

BRITISH DODGEBALL

2019/20

SEASON REPORT



BRITISH
DODGEBALL

ABOUT BRITISH DODGEBALL



OUR VISION

"INSPIRE GENERATIONS AND COMMUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF PLAYING DODGEBALL"

Our Aims

- Deliver opportunities that enable a strong pathway from beginner to elite and create a platform for all players to enjoy the game
 - Provide training to coaches, teachers and leaders to increase participation in dodgeball
 - Inspire people to enjoy dodgeball through positive role models and major events
 - Build and strengthen community dodgeball clubs to grow and sustain the sport.
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CHAIRS INTRODUCTION

HELENA LAW

In late 2019 I was delighted to be appointed by the board as the new Chair of British Dodgeball, the governing body for the sport I love and have played on a weekly basis for the past 10 years.

The journey so far has seen the board grow significantly this season with such a passionate group. I am most proud to see British Dodgeball's commitment to continual development and growth. I am also proud to sit on a board which is made up of an equal number of women and men.

I am looking forward to supporting the development of the board and the organisation over the next few years as it continues to grow and achieves Sports Council recognition.



MANAGING DIRECTORS INTRODUCTION

BEN HOYLE

From September 2017 we haven't stopped at British Dodgeball and I want to thank all those that have been involved in the journey so far; our staff, coaches, referees and volunteers as well as our member clubs and players. A lot has been achieved in a short space of time and everyone involved should feel proud of that.

As a new organisation we have faced challenges throughout the first couple of years as you would expect with any new business but one of my key goals at British Dodgeball has always been to build a strong team and this has helped the organisation to face those challenges. Both in the workplace and at board level, our experience is growing and the team is evolving for the benefit of British Dodgeball and the sport.

We have never faced such a challenge as we have since mid March when our season, sport and the business came to an abrupt halt due to the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic. As with many industries, the sport sector has suffered and will continue to do so in the short and medium term as NGB's make redundancies and the impact is felt across the U.K. However, I am determined that British Dodgeball will come out of this crisis in a place that can ensure the future of our hardworking staff is secured and the sport can benefit long term.

In our first 2 seasons, we naturally made an impact through our passion for developing the sport. This led us to deliver and introduce:

The Atlantic Cup, European Championships, NEC, Welsh Super League, the world's first Level 3 dodgeball coaching courses, the Mixed League, a Dodgeball Scheme of Work for Primary Schools, Primary Competition Pathway, Foam Ball Opens, The Home Nations League and well over a dozen club and outreach projects including our Come Join In initiative that saw over 1,100 children play dodgeball for the first time.

The 2019-20 season was one planned around consolidation with the building blocks already in place. The season was focused on a better structure for new teams and players to get into the game, an increased presence on social media, a new look and easily accessible website that enabled us to develop upon what we already offered and sustainably build towards hosting the 2020 World Championships in Glasgow.

Although I am employed as the managing director of British Dodgeball, my passion will always be for real grassroots sports development. Working on new projects that inspire new people to play dodgeball and can make a real difference. Retaining these players and welcoming them to our member clubs. That's why in 2020-21 I'm particularly looking forward to the new initiatives we will have in place like the Girls Dodge Too! project, our dodgemark accreditation scheme, our Glasgow youth development project and our new member development fund which you can find out more about later on in this report.



MEET THE TEAM

Alongside the Managing Director, British Dodgeball currently employs 3 full time members of staff as well as 2 casual staff, 10 freelance tutors and coaches and over 50 referees. We are currently recruiting a Social Media Manager to join the team from mid-August 2020.

GARETH LEWIS

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER: COMPETITIONS

- Adult National Leagues & Opens
- Home Nations League
- Equipment
- Sport Wales & Burton development projects

ALEX NELSON

HEAD OF REFEREES

- Referee development & training
- Referee management & assigning

ADEN WOODALL

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER: CLUBS

- Club Support, Funding & Accreditation
- University Development, League & Open Management
- Coach Education Management & Administration

ZAC BAKER

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Membership Management
- Website Support
- Finance & Business Support

ALICE BOWLER

DEVELOPMENT MANAGER: YOUTH

- Junior Leagues & Events
- Primary Competition Pathway
- Regional Adult Leagues
- Girls Dodge Too! project



AREAS OF FOCUS

A BETTER WAY IN

Our players told us in the 2018-19 survey that there was too much travel to opens and too much disparity between playing levels at events. Wholescale changes will take time but we believe the introduction of regional leagues at both adult and junior level enables a better introduction to competitive dodgeball. We're seeing more new players take part than ever before, playing mainly against teams of a similar standard and without the burden of long distance travel. We recognise that there are still some clubs travelling large distances, but as the sport grows, more opportunities will arrive in new regions across the whole of the U.K. with more leagues within those regions. This is a first step and with 21 new teams involved this season it is certainly a positive one.



SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

At the end of the 2018-19 season, we introduced the first ever Primary School Dodgeball Championships with a total of 30 teams attending. Our plans for this season have been hit hard by the Coronavirus Pandemic but the building blocks are still in place. We expanded to 10 regional events, engaging new schools, teachers and children. We welcomed many to the sport and our team delivered in a fashion which promotes learning, sportsmanship and fun alongside enjoyment of the competitive element of the sport. We're very proud of our work in schools and know that each season will see more potential for new players from across the UK to play dodgeball.



