



Leisure & Culture Dundee is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation No. SC042421

Leisure and Sport Services

Annual Report 2014/15

2014 was an outstanding year for sport: Winter Olympics in Sochi, the World Cup in Brazil and 2 global events close to home: the **Commonwealth Games** in Glasgow and the **Ryder Cup at Gleneagles**.

All of these 'international occasions' had an impact locally by highlighting the spectacular highs and lows, passion and commitment and opportunity sport provides and elicits. These global hooks helped us achieve some **1,380,000** visits to our sports facilities and services, with participant numbers strong across every area of provision.

The World Cup inspired various events and we were particularly pleased to be able to host Brazilian Days and Futsal competitions at DISC and offer, for the first time, Beach Football holiday programmes at Broughty Ferry. Bubble Football proved popular and we continued our support of national football initiatives, including Bank of Scotland's Midnight League.

Dundee Ice Arena (DIA) was transferred to L&CD on 1 April 2014 and benefitted greatly from the Winter Olympics and a successful season by Dundee Stars Ice Hockey Club. It was especially pleasing to see the individual successes of figure skaters, with both senior and junior Ladies UK champions skating at DIA. Recreational and Fun Public sessions, which include Foam Parties on Friday evenings, were hugely popular and Curling has continued to grow with a significant junior membership, and Dundee Dragons establishing a wheelchair club.



The presentation of our Golf courses is improving every year and the condition of the courses in 2014 generated many positive comments. The global position with golf participation, however, is challenging with significant declines in participation in all the world's major playing nations. In response to this, strategic plans were produced to tackle the key issues of memberships, retention, accessibility and equality and diversity.



There were almost **575,000** attendances at Olympia, Lochee and Community Swim and Sports facilities. The Olympia Swim Centre remains our most popular facility with some **400,000** visitors. In 2014/15 we offered a more diverse range of activities, such as Water Polo, Canoe Polo, Diving, Sub Aqua and Aqua Fit, which complement our regular programme of club and public swimming and swim lessons.

Our Development services continue to grow with some **160,000** young people visits. Links with schools and clubs remain strong and partnership working with NHS, Abertay University, SFA and other local and national agencies is thriving.

The McTaggart Centre has increased its customer base to include NHS-related and family groups. This programme development has increased usage by **10,000** from the first full year of operation.



2014/15 was an outstanding year for Camperdown Wildlife Centre, helped greatly by the introduction of the meerkats and the Wildlights events. Whilst conservation and education remain the Centre's key focus, it is becoming a destination for families looking for new and fun experiences.

Our Leisureactive membership scheme has seen another extremely successful year with membership in excess of **4,500**. The scheme provides great value to customers and generates a significant level of income for the service. It is also becoming an increasingly important part of the work we do with NHS clients and this is expected to develop further in 2015.

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In 2014 the Leisure and Sport Service further developed its approach to performance management and quality. Our focus for future development now includes 'making a difference', 'the impact of provision', 'cost effectiveness' and 'sustainability'. This work has led to changes to provision and the establishment of new relationships with Dundee Partnership and national agencies. Overall 2014/15 was an extremely successful year for Leisure and Sport Services, however, the greatest achievement was in setting the foundations to contribute more significantly to people's lives in Dundee.



Facts and Figures

Centre/Service	Attendance Figures		
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Olympia	314,042	429,428	398,777
Lochee	78,344	67,554	75,615
St. Paul's	54,030	54,018	49,152
Grove	52,632	54,117	47,186
DISC	144,751	174,907	180,205
Douglas	81,445	81,052	76,383
Lynch	56,773	55,105	54,455
Wildlife Centre	73,615	81,884	88,215
Golf	54,523	57,114	53,916
Development	153,789	144,284	160,368
Sub Total	1,063,944	1,199,463	1,184,272
Dundee Ice Arena	0	0	121,376
McTaggart	0	65,303	74,513
TOTAL	1,063,944	1,264,744	1,380,161



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DISC

Alongside the regular activity programme DISC has seen another busy year with new events such as Science Fair, Boxing, Highland Dancing, Team Gymnastics and Trinidad/Tobago Commonwealth Games preparation matches.

