

Read the latest news from Goalball UK

Goalball Times

Issue 17 - October 2016

Welcome

Hi all,

As you all know our grassroots participation continues to rise (over 325% increase over the last 3 years). Now we can add another major international success story... Our GB teams taking the recent Euro B's Championships by storm with BOTH GB Men and Women gaining promotion. This has been achieved through private funding and donations and incredible personal sacrifice and dedication. So unbelievably proud of you all.

WE ARE GOING UP!

Cheers.

Mike Reilly
CEO

Great Britain Goalball Takes The Europeans By Storm!



Between the 4th to the 8th October the GB Men's and Women's Goalball Squads were in Portugal for the 2016 IBSA Goalball European B Championships. It's fair to say that it was a historic five days for Great Britain Goalball which ended with both squads gaining promotion to the highest level of elite goalball competition, as well as winning the Silver and Gold medal respectively.

For the men it was only last year that they were promoted to the European B League after winning the European C Championships in February of 2015. This is something that very few have done... securing back to back promotions!

The GB Women's team won the European B Championships in spectacular fashion! Over the course of the 7 games they scored 64 goals yet only conceded 9, winning all 7 seeing them being crowned undefeated champions. In their 4 games

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First of its Kind... Fen Tigers Regional Tournament

During the Summer Fen Tigers held their first ever Regional Tournament. It was a tournament designed to give players some pre-season game time as well as providing an opportunity to introduce some new players to the sport.

It was a friendly yet competitive environment which comprised of some outstanding performances by current as well as new players. At the end of the tournament everyone involved was presented with an attendance medal. Everyone was asked to vote for who they thought the best Male and Female players were at the tournament. The winners were Tommy Britton of Croysutt Warriors, and Emma Tammaro of Cambridge Crazy Diamonds. Goalball UK would like to say a massive thank you to everyone at Fen Tigers for organizing and hosting such a fantastic well spirited tournament! It was a very enjoyable day for everyone and proved valuable in preparation for the season.

If you would like to host a Friendly Regional Tournament and would like some advise email Chris on chris@goalballuk.com

building up to the final they won all 4 in the form of a 'mercy stoppage'. This is when a game is stopped early due to a team being ahead by 10 goals.

The support for Great Britain was overwhelming, throughout the tournament members of the goalball community expressed their support on social media. Every time GB played, the 'Live Stream Viewers' would rise significantly, in some cases even double. It seemed that no matter where people were, they would make sure to tune in to all the games. Goalball UK discovered that were people watching the streams whilst walking the dog, working out in the gym, on the train, at a hotel in New York, on a beach in Cyprus, and even at a music concert!

Goalball UK would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that took time out of their day to support GB Goalball, it is great to see so many people so passionate about this incredible sport!

The Men's team consisted of Adam Knott (Winchester), Dan Roper (RNC Hereford/Fen Tigers), Matt Loftus (Northern Allstars), Filmon Eyassu (Cambridge) and Caleb Nanevie (Northern Allstars). Adam finished the week as top scorer of the Men's Tournament with an eye watering 40 goals with Dan scoring an equally impressive 32 goals to finish as the tournaments second highest top scorer.

The Women's team consisted of Georgie Bullen (Leicester), Laura Perry (RNC Hereford/Fen Tigers), Anna Tipton (Cambridge), Sarah Leiter (Cambridge) Kali Holder (Winchester) and Antonia Bunyan (Northern Allstars). Laura finished the week as top scorer of the Women's Tournament with an incredible 31 goals! Georgie finished the tournament as the fourth highest scorer with 17 goals.

There are not many Countries that can say they have had both their Men's and Women's teams finish first and second, gain promotion, and have two tournament top scorers!

And So Starts Another Season...

The summer is over this means means one thing.....the season has begun!