SUSTAINABILITY

British Dodgeball as an organisation must always prioritise being a self sufficient business. In order to constantly achieve our aims as a governing body of sport, we need an income that enables us to employ dedicated staff, develop our products and services and grow the game. Since our inception in September 2017, we have steadily become more and more self-sufficient, we are not reliant on external funding and do not seek it in order to be operational. Even when you consider the impact of cancelling all our products and services since March 2020 has had on the organisation, we still aim to return in a position of strength that enables the sport in the U.K. to grow..

DEVELOPING THE BOARD

We have worked hard to recruit a new look board of directors at the end of the season consisting entirely of people passionate about dodgeball, have vast experience in dodgeball and want to do what is right for the sport and those that play it. As we head towards Sports Council recognition, the board is working hard to improve our governance structures, regularly review and develop our policies and procedures to support our members, clubs and registered players ensure that dodgeball is an inclusive and forward-thinking sport.

GOVERNANCE

We are dedicated to achieving high standards of governance for the benefit of the sport of dodgeball, our member clubs, members and players. This season, we have committed to developing a working board of directors that constantly ensure we are striving to achieve best practice in our governance, reviewing and updating our policies and procedures and supporting our subcommittees.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR
Helena Law

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Ben Hoyle

DIRECTOR OF RULES & DISCIPLINARY
Jess Goshawk

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL TEAMS
Johnathan Rudland

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MEMBER REP
Shun Wong

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MEMBER REP
Emma Milser

COMMITTEES

Currently we have 4 sub committees working in the following areas:

- Diversity
- Adult Rules & Regulations
- Youth Rules & Regulations
- Disciplinary

Our focus as a board alongside our continued good governance is to achieve sports council recognition as a National Governing Body for the benefit of the sport and its long term future in the U.K. We also aim to recruit 2 new non-executive member representatives prior to our AGM in September to represent the interests of those in Scotland & Wales.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

British Dodgeball is a non-profit limited company and like all other National Governing Bodies of Sport in the United Kingdom we operate as a sustainable business in order to be able to fulfil our aims and objectives. We sell various products and services such as tournaments and leagues, coach education and coaching in order to generate an income that we invest back into the sport via our outreach programmes, governance, administration and staffing.

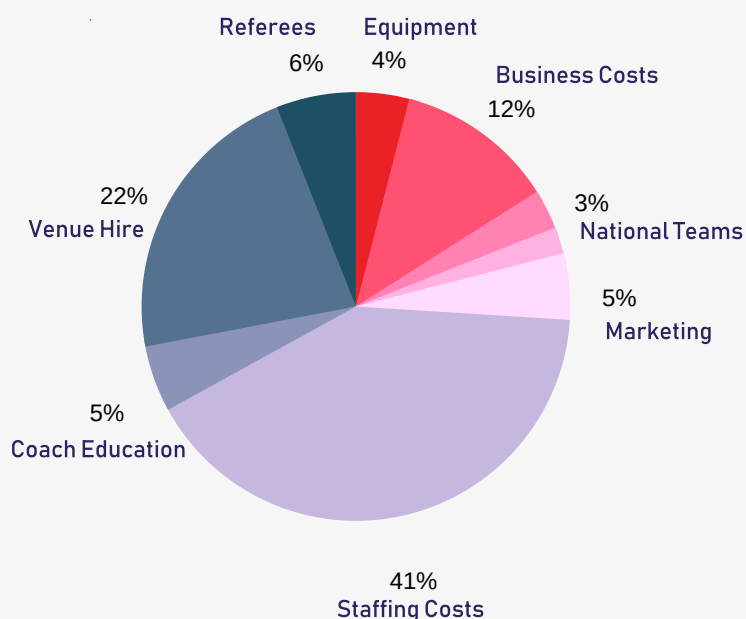
As a private company limited by guarantee, our Articles of Association state that 'all profits from the activities of the company are to be used to support the promotion and development of the sport of dodgeball'. In order to continue to do our bit to grow the sport all our offers must represent value for money to the consumer and continue to develop and be updated on a yearly basis.

We do not rely on outside investment, sponsorship or government funding to deliver our aims as the governing body for dodgeball in the United Kingdom, and although we would love you to continue to be members of British Dodgeball, unlike most governing bodies of sport, we do not make individual membership a requirement to be able to play the sport in our leagues and tournaments.

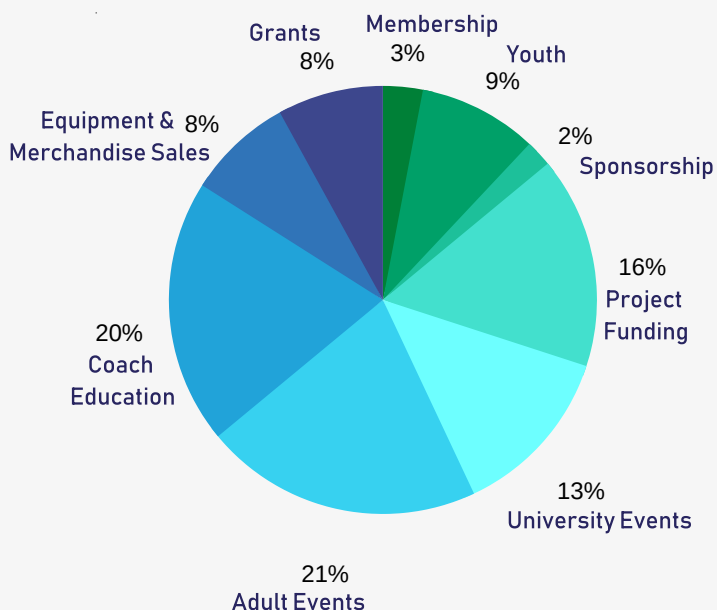
In the 2018/19 accounting year British Dodgeball generated a turnover of £315,000 via sales of our products and services and via awarded project funding. This turnover is an increase of 67% from year 1 and has enabled us to invest in more opportunities to grow the sport through the addition of 2 new full time development officers, a part time head of referees and a part time admin and business support officer. The following page details the income and expenditure of the business during the 2019/20 season and how money made has been invested towards our aims.



