



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

May I take this opportunity to thank Olivia Hodson, Sports Union Communications Officer, for writing this week's edition of the Sports Union e-newsletter. I'm sure you'll agree that it's an improvement on the old guy who used to write this!

Jamie MacDonald
President

As the semester continues into its 4th/5th weeks, Fixtures continue, with the likes of Ultimate Frisbee and Karate heading south this weekend past to soak up the intense atmosphere competing with the UK universities at BUCS. Unfortunately we did not make it to the end.

The Stirling Uni men's 1's successfully qualified for the British Premiere league this semester beating Leeds, whilst this is the semester for Sean Hartley, having won his quarter and semi-final towards the title of Scottish light-heavyweight title in Boxing.

Ladies Netball reeled in success last week after 3 victories by the 3 teams that played, Another win next weekend vs. St Andrews 1st away will secure us a promotion into the Scottish Conference 1A Division.

The continual success of many of the sports clubs shows promising results for the Uni, and will no doubt encourage other clubs to follow, keep up the good work Stirling!

Sports relief is approaching fast, if you still do not have a sponsor form, you can get one off Ross Main, play your part and make a difference!

In other news, following the clubs council last night (15th) we encourage all clubs to get in contact regarding the Clubs Academy. Do let either Jamie or Elena know of any specific help you think the future committee for your club will need (e.g, Club Registrations, Fixtures, Transport, SU documents) It will be a fantastic chance to make sure your club continues to run as smooth as possible in the transition weeks.

Also the SPORTS BALL is close, and tickets are available for committee's and 4th year students this Friday at 10am in the atrium, you all know fine its the best event of the year so get in fast as were sure this one will be a sell out!

£33 –Ticket
£7 –Bus Ticket

Another fantastic week of sporting achievements, lets keep up

This week's highlights

BUCS

- Results
- Reports

Reports

- Premiership for the footballers
- SnowSports Under-dogs
- Scott Hartley soars to boxing success...
- Netball Team Hat-trick!
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Octopush

Sports Union events

Dates to note...

17th March
St Paddy's

18th March, 11am
Election Hustings

19th March
Sports Relief Day

22nd/23rd March
Student Union Elections

Another fantastic week of sporting achievements, lets keep up the good work!

Olivia Hodson
Communications Officer



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Sports Union Awards Ball 2010 | Ticket Information

This year's Sports Union Awards Ball will be held at the Inchyra Grange Hotel, Grangemouth on Friday 16th April 2010. Please details below...

Sports Union Ball 2010
Inchyra Grange Hotel, Grangemouth
Friday 16th of April

Buses leave campus at 5.30pm
Drinks reception at 6.15pm
Dinner at 7pm
Carriages at 2am

The evening will include
- Drinks reception
- 3 course meal
- Speeches
- Awards
- Ceilidh
- Live Music
- DJ

Tickets cost £33
Bus tickets cost £7

Tickets go on sale this Friday to committee members and 4th years only. Tickets can also be purchased for club coaches at this time too. Tickets will be on sale in the Atrium from 10am to 2pm.

Further ticket sales will take place on Wednesday 24th of March from 10am to 4pm in the Atrium. Further details to follow soon.

The Sports Union Ball is undoubtedly the highlight of the University social calendar and with only 330 tickets on sale it is sure to sell out. Please make sure you get your tickets early!

Don't Lose Your Voice!

Shape it-

The union is always keen to have your input, and with this in mind we are running the Shape It survey to find out what you really think of what the Union provides and what your key objectives for it are.

By taking part, you can help shape the future direction of the Union and you can also win £100! The Survey can be completed here:

www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/shapeit

Elections

The main Union elections are rapidly approaching. To find out more about the candidates and to read their manifestos, please visit:

www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/elections

It is vital that you all take the opportunity to vote. This is your opportunity to choose next year's Sports Union President!

*In addition, Hustings will be held in the Atrium from 11.00am on Thursday 18th March so make sure you come along and hear what the candidates have to say.

St Patrick's Day

Also, don't forget the Union is the only place to be this Paddy's Day - with a special menu in the Union all day, Celtic Music in Studio from 2pm, an Irish themed Rock & Roll Bingo at 6pm, Champions League football and Mario Kart competition...there is no excuse to go anywhere else!

PLUS! *Skint* presents Roy Walker hosting Catchphrase until 3am!! Tickets are available now in Studio.

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Football

University of Stirling 1's 1-2 Leeds Met University

A home defeat brought a day of mixed emotions for the Stirling students. Leeds face Nottingham Trent University this week in the final play-off match, but despite losing 2-1 on the day, Stirling claimed their place in the BUCS Northern Premier League.

Leed's powerful striker proved the difference at the Gannochy Sports Centre, turning and executing a clinical drive for his first before bashing his way through an unusually soft Stirling defence to nick the winner.