Programme developments include SFA Futsal League and development sessions, Roller Derby development and recruitment sessions, Box Soccer Sunday evening league and Bubble Football sessions.



Events

On Thursday 10 July, the Trinidad and Tobago international Hockey Team played Grove Menzieshill Hockey Club in a friendly match at DISC as part of their warm-up preparations to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Shona Robison, Minister of Commonwealth Games, initiated the pushback to get the game underway.

The players and spectators experienced a wonderful Dundee day with Trinidad and Tobago winning the match 4-2.



DISC hosted The Scottish Northern Area District Boxing Championships in November 2014, which was a great success for participants and spectators alike. There was very positive feedback from officials; boxers; coaching staff and spectators. Jimmy Marr, organiser, issued a letter of praise to the staff at DISC for their input. He wrote:

“On behalf of St. Francis Boxing Club, I am writing to express our thanks to you and all your staff for your support before, during and after the recent Scottish Northern Area District Boxing Championships which were staged at DISC.

I knew from the pre-planning meetings that we had with you, that the event would be prepared and managed with the utmost professionalism. It was particularly helpful to have support during the planning stages, which ensured that we had all bases covered on the day. In addition, we had great support from all staff who were working that Sunday. They all helped to ensure that we delivered a first class event”.



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Programme Developments

Bubble Football was introduced at DISC in April 2014 as part of Leisure and Sport Service's 'invest to grow' initiative and it proved very popular. Participation levels and income generated was some **20%** above the target, boding well for an activity which encourages all ages to get involved.

Following discussion with Dundee City Council's Community Regeneration Team, Futsal was given a regular Friday night training slot. Throughout 2014/15 the sport has been expanded with a Futsal league being established in partnership with the SFA on Tuesday evenings. In addition, underused time on Monday and Thursday evenings has been developed to recruit new players to the game.

A Box Soccer League has been established during Sunday evenings, generating new players and additional income. It is anticipated this league will continue to grow and deliver a competitive football experience for new participants and a number of players returning to the game.



Building Improvements

The external frontage of DISC was refurbished, including repainting of harling, doors, windows, balcony, railings, gutters and downpipes as well as necessary replacement roof tiles.

Also in 2014/15 the changing room and fitness studio improvement programme was completed.



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Development Team

Active City staff organised a number of events around the 2014 Commonwealth Games celebrations.

The following is a quote received from Colin Robertson, **sportscotland's** Institute Network Manager and High Performance Manager:

*“The **sportscotland** Institute of Sport is very much about service support to sports and individuals to make an impact on the world stage. Over many years Dundee City Council and Leisure & Culture Dundee have supported us with partnership support around local performance athletes, especially with the use of quality facilities to enhance their efforts and gain a winning edge. The DISC hockey pitch has allowed us to work with local, international and GB hockey players, and the McTaggart Gymnastic facility has been used at appropriate times for specific sessions to support our Dundee international gymnasts. The Caird Park running track has had the flexibility to help us develop top runners - Emily Dudgeon the 800m semi-finalist at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, from Dundee University, has been the latest athlete to benefit from the track session.”*

Queen's Baton Relay

On 27 June, the Queen's Baton Relay visited Dundee and members of the Active City team organised a series of activities including 'Lunch on the Lawn' at Camperdown Park, a showcase at McTaggart Gymnastics Centre with members of Scottish squads and local clubs in attendance and a visit to Caird Park where the baton was welcomed by members of Dundee Hawkhill Harriers and Discovery Junior Cycling Club, before being carried round the athletics track and Velodrome. Large crowds attended all 3 sites with many people getting the opportunity to have their photo taken with the baton.



City Centre Commonwealth Games Come & Try Event

On 25 July 2014, staff organised a Come & Try Day in the City Square to coincide with the Commonwealth Games, where a large screen was situated giving the general public the opportunity to watch live coverage of the Games. This proved to be a real success over the 5 days it was there.