MONEY OUT



MONEY IN



During the 2019/20 season, calculated between August 1st 2019 and July 31st 2020, British Dodgeball has received a total of £279,000, of which £254,000 has been spent. The charts above detail which areas of the sport we receive the most income from and how this is invested back into the sport. The remaining £25,000 has been added to the company's reserves in order to protect the long term development of the sport in the U.K.

The challenges faced during the Coronavirus Pandemic have put the brakes on the growth of the business and the sport during the period from mid March to the end of the season, but due to the Grants received from the government this impact we believe will not be felt long term. Our reserves however will be stretched somewhat going into the start of the 2020/21 season based on further refunds and credits that we will be issuing but we are not overly concerned by this and know it is the correct thing to do. We would like to highlight to all our member clubs that we will not be following many other sports and organisations in not issuing refunds and credits for cancellations caused by the pandemic.

The segment next to National Teams that is not labelled on the money out chart above is 2% of competition refunds that have been provided to teams so far due to the pandemic.

Looking ahead to the 2020/21 season, it is extremely difficult to anticipate what sort of demand there will initially be for all our products and services. We are hopeful that there will be a renewed enthusiasm from current players to get back into the sport and that clubs can welcome new enthusiastic members that want to reap the health and social benefits by getting involved in dodgeball for the first time.

The best development tool we have at British Dodgeball is our staff and when possible we will be making further investments in a new social media manager, a new youth development officer and the national teams by way of our new Director of National Teams. These calculated investments will help grow the sport at both grass roots and elite level and promote the sport to new audiences so that British Dodgeball can continue its upward trajectory.

EVENTS

THROUGHOUT THE 2019/20 SEASON, WE HAVE DELIVERED 3 CATEGORIES OF EVENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY, JUNIOR AND UNIVERSITY PLAYERS AND CLUBS.



MAJOR EVENTS

In order to increase the visibility of the sport, we want to showcase the very best of dodgeball to new and existing audiences. We have delivered the Northern European Championships, the Atlantic Cup, the European Championships, the British Open, the British Championships and the Junior British Championships throughout the past 3 seasons. Growing the visibility of dodgeball takes time however, and of course there is a financial element to it also.

We have been delighted to see the viewing figures at events such as the Atlantic Cup and we aim to increase audience levels both in the arena and online by investing in new flooring and equipment to continue to improve the viewing experience. The postponed 2020 World Championships are still planned to take place in Glasgow in 2021 and we aim to deliver the biggest and best British Open, British Championships and British Junior Championships to date once we return.

OPENS

The open dodgeball tournament format dates back to when dodgeball began in the United Kingdom and provides a great sporting and social opportunity for teams taking part. However, in terms of the journey the sport is on and its development into a more structured setup with established clubs and players, the number of opens in the British Dodgeball calendar have been reduced at community and junior levels in line with our survey results. New teams were often pitted against the best in the country and travel distances could be long and arduous.

Opens though still have a role to play and will continue to do so as long as demand is there.

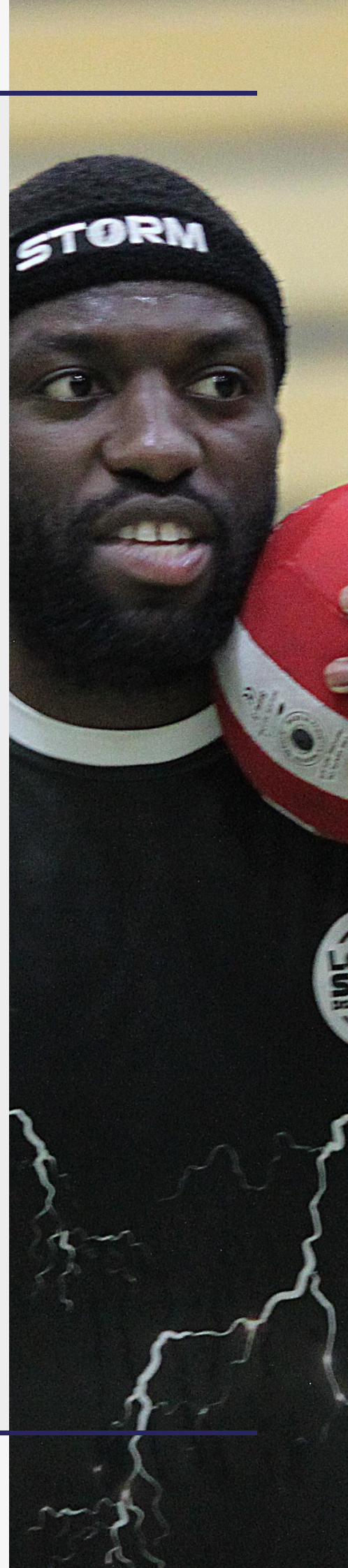
LEAGUES

Our dodgeball leagues operate via a very straightforward model that we believe is effective for both the clubs and British Dodgeball. The sport of dodgeball will grow through stronger and more sustainable clubs that have committed members who are invested in playing the sport. The more opportunities provided to them, whether this be via national, regional, city or mixed league, to make dodgeball their number 1 sport the stronger the club will be. Leagues at all levels provide the opportunity for this increased level of commitment. A more committed player helps a club develop which in turn helps the sport develop in the U.K.

