

EFDS News- Issue 2

June 2010



Welcome to the EFDS news, the English Federation of Disability Sport's monthly newsletter. It is a result of your responses and we hope it becomes a great source of information.

Over the coming months, we aim to include a wide range of news that relates to improving opportunities for disabled people in sport- including updates on new developments, signposting to existing resources and highlighting of current issues.

We want to make sure that the newsletter works for you and we welcome your comments. Please let us know what you think and also what else you would find useful in these updates by emailing us at smarl@efds.co.uk. Or visit our website www.efds.co.uk

Search launched to find Paralympians in your area



The face of the Beijing Games, double Paralympic gold medallist Ellie Simmonds has launched a search to find retired Paralympians across Britain and encourage them to sign up to the Paralympians' Club, a new website designed to reunite former GB teammates and engage the public with British Paralympians.

Simmonds, who is encouraging Paralympians to come forward, said:

"I am proud to be a Paralympian and to be a member of the Paralympians' Club. Not only does the club offer some great benefits, but it's great for the public as they can use the website to find out more about us.

"I would really encourage anyone who competed for Great Britain at a Paralympic Games to contact ParalympicsGB and join the club!"

There are three main aims for the website: firstly, to provide retired Paralympians with a place where they can reconnect with their former teammates and network; to provide Paralympians with a variety of benefits courtesy of several sponsors of London 2012; and thirdly, to provide local communities with a way to request a Paralympian for an appearance, for example talking at a school or opening a local event.

ParalympicsGB Chief Executive Phil Lane said: "After retiring from sport many Paralympians return to leading everyday lives in their communities and in the past The British Paralympic Association has not kept in contact with Paralympic athletes in any systematic way. We suspect there could be as many as 1,700 Paralympians out there who we are not in contact with. Who knows, there could be someone in your town who represented Britain at the Paralympic Games?"

It is hoped that the website will also become a popular resource for schools and colleges who would like to find out more about British Paralympians in the build-up to the 2012 Paralympic Games.

Paralympian Iain Gowans, who represented Great Britain in swimming at the 1996 Paralympic Games, will run the website and, as a retired athlete himself, is confident that athletes will sign up.

“I really hope that lots of retired athletes come forward”, he said. “I think it’s important that ParalympicsGB is in contact with as many athletes as possible and I am sure that many athletes would enjoy the opportunity to get back in contact with their former teammates.”

If you represented Great Britain at a Paralympic Games, contact Iain Gowans at iain.gowans@paralympics.org.uk

If you would like to find out about Paralympians near you, visit www.paralympiansclub.org.uk

Olympic-style Sports Competition for Young People launched as part of 2012 Legacy Initiative to revive competitive sport in schools



A new Olympic and Paralympic-style sports competition for young people across England was announced on the 28 June by Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt and Education Secretary Michael Gove.

Up to £10 million of lottery funding, distributed by Sport England, will create a new sports league structure for primary and secondary schools culminating in an inaugural national final to be held in the run up to the London Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

The competition is a key part of the Government’s plans for a lasting sporting legacy from hosting the London 2012 Games and to maximise the sporting opportunities available to all. Schools will compete against each other in leagues at a local level from 2011 with winning athletes and teams qualifying for up to 60 county finals.

The most talented young athletes will then be selected for the national finals. Schools will also be encouraged to host in-house Olympic-style sports days so that children of all abilities have the opportunity to compete. There will be a Paralympic element at every level of the competition for young people with disabilities.

The ambition is for the competition to continue after 2012.

Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport Jeremy Hunt said:

“I want to give a real boost to competitive sport in schools using the power of hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games to encourage young people – whatever age or ability – to take part in this new competition.

“Competitive sport – whether you win or lose – teaches young people great lessons for life. It encourages teamwork, dedication and striving to be the best that you can be. This will be a key part of our drive to leave a real lasting sports legacy from London’s games.”

Sport England chief executive Jennie Price said:

“Experiencing the thrill of sporting success is not something we all get to enjoy. But now, through this competition, more children across the country will get a taste of what it means to be part of a major sporting event. The more people London 2012 inspires, the greater the long-term impact of hosting the Games will be.”

Compliance News Alert: Vetting and Barring Scheme registration halted

The ISA registration stage of the Vetting and Barring Scheme has been halted to allow the new Government to conduct a remodelling of the scheme.

