountaineers to change their practices which had been in place for generations.

Value and Independence of the Voluntary & Community Sector

A new study "describes the distinctive values of the Voluntary and Community Sector and assesses whether the government's service delivery agenda has impacted on the sector's independence". The research, which looked closely at the experience of 135 organisations, grew from the concerns of seven leading charitable foundations. It found that the groups did not feel in danger of 'takeover' by the government and most, including those who receive government money for service delivery, feel capable of independently carrying out their core objectives. Download the executive summary (pdf, 222kb) of 'Value and Independence of the Voluntary & Community Sector' from www.bctrust.org.uk and clicking on REPORTS

A Great Run in a Great City

Join in the first BUPA Great Yorkshire Run which debuts in and around Sheffield City Centre on Sunday 9th September. The Course The BUPA Great Yorkshire Run is a 10km road run that will take place on a new out and back course within Sheffield with a city centre start and finish. Sheffield is known as a hilly city but this out and back course is relatively flat with the reward of finishing next to the Peace Gardens within the heart of the city. The event is open to runners and joggers of all abilities aged 15 and over on the day of the event. Whether you're looking for a target to keep you in shape over the summer, you may be running to raise money for charity or you might be running to achieve your own personal goals. Whatever the reason the BUPA Great Yorkshire Run is the perfect event to set your sights on. You can run or jog the event at any pace and by getting your friends and family involved it will make a great day out. Enter on-line at www.greatrun.org or call hotline 0845 389 2200

Veterans' Competitions under threat

Veterans' competitions could be threatened under new anti-discrimination legislation, unless exceptions are granted to sports bodies. Campaigners are to warn the Department of Communities and Local Government that the sweeping new equality act which is being planned could have unintended consequences for sport, and are urging the government to take care in drafting catch-all legislation. The Central Council for Physical Recreation says there is already a great deal of confusion about how discrimination legislation affects sport. There are some local authorities which have cancelled discounts on local sport and leisure facilities for the over-50s, and sports bodies are uncertain whether they can legally run veterans' competitions. Sport frequently discriminates on ability, on age and on gender, and the CCPR insists that it needs special treatment under the legislation being proposed. Although the CCPR accepts that sporting governing bodies cannot discriminate on age, gender and race when it comes to the recruitment of their staff, it is anxious to ensure that sporting competitions do not become tied down in endless red tape.

New safeguarding requirements

The Bichard report, which followed the tragic Soham murders, has led to significant developments in safeguarding policy. Formerly known as child protection, safeguarding now also encompasses measures to ensure the welfare of vulnerable adults. The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 will be fully implemented by September 2008 and requires that:

- any individual wishing to work or volunteer in a 'regulated activity' applies to be a member of the new 'vetting and barring scheme'; and
- any organisation wishing to take on an employee or volunteer in a 'regulated activity' checks that the individual is not barred.

Home Office interpretation suggests that sports coaching or activity leadership fall within the scope of regulated activity and this places an absolute legal responsibility on sports organisations with regard to safeguarding. The Criminal Records Bureau (and its counterparts in Scotland and Northern Ireland) will manage the vetting and barring scheme, and the newly created Independent Safeguarding Authority will decide who should be barred. Current proposals are that only the most serious sexual offences will result in a bar, and sports organisations may still have concerns about

offences which do not lead to barring. The Department for Children, Schools and Families is currently consulting on this issue, and further information is available at:

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/safeguarding/independentsafeguardingauthority/

How you can help: Send your thoughts with regard to the scheme and the implications for your organisation to Andrew Hanson at CCPR (email: ahanson@ccpr.org.uk).

Charities Act updates

The Cabinet Office and the Charity Commission have jointly published 'Charities Act 2006 - what Trustees need to know', a concise guide to the Charities Act. The guide summarises the key provisions of the Act and points the reader to sources of further guidance. The guide can be accessed online at:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_releases/070516_concise_guide.asp

Later this year many of the accountancy and reporting provisions included in the Act will be implemented. The Office of the Third Sector has launched a sector consultation to help decide how changes to the accounting and reporting framework will be implemented and supported by regulations. Further information is available here:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/law_and_regulation/charities_act_2006/implementation.asp

Gift Aid consultation

The Government has launched an important consultation on Gift Aid. A number of the questions in the consultation are directed at those organisations that actually claim Gift Aid on donations – this includes community amateur sports clubs (CASCs). However, it is estimated that only 10% of CASCs are actually taking advantage of Gift Aid. To help inform and strengthen our response we are conducting a short survey of both CASCs and non-CASCs to gauge their views on a number of key questions. The survey is accessible online at:

www.cascinfo.co.uk/giftaid/Gift+Aid+Survey.

Community amateur sports clubs

There are now 4,380 clubs registered as CASCs. Deloitte estimated the total cash benefit to be at least £20.3m by 30 June 2007. The latest batch of registrations has also seen a new sport on the list - handball. Following the distribution of 20,000 CASC leaflets, DCMS has ordered an additional 15,000 leaflets. The leaflets are free, so if you would like to take advantage of the reprint and distribute these leaflets to your club network - perhaps at your events or in a mail-out - please contact Christine Barnes at DCMS (Christine.Barnes@Culture.gsi.gov.uk) to arrange a delivery.

Government review of the third sector

In Autumn 2006 the Treasury and Cabinet Office conducted a wide-ranging review of the Government's interaction with the voluntary sector – with a view to the results influencing the comprehensive Spending Review in autumn. The final report is encouraging and includes a variety of funding packages designed to support voluntary organisations. Most of these are locally accessible and therefore will be of interest to community-based clubs and sports organisations. In particular £50 million will be made available to local grant-making organisations to ensure that they can continue making grants into the future. A further £10m

will be made available to so-called 'community anchor organisations'. For further information visit:
www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/070724_vision.asp

London 2012 Budget

The National Audit Office this month published the second in a series of reports on the preparations for hosting the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This report examines the development of the budget – costs, provisions and funding – for the venues and infrastructure required to host the Games and related costs such as security. It provides a detailed breakdown of the budget, charts the developments since the original bid and makes a series of recommendations. To access the full report, click here:
www.nao.org.uk/publications/nao_reports/06-07/0607612.pdf

Economic benefit of sport

Attracting major sporting events to the UK makes strong economic sense and can act as a catalyst for change within a sport, according to a report commissioned by UK Sport. A study of six UK sporting events over the past two years shows that against event funding of £2.2million the total return was £7.1 million. The report was commissioned to determine the economic impact of the major events supported via the National Lottery backed World Class Events Programme. For more information visit:
www.uksport.gov.uk/news/economic_benefit_from_major_sporting_events_more_than_treble_the_investment_uk_sport_report/

Local Area Agreements

The National Audit Office has published a report on Local Area Agreements, the third sector and public service delivery. The report finds that local authorities should work more collaboratively with voluntary and community organisations to help them improve the delivery of public services. The report is available online at: www.nao.org.uk/publications/nao_reports/06-07/NAO_Local_Area_Agreements.pdf

National minimum wage & voluntary workers

The Government is consulting on the definition of a voluntary worker under Section 44 of the National Minimum Wage Act 1998. This is important particularly to sports organisations who pay volunteers' expenses. The consultation closes on 4 September 2007 and the documents are available at:
www.dti.gov.uk/consultations/page39871.html.

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

To submit information for inclusion in Sportsround email: info@leedssport.org.uk