



DISABILITY SPORT FIFE

About Us.....

Disability Sport Fife (DSF) was established in 1977. This year **DSF** celebrates its 40th Anniversary as the Fife lead body in disability sport for children, athletes and players of all ages and abilities with a physical, sensory or learning disability. **DSF** is a branch of Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) with a charity registration number of (SC 020994). **DSF** athlete members have been enormously successful in European and World Championships plus Paralympic Games all over the world. **DSF** has supported 25 members to become GB Paralympians since 1977. **DSF** had three Paralympians in Rio in 2016. DSF individual members and teams have enjoyed enormous success in national events organised by SDS. Each year **DSF** organises an extensive programme of sports events and provides education and training opportunities for coaches and volunteers. **DSF** employs an experienced team of coaches on a session by session basis to deliver sports specific activity sessions weekly across Fife. **DSF** has a part time administrator based at the Michael Woods Sports and Leisure Centre financially supported by a Fife Council grant. **DSF** has a Service Level Agreement with the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust and works in partnership with Fife Council. **DSF** has a number of Committees that deal with Finance, Policy, Performance Sport, and Safeguarding in Sport/Equity. **DSF** has established a Hall of Fame to recognise performance athletes who have achieved significant success in international disability sport. The **DSF** Annual General Meeting and Awards Evening is now a significant occasion in the Fife Sporting Year with around 90 attendees.

Some of Our Recent Achievements:

- The 2016 **DSF** calendar has 26 sports events and 41 weekly sports specific or multi sports sessions available to members. **DSF** has supported members to compete in 29 national events in the year past.
- Six **DSF** Summer and Winter Paralympians were among the first 20 Scots inducted into the Scottish Disability Sport Hall of Fame at the 2012 annual General Meeting.
- Each year **DSF** members compete in major events throughout the world.
- Fife athletes won the team title at the 2016 SDS National Athletics Championships for the sixth time in seven years and last year Fife bowlers retained the Inter Region bowls title in Kirkcaldy.
- **DSF** produces monthly newsletters and submits press articles on the achievements of members to local press and web sites weekly. The DSF Facebook page has over 2000 followers.
- **DSF** supports a high performance, performance and development squad of athletes with a physical, sensory or learning disability.

In the development of specific sports, **DSF** has been supported for over a decade by the **Big Lottery**. The **DSF** NOPEs IMAGE Project funded the development of around 30 weekly sports options across Fife for children and young people with a disability.

The BL Active Futures **DSF** VORTEX project was launched in late 2007 in partnership with Fife Colleges and others, creating in excess of 20 weekly sports opportunities for 17-24 year olds with a disability across Fife. In 2012 DSF was awarded a 10K grant by Awards for All to develop coach led sessions across Fife under the banner of Parallel Sport. The Project was successfully concluded early in 2013 with enhanced provision in the sports of athletics, tennis, swimming, multi sports and junior sport in particular. In 2014 the Big Lottery supported DSF with an inclusive badminton initiative that increased participation, offered access to equipment and coach education. In November 2016 DSF launched the Get Out and Get Active programme (GOGA in Fife) which will run for three years and encourage non active participants to become regularly active. The programme is supported by Spirit of 2012 and DSF is one of only three SDS Branches involved in this initiative.

DSF athlete members and coaches have represented GB at every Paralympic Games since 1984. **DSF** has established a Fife Hall of Fame to celebrate the achievements of great GB Summer and Winter Paralympians from Fife.

In the late 70s **DSF** became involved with the Special Olympics movement. In 1982 a Scottish Special Olympics Team participated in the first GB Special Olympic Games in Liverpool through SDS and the **DSF** President was the Team Manager. **DSF** members played a significant role in the performance of Team Scotland, winner of the Games Team Trophy. This was the first, and last occasion, that Special Olympians from north of the Border competed under the banner of Scotland at a GB Games. After 1982 teams competed as individual Scottish area members of SOGB and Fife Special Olympians were part of Games in locations as far afield as the Isle of Man, Brighton, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Leicester, Glasgow, Cardiff, Dublin, Athens, Shanghai and various cities in the USA. **DSF** was directly responsible for funding, selecting and preparing Fife teams for successive Games at home and overseas. Fife supported over 200 athletes and players plus coaches to attend each of the GB Summer Special Olympic Games in Glasgow in 2005 and Leicester in 2009. This has been possible because of the enormous financial support that was forthcoming from communities and community organisations across Fife. In excess of 70K was raised for the Games in Leicester through hugely successful fund raising ventures coordinated by **DSF**.

- **DSF** operates across Fife with a history of supporting individuals of all ages and abilities with a physical, sensory or learning disability.
- **DSF** is a multi sport organisation with strong local, national and international connections.
- **DSF** has many partners including Fife Council, the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, Scottish Disability Sport, Active Fife and sportscotland.
- **DSF** has key funding partners whose support has been critical to DSF success. In particular the Big Lottery, Order of St John in Fife, Rotary International (Fife clubs), Margaret Pullar (Bill Pullar Bursary), the Scottish FA and the Russell Hogg Trust.
- **DSF** has strong links with Fife schools and the Active Schools Network. Since its inception **DSF** has worked closely with Health and Social Care, Community Support Services and many Fife Sports Clubs.
- **DSF** has a General Management Committee and committee structure covering Finance and Policy, Performance Sport, Safeguarding in Sport/Equity. **DSF** is proud of the number of athlete members involved in the Governance of the Association.

- **DSF** has a very skilled and dedicated administrator supported through a grant from Fife Council.
- **DSF** enjoys a very successful partnership with the local media and would highlight the following in particular – Johnstone Press, Courier and Kingdom Radio.

Our Team

Richard Brickley MBE President, Paul Noble MBE Chairman, Maureen McSeveney Hon. Secretary, Norma Buchanan Administrator and Pamela Robson (GOGA in Fife). **DSF** has very strong links with Active Fife and Health and Social Care. **DSF** has a dedicated team of volunteers and coaches who work tirelessly on behalf of our members year after year.



Document prepared by Richard Brickley, MBE, President, Disability Sport Fife.

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