Theresa May, Home Secretary states 'the Government has made clear its intention to bring the criminal records and vetting and barring regimes back to common sense levels. Until this remodelling has taken place, we have decided to maintain those aspects of the new Scheme which are already in place, but not to introduce further elements'.

NOTE: No one can register with the Independent Safeguarding Authority until further notice from the Government.

What parts of the scheme remain in place?

- You are still legally obliged to refer information to ISA if you have removed an individual from 'regulated activity' because they have harmed or there is a risk of harm to a member of a vulnerable group.
- You must not *knowingly* employ a barred person in regulated activity.
- The two new barred lists will continue to be administered by ISA and can be checked through an enhanced CRB disclosure (existing CRB requirements and eligibility criteria will remain).

What will still change?

- A new 'CRB Application form' will be launched on 26 July 2010 (you can start to use the new form from 28 June 2010 however there will be sections relating to ISA that will no longer be mandatory parts of the form).
- CRB will not process any applications made on the current form (Disclosure Application Form - DAF) if they are received after 20 July 2010. (They recommend all applications on current forms are posted by 16 July 2010).

What should you do?

- Ensure you and your members understand your current responsibilities under the Vetting and Barring Scheme:
 - understand what 'regulated activity' is;
 - understand who is a 'regulated activity provider';
 - understand the duty to refer a person to ISA;
 - ensure you are clear who is responsible for making referrals in your organisation.
- Train yourself and your members on filling in the new CRB Application form (if you wish to continue asking for CRB disclosures).
- Wait for further updates on the scope of the review and if/when people need to register.

If you need assistance with any of the above please contact Joy Tottman, Compliance Officer at CCPR jtottman@ccpr.org.uk

RFU sign the Me2 pledge to drive growth of deaf rugby

The RFU have joined the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) Me2 campaign which is a project aimed at revolutionising access to activities at all levels for deaf children.

The RFU's signing of the Me2 pledge at Rugby School, Warwickshire also heralds the launch of [The Deaf Friendly Rugby Guide](#), which is part of Me2, developed in partnership with the RFU and England Deaf Rugby Union (EDRU) (downloadable on the RFU website).

The guide caters for the rapidly expanding number of deaf or hard of hearing people playing rugby throughout England in mainstream clubs. It is an essential resource for all rugby clubs and coaches across the country, helping them to make rugby activities accessible to deaf children and young people. It provides clear communication tips and balanced information that will help coaches address the needs of young deaf players.

The RFU is committed to working with the deaf community, and offering the opportunity to play rugby to everyone. This commitment is demonstrated by signing the Me2 pledge, which calls on all youth and leisure organisations across the country to break down the barriers that many young deaf people face in accessing leisure activities.

Nic Scott, RFU Equity, Inclusion and Safeguarding Manager, commented: "At the RFU we are continually striving to ensure that the game is as inclusive as possible, and support clubs to extend the enjoyment and values of the sport to as many as possible.

"The Me2 campaign is a real, practical programme and being part of it shows our desire to ensure those who are deaf or hard of hearing have the same opportunities as everyone else. Publishing The Deaf Friendly Rugby Guide will really help our coaches, referees and volunteers across the country in working with deaf children and young people, and we believe it will accelerate their already increasing integration into mainstream clubs," Nic added.

More deaf young players now taking part in rugby

Hayley Jarvis, NDCS Inclusive Activities Manager, said: "In the past there has been a shortage of rugby coaching sessions available to deaf children and young people and a perception that deaf people may struggle to play.

"Thanks to the commitment from the RFU, more deaf young players can now take part in rugby activities, and The Deaf Friendly Rugby Guide is a crucial step forward in making the sport accessible to more and more deaf children.

"Access to sport is extremely important for deaf children as many are isolated from activities that other children take for granted. I would urge all rugby clubs and leagues across the UK to join our initiative and make a difference in their local community."

British men finish on high at World Wheelchair Basketball Championships

July 16 - Britain's men's team finished the World Wheelchair Basketball Championships in Birmingham on a high as they secured fifth place with a convincing 82-68 win over Poland while the women finished sixth at the National Indoor Arena (NIA) with a 58-43 loss to the Netherlands.

In the men's 5th/6th place playoff, Britain took on Poland in a rematch of their Pool-A game from last week. With 117 points and averaging 17 points per game, Jon Pollock has been in impressive form for Britain through the competition and this continued as he led the team from the front. Although Poland started well to gain an early seven point lead, Pollock responded with two three pointers which was followed by some great passing by the hosts.

