



Goalball UK 2025 and beyond... Empowering Our People





Chair Welcome

It fills me with immense pride to introduce "Empowering Our People," Goalball UK's strategic plan for 2025 and beyond. This strategy charts an ambitious course for our organisation, one that places people at its very heart. Goalball is more than just a sport. It's a community, a source of empowerment, and a testament to the incredible resilience of the human spirit. This strategy is a commitment to nurturing that spirit and ensuring that goalball continues to thrive in the UK.

"Empowering Our People" is the result of a collaborative effort. We've listened to the voices of our players, coaches, officials, volunteers, and partners. Their insights have shaped our understanding of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

I am confident that "Empowering Our People" will guide us towards a bright future for goalball in the UK. With your continued support and dedication, we can empower even more blind and partially sighted people to experience the transformative power of our sport.

John Grosvenor
Chair, Goalball UK



Message from our CEO

Welcome to "Empowering Our People," Goalball UK's strategy for 2025 and beyond! This document outlines our ambitious vision for the future of goalball in the UK. It's a future where we empower even more blind and partially sighted people to live active, successful lives and experience the joy and camaraderie of goalball.

This strategy is built on a foundation of listening. We've engaged with our community to understand their needs and aspirations. It is clear there is a desire for more opportunities. That's why "Empowering Our People" focuses on six strategic obsessions:

- Growing and developing our players: Providing pathways for participation and excellence at all levels.
- Growing and developing our workforce: Investing in the skills and passion of our coaches, officials, and volunteers.
- Providing high-quality experiences: Creating safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environments for everyone.
- Creating and developing partnerships: Collaborating with organisation and individuals who share our vision.
- Improving our organisational health: Ensuring we are a sustainable and effective organisation.
- Raising awareness: Sharing the inspiring stories of goalball and the incredible people who make it happen.

We are incredibly excited about the future of goalball in the UK. With your support, we can make a real difference in the lives of blind and partially sighted people across the country. This strategy is our roadmap to success. Let's work together to make it a reality.

Mark Winder
CEO, Goalball UK

Goalball UK

Goalball UK is committed to empowering people who are blind or partially sighted to live and play an active, successful part in an inclusive society. We will achieve this by engaging, growing, and leading the development of the goalball community in the UK through inclusive, high-quality opportunities. Our strategic obsessions are fully focused on people.

We will achieve our vision by:

- Growing and developing our players.
- Growing and developing our workforce.
- Providing high quality experiences.
- Creating and developing partnerships for our people.
- Ensuring we continue to improve our organisational health.
- Continuing to raise awareness of our sport and our people.

We are committed to our values of being ambitious, caring, inclusive, and connected. These values will guide us as we work to achieve our vision. We believe that by working together, we can make a positive difference in the lives of people who are blind or partially sighted. We are excited to embark on this journey and we invite you to join us.



We are confident that this strategy will provide a roadmap for Goalball UK to achieve our vision and make a positive impact on the lives of people who are blind or partially sighted.

VISION

Engage, grow, and lead the development of the goalball community in the UK through inclusive high-quality opportunities.

MISSION

For goalball to empower people who are blind or partially sighted to live and play an active, successful part in an inclusive society.

VALUES

Ambitious Striving to improve outcomes for all	Caring For our people and providing safe experiences	Inclusive For our people and providing safe experiences	Connected Working together to make positive change
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We are committed to serving our community, our strategic obsessions are fully focused on PEOPLE

For Our People:	Supporting Our People:
1. Grow and Develop our Players	4. Create and Develop Partnerships for our people
2. Grow and Develop our workforce	5. Ensure we continue to improve our organisational health
3. Provide high quality experiences	6. Continue to raise awareness of our sport and our people

People

People within our community have transformed their own lives and those of their peers. People are at the heart of the Goalball Community. We need to continue to support, nurture and grow the people within our community and empower them to affect positive change. We will do this by supporting people and providing high quality positive experiences.

Players

Goalball is primarily for people who are blind or partially sighted. However, goalball is a sport for everyone, regardless of ability, age, disability, gender, race, religion, belief, or sexual orientation. We will strive to continue developing our opportunities to ensure everyone can:

- Participate
- Play
- Enjoy
- Develop
- Compete

at the appropriate level for them.

We will:

- a. Support people who are blind or partially sighted with a particular focus on developing opportunities to play within local communities.
- b. Provide children and young people who are blind or partially sighted positive opportunities to create a life-long connection to the sport and physical activity.
- c. Enhance the Performance Pathway to provide a robust and progressive infrastructure, ensuring system sustainability that is focused on supporting athletes, coaches, and clubs to achieve their potential.
- d. Develop and support high performing Great Britain squads to inspire people through sporting excellence, ability, and medal success.



Workforce

The power of people and the contributions people make are driving the sport of goalball forward. It is key that we invest in people by strengthening our workforce with more support, opportunities, knowledge, and resources.