In between, Stirling had managed to level from the penalty spot when sub striker Jacob Arnold-Smith bamboozled the Leeds defence, his route to goal crudely ended with a trip. Lee Nichol held his nerve despite some entertaining antics from the Leeds keeper to put Stirling back on level terms.

But Leeds, under the cosh for much of the second half, rallied and pounced to put themselves in the driving seat for the other promotion place.

Snowsports

by Hollie Smith

On the 6th and 7th of March, some of the Snowsports team headed up north to the Cairngorms for one of the biggest racing events on the calendar. It was said with over 178 Scottish University students present at the event, competition was high. As usual the Stirling students left their mark on the event, entering both the ski and board races, but fell weak in the first round and were knocked out.

However, there was still hope as a team of "collective rejects" re-entered, which consisted of Stirling, Edinburgh and Strathclyde students. Some victory came from the underdogs, named 'Edinstrathling'



dents. Some victory came from the underdogs named Edinstrathling' when Hollie Smith (Stirling University) managed to get further than all our respective ski teams and came second to Glasgow. It was a good effort from Stirling.



Boxing

Scott Hartley's success continues this semester, when he won his quarter final on 27th of February at Lasswade in Edinburgh. It all resulted in a victory by points, against Billy Cairns (Orbiston gym, Glasgow).

"It was a comfortable win, but I could have upped my game by increasing pace for some extra points"

He then went on to win the semi final on the 5th of March, taking place at the Hilton hotel in Aberdeen. Hartley again defeated his opposition, Dave Nelson (Kinross) on points, but stressed he was dissatisfied with his performance:

"...if had not been so lazy during the match, I feel I would have took it so much easier or I would have won on stoppage"

The Scottish final will take place on March 26th, in the Time Capsule, Coatbridge. Where Scott will battle it out with Kevin Bruce (Kingdom Gym, Fife) for the Scottish light-heavyweight title. Not one to shy away, Bruce has fought some seasoned professionals before both with success and failure, so we wish the best of luck to Hartley, and hope he returns to us with a brand new title!

Karate

The Stirling Karate duo travelled down on Friday afternoon along with athletics team to take part in the BUCS karate over weekend. Jade Hunter, who had her work cut out, competing in senior kata event on the Saturday (described as a pre arranged sequence of karate moves, a bit like a dance routine) and senior kumite (fighting) on the Sunday. And Sean Gulland, competed on the Sunday in the senior male kumite.

The Competition was intense as it was the location for the World Championship selections. Jade performed well in Saturdays senior women's kata event but unfortunately lost to Malgorzata Stanislawek (Cambridge University) who went on to beat another 2 people, but then was beaten in her 3rd contest which meant jade sadly missed out on the repechage. On Sunday both Sean and an even more determined Jade competed in the Kumite events. In true competition style, after a long wait, Sean competed in the men's senior under 67kg category, an impressively large band in which he faced the competition of 32 competitors. His first fight was against Mohammad Reza (Kent University) starting well, scoring his first point within the first couple of seconds, resulting in a 3-1 win. But unfortunately lost out in the quarter finals fighting Mark Wyllie (Herriot-Watt University) only a mere 4-3.

Following this, Jade's 68kg women's senior kumite event commenced. She was lucky with her draw initially getting a bye in the first round and went on to face Natasha Ferrier (Warwick University) unfortunately losing by 1-0. Once again missing out on the repechage. Both competitors gave a good account of themselves and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Although that was the first and last BUCS karate appearance from jade with it being her final year hopefully Sean will go on to compete again next year! Well done!

Netball

A Stirling Uni Netball Team Hat-trick!!

By Yan Yeung

Last week saw an excellent week for Stirling University Netball Club with all three of our

Last week saw an excellent week for Stirling University Netball Club with all three of our teams claiming victories! It all started with our 3rd team playing against Aberdeen 4ths at home on Wednesday 10th March 2010.

The girls were yet to win a game this season and with this in mind they were eagerly seeking a victory - And it was a convincing one at that with a 37-20 win. *"The girls performed with integrity and courage to achieve the first win the 3rd team have seen in the last 3 years!!"* – Yan Yeung (Netball President)

The 2nd team also had a fixture this day however, prior to the game a key member of the team was lost to sickness which meant that the team had to show their versatility compromising their positions to ensure that they had the strongest team possible for the game. The important fixture put on pressure, with a win being needed to claim us the league promotion for next year. After a shaky start the girls took control of the court and secured themselves a 35-23 triumph meaning they will be promoted into the 3A league division next year! And a special congratulation needs to go to Lisa Haining who got nominated Queen of the court for her performance in this game!