Pollock and Simon Munn made sure Britain went into half time leading 37-36 after a close second quarter. In the second half of the match, Poland kept pushing but were not able to compete with Britain's superior play as the hosts claimed fifth spot at the World Championships to make it seven wins out of eight for the tournament.

Meanwhile, Britain's women's faced the Dutch for the second time this tournament after a resounding win against Japan yesterday which ensured Gary Peel achieved their highest ever finish at a World Championships.

The Netherlands came out strong and had a point to prove after losing by just 1 point in the earlier meeting. They stormed into an early lead and at one stage in the second half, they led by 18 points.

However the hosts did not let their heads drop as Helen Freeman and Clare Strange continued their fine form from the rest of the tournament scoring 14 points each and keeping Britain in touch. The Netherlands though, held on for to secure the win and finish in fifth place.
(Story from Insideworldparasport.biz)

2010 Sitting Volleyball World Championships

The University of Central Oklahoma was proud to partner with US Paralympics and USA Volleyball in hosting the 2010 Sitting Volleyball World Championships July 10-19, 2010.

For 11 days the University of Central Oklahoma and the City of Edmond was home to approximately 640 athletes and coaches from across the globe. Teams competed for their spot in Paralympic history by winning their place in the 2012 London Paralympic games.

The British team recall a great experience and information gathering for all involved. There was further evidence the male players are moving up in the rankings as well as the women making great improvements in the last few months since they have been training together.

On the final day, the British men finished 17th after beating South Korea (3-1) and Libya (3-0). They were only 10 points off getting into Division A and finishing in the top 12 in the world. Meanwhile, the women improved after every set and ended their tournament by beating Canada 3-1, finishing 11th.

Young disabled footballers in North East celebrate following cash windfall



The Football League Trust and BBC Children in Need have awarded Newcastle United Foundation £97,600 and £75,128 respectively to launch a brand new three year project for young disabled footballers.

The cash boost will allow the Foundation to work alongside Northumberland FA and special schools across the region to set up regular fun football clubs for children with physical and learning disabilities.

Kate Bradley, Foundation Manager said:

“We are delighted with news of the grants from BBC Children in Need and the Football League Trust and are very grateful to the support of Northumberland FA, in helping us with our applications.

“This project will help increase the enjoyment of and participation in football by children with disabilities and we are looking forward to launching the new clubs this spring.”

Newcastle United Foundation and Northumberland FA are united in their commitment to provide local opportunities young disabled people and stand by the ethos of ‘Football for All’.

Stewart Leason, County Development Manager at Northumberland FA said:

“I am delighted Northumberland FA was able to support this project and secure the funding in partnership with Newcastle United Foundation. This project will give more opportunities for players with a range of disabilities to participate in football, from a basic fun level up to talented players progressing to possible England Disability Teams.”

This new scheme will start in the summer. For more information about how to get involved contact: Newcastle United Foundation on 0191 201 8450 or email foundation@nufc.co.uk

Triathlon launches bid to be included in Rio Paralympics

July 16 - Triathlon could make its debut in the Paralympics at the Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

The International Triathlon Union (ITU) have opened negotiations with the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) for the sport to be added to the programme for six categories across the various disabilities.

Loreen Barnett, the secretary general of the ITU, told insideworldparasport: "We are working with both the International Paralympic Committee and national blind sport federations to come up with a short-and long-term strategy to adhere to the IPC's classification strategy.

"That ensures that 'winning is determined by skill, fitness, power, endurance, tactical ability and mental focus'. The participants in Paratriathlon are, to a large extent, athletes with physical disabilities, as defined by classifications TRI 1 through TRI 5 of the Paratriathlon classifications. A sixth category (TRI 6) is dedicated to visually impaired triathletes.

"We have just submitted our application for the inclusion of Paratriathlon in the Paralympic Games programme, aspiring for our athletes to be in Rio 2016. At the time of this important application for the Paratriathletes of the world, we have been advised to offer one visually impaired category at the elite level."

There has been criticism that, as part of the drive to get triathlon into the Paralympics, that a new ITU rule requires all visually impaired elite triathletes to wear blackout glasses during the race's running portion.

Barnett said: "The Paralympic guiding principles includes 'fair play' and so this one VI category must offer a level playing field at the elite level in the short term, which is why we instituted the black-out glasses.

