

Since we rebranded GBSA back in 2021 we have been in a growing stage as a team. We have now developed a clear strategy on how we intend to lead our sport into the next five years and beyond. Our primary objective is to grow our sport at the grass roots level and develop our athletes to a standard internationally so that GB is seen again as a force to be reckoned with. We know we may not have the strength in depth as the leading nations of the sport, as our infrastructure and financial support is not the same, however we can still produce pockets of excellence that can clearly compete on the World stage.

We have seen many changes over the last few years that have been necessary for the sport to move forward. One being that we now have an international sized floor that, with development, will be an international style venue that will be great for GBSA.

However, to be able to achieve this, we need the right team of people, with the right skills, right behaviours, and the same passion to move our sport forward.

I am pleased to announce the following changes to the GBSA structure.

The Trustees have appointed **Vic Pratt** as our third Trustee following Steve Prudence's resignation. I am delighted to have Vic on board to support Justin and myself. Vic brings a wealth of knowledge and experience together with his common-sense approach and love for the sport.

Margaret Brooks continues to support me as our Honorary President and although she is in Italy, her continued support and regular catch ups with me are invaluable, as is her knowledge and love for our sport.

Nick Loader and **Donna Wicks** will support me on the board as Directors of Dance and Figures and Free respectively. We are now a small board which will help greatly with the speed and accuracy of our decision making. Nick and Donna's role will be to purely move the standard of skating in their functions forward and the introduction of a Senior Leadership team will allow them to focus solely on this key challenge.

To continue and help us achieve our goals, we have introduced a Senior Leadership Team. **Jill Ainge** takes on the role of Technical Director and will be responsible for the strategic direction of our technical team and ensure we are fully aligned with Worldskate rules and processes. Supporting Jill, **Claudia Petrelli** is appointed as our Head of Official Development, with a key focus on supporting with the day to management of our existing and new officials - focusing on training, development, and performance management. **Louise Flanagan** takes on the role of Operations Director with a key focus on administration, event management, travel management, and supporting the Board. **Sam Bould-Newton** joins the team as Head of Communications with the responsibility of ensuring our comms are slick, professional, consistent, and adapted for all social media forums. **Sue Thiele** joins as Director of Finance with the objective of supporting the Board on all strategic matters including financial objectives whilst supporting Ian Dixon on day-to-day financial matters. **Carla Smith** and **Allison Hassey** continue to jointly lead our Safeguarding team.

I would like to give a special thanks to **Claudia Linden** for her hard work and contribution as Head of Finance. Claudia stood down due to work commitments.

The key to our success will be the continued hard work of the teams below and Sam will be working with the teams on communicating their structures, which will give all our members a clear communication picture of all our teams within GBSA.

Finally, I would like to congratulate and wish all of the team good luck in their new and challenging roles. I fully appreciate we are all volunteers and am extremely pleased and thankful that we have so many people who are keen to support us on this journey. I intend to hold a series of zoom sessions to share our vision and strategy and will communicate this over the next few months.

Regards

Jim

Jim Drain
Chairperson GBSA
May 2023



