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August 2023



IBSA World Games 2023



One of the largest ever gatherings of elite blind and partially sighted athletes, musicians and dancers is in Birmingham this summer for a major international sporting event. The 2023 International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) World Games is the largest high-level international event for athletes with visual impairment, with more than 1150 competitors from 70 nations.

The games are currently taking place from 18-27 August 2023, held at the University of Birmingham's Edgbaston campus and nearby regional venues. The opening ceremony took place at Birmingham's prestigious Symphony Hall on the 18th August. The ceremony featured some fantastic performances from a range of blind and partially sighted performers including the Inner Vision Orchestra, Step Change Studios' Dance Dosti (featured below) and Birmingham-born DJ, Pervez Hussain.

Birmingham is hosting the seventh edition of the World Games following a successful joint bid between British Blind Sport, Birmingham City Council, Sport Birmingham, UK Sport, and the University of Birmingham.

For more information about the sporting schedule and venues click [here](#)



Photo credit: Anthony Lloyd

🏀 3x3 Basketball Action! 🏀

Sparkbrook's Farm Park was buzzing with energy and action on 26th July. The 3x3 Basketball Tournament was organised by Sport Birmingham in collaboration with Concord Youth Centre and Basketball England. Some top notch basketball skills were on display and the event was jam-packed with enthusiasm and talent. The tournament was a brilliant opportunity for the young people to develop their skills and to meet inspiring special guests such as Commonwealth Games basketball champions Orlan Jackman and Myles Hesson, who were part of the team that won gold. A range of other special guests attended including Olympic Gold Medallist and Sport England Chair Chris Boardman, and West Midlands Mayor Andy Street. The players were able to showcase and hone their skills, and draw inspiration from their peers and sporting heroes.

The event coincided with the announcement of exciting news concerning continued investment in sport and physical activity across the West Midlands. A 10-year plan to level up access to sport and physical activity across the region to help improve residents' physical and mental health was launched by the West Midlands Combined Authority and Sport England. Chris Boardman (Chair of Sport England) and Andy Street (WM Mayor) signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

For more information about the plan click [here](#)



Club Matters Training

Club Matters is a Sport England Lottery funded programme that provides free resources, support, guidance and workshops to:

- Grassroots sports clubs, groups and community organisations.
- The professional workforce that supports grassroots sports clubs, groups and community organisations.

Check out some of these upcoming free training courses / webinars provided through Club Matters

Developing a Marketing Strategy Workshop - 27th September

click [here](#) for more information

Raising Money to Sustain Your Organisation Webinar - 30th August (last few places), 20th and 27th September

click [here](#) for more information



The MAD (Make a Difference) summer camp is running throughout August. It is a fantastic opportunity for young people to come together, get active and have fun! Check out these pictures from the recently held camp at Rockwood Academy.



Take a look at this video for more information about Club Matters

Job Opportunities



Can you help Coach Core support more disadvantaged young people into jobs and

Employment Officer - Click [here](#) for more info

Employment Coach - Click [here](#) for more info



Making a splash!

The Sport Birmingham crew took to the water in August, getting active (and slightly wet!) with a spot of canal kayaking! Many thanks to Keith and the team at the Roundhouse who looked after everyone and provided a fascinating insight into the sights of the canal on the way!

Funding Update

Sport England Small Grants Programme

The Sport England Small Grants Programme seeks to develop opportunities for communities to get more people physically active. Key information:

- Awards of £300-£15,000 are available to not-for-profit organisations.
- Awards are to help inactive and less active people become more active.
- The priority is to support projects working with people living in areas of disadvantage as defined by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation areas 1 to 3.
- Applications should explain why there's a need for the project and how end users have been involved in developing the project.

The closing date for applications is 31 March 2024. For more information click [here](#)

Community Organisations Cost of Living Fund

The fund supports organisations across England to deliver critical frontline services. Organisations are able to apply for funding to maintain or expand critical cost of living services from now until the end of March 2024. The funding is only open to frontline

- food and emergency supplies - food and other 'banks'
- emergency shelter - homelessness services
- safe spaces - domestic abuse services and youth services
- warmth - warm spaces / hubs
- financial and housing advice.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate both increased costs and increased demand. For more info click [here](#)

Tesco Stronger Starts

Tesco Stronger Starts is open to charities and community organisations to apply for a grant of up to £1,500. For more info click [here](#)

Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales - d/Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations

This programme is for small and local charities with an income between £25,000 to £500,000 which are led by and working with d/Deaf and Disabled people who are experiencing poverty. Organisations can apply for a three year grant of £75,000. For more info click [here](#)

Get Grants



Get Grants offer a range of free workshops on a range of topics related to fundraising, they are running a free Severn Trent Community Fund Meet the Funder Event in November, for more information click [here](#). For more information about the Severn Trent Community fund click [here](#)

Do Good, Get Fit!



The Good Gym is a fantastic charity that combines getting fit with doing good in your local community. By joining The Good Gym there are opportunities to run, walk, and cycle to help local community organisations and isolated older people by doing practical tasks.

For more info about Good Gym in the Birmingham area click [here](#)

UK Coaching Awards

Nominations for the UK Coaching Awards 2023 close on the 4th September. Do you know of a coach doing brilliant work to inspire their community? Or is there a podcast that you just can't stop listening to because every single episode is overflowing with unmissable insight?

Recognise great contributions to coaching by nominating them for a UK Coaching Award today. Don't miss your chance - nominations close at 10am on Monday 4th September. For more info click [here](#)

Share Shacks

Share Shacks is a fantastic community initiative that enables the sharing of items, time and skills. Sharing can help bring people together, build skills, reduce waste, and protect the environment, supporting a more sustainable way of living.

The project is expanding – with mobile Share Shack vans, and the soon to open Hay Hall Share Shack. They are looking for donations for more stock and there is a real demand for sports equipment, tools for DIY, gardening equipment and household appliances. Any donations most welcome. If you have something that might be useful it can be dropped off at Hay Hall or the Ladywood Share Shack, or if it's too big and bulky then the van can come to you!

For more information click [here](#)



September Diary Dates

16th September - Alzheimer's Society Birmingham Memory Walk

September is World Alzheimer's Month. Alzheimer's Society will be holding memory walks across the country throughout September and into early October. For more info on how to take part in the Birmingham Memory Walk click [here](#)

20th September – National Fitness Day

Highlighting the role physical activity plays across the UK, and helping raise awareness of its importance in assisting us to lead healthier lifestyles. For more info click [here](#)

30th September - Sporting Heritage Day

National Sporting Heritage Day is an annual celebration of sporting heritage. The day is for everyone involved in sport and heritage who wants to promote how sport can be used for inspiration and celebration. For more info click [here](#)

"You'll never find a rainbow if you're looking down"

Charlie Chaplin



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