"This has been warmly welcomed by VI paratriathletes at the Madrid elite Paratriathlon and at the European Championships in Athlone. National Federations may offer three official blind categories in their national championship events, which will continue to ensure that triathlon is accessible to all Paratriathletes with visual impairments.

It is important to note that the bid for Paralympic inclusion is at the elite level of the sport and therefore there are limitations to the number of categories that may be included. We aspire to having more categories available in the future."

(Story from Insideworldparasport.biz)

Make your daily cuppa count



In June Britain's much-loved tea brand Typhoo announced their brand new Typhoo Sports for All campaign ambassador. Martine Wright, survivor of the 7/7 London bombings, will launch the second phase of the brand's continued partnership with the English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS), aiming to make sport more accessible for disabled men, women and children right across the UK.

Martine follows 1966 World Cup Legend Sir Geoff Hurst who launched the start of the Typhoo Sports for All project in 2009. Since that launch, over 1,100 community sports coaches have gained UK training in coaching disabled people free of charge.

Whilst travelling aboard the circle line on July 7th 2005, Martine was stood only 3ft away from the suicide bomber when he detonated his deadly device, resulting in the loss of both of her legs. Now a wheelchair user, Martine is keen to highlight the importance of making sport accessible. She has learnt to ski, flown a plane and, not only does she play for the Great British Volleyball team, but she strives to compete at the 2012 Paralympics.

Martine will continue to promote the Typhoo Sports for All courses because of the importance she sees in enabling a further 750 sports coaches to take advantage of the free training over the coming months.

Martine comments, "I am so privileged to be involved in such a fantastic campaign as sport is important in all our lives whether we are disabled or not. I have seen sport from both sides; before I was disabled it gave me many positive qualities but now that I am disabled, sport has given me so much more. Sport can play a huge role in the life of someone disabled building your confidence, allowing you to meet like minded people but most of all it gives you a goal again, allowing you to do something that you love. Everybody should be able to get involved in the sport of their choice and Typhoo Sports for All is working hard to make this possible."

The Typhoo Sports for All project, which launched in August 2009, is working to ensure everyone can get involved in sport – but for those who would rather sit back with their feet up and enjoy a cuppa, they can help too as money from every pack of Typhoo sold will be donated to the cause.

The Typhoo and EFDS mission is to increase participation in sport and ensure disabled people can access the sport and physical activity of their choice, at a level of their choice and a venue of their choice.

To help make a difference to disabled sport in this country, all you have to do is buy special packs of Typhoo 'Sports for All' Tea (RRP £2.09 for 80 teabags, £3.79 for 160 and £4.85 for 240). Visit www.typhooatea.co.uk for more information. To learn more about Typhoo Sports for All courses contact Dave Cartlidge: e-mail dcartlidge@efds.co.uk

Events

CP sport Grand Prix Athletics Series 2010

17.04.2010 to 21.08.2010

London, Wigan, Bath, Nottingham and Gateshead

CP Sport will be hosting five Grand Prix competitions during 2010. The winning athletes will be presented with their respective prizes during the CP National Championships on Saturday 18th September at Harvey Hadden Stadium, Nottingham.

Athletes from other impairment groups can participate as guests.

For more information:

Visit www.cpsport.org or call 0115 925 6442

The Amputee Games

14-15 August 2010

100 amputees will meet at Stoke Mandeville Stadium - the national centre for wheelchair sport and the birthplace of the paralympic games - in Buckinghamshire to take part in a unique sporting competition. Participants will take part in 13 Paralympics sports - run by the sports governing bodies- over two days, where they will learn which sports best suit their ability and their lifestyle as well as their individual talents, they will also experience the benefits of participation in sport.

Participation in the games is designed for primary amputees who have been an amputee for between one and four years, this is to ensure that injuries sustained through trauma have healed and that participants are wearing suitable prostheses which will enable them to participate: this will also ensure that each year new amputees get the opportunity to participate while previous participants move onto their chosen sport.

The Games will give these primary amputees an opportunity to experience a wide variety of sports, taught by specialist from the individual sports governing bodies and associations. They will take part in 13 different sports both recreationally and competitively: providing them with a pathway to join the individual disability sporting associations after the games, where they can progress their skills.

