

**Fuller ACC clubs Winter report 2009-2010**  
**A report by Charles Murdoch, A.C.C. Chair 2008-09**

*Cycling Club Report*

The club so far has 23 fully-paid up members compared with the 20 member target, with more around 5 more expected still to join the club officially.

Financially, the club has spent about 80% of the travel grant already, with travel subsidies for the rest of the year expected to come from SGI. About 10% of entry fee grant has been used, with most of this expected to be used next term when the majority of races occur. The club sponsorship from Accenture is being spent on subsidising team kit.

The cycling club supports road cycling and mountain biking, traditionally focusing on the latter. This year has seen a massive rise in the amount of road cycling taking place, mainly down to offering more road activities for club members and the increase of members who are solely road riders. This has brought a lot more interest and activity to the club without having any detrimental effect on the mountain biking side – a weekend mountain biking trip has already run this term.

The cycling club also containers members entering the BUCS duathlon and triathlons which are currently supported by Sport Imperial.

One difficulty the club currently faces is the lack of provision for storage space for equipment in the Union.

*Capoeira Club Report*

This year the Capoeira Club has taken part in the 1<sup>st</sup> International Capoeira Festival organized by Tribo Capoeira on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October. Member ship is low at about 9 members as getting people to actually buy the membership is very difficult and many people are intimidated by capoeira or feel that they aren't suitable to do capoeira. Training costs 5 pounds per class for members and 7 pounds per class for non-members. The club's next big activity will be the Christmas roda which will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December at the Tribo Capoeira Academy.

*Dance Club Report*

Currently have 243 members including Life/Associate Members, who partake in at least 22hrs (excluding private practice/lessons & MJ which takes up at least 4hrs a week too) of lessons per week. So far the club has participated in Warick Competition freshers demo & free lessons, a club lunch, Halloween Social, Beginners Practice Social and a Beginners Make-up Session. Future dance competitions which the club will attend are: Nottingham – 28/11/09, Sheffield – Feb 10, SUDA – Feb 10 and IVDA – Feb 10. Socially the club will host Christmas, Valentines and Spring balls, some with teaching/competition.

There have been some difficulties, lack of funds to host competitions, lack of manpower to help in organizing balls or competitions – to solve this problem, the clubs thinking of getting more help from members, and lack of wooden floored dance space. Storage is an issue, the cupboard is very small and cramped, clothes are worth thousands and thousands of pounds and the current cupboard is right under the JCR where the cooking is done and the smell clings onto the club's clothes and is very bad for them. Hopefully space in the Union can be found.

Financially the club is very healthy with an income of just over £15000 and an expenditure of just over £6000 with major costs coming from transport.

*Squash Club Report*

In recent years the squash club has grown significantly, this year has 134 Full members as well as 4 Men's and 1 Women's team competing in both ULU and BUCS competitions. The club's first team is currently competing in the final stage of the national BUCS competition and so have already secured a place in the top 5 of the club's university teams in the country. Sport Imperial has been very helpful – funding 1<sup>st</sup> team training (in the region of £2400), and also offering some free sessions at Wilson House. They are also supporting us in securing union funding for the club's Wednesday matches which all other sports at Imperial benefit from. Most other costs (travel, coaching for other teams etc.) remain similar but due to the increase in session time compared to last year, unless more funding can be secured the squash club will struggle despite the huge interest and success of the club. The club is currently working with Sport Imperial and Ethos to change how membership is used for next year, such that the club's costs may be reduced whilst club members retain benefits. Financially, the grant for session hire covers less than £3000 and the club's new session allocation alone costing in the region of £5700, despite the number of members the club is struggling to pay for team travel expenses and have had to reduce the club's allocation for next term. This is not ideal, as even in the current situation there aren't enough sessions available to members due to the number of matches and training required for the teams. Also the club has had to cancel Club Night for next term which has been a successful new initiative, purely due to lack of finances.

#### *Badminton Club Report*

Membership is good and stands at 181, at a cost of £35 this has generated £6095.51, combined with grant, total funds stand at £14850.01. Major expenditure is ground hire (£8421) and instructor fees (10 weeks, 5 h sessions per week, at £25 p/h, total of £1250). This has left the club in a healthy financial position with £4793.90 in the bank. Club activities have been a social dinner (loss of 42.66), non-profit club tournament, weekly team training sessions and twice weekly club sessions.