NATIONAL & REGIONAL LEAGUES

We are delighted with the development of the national leagues across all four home nations. Although growing at different rates the building blocks are being put in place for a sustained development of dodgeball across the U.K. The different level of competition from the regional leagues through to the Super Leagues provides an opportunity for all to compete at the correct level. We are particularly proud of our regional leagues this season, which prior to the Coronavirus Pandemic welcomed 21 new dodgeball clubs into regular competitive play.

The planned expansion of the English National leagues are now likely now to take place in the 2021/22 season once we are able to fully assess the impact of the pandemic.



JUNIORS

It's been a fantastic season for Junior Dodgeball and the development of more junior dodgeball clubs in the United Kingdom. Dodgeball is still one of the most in-demand sport in schools across all regions and consistently one of the top 5 most participated sports in the School Games. A total of 413 players from 44 teams have taken part in our junior leagues this season. When you think back to 2017 and the days before British Dodgeball, it is wonderful to be able to witness the growth in this area of the game. Our clubs and British Dodgeball provide many opportunities, but it is also huge thanks to the commitment and dedication of the club leaders who ensure dodgeball has a positive future.



From next season, we will be introducing a 4th age group at junior level by moving to a competitions structure that welcomes under 11, under 13, under 15 and under 17 categories for boys and girls mixed play. This decision has been made after consultation with our junior clubs, where we were concerned about the potential drop off of players moving from under 11's to under 14's and from 16+ to adult. We are keen for the age gap to be reduced to ensure all children are playing the sport at the correct and safe level against their peers.

UNIVERSITY

Introducing dodgeball as a future BUCS sport has been a priority this season and we have been delighted to work through the process with BUCS in order to achieve this. The plans were in place for dodgeball to begin the 2020/21 season as a BUCS sport but unfortunately the Coronavirus Pandemic has put this on hold until the 2021/22 season. The university dodgeball calendar for the 2020/21 academic year is as yet uncertain as we wait to hear more details about the return of universities.

However, thanks to consultation with our university members and with BUCS, we are able to inform you that from the new season we will be introducing the following changes to our university dodgeball calendar:



- A reduced number of league rounds to an average of 5 per regional league
- An overall reduced travel for leagues as we aim to increase the number of regions across the U.K.
- More open University competitions in more regions of England, Scotland and Wales
- More work with institutions in Scotland thanks to increased demand from BUCS members

*Please note this is all subject to a safe return to play.

REFEREES

At our 2019 Annual General Meeting it was identified by our members that an improvement to refereeing standards across the sport was required and that new plans would need to be put in place.

From this point we recruited Alex Nelson as our Head of Referees to work on a part time basis for British Dodgeball with the specific remit to manage and develop referees in the U.K. Using her own experience garnered over the past 5 seasons refereeing dodgeball in the U.K. and at international events Alex is able to support new and existing referees develop.

Our investment in referee development is ongoing and there are still areas where we will face logistical challenges around availability of referees, and due to the nature of dodgeball being such a young sport the vast majority of referees still play the game. This creates specific challenges in low participation areas such as Wales and Scotland in particular where there are limited spare players available to referee rather than play.

But progress has been made over the past season and with our commitment to Alex and her commitment to the development of referees we are confident that refereeing standards are on the rise.

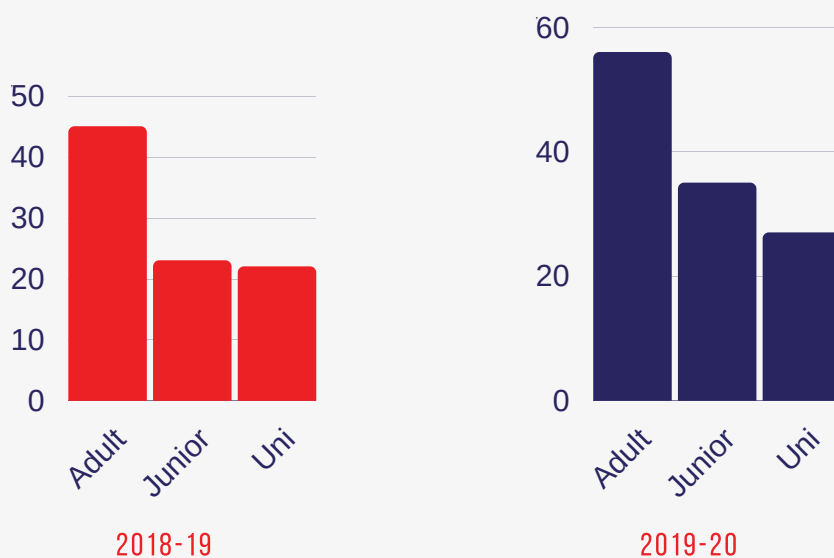
SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENTS

- Deliver an increased number of training courses for specific groups such as club members and universities
- Specific junior rules and referee training
- Work with our referees to create a more professional look by providing branded clothing and dress code
- Utilise additional referees at events to act as mentors to new referees
- Employing an additional referee at larger events and league meets to assess match referees and be a point of contact for players



CLUBS

CLUB GROWTH



We now have 56 adult clubs, 35 junior clubs and 27 university clubs who are affiliated to British Dodgeball. We are proud to say that this is a 31% increase in club numbers, totalling 118 compared to 90 from last season.