Activities on offer included an inflatable hockey pitch, spin bikes, the Street Football pitch which was used for Football and Wheelchair Rugby, Tennis, Badminton, target games and the Climbing Wall from Ancrum Outdoor Centre.

The event attracted great interest from the public with some **300** participants 'trying out' new sports.



SprintDundee

Throughout the summer, a series of SprintDundee events were held across the City, with the final taking place in City Square on 28 July. The SprintDundee programme aims to find the fastest young athletes in Dundee while promoting the sport of Athletics and participation opportunities.

The 8 fastest boys and 8 fastest girls from the heats for Under 8, Under 10, Under 12 & Under 14 age-groups, which attracted over **500** participants, were invited to the Finals to compete to be the 2014 SprintDundee winners. The event was a fantastic spectacle and attracted a large crowd to the City Centre.

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2014 Dundee Sports Awards

The Dundee Sports Awards took place at the Caird Hall on Wednesday 25 February 2015.

The event was attended by **270** guests who enjoyed entertainment from Dundee Gymnastics Club 2K, Urban Moves Training Company & Dance Company and the Mains of Fintry Pipe Band, as well as the announcement of the **12** award-winners.



Family Fun Sessions Introduced in McTaggart

Family Fun Sessions have been introduced to The McTaggart Centre. These provide families with pre-school or primary school-aged children the opportunity to have fun and exercise using the fantastic facilities within the purpose-built Regional Gymnastics Centre, Scotland's premier gymnastics facility. Feedback has been tremendous with the popularity continuing to grow and the new birthday party package generating great interest.

Key Statistics:

- 1057** attendances
- 246** adults inducted
- 183** families attended
- 55%** families have already returned or booked into an April session
- 59** families have attended 3 or more sessions

World Cup Football Celebrations

During the World Cup, Leisure and Sport Services and the Scottish FA brought a touch of Brazil to Broughty Ferry with their holiday programme, combining a Futsal and Beach Football World Cup Day.

The event was well attended with **34** boys participating. The day started with an indoor Futsal tournament at Eastern Primary School where the boys were assigned a country and played a small-sided Futsal World Cup. Lunchtime followed with a World Cup quiz and fun activities before making the short journey to a sun-kissed Broughty Ferry beach. The boys were once again assigned a country with Portugal edging out Scotland by 2 goals to nil in the final.



Douglas Sports Centre

The Centre had a large capital investment which resulted in a major facelift of the main foyer area in conjunction with the refurbishment of the toilets and the replacement of the Dance Studio flooring.

The partnership work with NHS Tayside saw a new Parkinson's programme added to the delivery options whilst the Stroke, Cardiac, COPD classes continue to be well attended, providing great support for our customers in their recovery efforts.

Lochee Swim and Leisure Centre

Lochee Leisure Centre staff branched out into the community this year to deliver localised events to tie in with hallmark calendar celebrations. They hosted a Guy Fawkes Community Night and supplied local families with hot food and beverages before walking as a group to watch the Firework celebrations at nearby Lochee Park. There were some **40** families on the night with over **100** people in attendance in total.

The Centre staff also held a Christmas Pool Party for the local schoolchildren from the community, with a chance to meet Santa and receive a small gift. Over **75** children attended from St. Mary's Primary School.

Lynch Sports Centre

Lynch Sports Centre has had a challenging year due to the ongoing roof issues. However, with attendances of approximately **1,000** per week, it remains a well used and valued community facility.



Dundee Dragons Wheelchair Sports Club

DDWSC train every Saturday at Lynch Sports Centre, playing Wheelchair Rugby League and Wheelchair Basketball. The Club was winner of the Club of the Year Award at the Dundee Sports Awards. Club Chairperson Elizabeth Ferris also picked up Dundee City Disability Sports '**Jenny Wood Allen Award**'.

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Development

Community Sports Hubs - The current CSH programme came to an end in March 2015, and discussions have started towards a new 4-year programme of support for the City, in partnership with DCC and **sportscotland**. There have been some notable successes such as the expansion of Caird Park Hub in anticipation of the Regional Performance Centre for Sport and Craigie Hub's successful CashBack pitch application. Leisure and Sport Service's approach to this work and the achievements has been highlighted nationally.

