



ISSUE 7—02 FEBRUARY 2010

Welcome to this week's edition of the Sports Union e-newsletter

With the first e-newsletter of 2010, I'd like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year. We hope that 2010 will be one of the best years ever for the Sports Union.

It's perhaps time to reflect on what was also a fantastic year in 2009 for the SU and it's athletes. Stirling were successful in a number of sports bringing home the Scottish titles in Football, Rugby, Tennis, Golf to add to a number of fantastic team and individual achievements in a number of other sports. The Sports Union have also implemented a new coaching programme which has seen the recruitment of 12 coaches in a number of sports which has received some fantastic feedback so far.

We've been working hard to secure the funding for the programme next year and will continue to do so. Add this to a number of other developments including increased funding for ALL clubs, increased funding for BUCS and SUS Championships, a new sports co-ordinator in Elena, increased support from Sports Studies (through Jason), the leisure wear range, a new website (to be launched soon), an online membership system and the fantastic e-newsletter, 2010 is set to be a fantastic year!

2010 certainly starts off with a bang with Stirling hosting the BUCS Cross Country Championships on Saturday. The event is one of the biggest student sports events in the UK with 1000 students competing in 3 races at the University's Airthrey course. We have worked hard to bring the event here which gives us a great opportunity to showcase sport at Stirling while also bringing a little bit of money in to the Athletics Club and the Sports Union. There is also an opportunity to get involved in the event by doing some marshalling and in return you'll get some food, drinks and a ticket for the night event in Glow. See below for more details.

We're now only a couple of weeks from the beginning of semester and we're working on providing a busy programme of events for the Sports Union. We are looking forward to the BUCS Cross Country, Give it a Go week, Sports Quiz, SU Foam Party, Sport Relief mile, BUCS Championships, Conference Cup finals, British Universities Games (BUGS), the website launch and much, much more.

2010 is set to be a brilliant year here at Stirling. Make sure you take part!

Jamie MacDonald
President

This week's Highlights

- **News**
 - BUCS Champs
 - Cross Country
 - Website
- **Reports**
 - Trampoline
- **Results**
 - Key results
- **Write for the SU e-newsletter**
- **The Union**

BUCS Knock-out Draws

Championships -

Men's Football v
UWE Hartpury (A)
(10/02/10)

Men's Basketball v
Leeds Met (A)
(17/02/10)

Men's Tennis v
Uni of London College (H)
(10/02/10)

Trophy -
Women's Basketball v
Liverpool (A)
(10/02/10)

Men's 2nd Tennis v
Nottingham (H)
(10/02/10)

Men's Table Tennis v
Heriot-Watt (A)
(10/02/10)

Jamie MacDonald
President

STOP PRESS: The draws for the BUCS knock-outs have just been announced. Stirling face some very difficult ties. The Men's football team are away to University of West England (BUCS Champions 2007 and 2008). The Men's basketball team are away to Leeds Met (BUCS Premier League South winners).



>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>NEWS>>>

BUCS Championships



The draws for the BUCS Championship knockouts have been announced this morning and Stirling face the best teams in the UK in both basketball and football. The Men's football team are away to University of West England (BUCS Champions 2007 and 2008). The Men's basketball team are away to Leeds Met (BUCS Premier League South winners).

The Men's tennis team face the University of London College at home in the last 16 and should come through that. However, Stirling will then have to travel to London Met in the last 8 to face a team with a budget of £100k.

The Women's Basketball team face a trip to Liverpool in the last 16 of the BUCS trophy event. The Men's Table Tennis face a short trip to Heriot-Watt in the BUCS Trophy.

BUCS Individual Championships

Preparations are also underway for a number of BUCS individual Championships with entries for many competitions closing soon. Entries for the following individual competitions are currently open and you should get in touch with your club or myself if you'd like to compete -

- Archery
- Indoor Athletics
- Boxing
- Climbing
- Judo
- Karate
- Orienteering

BUCS Cross Country Championships

By David Christie

One thousand student athletes head for Stirling on Saturday for the first event of the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) athletics season.

One thousand student athletes head for Stirling on Saturday for the first event of the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) athletics season.

The BUCS Cross Country Championships, hosted by the University of Stirling, Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence, will take place around the Stirling campus on Saturday 6 February and is set to play host to a raft of British talent.



Defending champions and St Mary's University College students, Andy Vernon and Steph Twell will both be running to retain their titles as well as to win points for the men's and women's team competition.

The women's competition will be a closely fought race as Olympian Twell lines up with fellow GB athletes Emily Pidgeon (Loughborough), Stevie Stockton (Loughborough), Charlotte Purdue (St Mary's) and Lauren Howarth (Birmingham).

The University of Birmingham will be hoping to regain the men's team title it last won in 2007 with the help of Nick Goolab and James Wilkinson, who recently returned from the Junior European Cross Country Championships in December with silver and bronze medals respectively.

Other competitors to watch out for include current World Triathlon Champion, Alistair Brownlee of Leeds Met Carnegie and fellow Carnegie triathlete Lois Rosindale, who already has the BUCS Hill Climb Cycling Championship title under her belt.