#### *Baseball Club Report*

The Imperial College Baseball Club runs sessions 1-2 times a week, involving a mixture of training sessions at Hyde Park and Harlington; and trips to batting cages. Sessions are normally followed by drinks at the union and a meal. The highlight of the club's year so far has been the club's victory in the British Universities Baseball Association Fall Shield, which we won after only 3 weeks of training sessions. Membership numbers have been steadily increasing since the start of the year, with the figure currently standing at 25 full members – exceeding the club's target by 25%. All this was achieved despite several obstacles the club had to overcome. Limited funding meant that we had to initially (and still) make do with equipment that was restricted in both quantity and quality. Another major difficulty the club faced was having to organise last minute transport for 14 members to the tournament in Nottingham, after the new union minibus failed to arrive on time. Next term sees many highlights for the club's club. We will be participating in another nationwide university baseball tournament. Financially the club has about £500 of SGI and grant remaining

#### *Fencing Club Report*

Membership raised is 60 full members plus 3 life/associate members. This year the club has also seen a large increase in the number of members attending each session and session fees have also been increased from a flat rate of £1.50 to £2/£4 depending on if the member takes an individual lesson from one of the club's two professional coaches. This has increased income significantly. However the club has also over doubled professional coaching to 10hrs per week, with an increase in the coaches rate as well to £30ph. This means coaches cost nearly £6,000 p/a, of which £1,400 is grant and extra £4,600 covered with SGI by the end of the year. The club is in the process of buying a lot of new kit for the club to the sum of approx £1,500 which is also mainly being covered by SGI. Currently

finances are looking healthy and even with the huge increase in coaching and hall space costs the club are set to break even by the end of the year.

### *Yacht Club Report*

This term the club has organised three separate weekends of sailing including two day long trips aimed at introducing new members to the club and yacht sailing in general with eleven people on each. In addition to this the club has run two other weekend long trips for cruising around the Solent with ten and twenty people on each of these respectively. The club has also organised socials each Monday in the union and a Christmas dinner before the end of term.

Main success so far recruitment of new members at fresher's fair with a high proportion of members going on trips being new to the club whilst still maintaining the majority of members from last year. As a result the club has already achieved the club's membership target of 40 and have several non student members in addition to this.

Next term the club intends on running several cruising weekends like this term alongside entering racing regatta's/ events concluding in the BUCS BUSA student yachting nationals at Easter. In addition to this the club intends to organise RYA training for interested members. Finances are in a very healthy state, with around £3000 of income so far this year. However an expensive yacht charter has dented finances to the tune of £2820.

### *Ultimate Frisbee Club Report*

Ultimate Frisbee club has recruited 48 members this year including a large number of freshers. This is a major improvement in subscription compared to last year when the club struggled to meet the target. This also increased the club's SGI by a substantial amount. Apart from practices on Wednesdays and Saturdays, the club has been consistently sending teams to tournaments. This includes Bath Indoor warm up tournament, Loughborough Indoor Beginners Tournament, South East Region Open Indoor Regionals, South East Region Women Indoor Regional's, Sussex University Ladder League and BUCS Indoor National. Due to the recent influx of freshers, 2 teams, instead of 1 team in recent years, were sent to Loughborough Indoor Beginner. This resulted in a notable increase in travel expenses to the North. Same applies to other tournaments.

On the 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> of November, the first team went to Manchester to compete against the cream of other regions in the BUCS Indoor Nationals and came 1<sup>st</sup> in division 2. Having mini bus licenses, a couple of players took turns driving the whole weekend, which consequently saved the club some money on travel expenses.

### *Boardsailing Club Report*

Finances are healthy, combined SGI and grant stands at just over £2000, so far, the club has only spent money on travel. The club is planning on spending some money in the next few weeks on repairs and maintenance for the club's existing kit. Member ship stands at 19 full members + 1 Life Member (target 20). Past activities include weekend trips to the National Windsurf Festival, Nottingham University and to Aussie Kiss student windsurfing festival in Cornwall. Day trips to Aquasports Centre, Surrey and Poole Harb the club's are also undertaken.

Future events for the club are entering their first ever Wave-sailing event in Cardiff, Student Wave-sailing event at Southampton (February), weekend windsurfing trip to Cardiff (March), weeks holiday over Easter to Dahab, Egypt. Top instruction for all windsurfing levels in possibly the best windsurfing location in the world (April) BUCS windsurfing Nationals in May at Southampton and weeks holiday to Club Vass in Greece (June). Plus we will be going on trip to the south coast and reservoirs on weekends through the next term as much as possible/we can afford.