Walking Football - A Walking Football pilot was a great success and plans have begun with the SPFL, DFC, DUFC and Age Scotland to create a new league for older people, based at Lynch and Douglas Centres in 2015/16.



Street Soccer Scotland - The programme has completed its first full year in Dundee, positively changing people's lives through the power of football at various drop-in centres and Challenge Series, Street Soccer for Change programmes and personal development programmes such as Football Works. **830** people have been supported through these various programmes.



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Grove and St. Paul's Swim & Sport

Grove Community Open Day

A large number of local people engaged in the first Community Open Day at Grove Swim & Sports Centre in January 2015, many had never previously been in the facility. Following feedback from the event, additional Children's Activity classes have been added at the weekends which are proving very popular.

New Inflatable

Christmas 2014 heralded the new inflatable at St. Paul's Swim & Sports Centre for a party programme. Demand for similar events in the future is high following customers' positive experiences.



Events

There has been a welcomed increase in the number of groups booking St. Paul's and Grove Swim & Sports Centres for special events and training such as Korfball Competitions, Cheerleading Scotland Competitions, Dance Workshops with Scottish Ballet, Karate Examinations and National Pool Lifeguard Qualification training courses.

St. Paul's Swimming Lessons

The Leisure and Sport Service is particularly proud of the quality of its Swimming Lessons programme. **70** classes are provided on a weekly basis at St. Paul's, with all participating children learning to swim. Parents value the programme and have provided positive feedback. Retention rates of children returning for the next level is high.





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Development Team

Eat Well, Play Well

This new project has gathered great pace over the last year and is making a positive impact for many early years' families in Dundee. To date, Eat Well Play Well has engaged with **27** different groups including over **200** people.

The interim evaluation published by NHS Tayside Public Health in February reported significantly positive outcomes for the participants.



Dance

The Funky Feet and Urban Moves programmes have seen excellent uptakes this year with over **15,000** attendances.

The two dance development squads have been involved in various performances at local civic events in Dundee over the year, including the Commonwealth Games events. The Urban Moves Dance Company performed alongside the UK's best hip hop groups and soloists at 'Breakin Rules 2015'.

Early Years

Programmes and projects have seen over **17,000** attendances this year: a great start for children's lives.

Book Bug Big Sports Day

Working together with staff from the Library Service, the Leisure and Sport Service hosted Book Bug's Big Sports Day programmes on 21 May and 23 May 2014, as part of the celebrations for Book Bug Week 2014. Book Bug and the Library programme participants joined Little Gymtime participants in action songs, physical activities, stories and rhymes for children aged 18 months to 3 years and their parents.





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Family Splash

Lochee Swim Centre hosts the programme with Public Swimming, drop-in lessons and weekly Group Swimming lessons, all being attended by referred families. There are currently **70** families registered and staff are working with partners and professionals in the Strathmartine ward to ensure more families in the area can attend St Paul's Swim & Sports Centre through the programme.



Parenting Programmes

Using the nationally recognised PEEP (Parents as Early Education Partners) resource, drop-in sessions have been delivered with **15** families attending regularly. This type of programme and the central location of Central Library have really worked well. It is parent led, utilising feedback and creating a play and physical activity programme tailored to the group's needs.

The community Hot Wheels programme has proved popular with mums in their local community as they are able to access a physical activity session and have an opportunity to socialise in a group environment.

Dads' Group

The extremely popular Dads' Group was delivered over the year with a diverse programme of activity organised, including Mini Movers and Swimming at Grove Swim & Sports Centre, Highland Games, Den Building and Beachcombing with **40** dads and kids regularly attending.

Basic Moves

The popular Basic Moves programme (physical literacy programme for primary 1-5) has reached record retention levels this year, with an average uptake of **72%**. **19** classes were successfully delivered weekly across the primary schools. 'Basic Moves with a Splash' at Grove Swim & Sports Centre provided fun physical literacy activity for 3-10 year-olds. Each session included a splash in the pool afterwards.

