

National LGBTI Sports Group
Venue: Online
Date: 6th February 2023, 10-11.30am



Present:

Lauren Hall - Equalities in Sport Policy Officer, Active Scotland
Allan McKay - Development Director, Scottish Squash
Gary Grieve - National Development Manager, Scottish ClubSport
Alison Lunn - Partnership Manager, sportscotland
Fiona Lilley - Partnership Manager, sportscotland
Ailsa Wyllie - Lead Manager, sportscotland
Eilidh Paterson - Inclusion & Culture Development Coordinator, Scottish Student Sport
Angela Robinson - Head of Delivery, Active Scotland
Denisha Killoh - Policy & Advocacy Manager, Stonewall Scotland
Francesca Snitjer - Executive and Equalities Officer, scottishathletics
Andrew Sinclair - Head of Active Scotland, Scottish Government
Robin Drummond - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Manager, Scottish Football Association
Hugh Torrance - Executive Director, LEAP Sports Scotland (Chair)
Heidi Vistisen - Policy Manager, LEAP Sports Scotland (note taker)

Guest:

Dillon Landi, Lecturer in Education at University of Strathclyde

Apologies:

Scott Cuthbertson - Development Manager, Equality Network
Atta Yaqub - Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Manager, sportscotland

1. Welcome and introductions

Chair welcomed the group and outlined the agenda for the meeting including apologies.

2. Actions from previous minutes

None

3. Presentation

The group welcomed Dillon Landi as an invited guest to this first meeting as part of our focus on education settings. Dillon joins us from University of Strathclyde where he is a Lecturer having conducted research in health education (sex education), physical education and sport as part of health & wellbeing research.

The presentation was shaped to engage the group to consider sport and physical education for young people and the impact and importance of the experiences they have in an education setting. To that end, Dillon led a discussion on:

- What is the purpose of Physical Education?
- What is the purpose of Youth Sport?

Group members actively took part in dissecting the impact of negative experiences in physical education and school which might lead to less active participation in adulthood. Additionally, groups discussed lack of flexibility in segregation of activities in PE and school settings, which only exacerbates often negative experiences of LGBTIQ+ pupils.

Dillon further explored and outlined the barriers and challenges found in physical education as well as some of the research done in this area both in Scotland and abroad. With those in mind, the group reflected on what member organisations are currently doing to address these challenges and what part the National LGBTI Sports Group could play in this.

Key points of discussion included:

- It is essential to encourage positive and inclusive participation
- There is some uncertainty of what work is already being done to address this in Scotland
- Appetite from the group to further explore the policy and practice in this area.

Following the substantial and detailed discussion as facilitated by Dillon, the group agreed that further focus on sport in an educational context should be explored through a deeper exploratory event.

Actions:

LEAP to organise symposium on education focus

All to consider involvement and contribution to symposium

4. Updates by area of focus

Sector development

SSS are collating gender regulation policies across sports governing bodies as students are unsure where to get the right information from. SSS will work with other group members to update.

Awareness

Football v Homophobia Month of Action taking place across February. SFA have got a range of activities planned including teams warming up in FvH t shirts, dedicated matches, rainbow laces and promotional materials across SPFL matches.

LEAP Scotland is hosting the annual LGBT History Month competitions throughout February with competitions happening in North, East and West as well as a Youth and Corporate Cup.

Stonewall Scotland hosted activations around the FIFA Men's World Cup in Qatar, including "Proud Stadium" where individuals could sign up and take a stand for LGBTIQ rights. The campaign had about 60,000 sign ups - the size of one of the stadiums for the World Cup. Members of Scottish Parliament also took part by

wearing Rainbow Laces. 2023 is the 10th year of Rainbow Laces which will be celebrated in style.

Grassroots

LEAP is about to launch the programme for the annual Festival Fortnight. This will include options for sponsorship as well as grants for smaller groups to host and organise events and activities.

Improving knowledge

Members highlighted International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) on 17th of May. The group decided to revisit a joint action on social media which had been successful in previous years.

Action: HV agreed to draft a suggestion and circulate to group members in advance

Education settings

The group will continue an education focus and EP agreed to coordinate input on sport in further and higher education for the next meeting.

5. Other updates

None

6. AOB

None

Meeting closed at 11.30am

Next meeting 15th May, 10-11.30am, online

Meeting dates for rest of 2023

- 14th August 10-11.30am
- 6th November 10-11.30am