The Amputee Games is presented by LimbPower and supported by WheelPower, The Limbless Association and The Douglas Bader Foundation and sponsored by Chas.A.Blatchfords and Boost Charitable Trust. For further information on the Games please contact Catherine Booth cathy.booth@welbeckwealth.com or Kiera Roche at kiera@limbpower.com. You can read more about the Amputee Games on www.limbpower.com

Mencap Sport National 5-a-side Football Championships

Date tbc

The Goals Centre, Redcote Lane, Leeds, LS4 2AW

Entries are open for the annual National 5-a-side Football Championships. The minimum age for players is 16 and priority will be given to Mencap members, but if there are insufficient numbers, then entries from other teams may be admitted.

Players are eligible provided that they meet the criteria to compete as an athlete with a learning disability. That is, they have been identified by an agency or professional as having a general learning disability (IQ of 75 or below). Learning disability does not include physical or sensory impairment, emotional/behavioural impairments or specific learning difficulties. The promoters may refuse entry to any athlete who, in their opinion, does not meet the eligibility criteria.

There is a £20 entry fee per team (Cheques should be made payable to Mencap). To download an entry form follow the link below.

<http://www.disabilityfootball.co.uk/Mencap.html>

Wheelpower National Junior Games

21- 24 September 2010

Stoke Mandeville Stadium

The 2010 Wheelpower National Junior Games will be held at the Stoke Mandeville Stadium from Tuesday 21st to Friday 24th September. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE**

The classification system will be based on age and degree of disability. Entrants should be aged 11 – 18 years on the 31st August 2010. The entry fee is at a reduced rate of £60.00 per competitor and member of staff/escort/parent. This includes accommodation and all meals. The Entry Fee for those not requiring accommodation will be £35.00 per person.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Steve Snelling on 01296 395995 or by email at steve.snelling@wheelpower.org.uk

Special Olympics Great Britain Upcoming Events

Special Olympics Great Britain is the largest provider of year-round sports training and competition for all people with learning disabilities (an IQ of 75 or less). www.sogb.org.uk. Upcoming events include:

Special Olympics European Summer Games, Warsaw - September 18 -24, 2010

This September, Special Olympics Great Britain will be sending 48 athletes and 8 coaches to the European Summer Games in Warsaw where they will represent GB vs. 58 countries, competing in Athletics, Badminton, Power lifting, Table Tennis, Ten Pin Bowling and Tennis. More than 1,600 Special Olympics athletes and 600 coaches are expected to attend. The event will also include a host town program, a policy forum, family forum, youth summit, and a Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run® across Great Britain, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Poland promoting awareness for the movement.

INSPIRE 2012

An Olympic athlete (Derek Redmond) a Paralympian (Marc Woods) and a Special Olympic Athlete (Declan Kerry) will trek to the South Pole, uniting all three Olympic movements. The expedition will be led by Polar explorer Rosie Stancer (www.rosiestancer.com).

Exhibitions

Naidex comes to London & the South

The organisers of the highly successful Naidex exhibition, held at Birmingham's NEC every April are bringing the event to London & the South from 29-30 September 2010 at London's ExCeL.

Over 130 exhibitors are showcasing their products and services to meet healthcare professionals (occupational therapists, physiotherapists, nursing professionals & carers) and members of the public with a disability or special needs of all ages looking for the latest products & information for independent living.

Funding

Sport for Change (Comic Relief)

Comic Relief has just opened its next funding cycle, which includes its Sport for Change programme. This national scheme funds projects that aim to positively improve the lives of individuals and communities, and innovative projects that tackle a social issue or a community concern through sport are encouraged to apply. In particular it is looking to support people from BME communities, older people and women/girls. The maximum grant available is £100,000.

Expressions of interest must be made online by 3 September 2010.

www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk/sport

Vcashpoint (England)

Round 9 of vcashpoint is now open to applications. Grants of £2,500 are available to 16-25 year olds who want to run a volunteering project with a sport, health culture or education theme, inspired by the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

A previous grant went to 'Huyton Bulldogs' where volunteers made rugby available to people in Huyton, an area which has a lot of trouble with gangs and with young people, they now have an active rugby team, involving the whole community.

Online application forms are available and the deadline is Noon, 6 September 2010.

www.vinspired.com/vcashpoint/opportunities/839-vcashpoint-round-9/activities/84174-apply-for-s-to-set-up-a-volunteering-project-now

Access to Volunteering Fund

This pilot scheme aims to increase the number of disabled people in volunteer positions. It is trialing new and innovative approaches to grant funding and is particularly interested in working with organisations that want to increase their numbers of disabled volunteers, or that have little or no history of working with disabled volunteers but want to develop a new initiative. The fund is particularly interested in the wider outcomes for disabled people including improved health and increased social inclusion. The awards range from £250- £5,000, with an average award of £2,000.