### *Taekwondo Club Report*

Financially the only transactions that have taken place so far this term are new memberships being bought. The club is however waiting on a receipt for a load of sparring gear which will come to just under £250. The club is also waiting on the club's instructor give us receipts for reregistering and insuring with the BUTF (taekwondo's governing body in Britain). The club recently had several members compete in the BUTF British Open taekwondo competition, all of whom won prizes of one sort or another. Membership is currently at 74% (26/35) but will rise to 80% in the next few days as several new members have been recruited.

### *Archery Club Report*

The academic year has been successful for the Archery Club thus far. Apart from the training three times a week, the club regularly have competitions, the most recent one being held in Brunel, which ended with 11 medals for Imperial. The archery beginner session in October garnered high interest, and assured a high sign-up rate for the club. Currently the club has 52 members, this is slightly down from last year's 65, which is due to several reasons, but still well above the target of 35. First, the Have-A-Go session in Hyde Park in the fresher's week had to be cancelled due to rain. Second, last year's number was an all time high, partly due to the Chinese success in the Olympic Games. Third, having to sign-up online has put several potential members off, who expressed their interest and wanted to pay by cash but finally decided to discontinue archery. It is harder to get members to pay when not being able to urge them so during the sessions. The club is a healthy club with a good track record for competitions, both BUCS and otherwise, hopefully medals will come back to Imperial again.

### *Sailing Club Report*

So far it has been a very successful year for the sailing club, nearly doubling membership compared to last year and only a couple of members short of the target for the year. The club is running sailing sessions twice a week from BTYC near Wembley, with Saturday morning for team race training and beginners joining in on Wednesday afternoons as well. This term the club has entered two events, the Foot trophy, which was at BTYC organised by the London sailing club alumni. The first day the club finished 4<sup>th</sup> out of 6, on Sunday most boats finished somewhere in the middle. The Welsh Dragon even saw a terrible Saturday losing all 4 races, however performance improved on Sunday with 3 wins out of 4 races. Finances are looking in reasonable shape although grant limits the amount of events as even attending only a couple more events the club is in danger of exceeding the club's transport and event entry budget despite charging event fees to the team.

### *Gaelic Athletics Club Report*

The club has 31 members in the club, over 30% more than what we had anticipated and has given a healthier budget to promote the clubs activities and provide for members. At present training is held in Hyde Park which has reduced ground hire and transport cost more than expected. The club has subsidised equipment for members which enables them to take part in the club's games without having to worry about using/being careful with club equipment.

the club's club has grown substantially since last year and the club now caters for other Gaelic sports- the club has a ladies Gaelic football team, a men's Gaelic football team and a Hurling team. An enthusiastic interest has been shown by many people of many nationalities for the various teams that the club has.

The men's Gaelic football team have been playing in regular matches the league that was organised by the club themselves, but it has been organised it such that it prepares members for the championships in February.

The Hurling team took part in the 15-a-side championships in Birmingham during November, entered into the plate competition. However playing against established British club teams was quite challenging for beginners, yet the team made it through to the semi-

finals. The hurling team will now prepare for the hurling 7's championship in February/March

The ladies Gaelic football team has been progressing well with the ladies showing great enthusiasm for many who have never played or even seen the sport before. They had their first game against a formidable St Mary's University team. Now the team are preparing for other challenges matches and preparing for the championships in February.

The club has organised a trip to Dublin for the 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> December to play against Trinity College in a ladies Gaelic football game and a men's Gaelic football game. The club has also been invited to Áras an Uachtaráin (the President of Ireland's house) for a the club's. 27 people have signed up for this trip which the club and the participants of the trip are very much looking forward to. The club is planning for the club's championship weekends in February/March and another International trip in the summer/spring term to Europe. Socially, the club is very active, various social events lined up including a Christmas and End of Year dinner plus other pub crawls/bar nights.

### *Orienteering Club Report*

So far this year the club has managed to recruit 11 full members of the required 20. In addition to this there are 3 associate members. While recruitment has been better than last year the club has suffered from the loss of many old members. The committee is currently developing an action plan to remedy the situation. The current financial state of the club is good. The most significant club expenditure this term was paying for the club's new hoodies, a cost of £150 taken from the SGI. This expenditure is being recovered through the sale of the hoodies. In addition to this there are a number of smaller claims to be processed.