Finally, Saturday saw a nail-biting fixture between Stirling 1st and St Andrews 1st. This game was of big rivalry and with both teams being in contention for the league title this year a win was crucial for us to continue our campaign for the title!

The game began with a nervous atmosphere as both teams had to fight goal for goal in the attempt to secure themselves the victory and the prospect of promotion. The first quarter saw a slow start for Stirling and it was clear that it wasn't going to be our best day on the court. For the first 3 quarters Stirling lead, however in the 4th quarter there was a point when I thought our fight for the title could be at an end when St Andrews managed to pull it back to 26-27 with minutes remaining in the game. At this point the team's fighting spirit kicked in as we fought hard to bring it back to a 32-27 victory! Another win next weekend vs. St Andrews 1st away will secure us a promotion into the Scottish Conference 1A Division next year!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all three teams on their victories this week with a special congratulation going to our 3rd team for achieving not only their first win of the season but their first win in the last 3 years!!

Ultimate Frisbee

Weekend at BUCS

By Calum Peterson

On the 12th March a squad of 15 made their way to Sheffield for the BUCS Championships Ultimate Frisbee Open National Championships. After finishing 4th in the Scottish Regional qualifying event in St Andrews last month Stirling entered division 2 of the BUCS championships as the top Scottish team and really wanted to maintain this position.

The team took full advantage of their accommodation, dipping straight into the pool! Saturday started early for the team, we had to leave Sheffield at 7.30am as our venue was half an hour out. It was a good day for Stirling despite the wind which had a major effect on the play as you would imagine. We won all 4 of our hour long pool games. Wins against Plymouth, University College London, University of Birmingham and the University of Surrey secured us top of our pool and 2nd seed for the tournament going into Sunday.

Sunday came around and it was another nice early start for the team leaving the hotel at 7am. Our first game was against the University of East Anglia to retain our 2nd seed and get a place in the semi-final. The wind was again a major factor in the play and getting upwind points was crucial. Fortunately we got a couple of these precious points upwind and took the game with relative comfort. Into the semi's we went – buoyed with confidence. Playing really well, Michael Burns scoring many impressive points in the end – zones and American Scott Hubbard continuing with some outstanding D blocks. Our game was against Imperial University and started out trading points downwind as most of the weekend went. However just before the half Imperial managed to get themselves two upwind points leaving us with a mammoth mountain to climb after half time. Our second half display started well and we managed to claw back a few points scoring upwind and shaking Imperial up a little however they managed to hold on to win 10-8 in the end. Our 3 v 4 was then straight after against Southampton. Obviously the team were a little disheartened after the semi-final loss but wanted to finish the tournament on a high. The game was very close the whole way

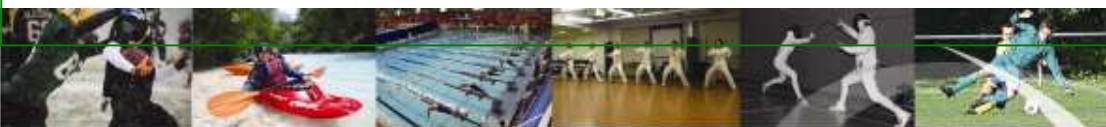
Southampton. Obviously the team were a little disheartened after the semi-final loss but wanted to finish the tournament on a high. The game was very close the whole way through with most of the points going with the wind. Playing two hours in a row really took a toll, and our tired legs started to show. However, we managed to battle through it and take Southampton to sudden-death. Unfortunately, Southampton had the downwind advantage and used this well taking 3rd place in the end. Which left us with 4th place. A little gutting at the time but in reflection was a great effort especially as the other Scottish teams in our division finished 15th (Aberdeen) and 16th (Strathclyde). So well done Stirling!

Octopush

by Joseph Moulton

Stirling University Octopush Club achieved a very credible fourth place last weekend at the British Universities Octopush Tournament in Oxford out of the 16 teams who attended. A fantastic all round team performance led to victories against two Warwick teams and Liverpool Uni with the defence keeping an incredible clean sheet. Before losing to Aberdeen and Plymouth the resulting champions at the end of the day. Finishing in 3rd place in the first group stage put the team through to the top group of the second round. An easy win against Bangor was secured with Stirling's Mairi Cowain and Dutch Matt scoring some hefty goals, Cowain even playing with a still unhealed fractured finger. Next a very close game with Portsmouth resulted in a one all draw, despite two Stirling goals being disallowed and another being deemed after the final whistle. Last game of the day for the team was against the mighty Edinburgh, despite some great underwater hockey being played the Scottish rivals managed to secure victory. The travelled back determined to ensure a medal in Durham next year!!!!

If you fancy joining the team come down to training at the Pool on Wednesdays at 1!!



University of Stirling Sports Union

e-newsletter



