Minutes of the UK Sport Board Meeting held
On 6 May 2026
Novotel Wembley Hotel, London

Present

Chair	Professor Nick Webborn	
Attendees:	Annie Panter	
	Martyn Worsley	
	Maureen Campbell	
	Chris Pilling	
	Ismail Amla	(online)
	Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson	
	Chris Boardman	
	Rachel Baillache	
	Gavin Boyd	(online)
Observers	Simon Mason	DCMS
Apologies	Sally Bolton	
	Rupen Shah	
UK Sport Staff:	Sally Munday	Chief Executive
	Simon Morton	Director, Events, Sporting System and External Affairs
	Sophie Du Sautoy	Director of Strategy and Business Enabling
	Kate Baker	Director of Performance and People
	James Gyselynck	Legal Manager (Senior Lawyer)
	Esther Britten	Head of Events and External Affairs (item 7.1)
	Kevin Woolnough	Head of Performance Investment Strategy (items 8.1, 9.1 &9.2)
	Michael Stow	Design Manager – Performance Investment Strategy (item 9.2)
Board Secretary:	Jo Curtis	EA to CEO
	Jordana Wicks	EA to Chair (minutes)

	ACTION
1. Introduction and Apologies for Absence The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held at the Novotel Wembley Hotel, London. DCMS was represented by SMa and UKS Legal was represented by JG. It was announced that JG had recently been promoted to General Counsel and Head of Legal and Integrity following the resignation of Krystle Sargent. The Chair reported apologies from SB and RS and it was noted that members IA and GB were joining online.	
2. Declarations of Interest Members were reminded of the need to declare their interest in any items and to remove themselves from such decision making when required. TGT advised of a new declaration, having recently been appointed to the Board of Active Travel England.	UKS
3. Chair's Introductory Remarks The Chair formally opened the meeting and thanked members for their time the day before at the Board Strategy Day. It was agreed that the time was very valuable and that these sessions should be held annually going forward. The Chair reported that he and SMu had visited the sportscotland board meeting the week before and thanked their Chair, MC, for the invitation. The Chair updated on the UKS Board member recruitment campaign for four new members. It was confirmed by SMa that the appointment decisions are currently sitting with Ministers, before requiring sign-off by the Prime Ministers' Office.	
4. Approval of the Minutes The minutes of the meetings on 25 February 2026 and 10 March 2026 were approved as true records of the meetings.	
5. Matters Arising and Executive Team Report The Chair handed over to SMu to elaborate on some items in the Executive Team Report. This included on; System Performance Support and UKSI appointments, Performance engagement and alignment with the BOA and BPA, future Olympic and Paralympic games feasibility, Para Table Tennis' transition into Sport Org and a Talent update. Members asked some further questions around items in the report including; legal challenge around a procurement, some legal advice received regarding the APA standards and guidelines and on recent cyber security exercises. **Board approved an updated Recognition Policy based on the notable changes and subject to Sport NI sign-off.**	

SMu referred to changes that had been made to the board papers around clarity on essential and non-essential reading, overall brevity and a reduction in pages, the addition of executive summaries and the use of AI to ensure succinctness and clarity. **6. <u>UKS Organisational Health</u>** **6.1 Finance and Risk Update** Members were updated on the financial position since their approval on 20 March 2026 and on corporate risk. Board discussed whether UKS should look to recognise a broader risk around geo-political matters. **It was agreed that this should be added to the Risk Register.** **Board approved the current financial position.** **6.2 UK Sport and Institute Governance** Following approval at the 20 March 2026 Board meeting of an updated Terms of Reference to reflect Board's Group responsibility for UK Sport and Institute, Board were asked to approve the governance structure and give approval in principle of the Terms of Reference for the new sub-committees. It was noted that approval in principle rather than approval was being sought to allow the alignment of all the Terms on to a common template and for resolution of some minor issues internally which do not affect the substance of the Term of Reference. An update was provided on how the UKSI integrates with UKS at an Executive and Board level. **Board discussed and gave feedback on the Group governance structure and approved, in principle, the terms of reference for the new sub-committees.** **7. <u>Updates from HCSCs, DCMS and UKSI</u>** The HCSC and UKSI Chairs, as well as SMa from DCMS, gave updates from their organisations. **8. <u>Inspire Positive Change</u>** **8.1 Major Event Panel Recommendations** Esther Britten (Head of Events and External Affairs) joined the meeting for this item. It was noted that in December 2023, Board had agreed in principle the introduction of the Innovation Events Programme to allow UKS to explore gaps in the major events landscape and give the freedom to develop and test new event formats, helping to keep the UK at the forefront of leading host nations and to develop events capable of engaging younger and more diverse audiences. EB talked through a recommendation on the Manchester Urban Festival – an Innovation Events Programme event which would be an annual, three-day urban sport and culture festival, launching in August 2027. It was reported that the event is designed to engage younger and more diverse audiences by combining elite urban sport with music, fashion and cultural content and is aligned to UK Sport's Making Live Sport Matter strategy. **Board approved investment into the Manchester Urban Festival of up to £1.35m.**	 **UKS**

EB left the meeting.