OUR MEMBER CLUBS

Clubs are so important to us as they are the vehicle through which players engage with the sport. Over 90% of a typical player's interactions with dodgeball will come through their club at training sessions and competitions, so it is important that clubs get their offer right to grow the sport. This is something we pride ourselves on assisting with – we have answered countless questions via email this year about various aspects of running clubs, and we have developed a wide array of templates & guides to make it as easy as possible for volunteers to set up effective, friendly clubs that operate to high standards.

Any development projects we support or run ourselves have the end goal of setting up a sustainable club to provide opportunities for local people to get involved with dodgeball. We have project managed and supported 17 sport development projects this past year.





SUPPORTING CLUBS

British Dodgeball has directly supported 19 clubs since starting up in 2017. 11 of those clubs have been supported in the last year. The vast majority of support we have given is writing funding bids to national sports councils or Local Authorities in order to financially assist clubs to set up a new section, although some more recent examples of support have included British Dodgeball providing more direct assistance through the New Club Award Scheme.

CASE STUDY

BOURNEMOUTH BADGERS DODGEBALL CLUB

A dodgeball enthusiast applied for a New Club Award after recently moving to Bournemouth. We were very keen to support him to set up a community club in a new area and were especially excited when we heard he had already spoken to a local college about it and had made arrangements so he could promote the club himself. We offered his club a New Club Award (free equipment and free annual club membership), but we thought there was more we could do due to the volunteer's diligence and his targeted age group. We contacted Active Dorset and eventually secured a grant of just under £2000 to pay for all of the essentials needed to set up a sustainable club. We look forward to seeing how Bournemouth Badgers develops, starting next season.

We endeavour to support all of our clubs, not just the new ones and ones setting up new sections. We have provided a range of support for clubs this year by providing club templates, resources and guides, by promoting club activities on social media, by signing up to a partnership with UK Coaching to support the coaches in our community and by being on-hand to provide advice via email and phone.

NEW INITIATIVES

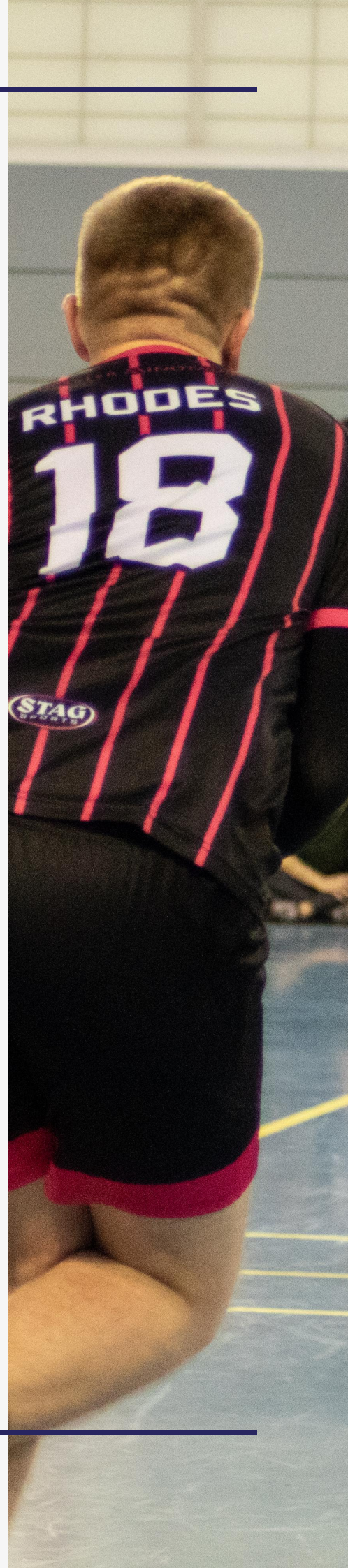
It is here that we'd like to mention two exciting new initiatives we are pioneering: Dodgemark and the British Dodgeball Club Development Funding.

DODGEMARK

Dodgemark is a new club accreditation scheme that will help participating clubs to ensure they have the right policies, processes and environment in place for long-term success. Clubs that earn Dodgemark accreditation can wear it as a badge of honour, proof of the quality of their organisation. This may give new participants (or their parents) the confidence to join your club.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

The British Dodgeball Club Development Funding is a £500 award which Dodgemark-accredited clubs can apply for annually. The purpose of these two new initiatives is to facilitate and support development so clubs can successfully attract new people to the sport. The fact that we are now in a situation where we can offer a limited amount of funding awards to clubs despite not yet receiving any core funding from Sport England or other relevant bodies is testament to our development and event team's hard work developing our organisation, and is a good example of how money can be re-invested into the sport in order to help it grow. We are hoping to have the first Dodgemark-accredited clubs in place by the end of 2020, so please get in touch if you are keen to reach the next level with your club.



ANNUAL PRICING FEE

NGB	Individual Fee Each individual must pay this in order to play	Team/Club Fee Team/Clubs must pay this in order to play
British American Football Association	£5 - £50	£125
UK Ultimate	£6.50 - £31	£35
England Basketball	£8.50 - £15	£45-60
England Handball	Free (£22.50 optional membership fee)	£300
England Volleyball	£10 - £25	£41-95
British Dodgeball	Free (£15 optional membership fee)	£30-60

This is a list of all fees that any individual and club must pay to affiliate and take part in competitions. This does not take competition price itself into account. We offer highly competitive fee pricing compared to other sports which are played

indoors and sports which are similar in participation numbers. The support listed in the previous section is offered at an exceptionally low price and tailored around our priority...

