



# Trinity Sport Union Executive Committee

Minutes of Meeting #2 – Michaelmas Term 2025/26

Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 - 17:00 - Trinity Sport Centre Board Room

## In Attendance

Jane Prendergast (Chairperson), John O'Hara (Hon. Secretary), Sam Ledoux (Junior Treasurer), Ciara Mulligan (Vice Chairperson), Prof. Cyril Smyth (Chair of the Pavilion Bar Committee), Marcus Boggan (Senior Honorary Treasurer), Caitríona Kennedy (Pavilion Bar Committee Member), Prof. Anil Kokaram (Advisory Board), Robert Otway-Norwood (Advisory Board), Ian Beatty-Orr (Advisory Board), Sharon Campbell (Advisory Board), Russell Bolger (Club Representative), Aisling Mulligan (Club Representative), Zia Ahmed (Club Representative), Agathe Seiler (Club Representative), Ryan Molinare (Club Representative), Kate McFadden (DUFC Representative, ex officio) Niamh Digby-Bratton (Club Operations & Development Manager, ex-officio)

## Apologies

Carmel Maher (Club Representative), Lilia Goh En Ying (Club Representative), Aisling Mulligan (Club Representative), Liam Bean (Pavilion Bar Committee), Michelle Tanner (Director of Sport & Physical Activity, ex-officio)

### 1. Opening of Meeting & Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members. Apologies were noted for late arrival and scheduling delays.

### 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 8 October 2025, were approved.

- Proposed by Caitríona Kennedy
- Seconded by Russell Bolger

### 3. General Introduction & Welcome to New Members

The Chair welcomed new attendees including Kate McFadden (DUFC Representative, ex officio) and Sharon Campbell (Advisory Board, subject to reappointment). She thanked



members for their continued engagement and highlighted the importance of maintaining continuity in club representation.

#### 4. Election of Advisory Board Members

The Hon. Secretary introduced the election of Sharon Campbell to the Advisory Board. Voting was conducted among student officers only.

Decision: Appointment approved unanimously.

#### 5. Update from the Chair of the Pavilion Bar

Presenter: Prof. Cyril Smyth

The Chair of the Pavilion Bar Committee presented the financial report for Q1 (July - September 2025):

- Total sales (net of VAT): €371,124 – up €52,562 (+16.7%) year-on-year.
- Cost of sales: €151,707 (Gross profit €219,417; 59.1%).
- Operational expenses: €188,623, leaving a net operational profit of €30,794 (8%).
- Food sales: €75,000 (20.2% of total; +€10,000 year-on-year).
- Alcohol sales: €246,045 (66.3% of total; +€41,000 year-on-year).
- Freshers' Marquee: €50,122 (13.5% of total; +€1,657 year-on-year).

Refurbishment work (approx. €31,000) included table resurfacing and internal improvements.

The first Pav Friday event attracted 1,600 attendees and was deemed highly successful.

The Committee noted the report and commended staff for strong performance under challenging market conditions.

#### 6. Update from Director of Sport and Physical Activity

Presenter: Niamh Digby Bratton (Club Operations & Development Manager), on behalf of the Director of Sport & Physical Activity, Michelle Tanner

Key updates included:

- Upcoming events: Campus 3K (3 December), Sports Scholarship Awards (10 Nov), Gender Equality Celebration (18 Nov).



- Launch of weekly Club Sports Promotion Schedule via Microsoft Forms – Clubs encouraged to submit fixtures.
- Establishment of a Code of Ethics Review Group to improve complaints procedures.
- Creation of five Facility User Groups (College Park & Botany Bay; Sports Centre; Trinity East; Santry & Iveagh Gardens; Islandbridge & Watersports) to address operational issues collaboratively.
- TSU management accounts pending; an EGM may be required for financial ratification prior to capitulation on 27 Nov 2025.

Report noted with thanks.

## 7. SSI Eligibility Discussion & Vote

Presenter: Jane Prendergast (Chairperson)

The Executive discussed the new Student Sport Ireland (SSI) eligibility policy restricting participation in intervarsity competitions to registered students only.

Submissions were received from DU Archery, DU Taekwondo, DU Canoe & Kayak and DU Harriers & Athletics Clubs opposing the exclusion of 'Year of Grace' members from intervarsity competition.

Arguments cited small competitive fields, insurance coverage via NGBs, and loss of experience for current students.

The Club Operations & Development Manager and other members outlined rationale for SSI's stance, including governance, insurance, fairness, and the definition of student sport.

Following extensive discussion, the Executive voted to endorse the SSI policy.

Decision: Motion to endorse SSI eligibility criteria for intervarsity competition approved.

## 8. Budget Allocation Process Update 2025/26

Presenter: Marcus Boggan (Senior Honorary Treasurer), Sam Ledoux (Junior Treasurer)

The SHT provided an overview of the updated budget allocation model, developed by the Finance Subcommittee (comprised of the SHT, Junior Treasurer, Chairperson, and Club Operations & Development Manager).

The model applies an objective, weighted formula (25% each for coaching, competition, facilities, and miscellaneous needs) to determine allocations.



Eligibility requirements: elected committee,  $\geq 20$  active members, and charging a membership fee.

#### Highlights:

- Total allocation increased from €188,000 (2024/25) to €200,000.
- Additional Pavilion Bar and Women in Sport grants to be announced later.
- Dormant clubs: Orienteering, Handball, American Football
  - DUFC (Men's & Women's) did not submit requests.

Decision: Report noted with appreciation to the Finance Subcommittee.

#### 9. Working Group Updates

- a) Constitutional Evaluation Group – Chair: Jane Prendergast. Initial meeting scheduled week of 17 November; focus on minor amendments and implementation.
- b) Club Visibility Working Group – Chair: Ciara Mulligan. Meeting planned for 5 November to review student sport visibility strategy.
- c) Fundraising & Sponsorship Working Group – Chair: Sam Ledoux. Group convened; developing a sponsorship toolkit with alignment to existing Trinity Sport guidelines. Terms of Reference to be finalised by next meeting.

#### 10. Club Affairs

Issues raised included:

- DU Climbing Club: facility usage and external group overlap; to be reviewed.
- DUSAC: queries regarding boat storage and finances; referred to Facilities and Finance Committees.
- DU Netball: potential fundraising support to be explored

Matters noted; follow-ups assigned to relevant officers.

#### 11. Any Other Business

- a) Resignation of Club Representative - Katie McClain (DU Ladies Boat Club). The Executive agreed to co-opt a replacement from her club at the next meeting.



b) High Performance Facility Access - query raised regarding availability; Club Operations Manager to circulate usage details.

c) Cardiac Screening - Trinity Sport to provide screening for all sports scholars this year, with future expansion under consideration.

## 12. Date of Next Meeting & Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 1 December 2025, 17:00, Trinity Sport Centre Board Room.