Dundee Out Of School Care Clubs

19 clubs have received training and support to upskill their staff to be able to deliver quality and motivating sport and physical activity sessions as part of their weekly programme.



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In April 2014 management of the Dundee Ice Arena was transferred to Leisure & Culture Dundee. The integration has been trouble-free due in a large part to the help received from L&CD staff and approach taken by DIA staff.

Figure Skating

Club memberships have increased from last season and Dundee is now the home rink for the current Senior and Junior Ladies UK Champions. The national Learn to Skate programme has been well attended and coaching standards have been excellent, and this gives a clear pathway from beginners to National and Olympic levels.

Ice Hockey

The “Elite” team had a successful run to the end of the 2013/14 season and there was the added benefit of regular national TV exposure for the City and Arena. The internet also carried game coverage worldwide on match nights. 2014/15 was less successful for the Team, however two Dundee Stars players were part of the GB Team at the World Championships, with another Dundee player on the first reserve list.

Junior Hockey remained buoyant with good numbers at beginner’s level. The club took advantage of an Ice Hockey UK initiative whereby beginner’s equipment was supplied free of charge. Several Dundee players have represented Scotland at all age levels most recently in France and the Czech Republic.



General Skating

General Skating remains the main focus of day-to-day business and with a full programme of morning, afternoon, evening and weekend sessions there is a comprehensive mix of activities. There are also two very popular “Snow Baby” sessions for toddlers, parents and grandparents.

With regular wheelchair users and a weekly “Pamis” wheelchair group on Tuesday evenings, the Arena offers a choice for all abilities. Overall Skating attendance figures remained very encouraging.



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Curling

The Curling season has been excellent with almost all available ice slots taken up.

There is now a healthy junior involvement at the Arena with new members being **23%** ahead of the RCCC target.

Wheelchair Curling continued to be popular and the Dundee Dragons Wheelchair Club is about to register a Curling Team with RCCC.



General

Over the year there have been several Figure Skating and Ice Hockey camps and competitions which attract competitors from all over the UK. This not only benefits the Arena but the surrounding facilities within Camperdown Leisure Park. The Arena function rooms are now regularly used for seminars and meetings as well as social events, all of which add to the business approach within the facility.



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Highlights

2014/15 saw Olympia's 2nd year of operation in East Whale Lane, having opened for business on Thursday 27 June 2013. As predicted, the numbers attending during the second year of operation were slightly lower than the inaugural year but higher than previous baseline.

A new programme has been developed where the pool offers more activities than ever before including additional Water Polo sessions, Birthday Parties, Swim Camps and Canoe Polo.

Finalising the building works meant there were pool enhancements, which added a re-graded beach area and step access allowing more varied exciting wave formations to be generated. Flume enhancements were completed with enhanced music and lighting effects on the red flume including new holographic images on the green flume that can be changed throughout the year to keep the experience lively, exciting and new.

The pool has been accredited with certification of length in 50m and 25m courses, satisfying the rigorous requirements for recognised recordbreaking swims by FINA.

The Olympia continues to host regional 25m and 50m galas, Water Polo tournaments as well as Diving competitions.



General

Olympia has retained its Training Centre status for delivering the National Pool Lifeguard Qualification and Quasafe accreditation for First Aid, and has been registered and certified as a British Sub-Aqua Club Snorkelling Centre.

The centre has also been accepted and certified as an Approved Satellite Centre for Scottish Swimming becoming a recognised training provider for the UKCC Aquatics and ASA qualifications in Scotland.



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Doors Open Day

Olympia participated in this popular annual event in September 2014.

Performance Swimming

Olympia also supports world class swimmers in the flexible and adaptable tank.

The following is a quote from Colin Robertson, Institute Network Manager & High Performance Manager at **sportscotland** institute of sport:

“Stephen Milne achieved a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and is currently 3rd in the world, aiming for the Rio Olympics and a medal. For over a year, Stephen has trained at the 50m Olympia Pool in Dundee - a great example of partnership working to help local athletes achieve on the world stage.”