We will:

- a. Create and develop multiple learning resources and opportunities to support all aspects of the sport
- b. Support existing coaches, officials and volunteers in supporting events, clubs, the performance pathway and other activities across the sport.
- c. Allocate specific resources in recruiting and developing new coaches, volunteers and officials
- d. Actively recruit, train, develop and retain our players into volunteering opportunities. Consequently, maintaining long-term opportunities within Goalball UK and beyond.



Experiences

We recognise the inequalities people who are blind or partially sighted face. Therefore, we will have an unrelenting focus on providing positive social, participation and competitive goalball experiences. We want to ensure there is a high-quality protected space for our people to try, play and compete in the sport. It is also crucial this is mirrored through positive experiences for our volunteers, coaches, and supporters.

We will:

- a. Develop our inclusive, accessible, and connected experiences for all participants irrespective of ability
- b. Ensure our competition structure remains at the heart of our work and continues to develop, responding to the demands of the playing community, while also delivering flagship events
- c. Provide targeted experiences to address inequalities and organisational priorities
- d. Develop and embed safeguarding policies and practices to ensure everyone is safe to enjoy goalball.

Supporting People

We must effectively develop our role within the sport and physical activity landscape, as well as within broader society, to support our organisation's health and longevity in offering activities and experiences for people. Consequently, we will develop our partnerships, organisational health and strive to raise the awareness of our sport and our people.



Partnerships for our people

For us to achieve with our community at the desired level we must have a commitment to work with others internally and externally. Collaboration is key, paired with a willingness to share expertise and learn from others.

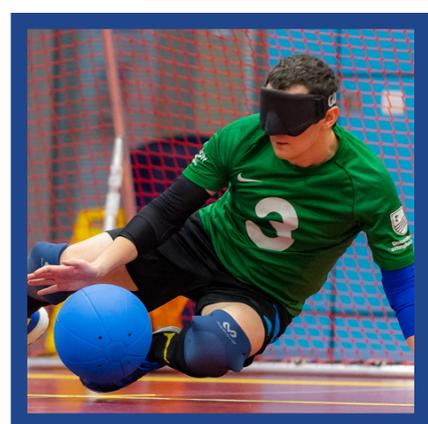
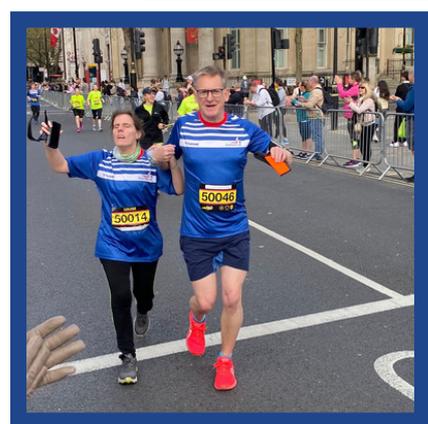
We will:

a. Create and develop partnerships to develop our role within the sporting ecosystem and increase our capacity to deliver more activity to new and existing people.

b. Ensure any partnerships or collaborations have a clear and significant benefit to Goalball UK or people who are Blind or partially sighted to provide value or expertise to our community of players.

c. Develop materials, through evidence-based insight, to demonstrate how goalball can address inequalities and additional well-being benefits within the blind or partially sighted community; with the purpose of attracting new people, organisations, and investment to the sport.

d. Develop expert partnerships to improve governance and effectiveness.



Organisational health for our people

We are committed to maintain and develop our organisational health with a commitment to underpin our work with positive, effective, inclusive, safe delivery of all opportunities.

We will:

- a. Continue to secure additional funding to continue sustainable growth and ensuring increased financial resilience
- b. Continue to ensure our sport is governed ethically, fairly, and clean from banned substances
- c. We will ensure safeguarding, health and wellbeing is integral to all our activity
- d. Ensure continued compliance with the Sport England Governance Code

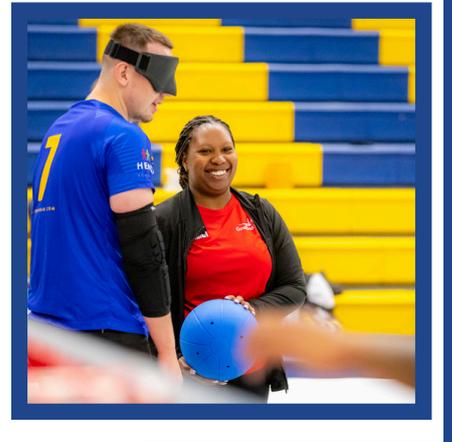


Awareness of our sport and our people

We will be an advocate for people who are blind or partially sighted within the wider ecosystem of physical activity, sport and beyond. The more people that know goalball exists, the more people we can positively impact and empower. Our people positively impact us as an organisation and help us thrive. For us to develop we must continue to learn from the symbiotic relationship.

We will:

- a. Create content that engages our current audience, community, stakeholders and partners with quality, inclusive, accessible content that helps us achieve our wider organisational aims and positively impacts our people
- b. Continue to make goalball visible to the wider population and ensure goalball remains a recognised sport
- c. Grow our audience of supporters
- d. Focus on the benefits goalball and physical activity can have on our people.
- e. We will work with the goalball community to highlight the inequalities people who are blind or partially sighted face.





Contact Us



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