

Read the latest news from Goalball UK

# Goalball Times

Issue 16 - July 2016

## Welcome

Hi all,

What a fantastic End of Season tournament last Saturday. Over 80 players with lots of new faces...this brilliant event gets bigger year on year.

It was also great to announce that we have broken the "500" barrier. We now have 523 Goalball players and have busted our Sport England participation targets. Indeed we have seen a 358% increase in participants since the beginning of this 4 year funding cycle. Not many, if any, other sports can match this. We continue to grow from strength to strength.

Cheers.

Mike Reilly  
CEO

## GB Teams Return From Madrid With Bronze Medals



On Friday 24th June to Sunday 26th June both Great Britain squads competed in the 2016 FEDC Goalball Tournament in Madrid as both teams continue their preparations for the IBSA European B Championships which are taking place in October. Across both competitions there were plenty of teams who GB will be facing in October so this was a fantastic opportunity to lay down a marker a few months before the competition.

The Mens team of Adam Knott (Winchester), Dan Roper (RNC Hereford), Matt Loftus (Northern Allstars), Filmon Eyassu (Cambridge) and Caleb Nanevie (Northern Allstars) had tough competition against Greece, Poland, Portugal, Denmark and Spain. They finished the weekend with 3 wins and 2 defeats to come away with the bronze medal. A special mention to Adam Knott who finished the weekend as 3rd top goalscorer.

The Womens team of Georgie Bullen (Leicester), Antonia Bunyan (Northern Allstars), Andrea Logan (Northern Allstars),

 [Friend on Facebook](#)

 [Follow on Twitter](#)

 [Forward to a Friend](#)



## RNC Hereford Host Midlands Regional Tournament

Twenty-one goalballers from clubs throughout Midlands came together at RNC Hereford on Saturday 23rd April. There was 2 level of competition, Novice and Intermediate, and it was a great opportunity for players to compete in a relaxed environment. Teams represented on the day were Beacon Bullets (Wolverhampton), New College Worcester and RNC Hereford. Top goalscorers on the day were Laura Eggins from RNC Hereford and Jen from Beacon Bullets in the Novice competition and Josh Murphy from RNC Hereford in the Intermediate competition.

Thank you to all the volunteers on the day and RNC Hereford for hosting the competition.



## Goalball UK nominated for 'Team of the Year'

The Goalball UK Development Team were a finalist for the Team of the Year at the 2016 Vision Pioneer Awards.

The Vision Pioneer Awards 2016 were held on Monday 13 June to celebrate the work of professionals in the eye health and sight loss sectors across the UK. Created by UK Vision Strategy in collaboration with RNIB and NB Online, the awards champion and celebrate good practice and honour the achievements of professionals committed to supporting children, young people and adults who are blind or partially sighted. The awards also aim to raise awareness of sight loss and the importance of quality eye care by striving towards the outcomes of the UK Vision Strategy.

Laura Perry (RNC Hereford), Anna Tipton (Cambridge) and Kali Holder (Winchester) also had tough competition with Rio bound USA and Denmark, Spain, Germany, Belgium and Greece. They finished with 4 wins and 2 defeats to also win the bronze medal. In addition Laura Perry and Anna Tipton were 2nd and 3rd top goalscorers respectively. Overall it was a great experience for both squads and plenty of positives as both teams continue their preparations for European B Championships.

## Another Season Comes to a Close

Well there we have it, yet another season has come to an end. It has been a season of many high points including the introduction of a few new teams as well as players to competition to be greeted with a fair amount of success. That includes the Croysutt Warriors, a Novice team consisting of players from South London who left their mark by becoming the 2016 Novice Finals Champions. Another Novice team that had a fruitful introduction into the sport of Goalball were the Lancashire Lions who won the Region A Lincoln Novice Tournament in February. The Region B Novice Tournament held in Reading on the same day saw a new team from March, the Fen Tigers roar to success. They then went on to come second in both the Region Z Intermediate Tournament as well as the Intermediate Finals. Lastly the Northern Allstars are a team set up by GB Mens Head Coach Faye Dale in order to give up and coming players a chance to play at Elite level. They topped off their great season by winning the final Elite Tournament of the year. Not a bad first season for any of these teams.