There has already been two Goalball UK Tournaments so far. There was a Region A Intermediate tournament in Scarborough that saw the Scarborough Panthers starting the season the same they finished the last...in first place. It also saw the Lancashire Lions finish their first ever Intermediate League Tournament in third place. There was also a Region B Intermediate tournament in Birmingham. It was a really good well-spirited tournament, where players were even seen trading training ideas and tactics after each game. It was also the Croysutt Warriors first ever tournament at Intermediate level as their Novice team decided to move up at the end of last season. Region B will be welcoming a new team later on in the season...The London Elephants. Their immediate success in recruiting players (almost 60 unique members so far) means they will be entering teams into the Novice and Intermediate categories.



Do you have what it takes to be an Official?

Goalball UK are looking to recruit and train some new Goalball Officials during the 2016/17 season. All the training is free, and tournament expenses are paid (travel/food). [Click Here](#) to find out more.



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

Fen Tiger Regional Tournament (Friendly), 20th August - Fen Tigers



Region B Intermediate, Birmingham, 17th Sept - Fen Tigers

Goalball UK AGM

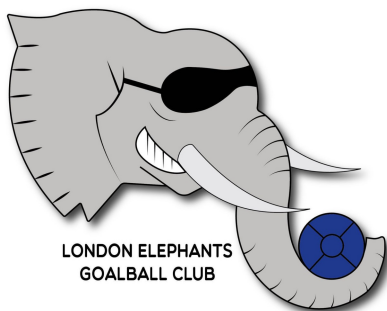
On the 19th of November it will be the Goalball UK AGM. This year it will be held in Birmingham at the Factory Youth Centre (B31 2TW) before the first Elite Tournament of the Year. It will give you the chance to meet the development team and the Board. Further notification and relevant papers will be sent out to all members within the next couples of weeks.

Club Scene

Has Your Club Got a Logo?

Many Goalball clubs in the country already have a logo. It is a great way to personalize your club and make you stand out! If you would like to have a logo created we would recommend Joshua Marshall. He created the Club logos for Fen Tigers and London Elephants, both shown below.

For the London Elephants Logo he took a rough drawing on a post-it note and turned it into this fantastic logo! He was quick, very easy to work with, and great value for money. If you would like to get in touch with Josh about a potential Logo, contact him through marshallsdesigns@hotmail.com.



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

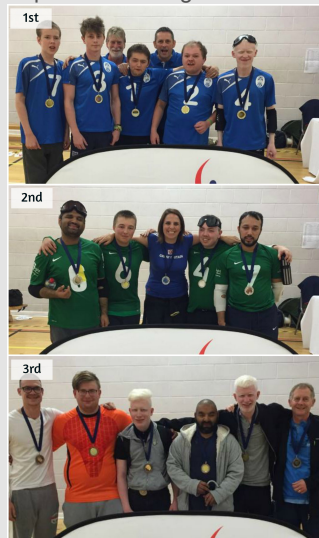
Safeguarding Update - Club Welfare Officers

A reminder that 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.



Region A
Intermediate, Scarborough, 24th Sept - Scarborough Panthers



Region B
Novice, Birmingham, 15th Oct - NCW Wolves



Region A
Novice, Sheffield, 15th Oct - Scarborough Panthers



For more information, please [Click Here](#). Alternatively contact Goalball UK Lead Safeguarding Officer via email: 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 for free! You can become a member by [CLICKING HERE](#) and filling in the membership form. Please return completed forms to 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 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!

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

Fen Tiger Regional Tournament (Friendly), 20th August - Fen Tigers

Region B Intermediate, Birmingham, 17th Sept - Fen Tigers
Region A Intermediate, Scarborough, 24th Sept - Scarborough Panthers

Get in touch

Do you have a story for the next newsletter?

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Region B Novice, Birmingham, 15th Oct - New College
Worcester Wolves
Region A Novice, Sheffield, 15th Oct - Scarborough Panthers

Upcoming Tournaments

Elite & Goalball UK AGM	19th&20th November
Region B Intermediate, Birmingham	3rd December
Region A Intermediate, Newcastle	10th December
Novice Region A, York	21st January
Novice Region B, Worcester	21st January

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

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



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