OUR PRIORITY: TO SUPPORT CLUBS TO DEVELOP THEMSELVES



Our priority is growing community dodgeball via the club network. The reality is that we have 4 members of staff on the development team to cover the entirety of the UK, so it would not be viable for us to organise a project somewhere

where there is no club, or at least no suitable volunteer willing to start one, as that project would inevitably fail without a sustainable exit route. This is why our website stresses that we want to work with keen advocates for the sport and will support them to set up clubs; we cannot grow the sport without you.

Once a club is set up, our job isn't done. We want to support clubs to grow their member base, form a network of local contacts and develop professional systems and processes to thrive with larger numbers.

CASE STUDY

NORWICH NIGHTHAWKS DODGEBALL CLUB

Norwich Nighthawks approached us with a desire to continue to grow their club by setting up a junior section. We asked them about their club goals and what capacity they had to market, send someone into local schools and host a club session. From this conversation, we decided that Sport England Small Grants Funding would be the best option. We looked over their constitution and made some small changes to the club's governance, including readying safeguarding policies. This ensured that Nighthawks would be capable of handling an influx of new players, giving them the best chance of securing funding. Our development team then wrote the bid in conjunction with the Nighthawks club committee and secured a grant. This will be used to market the club, send a coach into multiple schools to run taster sessions promoting the club, train new coaches, provide venue hire for initial sessions and provide equipment too.

This is a good example of a club approaching us for development support, as their organisation is now ready to handle even bigger challenges than before. We really hope to see a Nighthawks junior team at a competition in the near future.

If you would like to grow your club, then we have never had more ways in which we can help you with this. Get in touch and we will do our best to help you reach your goals. Having stronger clubs means a larger dodgeball scene in the UK, involving more players in a wider range of competitions, all benefitting from playing a social team sport; more fun for all, wouldn't you say?



SCHOOLS



SCHOOL COMPETITIONS

From the 2018/19 season, we expanded from 2 local competitions (South Manchester and Lancashire) and 1 National Primary School event to 10 regional competitions across England and a National Finals in 2019/20.

Sadly however, like much of our development, the Coronavirus Pandemic halted what would have seen over 60 schools and nearly 500 children taking part.

With continued support from Premier Education, our reach is growing each year and we are already making plans to host up to 32 primary competitions in 2020/21 as part of our Primary School Championships. Our aim is to involve over 300 schools and 3000 school children in England alone.

We are also eager to support our partners and deliver competitions in new areas of particular demand in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Our competitions offer works alongside the Youth Sport Trust in England where we support the delivery of inclusive dodgeball participation experiences.

OUR SCHOOL OFFER

Dodgeball is hugely popular within schools, with more schools getting involved each year. Dodgeball supports the development of basic skills such as running, jumping, throwing and catching. As pupils progress with the development of these basic skills, further growth is achieved through using these skills in combination and by coordinating their actions with their team mates. Dodgeball teaches about different tactics and how to work as a team to achieve the best outcome, whilst developing agility and balance as they run, jump, duck and dive! We offer a range of resources, courses and products to assist schools in developing their dodgeball knowledge and ability. These products are designed to ensure that all participants have fun whilst playing the game correctly and safely.

RESOURCES

Our free resources are a great place to start getting to grips with the game and provide a range of activities to help develop your dodgeball skills. Quick start rules provide a short overview of the main rules of the game, and when used with the court layout diagrams, assist schools in ensuring they are playing to the correct rules. This year we have added 3 new Dodge Five resources to help individuals develop skills at home, get fitter and come up with ideas for games. Free education packs also offer the opportunity to integrate dodgeball across the curriculum, and develop a range of skills in other subject areas.

LESSON PLANS

Developed in partnership with PE specialists, our primary school lesson plans offer a detailed scheme of work for years 1 to 6, which are accompanied by a mixture of instructional videos and printable resources. The activities are in-line with the PE National Curriculum and include methods that will support and challenge pupils to enhance their learning. The differing levels of assessments allow teachers to accurately assess each pupils progress.

Our secondary school lesson plans are currently being developed and will be available from September 2020.





OUR SCHOOL OFFER

Through our staff team, coaches and tutors we deliver coaching, leadership, teacher training and support school competitions in all areas of demand. The map below shows the locations of all the teacher and student training courses that we have delivered in the UK.

A large proportion of these courses are delivered in conjunction with the local dodgeball club as part of a club development project in their local area. If you are a community dodgeball club looking to expand, then funding for the delivery of teacher training and student leadership courses is a great way of growing dodgeball in your local area which in turn will support the growth of your club.



COACH EDUCATION

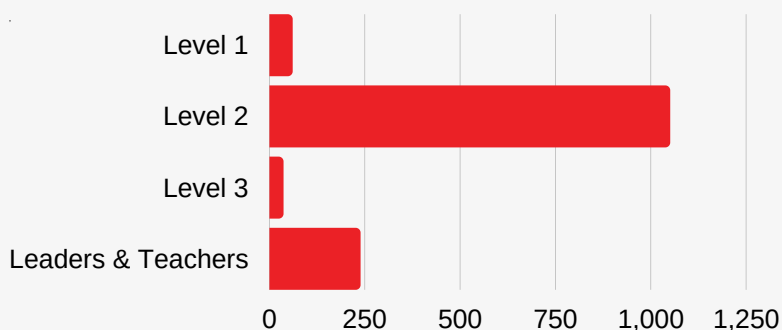
Throughout the 2019-20 season, we have had staff and casual coaches delivering sessions as part of the youth projects that we deliver in and out of schools. The majority of these are linked to local clubs but in some cases these sessions may involve one-off introduction to dodgeball sessions and school dodgeball days delivered by our experienced coaching team. In some cases, these school sessions have led to increased involvement in dodgeball competitions delivered by British Dodgeball or the School Games which is exactly what we are wanting to achieve. School children taking part in one-off sessions that lead to more regular activity, competition and club links will put in place positive habits that lead to a more healthy and active lifestyle.