RNC Hereford had their best season to date, winning the Novice Region B, Intermediate Region Y, coming runners up in both the Elite League and Intermediate Finals, accumulating in them being crowned National Champions. None of this would be possible without RNC Goalball Academy Teacher Aaron Ford. Aaron is responsible not only for getting many people to start playing goalball but also helping to improve the general standard of Goalball in the UK. Goalball UK have recognised this by awarding Aaron with the Keith Lound Memorial Award for Service to Goalball.

Scarborough Goalball Club have sealed their place in the history books by winning both their Novice and Intermediate Regional Leagues for the third year in a row! This incredible achievement sees them crowned the reigning 'Champions of the North'.

Cambridge Dons Goalball Club have had quite a successful season as well, winning three Intermediate Tournaments and one Elite Tournament. It was also a year where they saw their club membership move beyond the 40 member milestone. This is thanks to tireless work done by the volunteers at Cambridge, led by Warren Wilson who has devoted his time into making this club into the success it is today.

Finally Winchester Goalball Club were joint champions of the Region Z Intermediate league, they won the Elite League, as well as the Intermediate Finals. But this season not only brought tournament success, but also individual success. Great Britain and Winchester Elite player Adam Knott scored an

Goalball UK would like to thank all those who organised this fantastic event and congratulate all of the winners! It was a very enjoyable evening and a great experience being in the same room as so many people that share the same passion and drive!

The full list of nominations and winners can be found here:  
<http://www.ukvisionstrategy.org.uk/vision-pioneer-awards>



## Goalfix

Don't forget if you need any new Eye Shades or if your club are interested in purchasing a set of goals, then visit Goalfix's official website <http://goalfixsports.com/>

## Tournament Winners

Region Z Cambridge Intermediate 30th April - Winchester



Region Y Birmingham Intermediate 7th May - RNC Hereford



Birmingham Elite 21st & 22nd May - Northern Allstars

unprecedented 173 goals to see him crowned the Elite League top scorer for the second time (the first time being the 2012/13 season). Winchester Intermediate and Elite player Liam Hall was the Goalball UK 'Player of the Season' for his personal development and dedication to the sport.

## Goalballers in the Community



Many people involved in goalball are also involved in some incredible things outside of the sport. Goalball UK are going to take the opportunity to give them recognition of their good work via our Facebook and Website. Do you think that you know someone that is raising money for a good cause or doing work in the community and deserve recognition for their efforts? If you do, email Chris on [chris@goalballuk.com](mailto:chris@goalballuk.com).

## Club Scene Club Update

We are pleased to announce that Goalball UK in partnership with Metro Blind Sport have set up a new Club based in London.

The participants are a mix of beginners and experienced players including a few former and current GB athletes. So far the club has been a huge success with over 30 unique members, over 10 of them being complete beginners to the sport of Goalball. 3 of those new players went on to play at the End of Season Tournament.

These sessions are free and open up to anyone to participate. Training sessions are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month, 6-8pm, at The Castle Leisure Centre, 22 Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6SQ. So if you would like to join in the



Intermediate Finals 11th & 12th June - Winchester



Novice Finals 25th June - Croysutt Warriors



Novice Region A Champions - Scarborough



Novice Region B Champions - RNC Hereford



Intermediate Region X Champions - Scarborough



Intermediate Region Y Champions - RNC Hereford

success, please email [chris@goalballuk.com](mailto:chris@goalballuk.com) and come along.



[Click here](#) to keep up-to-date with all our taster sessions, including locations and dates.

### Safeguarding Update - Club Welfare Officers

It is essential that any goalball club that is providing goalball to anyone under the age of 18 years and adults at risk appoints a Club Welfare Officer. The Club Welfare officer should be accessible to and approachable for children and young people, but should ideally not be the coach or volunteer with direct responsibility for coordinating or delivering the junior programmes at the club.

