

# **Athletic Union Council**

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| **Date:**  | 09.10.25 |
| **Time:** | 5.00pm |
| **Location:** | S3.01 and Online |

## **Minutes**

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| 1.0 | 1.1 | **Present:** Alex Ditchburn, Joe Burrell, Catherine Lymer, Joseph Rodriguez (Bucks FC), Dan Charlton (Men's Hockey), Leah Barrow (Women's Hockey), Mia Walford (Cheer), Abdullah Durrani (Basketball), Thomas Broadbent (Men's Rugby), Sam Fernandez (Men's Rugby), Rob Freeman (Cricket), Charlie Gee (Swim), Cally Dellaway (Netball), Klumy Lui (Dance), Keleigh Brady (Women's Football), Barbora Kocakova (Dance), Anish Khuttan (Men's Rugby), Alissa Ciacchella (Women's Football), Adil Gurung (Volleyball), Kairuz Pagba (Volleyball) |  |
|  | 1.2 | **In attendance:** Sarah Nawaz, Jean Marc Amagoua, Imogen Sanders |  |
|  | 1.3 | **Apologies for Absence:**  |  |
|  | 1.4 | **Absent without apologies:**  |  |
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| 2.0 |  | **President Update** | **JMA** |
|  |  | * Feedback for the university: pleased to see so many clubs at Fresher’s Fair and wanted to congratulate all who took part
* Black History Month: there is an opportunity to volunteer at Hairoun Day Centre on the 21st of October – sign up via the What’s On page
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| 3.0 |  | **AU Chair Elections** | **JB** |
|  |  | * AD sent a message in the club group chats asking if anyone wanted to stand.
* Those attending the meeting were given the opportunity to put themselves forward and would be given 30 seconds to state why they should be chair
* 2 attendees put themselves forward: Dan Charlton (Men’s Hockey) and Leah Barrow (Women’s Hockey)
* After their presentations, attendees were asked to vote who they wanted as chair with the result being announced later in the meeting.
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| 4.0 |  | **Elections Update** | **AD** |
|  |  | * There are still a few positions available in some clubs including cheer and cricket
* Nominations are open 13th to 19th October with voting taking place on the 20th to 24th October
* Natasha Neal (Representation Team) wanted to remind attendees that Rep nominations will open on 17th October, for more information email the team.
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| 5.0 |  | **Training and Development Update** | **IS** |
|  |  | * Given by Imogen Sanders (Training and Development Assistant)
* On Friday 17th October will be holding a Black History Month Conference in the Venue
* It will feature guest speakers who will share their experiences and how they overcame barriers to become successful
* One of the speakers is Shaunagh Brown – Former England rugby player
* Details and sign up are on the What’s On page
* Leadership Academy: applications are open until the 24th October. Reminder that all the current elected officers are academy graduates as well as 3 of this year’s valedictorians.
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| 6.0 |  | **Game Day prep: BUCs play and BSU Memberships** | **AD** |
|  |  | * Reminder to clubs to sign up to BUCs Play and union membership in order to play
* They should do it now rather than on Wednesday when the website can get busy
* Well done to netball who have signed all their players up without any reminders – club presented with a gift voucher
* Reminder all club members should support each other
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| 7.0 |  | **Movember Update** | **JB** |
|  |  | * Movember is a national yearly campaign to raise awareness for men’s mental health
* He will be doing some activities himself including walking or running 5K
* Would be great to have help and support from clubs
* The free haircuts will be taking place again on 1st December
* If clubs have any ideas or fundraising events, let him know
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| 8.0 |  | **Committee Meetings** | **AD** |
|  |  | * Clubs should have a meeting at the beginning and mid-year
* It is important to have these meetings with him as it ensures you are well supported
* When you have your regular committee meetings, let him know and he will try and attend one instead of arranging a separate meeting
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| 9.0 |  | **Registers** | **JB** |
|  |  | * Message was sent on which clubs have and haven’t completed registers
* Clubs will be given first week’s grace but from next week they will need to be done within 24 hours
* Any issues let the staff know.
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| 10.0 |  | **Takeovers** | **JB** |
|  |  | * Some clubs need to meet with Harvey Wright (Events and Production Manager) and Kelly Wiles (Volunteering Coordinator) to go over timings
* If a club is wanted to book in a takeover, they need to do it now as slots are being filled quickly
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| 11.0 |  | **Volunteering Update** | **AD** |
|  |  | * Kelly Wiles (Volunteering Coordinator) has asked for members to look on the What’s On page for volunteering opportunities
* Low on numbers for green opportunities and these would be good to get involved in as they are needed for club accreditation
* Anytime members have volunteered needs to be logged including attending this meeting.
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| 12.0 |  | **Varsity Captains** | **JB** |
|  |  | * Nominations open on 1st December
* They are opening early to allow captains to settle into the role
* Captains will be announced on the 3rd December
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| 13.0 |  | **Team Photos** | **AD** |
|  |  | * Date still to be confirmed, hoping it will be in November
* During the day will also try and do committee videos and feedback forms
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|  |  | **Interactive session** | **JB** |
|  |  | * Going forward would like to make these council sessions more interactive and not just have attendees being talked at
* Would like to have a discussion to find out how members would like AU council to be run
* Attendees were asked to form groups and to discuss any ideas they have
* After the discussion, attendees were asked to shout out any ideas they came up with: clubs and societies to be able to share their goals, for a pre meeting question form, a hot seat to ask staff questions
* Additional ideas written down will be look at outside of the meeting.
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| 13.0 |  | **AU Chair announcement** | **JB** |
|  |  | * Votes were counted
* Leah Barrows voted AU Council Chair
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| 14.0 |  | **Any Other Business** |  |
|  |  | * Minibus Ambassador: if interested let AD know
* Jess Bradbury (Venue Assistant Manager) would like to thank social secretaries for their work on nights out. Also spaces are running out for socials to be held so please speak to her
* Gift Vouchers: decided to give these out to clubs or individuals who have done well so far: Sam Fernandez (Men’s Rugby) for organising concussion tests; Keleigh Brady (Women’s Football) for getting sponsorship for both of the clubs she is a member of and lastly to Cheer for having the best stall at Fresher’s Fair.
* Concussion Tests: got through 70 more compared to last year. They will next be running on the 16th October.
* Welcome Games: these are any club initiations that involve alcohol – these must take place on site and CL will put out a date for these soon. If a club is planning to have them they need to let her know
* World Mental Health Day: takes place tomorrow, can wear green to show your support
* Rainbow Laces: this campaign will be launched on Monday (13th). Members can wear the laces on the pitch to show their support for LGBTQIA+.
* Women’s Hockey: will be wearing the black history month colours when they play. Will also be doing a monthly pop-up stall to address women’s issues in sport – would like to hear from other clubs as well
* Dance: will be holding a takeover on 4th November, themed around strictly come dancing.
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| 15.0 |  | **Date and time of subsequent meetings:**  |  |
|  |  | Thursday 4th December 2025 at 5.00pm, Room N2.06 and Online |  |