One of our primary objectives for coach education is ensuring that as many coaches, teachers, learners and pupils are playing and delivering dodgeball the same way, using the correct equipment and the correct rules of the game.

This season, we have also partnered with UK Coaching to offer our coaches discounted access to their subscription service. It is intended that this will help develop the coaching abilities of those in the game via online courses, webinars and ongoing advice which in turn will assist with the development of the sport.

Finally, our suite of coaching courses provide valuable income to the organisation that we can invest back into the sport through new initiatives.

QUALIFIED COACHES 2017-20





NATIONAL TEAMS

Our role is to support the volunteers involved in the 5 national teams to be able to do the best they can for the players representing England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Great Britain Dodgeball Team. The challenge here should not be underestimated and that's why British Dodgeball is investing in a new member of staff to spearhead this area of the business as the Director of National Teams.

Like many things in 2020, the Coronavirus Pandemic has slowed progress with this appointment but Johnathan Rudland is ready to begin work from the start of August. In his role as the Director of National Teams, Johnathan's remit will be to support the national teams via improved governance, be a point of contact for the National Team Management Committees, develop the International Calendar of Events, represent British Dodgeball at European & World Congress and develop an international player pathway.

HOME NATIONS LEAGUE

The Home Nations League has been taking place since the start of the 2018/19 season and has been introduced by British Dodgeball to provide competitive opportunities for international players in between major tournaments.

The Home Nations League is also an opportunity for British Dodgeball to be able to show off the talent that exists at the pinnacle of the sport in each of the 4 countries. Our aim now is to invest more into the Home Nations League from the 2020/21 season now and inspire new players of all ages to get involved now that the building blocks are in place.

GREAT BRITAIN DODGEBALL TEAM

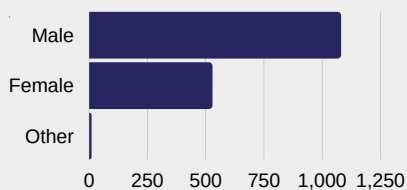
After their second outing and representation of British Dodgeball at the World Championships in Mexico, we are looking forward to increased opportunities for the Great Britain Men's and Women's teams next season during the build up to the rearranged World Championships in Glasgow.

Our Director of National Teams will be working alongside our Competitions Manager and Managing Director to bring a new international tournament to the U.K. in the Spring of 2021. We hope to be able to provide more details this Autumn.

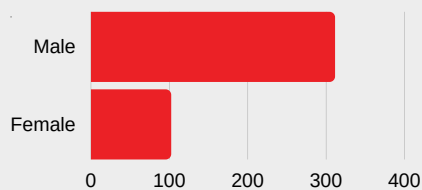
PARTICIPATION

At the start of the 2019/20 season, we introduced a free player registration process that will enable us to understand a little more of the demographic of those playing the sport. This registration process is highly beneficial to British Dodgeball and enables us to understand how the sport is growing. In turn, this will allow us to better report our data to the Sports Councils in the U.K. in order to obtain funding to further develop the sport. Within the British Dodgeball leagues and tournaments across the United Kingdom, there are a total of 2,030 registered players and, although we do not require official registration, we know that at least a further 2,500 players are competing within our school sessions and tournaments.

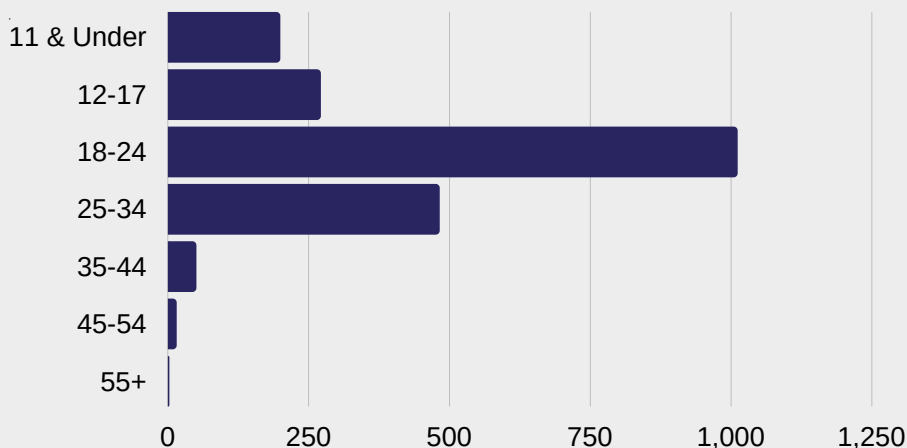
GENDER: ADULT



GENDER: JUNIOR

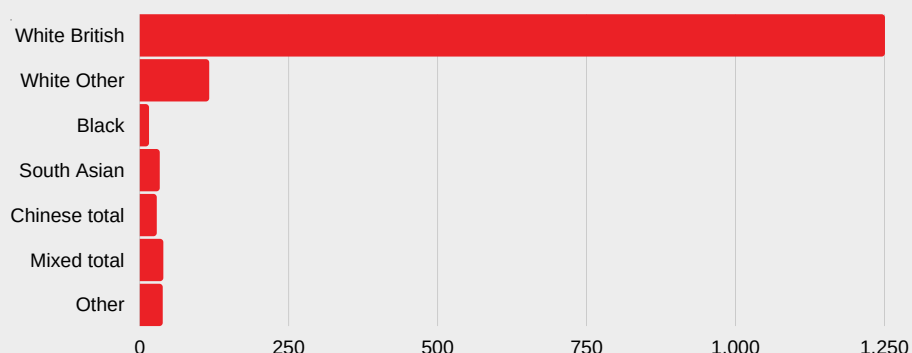


PLAYERS AGE





ETHNICITY



Over 87% of the UK population are White British so we shouldn't be surprised that the data in the chart above is showing that 83% of our participants are so.