In addition there is plenty of safeguarding webinars on Child Protection Sports Unit which are very useful and informative. It is recommended that everyone leading on safeguarding within clubs views these webinars. You can view the webinars by [clicking here](#). More information will be sent out in due course.

For more information, please [Click Here](#). Alternatively contact Goalball UK Lead Safeguarding Officer via email: [becky@goalballuk.com](mailto:becky@goalballuk.com) or tel. 0330 202 0281

### Membership

If you or any members of your club are not currently members of Goalball UK then please sign up! You can become a member by [CLICKING HERE](#) and filling in the membership form. Please return completed forms to [becky@goalballuk.com](mailto:becky@goalballuk.com) or to FAO Goalball UK, English Institute of Sport, Coleridge Road, Sheffield, S9 5DA.

### Funding

Please contact your local County Sport Partnership (CSP) who will be able to help you find local funding streams. To find your local CSP [CLICK HERE](#). Please get in touch with Becky on [becky@goalballuk.com](mailto:becky@goalballuk.com) if you would like help with funding bids and if you are planning to use Goalball UK as your reference.

### Transforming People's Lives

Our video below really illustrates well the immense benefits to individuals of being involved in Goalball... not just as players but also family and the wider community. Please Share!



Intermediate Region Z Joint Champions - Winchester



Intermediate Region Z Joint Champions - Nottinghamshire Sheriffs



Elite Champions - Winchester



National Champions - RNC Hereford



### Get in touch

Do you have a story for the next newsletter?

**Contact:**  
**Becky Ashworth**  
**National Development Manager**  
**Goalball UK**

**T: 0330 202 0281**  
**M: 07975 893924**  
[email](#)

Address:  
English Institute of Sport Sheffield,  
Coleridge Road,  
Sheffield, S9 5DA

## Club Matters

Sport England have unveiled a new Club Matters tool that will provide Goalball clubs with support, learning, and guidance on all aspects of running your club whether it is large, small, formal or informal.

Club Matters offers free, simple, and bitesize support to all clubs through; online support, workshops, mentoring, and club improvement plan. Goalball UK encourages every club to look at the Club Matters website as it is designed to help you run your club.

To find out more information please [Click Here](#).

## Tournament News

Results from all tournaments and future fixtures together with the league tables and top goal scorer stats can be found on the Goalball UK [website](#)

## Tournament Results

Region Z Cambridge Intermediate 30th April - Winchester  
Region Y Birmingham Intermediate 7th May - RNC Hereford  
Birmingham Elite 21st & 22nd May - Northern Allstars

Intermediate Finals 11th & 12th June - Winchester  
Novice Finals 25th June - Croysutt Warriors

## Top Goal scorers

### Male

Elite	Adam Knott (Winchester) 173
Intermediate Region X	Rio Vasey (Scarborough) 31
Intermediate Region Y	David Keeling (Birmingham) 64
Intermediate Region Z	Ryan Wilcock (Nottinghamshire) 58
Novice Region A	Stuart Hudson (Scarborough) 40
Novice Region B	James Evans (Winchester) 36

### Female

Elite	Laura Perry (RNC Hereford) 35
Intermediate Region X	Antonia Bunyan (York) 24
Intermediate Region Y	Laura Perry (RNC Hereford) 25
Intermediate Region Z	Kali Holder (Winchester) 30
Novice Region A Sheriffs)	Agata Cienciala (Nottinghamshire 14
	Holly Ainsworth (York) 14
Novice Region B	Lois Turner (Croysutt) 15

## Upcoming Tournaments

East of England Regional Tournament	20th August
-------------------------------------	-------------

We are pleased to announce next season's Fixture List with the majority of the venues already confirmed. We will be announcing the rest of the venues shortly.

To view next season's fixture list, please [Click Here](#).

To view next season's regional breakdown, please [Click Here](#).



[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2016 Goalball UK, All rights reserved.

*MailChimp*

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)