Given that the club is now more financially comfortable than in recent years the club is looking into spending money on some new kit.

The club has attended or run numerous events this term. These have been a variety of orienteering races, including the very enjoyable Cambridge and Oxford city races, and training events run by the club.

The highlight of the year will be a five day trip to Denmark in the spring which the club is currently planning.

### *American Football Club Report*

With this year being the club's first year in the league it has been, as expected, very difficult both financially and competitively.

The need to invest in kit and equipment, on top of the normal overheads of hosting home games and travel to away games, has made this term particularly hard but the club is still expecting to receive £3400 from the club's external sponsors which will ease the club's budget.

The club has achieved approximately 85% (31) of the club's target membership, but with an extra recruitment drive after the Christmas holidays, the club is confident to hit the membership target of 35.

So far, competitively, the club has lost all 3 games, all but one member had only played one game of American Football before starting this year so as the season goes on they hope to improve.

The most exciting thing the club has planned is to have a friendly game against Kings College London at the end of the season. This is hoped to be made an annual event, hosted by each side alternatively (this year it will be hosted by Kings), with a trophy for the winner and an after-party at the hosting university's union. They also request more padding as it hurts getting hit.

### *Rifle & Pistol Club Report*

Membership costs £20.00 (33 of 65 full members, 5 life and/or associate), finances are very healthy with £9000 SGI and £3000 grant still remaining. There has been a steady intake of regularly attending members from the start of term, including some (very) experienced

shots. One notable new member is someone who is already a Great Britain rifle shot and has provided valuable coaching to every rifle shooter in the club.

For small bore regular training has been occurring on Wednesday afternoons at the Blackfriars Range. Also during this time target cards are being shot for submission in the BUCS Small-Bore League.

In addition to the BUCS cards the club is also representing Imperial in the English University Small-bore Grand Prix, a competition between Imperial, Oxford, Cambridge, Southampton, Reading and other southern universities. Bearing in mind the size of the teams that the club is up against the team has been performing well. For shotgun, regular fortnightly clay trips have been arranged at grounds around London.

Forth coming events include Christmas Bonanza (9th December 2009)

Shoot "what you want" (within reason) day at the range, followed by Christmas Dinner and ACC bar night. English University Small-Bore Grand Prix Events in Cambridge, Southampton, Oxford and Reading, BUCS Clay Championship and a week long full-bore training session with other universities at Bisley, provisionally first week of April.

### *Swimming and Water Polo Report*

The club currently has 74 full members, an increase on last year's figure of 67 full members. The club has organised several social events for members and will be having a Christmas social in December.

This year the club will be competing in the BUCS league, as well as ULU and UPOLO competitions. A new swimming league has been established this year with other London Universities. The club has been successful so far in this competition, winning the first two rounds.

The swimming team competed in November at the BUCS individual short championships, and at the BUCS team championships. Individual achievement was seen at both competitions.

The water polo team have competed in several ULU and UPOLO competitions thus far this year, winning 100% of UPOLO games and 2 wins and a draw in the ULU. The club intends to send both a men's and women's team to BUCS this year.

Financially the club is healthy with £7500 in SGI and grant, yet Sport Imperial has informed the club of their intent to reduce funding for the coming year. In the past, Sport Imperial has paid for half of the club's coaching costs as well as paying BUCS entry fees for the club. The club has not yet been made aware of how much Sport Imperial will be providing this year.

### *Riding & Polo Club Report*

This term the Riding & Polo Club has seen a continuing high level of riding lesson bookings, to the point where we are almost at capacity at Trent Park Equestrian Centre (the largest riding school in the UK). We have also had an increase in the number of lessons booked for Polo; in part due to an earlier start in training during the term, but also due to our free polo event at Belmont Polo Club on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The event was attended by 50 people and provided free of charge to the club by Belmont. The club is also organising our annual Christmas Pony games for the last two weeks of term, a Christmas dinner and a potential trip to Olympia horse show.

The club has achieved 89.2% of their membership target (58 out of 65 members) and expect to achieve the due to the higher level of interest in Polo lessons after the free session.

Financially, the club is healthy with £14,929.73 in SGI and Grant. Also the payment method for both Riding and Polo lessons this year has been changed, with TPEC invoicing monthly for lessons and Belmont invoicing at the end of each term. Subsequently you can see below that the club has paid in a substantial amount but have still to pay out our costs for the majority of the term.