This fund is only available in Greater London, the West Midlands and the North West of England. The final deadline this year is 6 September.

www.accesstovolunteering.org

Preparatory action in the field of sport – call for proposals

The European Commission has requested proposals to identify and test suitable networks and good practices in the field of sport, in the following areas:

- (a) Fight against doping.
- (b) Promoting social inclusion in and through sport.
- (c) Promoting volunteering in sport.

The EU has EUR 2,500,000 to distribute, and will fund up to 80 per cent of the total eligible costs. Projects must start between 1 December 2010 and 31 March 2011 and end no later than 30 June 2012.

The deadline is 31 August 2010 and application forms must be posted.

http://ec.europa.eu/sport/preparatory_actions/doc866_en.htm

In brief

Playground to Podium programme

The Playground to Podium programme continues to thrive through the delivery of CAAD days. To date 41 out of 49 CSPs dry-side CAADs have been delivered, 6 CSPs have been granted extension and are due to run their dry-side CAAD programme in September and October. 35 out of 49 CSPs wet-side CAADs have been delivered. With changes being implemented to the Playground to Podium programme in year 3 alongside the recent application for the Inspire mark, success rates through CAAD days are expected to rise.

New name for Dwarf Athletics Association UK

The DAA membership voted on this at the recent AGM and it was decided to be known as the **Dwarf Sports Association UK** from now onwards. It was felt that this better describes what the association provides to its members, as many partner organisations were confused, believing they only provided athletics events.

There is also a new office landline telephone number (01246 296485), but the address and mobile number remain the same. For the new logo or to find out more please contact timdaauk@yahoo.co.uk. The new website address is www.dsauk.org

Durham Disability Cricket Family Fun Day

Durham Cricket Board held its first Disability Cricket Family Fun Day at the Emirates Durham ICG on Sunday 4th July. The event was organised in partnership with EFDS North East with sponsorship from npower. Around 80 disabled cricketers of various ages took part, many of whom were experiencing cricket for the first time. The day started when the youngsters and their families were given the opportunity to play Table Cricket – a form of the game adapted to allow players with various levels and types of impairments- either as a team or against each other. After they were able to test their skills on the Emirates Durham ICG field led by a team of coaches managed by Chris Siddell. They were put through their paces with some catching skills and games, and got the chance to test target throwing and bowling games.

Deloitte raises over £250,000 for ParalympicsGB

Deloitte presented ParalympicsGB on 16 June 16 with the money raised so far by Deloitte Ride Across Britain- a 1,000 mile bicycle ride from Land's End to John O'Groats which took place over nine days. £261,664.79 has already been raised for ParalympicsGB by the Ride and Deloitte aim to raise £1 million over the next four years through the event. The cheque was presented by James Cracknell, whose events company Threshold Sports are running the Ride. Among the 600 riders were Paralympic gold medallists Sarah Storey and Jody Cundy as well as Olympic gold medallists James Cracknell and Rebecca Romero.

PlaySport London: Free Sport

Working in partnership with the London Development Agency (LDA), Interactive has ensured that one of the funding requirements for all PlaySport London: Free Sport initiatives is a minimum target of 10% participation by disabled people. Therefore all activities offered under the PlaySport London: Free Sport programme will be delivered in an inclusive environment, and all will be working towards increasing participation levels for disabled people in the capital.

Free Sport is part of the Mayor's £30m commitment to create a sporting legacy up to and after the Olympic and Paralympic Games, by supporting an array of sporting activities and initiatives across the capital.

Big Dance Partnership

Interactive has formed a new strategic partnership with Big Dance. Led by the Mayor of London, Big Dance features 9 days of dance events in unusual places throughout the capital city to showcase the diversity of dance styles. Everyone is invited to join in, with the aim is to encourage people to 'get into dance, increase fitness levels and generate a legacy of dance for all. Held from 3 - 11 July, Interactive were delighted by the inclusive opportunities offered in 9 day festival and will continue to work with Big Dance to ensure that all dance opportunities are inclusive and that the event in 2012 is bigger and better for disabled people to participate in.

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