Sport England's Active Lives study showed that South Asian, Black and other people with ethnic origins are the least likely to be active but without being able to pinpoint a specific reason due to the many varying factors across the different ethnic groups.

Our work will involve working in partnership with key organisations that know and understand the specific audiences so that we can uncover insight that will allow us to provide an offer for dodgeball participation that works and is long standing.

Ensuring dodgeball is an inclusive sport starts from the work we do at British Dodgeball, the board of directors, our staff, national teams, clubs and players. Everyone involved must support an inclusive and welcoming sport.

Our new diversity committee has been formed and they will be working hard to develop immediate and long term actions for the benefit of all that choose to play dodgeball. Immediate actions of which you will start to see in the coming weeks and months through a more diverse social media and improved policies and procedures for British Dodgeball and our member clubs.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Your membership is vital to the progression of dodgeball in the United Kingdom and we thank you for your support. Membership of British Dodgeball is open to all and without discrimination. It costs just £15 per year and, unlike many National Governing Bodies, you do not have to be a member in order to participate in our dodgeball leagues and events. We want you to want to become a member of British Dodgeball and help us grow the sport we all love to play.



WHY BE A MEMBER?

As well as supporting the growth of the sport by investing in a non-profit with a sole aim to develop dodgeball, your membership entitles you to ongoing benefits such as discounts on coach education, merchandise and event tickets. Your membership also provides you with a voice and actively participate in the decision making behind the development of the sport in the U.K.

You can sign up to become a member of British Dodgeball by visiting the [membership page](#) of the website.

MEMBERS DEVELOPMENT FUND

New for the 2020/21 season, we are inviting all our members to vote on how they would like us to invest £10,000 into the development of the sport through one of the initiatives below. The project that receives the most member votes will be put into action during the season with regular updates provided to members. Members will also be given the opportunity to get involved in the project where possible, as we welcome your involvement in our work. We would of course love to be in a position to deliver on all the projects, but as a growing organisation and with hopefully a growing membership it will be possible soon.

PROJECT OPTION 1

DIVERSITY IN DODGEBALL

A project aimed at providing more participation opportunities for BAME communities in the U.K. The project will partner with local groups to provide training and coaching in up to 8 urban areas of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

PROJECT OPTION 2

DISABILITY DODGEBALL DEVELOPMENT

A project that will develop resources and opportunities for people to play wheelchair dodgeball. Working with specific groups across the U.K. to gain insight that will develop a specific wheelchair dodgeball ruleset to grow a new format of the sport.

PROJECT OPTION 3

CRIME PREVENTION

A project aimed at working with key stakeholders to provide new opportunities for participation and training for youth offenders. Using dodgeball as a tool to tackle crime in urban areas of the U.K.

PROJECT OPTION 4

COLLEGE DODGEBALL

A project aimed at providing new opportunities for participation, competition and training for college students to increase health benefits and improve employment prospects. Providing an alternative option for young people aged 16+ who have been turned off by more mainstream sports to get involved in something new.

Details on how to cast your vote will be emailed to all members in August 2020. You can sign up as a member today via the [website](#).





2020/21 SEASON

As we approach a return to play across the U.K. we do so tentatively with the hope that clubs can begin training during the summer. We already have plans to restart our coach education and school coaching from September as well as begin and restart our development project work before competitions and events return in the Autumn.

Our Return to Play guidance will see some new measures put in place but in a way that does not jeopardise the make-up of the sport. We of course will be prioritising safety and the new measures will enforce this.

Working with Sport England we have been able to access survival funding for British Dodgeball with a view to the sport returning beyond the Coronavirus Pandemic in a safe position that enables us to build upon the progress of our first 3 seasons.

Let us not forget how young British Dodgeball is and try and ensure expectations are not too high. Our primary objective is always to increase participation in the sport, through our members clubs, the schools we work in and the products and services we provide. Dodgeball is undoubtedly on the rise and its easy for those new to the sport to forget that we are on a journey, one that only started in 2017 for British Dodgeball and the sport as recently as 2005.

We will continue with the expansion of the regional leagues and national league systems as a priority for the sport to provide that sustainable and competitive opportunity for clubs and their members. Due to developments planned for University dodgeball we will begin discussions with our member community clubs in Wales to ensure their league opportunities are right for them in 2020/21.

We will support our member clubs to grow as institutions with increased participation, improved structures as well as increased inclusivity and diversity through the launch of our new Dodgemark accreditation.

New projects will take place encouraging more women and girls to play dodgeball and more people of all ages in new areas across the U.K. Our diversity action plan will also be in operation, more children and young people will play than ever before at our school competitions pathway and our member led development fund will begin.

The WDBF World Championships originally planned for September 2020 will likely take place towards the end of 2021 in the United Kingdom and we hope in Glasgow. This of course will be subject to venue availability and the situation globally.

We thank you for reading the 2019/20 season report and hope it has given you a welcome insight into the work we do at British Dodgeball.

BRITISH DODGEBALL

2020/21

SEE YOU NEXT SEASON



BRITISH
DODGEBALL