Activity	Paid in	Paid out
Ground Hire (Riding)	£4069.00	£4235 covering lessons until Week 5
Ground Hire (Polo)	£1835.40	Invoiced at end of term, ~£4500
Competition Ground Hire (Riding)	-	£1000 to be covered by SI DES money
Travel	£189.55	Subsidy given at end of term.
Entrance Fees	-	£800 paid to SUPA next term (from Grant)
Affiliation Fees	-	£200 paid to BUCS on 29/9/09 (from Grant)
Equipment	-	£426.09 for jackets (paid to supplier) Member contribution to be paid- £30 per jacket
Miscellaneous	-	£66.12 for printing, Freshers' Fayre etc.

Next term the club aims to maintain the high level of bookings seen this term as well as continuing to organise social events. In addition to this both home competitions for the Riding Teams take place in Spring term and the Polo competition season begins.

### *Rugby Football Club Report*

The club's finances are in a healthy state. Major cutbacks and fundraising last year resulted in a good level of SGI being carried over to this year. This money is helping to pay the increased transport costs (due to frequent Saturday trainings at Harlington Sports Ground) as well as a third coach. Hiring Ed Burt (the new coach for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XV) has been extremely beneficial for the club as a whole. All members now benefit from a high standard of coaching which is reflected in the performances at match days. With regards to membership, there are currently 71 of predicted 85 (and expect around 100 members in total) signed up. Based on previous years, it is expected that this number will rise fairly shortly after Christmas when students get their loans.

With regards to activities, we will be shortly hosting the Christmas dinner, with 97 people attending, there is anticipated a profit of around £500 to be made. Before the end of term the club will also be hosting the Rugby 'Karaoke and Cocktails' evening and estimate around £500 profit.

The club is also extremely grateful for the support of Sport Imperial. This year Sport Imperial purchased two floodlights for our use which has doubled the available pitch space for training. The combination of these changes has seen a much higher standard of rugby being played across the club.

### *Shorinji Kempo Club Report*

So far this year the club has had no financial activity as they have not purchased any equipment for training and past socials were paid with members own money.

During autumn term the club had one big social, attending a Chinese restaurant, smaller socials such as drinks at the Union after training regularly occur, currently plans are underway for a Christmas social. As a club they've participated in a seminar organised by Shorinji Kempo club from City University, taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> of November, of which the club heavily represented.

Membership has increased in comparison to last year with 10 new members this year as opposed to 5 new members last year, however they are still 9 members short of hitting the 25 target.

### *Boat Club Report*

Gave an eggy report so I deleted it. In summary, they've done stuff.

### *Basketball Club Report*

Membership so far has been very good, raising 112% (56 Members) at £40 per member giving SGI a boost of £2240. Activity wise, the club is sending a men's team and a women's team to the IDEA league tournament next May amongst the usual weekly training sessions and matches. This term they've also had various social events including a poker night. Finances are healthy at a total of about £2000, despite budget cuts last year the club hopes that they can work around any issues.

Sport Imperial has kindly provided the club with new basketballs, giving a total of 10 men's, and 10 women's basketballs. We have appointed a new head coach for the 1st team, and plan to hire another coach for the girls team next term.

### *Cricket Club Report*

So far the club has raised 57 of the target of 65 members, and expects the short fall to be compensated through many female members joining the club. Not many women have currently joined as cricket is often their second sport and so they will not begin playing until next term at least. The same is true of several men who have a very heavy workload this term which eases off after Christmas.

Financially, the only major cost to the club has been £1957.34 spent on net hire, with another £2500 to follow shortly. Minor fuel costs from indoor tournament and six balls totals £75.17. So far income has been £1060.40 from membership, roughly £450 from net fees, and about £100 of sale of kit left over from last year.

Thrice-weekly the club hires nets for men at Lords' Indoor School, The Ken Barrington Centre at The Oval and Ethos. Ladies train twice a week in the second half of term at Paddington Recreation Ground and with the men at The Oval.

The male team competed in the regional round of the BUCS indoor tournament on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November, playing two matches. They won the first one comfortably but lost the second game on the last ball and so failed to make the national rounds of the competition. The women are playing in their indoor tournament on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December. The club held a Fresher's meal in November which was attended by 30 club members. A Christmas meal has been planned and orders are currently being taken for the event on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Other social activities, including the ACC bar nights, have also been well attended.