Karen Rothery, Chief Executive of British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) said: "The competition looks fierce at this year's university cross country event and I'm pleased to see a high number of athletes using the competition as key event in their training programmes. With the support of the University of Stirling, I expect we will see some great races from our elite British athletes."

Jamie MacDonald, University of Stirling Sports Union President, said: "We are delighted to once again host the BUCS Cross Country Championships, a major event in the student sporting calendar. It's great to see so many talented athletes will be coming to the University of Stirling and I'm sure they will enjoy testing themselves on a challenging course around our scenic campus."

For the first time athletes will benefit from a chip timing system, provided by Interloq's Winning Time System. Lucozade Sport will also be on hand at the event to give sports nutrition advice to competitors.

There are three races: Men's Long Race 11.1km, Women's Long Race 6.4km and the Men's B Race 7.9km, starting at 12pm, 1pm and 2pm respectively. The starting line is at the Airthrey Golf Pavilion with parking available a short walk away at the Halls of Residence.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED— We need volunteers to help marshal the Cross Country Championships here on Saturday. You would be need between 11am and 3pm and in return you would get, a free BUCS goodie bag, a free meal in the Union, some drinks, ticket to the night event and our sincerest thanks. If you're interested please email sports.union@stir.ac.uk

Website to be re-launched

Website to be re-launched



The Sports Union website has not really functioned for a couple of years now so we felt it was about time we did something about it. We are working on redesigning the current site to make it the one stop shop for all your Sports Union news, events and information.

The new site will provide up to date news stories on sport at Stirling, upcoming fixtures, match reports and information for clubs, events information, competition information plus much, much more.

>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>REPORTS>>>RE

Trampoline Club

The trampoline and gymnastics club have seen a huge influx of fresh talent this year. So it came as little surprise that the first semester has seen a great display of talent from Stirling's bouncers in the SUS League. In the first competition Stirling had representatives in all categories (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Elite) for the first time in 2 years. In the novice men category Alex Wright made his debut for the university and produced an outstanding display to claim bronze. In the intermediate category Niamh Kirkwood breezed past the competition to score her first gold medal, Dale Murray claimed his first medal winning bronze and Stirling had several bouncers placed just outside the medals. In the Advanced category Calum McCabe won his first medal coming in 3rd place whilst Stephanie McKenzie demolished the field to comfortably win gold in Advanced Women section. Flying the flag in the elite category for their first time was Jamie Farquharson and Tony Gillespie. A commendable showing resulted in Jamie placing 7th and Tony 5th in Scottish Universities respectively. The team medals are awarded to a pre-submitted team of 4 bouncers whose scores are combined with the highest winning. Stirling's team of Jenna Macfarlane, Dale Murray, Stephanie McKenzie and Tony Gillespie claimed third place in a thoroughly productive showing from Stirling.

The second competition was a mixed bag for Stirling on the whole. The competition was littered with falls resulting in the early termination of the ten move routines of many competitors from all universities. Despite this Alex Wright claimed a gold medal in Novice men, Laura Urquhart a silver in Novice Women with Laura Sinclair placing 4th. In the intermediate category Dale Murray remained consistent with another bronze and Niamh Kirkwood missing out on bronze by the narrowest of margins in the women's category. Calum McCabe produced a much better display to win silver in advanced men and Stephanie McKenzie was unfortunate not to continue her winning streak in Advanced Women placing 4th. In Elite men both Jamie Farquharson and Tony Gillespie fell during their routines but their industrious perseverance throughout the competition resulted in Jamie leaping to 5th and Tony to 4th in Scottish Universities top category.





Stirling next compete in the British Championship Qualifiers before travelling to Dundee for the Scottish Open. They are strong contenders to challenge for the SUS League title this year and with the dedication and talent present within the club is the potential for the most successful year in the club's history.

RESULTS

January 2010

Sport	Team	H/A	Opposition	Result
Football	Men's 1st	H	Strathclyde	6-0
Football	Men's 1st	A	Edinburgh	1-0
Tennis	Men's 1st	H	Manchester	8-2

In order to keep the weekly SU e-newsletter running, we need contributions from you guys.

In The Union—BUCS X-Country After Party

Studio and Glow are hosting the official After-Party of the BUCS Cross Country Championships. 1000 (yes, one thousand) students will descend on Stirling's campus for the event and the majority are expected to head to Glow for what could be a sell-out night.

There is a fancy-dress theme with great prizes on offer for the best dressed individuals and teams. This is a tradition of the Cross Country After-Parties.

The event is open to all Stirling students and tickets cost £4. Tickets will be on sale through-out the day at the Championships. It is sure to be one of the biggest nights in the Union for many years.





Cross Country 2010

AFTERPARTY

6th Feb @ The Union

9pm onwards @ The Union, Stirling University. **Prize for best team costume!**
Tickets £4 available at registration, on the course or on the door.



University of Stirling Sports Union

e-newsletter



