

ACC Chair's Report Oliver Benton ACC Chair 2014-15

1. Financial Summary

Total grant received for 2014/15 is £133,168.49, a drop of 2% on last year. From four years ago the grant has dropped by 11%.

50% of unlocked grant has already been spent.

Total membership is 102% of the ACC target, however 24 clubs have failed to hit their targets so far. 28 have hit or exceeded their targets. Highs include: Table tennis (152%), Volleyball (184%) and Archery (223%), while Rugby League, Shaloin Kung Fu, Wushu and Shorinji Kempo all currently sit at under 50% membership.

2. Facilities

Nearly all ACC clubs rely heavily on Sport Imperial and Union owned facilities to function.

a. Storage Space

The Union Gym storeroom has been a consistent concern as it is reliably in a mess. A working party is being organised with the RCC clubs that also use the room to have a good sort out.

b. Harlington

Some concerns have been raised to Sport Imperial both about the condition of the pitches due to overuse (Football, Rugby and Womens Rugby all use the same tiny space) and also allocation of training times.

c. Varsity

Discussions are ongoing about the format that Varsity will take this year.

3. Sport Imperial

With the loss of Anthony Hennelly, Sport Imperial have gained a staff member. Hannah Blandford has become the Student Sports Experience Officer (Performance) and has been joined by Jenni Phillips, Student Sports Experience Officer (Participation).

Tegan Pickles has joined as the Sports Partnership Administrator. With an increase in resource the Sport Imperial team are continuing to support the ACC clubs at all levels.

4. ADF

The introduction of the ADF was well received, with the ACC's newest society, Krav, applying and gaining funding immediately. Several ACC clubs have since submitted applications to utilise this fund to increase participation.

5. Sponsorship

A sponsorship workshop was held with a view to gaining more sponsorship for ACC clubs. 9 clubs attended. Several small consortiums were formed to enable smaller clubs to approach big companies more successfully. A second meeting will be held early next term with experienced Sponsorship Secs helping and advising the smaller clubs. Since this meeting Squash have successfully gained an initial sponsor.

6. Culture

Due to recent incidents it has been highlighted that there may be an issue with perceptions of alcohol within sports teams that does not align with the views of the Union Council. Several discussions, (on and off record) have occurred as the ACC attempts to alter behaviour.

a. Initiations

Initiations are banned under CSP policy. However a range of 'welcome drinks' and fresher parties are held in an attempt to welcome new members to the club. To gauge what actually happens at these secret events, an off-record initiation 'amnesty' session was held. 8 clubs responded.

The incidents reported to the Chair were generally not noteworthy; highlights include:

- i. A curry with the freshers and the current committee.
- ii. Telling an animal fact to the rest of the club
- iii. Singing a song, of the freshers choosing, to the rest of the club
- iv. A fish throwing competition (which was won by a tin of tuna)

The general theme of 'welcome drinks' that are unacceptable revolves around sporting prowess, ie a running race, followed by the drinking of an alcoholic beverage. Only two clubs included this element. After talking to the two chairs individually, I do not believe that the ACC has a problem with initiations occurring. I believe the Chairs of these two clubs were sufficiently convinced to change the club behaviour and have since taken steps to do so.

7. Exec

The ACC Exec has met formally twice however, informally (including the centrefold) we have met numerous times, normally at least every two weeks.

- a. Bar nights

The ACC has held two Bar Nights this term. The first, 29th of October, was huge success. Online tickets sold out two days prior to the event. There was the most people at an ACC event in recent history with over 1100 people present. We turned over nearly £10,000 at this event and made £300 profit from ticket sales. We made £1000 profit, boosted by a £700 sponsorship deal.

The second Bar night was on the 3rd December. This event was smaller than the first with around 700 people in attendance. The second night didn't have a sponsor but the ACC still made a £200 profit. There is one more bar night planned for the end of January.

8. Sportsmans Dinner

There is an idea from Sports imperial to alter the ARCS awards. We wish to revitalise the ACC Dinner too and figure that a joint event, possibly at Heston, could be appropriate. Funds raised by the barnight are currently earmarked for this project.

9. Individual Reports

35/52 clubs managed to submit their reports. These are all available on request.