



UK SPORTS ASSOCIATION

For People with Learning Disability

PRESS RELEASE

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GREAT BRITAIN TEAM TO 2011 INAS GLOBAL GAMES REVEALED

Today, the UK Sports Association for People with Learning Disability (UKSA) revealed those representing Great Britain at the 3rd INAS Global Games in Liguria, Italy from September 24th - October 4th 2011.

Comprising 37 members the Great Britain Team will compete in swimming, athletics, table tennis and tennis, the latter managed in partnership with The Tennis Foundation. The Global Games is the largest performance led multisport Championships for athletes with an intellectual disability in the world and is the pinnacle of the INAS programme. Taking place every 4 years, one year before the Paralympic Games, the 2011 Organisers, expect 45 countries from 5 continents and over 1500 athletes are expected to compete.

Athletics and swimming are International Paralympic Committee (IPC) approved, adding to the importance of the Games as athletes strive for London 2012 Paralympic Games selection.

The Great Britain Team is a strong mix of experience and ambition and welcomes five athletes making their international debut with Great Britain. Lucy Chenery (16), Peter Millar (19), Owen Miller (19), Stephen Morris (23) and Declan Manning (18) all hoping to make their mark on the world sporting stage.

Leading the GB Team to the Games is British, Commonwealth and European multi medal winning athlete Verona Elder MBE. Mrs Elder said *'The Global Games will provide a vital opportunity for athletes to gain experience in a highly pressurised environment in the lead up to the London 2012 Paralympic Games. This will be excellent preparation to face the challenges that performance sport will throw at them in the months to come'*.

Tracey McCillen, CEO, UK Sports Association said *'We have a small but impressive team of British athletes and staff heading for the Games and expectations are high as they take their place amongst the world's best. It's been a tough road for many athletes to get here but now they are, they will want to see Britain claim its place on the medal table. I wish them the very best and look forward to celebrating their successes'*.

Geoff Newton, Executive Director, The Tennis Foundation said *'We are very pleased to be sending such a strong team of tennis players out to Liguria to compete at the Global Games following their recent success at the Special Olympics World Summer Games. We know they will do Great Britain proud and we wish them all the best.'*

Sports specific classification in athletics will take place at the Global Games for the first time, which is part of the 2009 IPC and INAS agreement for inclusion in the London 2012 Games.

The Great Britain Team is managed by UKSA in collaboration with its four Home Country members all of whom work to support athletes on the performance pathway. Those members are Scottish Disability Sport, Disability Sports Northern Ireland, Welsh Sports Association for People with Learning Disability and Mencap Sport in England. [ENDS]

**Further info, photos and interviews available. Contact Nick Barnes, Press Co-ordinator or Tracey McCillen, CEO
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NOTES TO EDITOR

1. The UK Sports Association for People with Learning Disability (UKSA) is the national disability sports organisation and umbrella body in the UK for sport and people with learning disability. UKSA facilitates and supports talented sports people with learning disability in the UK to train, compete and excel in national and international sport and is the body responsible for classification of athletes from the UK. UKSA is recognised by UK Sport and is the official Great Britain member of INAS. See www.uksportsassociation.org
2. INAS, For Para-Athletes with Intellectual Disability (formerly INAS-FID), founded in 1986, is a member of the International Paralympic Committee and is the body responsible for the international competition for athletes with intellectual disability. See www.inas-fid.org
3. Team Great Britain comprises Chef de Mission, Verona Elder MBE; Table Tennis: Alistair Feltham (Bournemouth, Dorset), Duncan Feltham (Bournemouth, Dorset), Jeffrey Jarvis (Melton Mowbray, Leics), Adam Thompson (Sale, Cheshire), Victoria Bromley (Wolverhampton, West Mids), Patrick Cox (Balby, Leics), managed and supported by Dennis Beech (Crewe, Cheshire), Mick Vesey (Worksop, Notts), Beryl Jarvis (Melton Mowbray, Leics), Sheena Feltham (Bournemouth, Dorset) and Wendy Beech (Crewe, Cheshire).

Tennis: Zara Jurenko (Leicester, Leics), Peter Millar (Tranmere, Wirral), Alistair Daniels (Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire), Thomas Styles (Melton Mowbray, Leics) managed and supported by Lesley Whitehead (Clifton, Notts), Andrew Raitt (Edinburgh, Scotland) and Claire Lavers (Roehampton, London).

Athletics: James Simpson (Ulverston, Cumbria), Andrew Kaar (Solihull, West Mids), Declan Manning (Bungay, Suffolk), Stephen Morris (Cardiff, Mid Glamorgan), Owen Miller (Dunfermline, Fife), Claire Ryan (Bradford, West Yorks), Holly Durbidge (Lowestoft, Suffolk), Emily Rawlins (Longsight, Manchester) managed and supported by Paul Burns (Barrow, Cumbria), John Wootton (Wakefield, West Yorks), Christine Galloway (Halifax, West Yorks), Marie Dixon (Manchester) and Jane Coia (Torfaen, Wales).

Swimming: Stephanie Bird (Lowestoft, Suffolk), Craig Moate (Barking, Essex), Lucy Chenery (Aylesbury, Bucks) managed and supported by Chris Hulse (Clwyd, Wales), plus one additional coach to be announced.
4. Learning Disability is a term used in the UK, with intellectual disability being used internationally. Both refer to the same group of athletes. Learning disability is a "hidden disability". It inhibits how a person learns and performs every day functions that others take for granted. It also reduces communication, understanding, social, and living skills. In elite performance sport learning disability is defined as an IQ of 75 or less; significant limitations in adaptive behaviour and age of onset of the learning disability being in the development years, ie. 0 -18 years. This definition adopted by INAS is from the World Health Organisation (WHO) definition of learning disability (mental handicap) and is in line with other internationally recognised definitions.
5. UKSA & INAS are different to Special Olympics. UKSA promotes *performance led* competitive sport, have just one classification group in events and focus on first passed the line and winning gold. Special Olympics focuses on participating in sport and all participants are awarded medals to celebrate their achievement.
6. The Global Games is organised by the Comitato Organizzatore Locale and Federazione Sportiva Paralimpica riconosciuta dal CIP under the auspices of INAS. See www.globalgames2011.it