9. Grow a thriving sporting system

9.1 Winter Sport Route of Investment

Kevin Woolnough (Head of Performance Investment Strategy) joined the meeting for this item.

SMo led on this item which focussed on how UKS might route any French Alps 2030 (Winter World Class Programme) investment - direct to NGBs, or through a single delivery vehicle (“Sport Org” via a proposed Winter Sport Collective).

The board paper reiterated that UKS’ strategic intent behind considering the Winter Sport Collective proposition has been to improve efficiency (eg: maximising use of funding), resilience (eg: corporate capacity/capability/leadership), and performance (eg: shared expertise and stronger games-time conversion) by delivering multiple performance programmes through a single vehicle.

Key focus was given to the sports of Bobsleigh/Skeleton (BBSA) and Snowsport/Para Snowsport (GBS) and a recommendation to defer the decision on the route of investment for these sports, including a legal perspective from JG. A key reason for this recommendation was that both NGBs had requested not to engage on the Winter Sport Collective from September 2025 to post the Milan Cortina Games in 2026 to avoid any distraction. Whilst some engagement had taken place with both NGBs after the Milan Cortina Games, and what the NGBs had said during that engagement was reported to the Board, the Executive felt that further exploration and discussion would be beneficial to making a fully rounded recommendation to the Board.

In-depth discussion was had and Board agreed to:

- **Defer a decision on the route of any investment for Bobsleigh/Skeleton and Snowsport/Para Snowsport until the UK Sport Board meeting in July 2026, advising the sports that the Board’s current working assumption (that any investment be routed through a Winter Sport Collective) remains until final decisions are made in July.**
- **Invest French Alps funding into Curling and Wheelchair Curling through Sport Org**
- **British Ice Skating should continue to plan on investment being routed through the NGB, but that position would be kept under active review throughout the forthcoming cycle and, should Board decide to route other WCP funding through a Winter Sport Collective in July, early discussions about this route for Ice Skating would follow.**
- **Invest transition funding into Ice Hockey through Ice Hockey UK.**

10. Keep Winning and Win Well

10.1 French Alps 2030 Investment Cycle Recommendations

KW stayed on for this item on recommended investments for the French Alps 2030 cycle.

The recommendations included direct investment into winter sports, performance-related allocations to be held centrally and updates to related partner investments.

Board approved the investment recommendations for winter sports for the 2030 French Alps (FrAlps) cycle, noting that final decisions for Bobsleigh/Skeleton and Snowsport/Para Snowsport will be made in July 2026:

Programme	Milan Cortina Funding to PPP*	IIF	Final Recommendation
Curling	£6.4m	Stable (£6.4m)	Increase by £170k (£6.5m)
Wheelchair Curling	£1.7m + £60k in-cycle uplift	Increase by £200k (£1.9m)	Increase by £200k (£1.9m)
Ice Skating	£1.6m + £0.4m in-cycle uplift	Stable (£2m)	Stable with a potential to increase (£2m)
Ice Hockey	£900k	Reduction (£0)	Reduction (to £445k)
Luge	£85k	Reduction (£0)	Reduction (£0)
Biathlon	£0	Stable (£0)	Stable (£0)
Para-Biathlon	£0****	Stable (£0)	Stable (£0)

10.2 Brisbane Investment

KW also stayed on for this item (and was joined part-way through by Michael Stow – Design Manager for Performance Investment Policy).

The item focussed on early thinking on the next evolution of the Performance Investment process for Brisbane 2032 and the provisional timelines for ongoing engagement with, and decisions from, Board.

Considering the themes that emerged from the Board strategy day the day before, members discussed and provided feedback on the outcomes they wish to drive forward through the investment process and the relative priority of those. They discussed the challenges identified, the factors influencing investment and any emerging views around omissions and revisions needed in order to drive the desired strategic outcomes.

It was noted that Board would be signing off the Investment Guide in December 2026 following further refinement of the desired outcomes at the July meeting and approval at the October meeting.

GB left the meeting at 13.00.

KW and MS left the meeting.

11. Minutes and Information Papers

Nothing to note.

12. AOB

The Chair informed the Board that following discussion it had been agreed that RB would become permanent Chair of the UKSI (currently Interim), for a four-year term and subject to re-appointment to the UKS Board when her first term ends in August 2026.

Board approved the appointment of RB as Chair of the UKSI, commencing on 7 May 2026. TGT raised the matter of accessible seating at events. It was noted that seating arrangements can be restrictive to networking, with the challenges of the design of many venues being recognised. **Date of next meeting: 28 July 2026**	