

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2025

VIA TEAMS

PRESENT Brian Ewing (BE) via teams: Doc McKelvey (DM): David Johnson (DJ) Kerri McHale (KM): Ruth Hudson (RH): Louise Mearns (LM): Fiona Paterson (FP): Karen Rees (KR): Claire Bath (CB): Lorna Callan (LC) **sportscotland**

APOLOGIES James Hall (JH)

IN ATTENDANCE Sam Hendrikson (SH): Lara Gregson (LG): Lindsey Booth (LB)
Colin Hutchison (CH) (Scottish Athletics)
Dr Andrew Jenkin (AJ) (Club Development Consultancy)

ITEM	AGENDA ITEM/DISCUSSION
1	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
	BE welcomed all to the meeting and also noted apologies. BE thanked everyone for coming along and hoped everyone had a good summer.
2	NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
	None
3	CHARITABLE OPTION PAPER
	<p>BE explained that this meeting is solely to focus on charity options and hoped that all had taken the time to review the paper and use today to ask questions and discuss this further. There was an initial discussion at June board, and it was discussed at governance committee last week.</p> <p>BE welcomed Dr Andrew Jenkin from Club Development Consultancy who has provided input so far and Colin Hutchison, CEO from Scottish Athletics, who will share his experience in implementing a charity arm in athletics. Thank you to both for joining us and sharing best practice.</p> <p>DM provided an introduction on the idea of a charity option for Scottish Gymnastics which has been around for some years within Scottish Gymnastics but has not progressed and looking to formalise this more now. The potential facility discussion earlier in the year highlighted the benefits of doing this and the wider impact on the community. There could be some real benefits of going down this route. This is a key decision for the board on whether or not we go ahead with this and if so what the best structure for this. Paper had been previously circulated with three options including advantages and disadvantages of each option.</p> <p>AJ shared some slides and talked through the three options from the paper that had been shared previously and provided details on what these meant in practice.</p> <p>The board asked questions around the different options and AJ provided details to clarify points raised. All the different options were discussed in detail.</p>

4	SGB EXAMPLE: SCOTTISH ATHLETICS & ATHLETICS TRUST SCOTLAND
	<p>CH shared his experience of setting up Athletics Trust Scotland over the last five years and how it was progressed and the process they went through and the key learnings from this experience. He talked through the structure and the set up.</p> <p>BE thanked CH for his insight which has been really helpful. The board asked questions to CH to support the planning and decision making for Scottish Gymnastics.</p> <p>BE thanked both AJ and CH for the contribution they made and their time.</p>
5	CHARITABLE OPTIONS DISCUSSION
	<p>The board discussed the options in more detail. BE highlighted the community impact benefits. All agreed the purpose and the strands needs to be clear and how this would sit alongside any facility plans. BE is keen on membership engagement in this as that is important and should be factored in. SH, LG and LB shared their views on the proposed options and how they see it impacting current activity and the benefits to our membership.</p> <p>DM shared details on how Scottish Gymnastics are working with British Gymnastics Foundation and their hardship fund.</p> <p>The board discussed options around how the charity could be set up and work alongside Scottish Gymnastics as the governing body and how the governance would work. DM is keen that we are true to our strategy and be true to what we are trying to do and could open up more avenues and opportunities to access more funding and impact within the community. LB highlighted that safeguarding would need to be considered and what that would mean given our demographic we work with but is manageable.</p> <p>BE asked the board if they were happy for a charity option to be progressed. The board agreed to progress with the charity option and also agreed at this point to progress with option C.</p> <p>DM shared details of the timeline and will work up the implications of next steps and engage the right people and consider the resource needed to support this. DM will look at a plan for progressing this and will bring the action plan back to governance committee and then back to board for review.</p> <p>BE thanked everyone for attending and for the quality discussions on this specific area.</p>
	<p>ACTION:</p> <p>DM to check with AJ on the governance set up and the level of separation required.</p>
	DATE OF NEXT MEETING
	24 September 2025