



INTERNATIONAL WHEELCHAIR &
AMPUTEE SPORTS FEDERATION

ANNUAL ACTIVITY **REPORT**

2019



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WELCOME FROM IWAS PRESIDENT, RUDI VAN DEN ABBEELE

The year 2019 featured a great number of milestones and achievements for IWAS.

The IWAS World Games 2019 were held in Sharjah, returning to the United Arab Emirates for a second time. It was once again a great event that saw over 500 athletes from 50 countries compete in seven sports including badminton. This was the first time the Badminton World Federation held a recognised competition at an IWAS Games. The event also saw the most comprehensive media team ever employed by a Local Organising Committee to promote the competition.

We continue to attract interest from new nations and organisations keen to be involved in the offerings of IWAS and be welcomed into the IWAS family. We also look at ways to broaden our reach around the world and the contributions we can make to the development of Para sport and its athletes.

In an effort to support the growth of new nations and developing sports, IWAS plans to host the first Guttman Games; an international event exclusively for non Paralympic sports and events.

The first event was due to take place in 2020 however, the COVID-19 pandemic heavily impacted our plans. Despite this being an annual review of 2019, as I write this in 2020, it is only right to acknowledge those events. However, the pandemic does not take away from a successful 2019 for the IWAS-governed sports of wheelchair fencing and powerchair hockey.

What would have been a busy pre-Paralympic year for fencing saw Cheongju, South Korea host the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Championships where we were delighted to see the very active fencing nation of India represented for the first time.



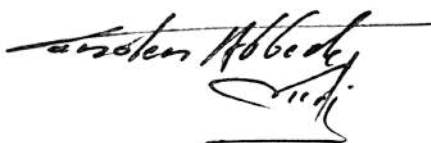
A YEAR IN
REVIEW

Broadcasting was also a feature in Cheongju as all knock-out and medal matches were shown live on the IWAS YouTube channel and IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Facebook page.

In terms of classification, the sport's biggest ever research project gathered pace as scientists attended events to gather a vast amount of competition footage for analysis. The results of this will be used to provide the basis for a sport-specific and evidence-based classification system which will help ensure Wheelchair Fencing's place on the Paralympic programme.

In IWAS Powerchair Hockey, despite a year without official competitions, the build-up to the 2020 European Championships continued. Sadly the competition was subsequently postponed due to COVID-19 but the huge amount of work by the sport Committee and organisers will not go to waste. Plans continue to be finalised for the re-scheduled event in 2021. A series of friendlies, training of officials and classification research also highlighted the year in the sport.

My thanks go to our active and growing membership, the Executive Board and committees and the IWAS staff for their efforts in making 2019 a great year for IWAS, and for helping us to weather the storm of the challenges that 2020 has brought us so far.



Rudi Van Den Abbeele
IWAS President



A YEAR IN
REVIEW



ABOUT IWAS

The International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) was formed following the amalgamation of the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF) and the International Sports Organisation for the Disabled (ISOD). Both organisations were established by Sir Ludwig Guttmann which saw the evolution and growth of Para sport nearly 70 years ago.

Photo Credit: Eva Pavia Gomez

The International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) is one of the world's leading organisations for the development of Para sports. With a membership of more than 60 organisations from around the world, IWAS is passionate about offering as many competition opportunities as possible for athletes with physical impairments.

IWAS holds a unique position – we are the only organisation that provides a full international competition calendar at the entry, development and qualifying levels in support of the Paralympic Movement.

As a founding member of the Paralympic Movement, we also have a crucial role to play today. In alternate years we host the IWAS World Games and IWAS Youth World Games. These offer both established and up-and-coming athletes the chance to compete on the world stage. For some these competitions are a crucial step on their road to the World Championships or Paralympic Games with many events recognised by the relevant International Federation. For others, it will be the first time they compete at a large international event. For all athletes, the IWAS World Games offer the chance to compete against their peers in a multi-sport environment that does not come with the pressure of major competitions like a regional or World Championships or Paralympic Games.

They are an important part of the athlete's journey and many competitors go on to win Paralympic medals.

As well as organising competitions for Paralympic and non-Paralympic sports, IWAS is the global governing body for IWAS Wheelchair Fencing and IWAS Powerchair Hockey.

We are responsible for the growth of the sports, the competition calendar, rules, anti-doping and classification and as a UK registered charity, the work of IWAS reaches far beyond the sporting achievements of physically impaired athletes. IWAS receives no government funding and relies fully on competition and membership fees and an international volunteer base for its work. IWAS works tirelessly in the promotion of welfare and social change across the globe through sport.

IWAS is a Charitable Company (limited by Guarantee) and registered in England and Wales with Companies House (2713410) and the Charity Commission (1011552).

WHAT DRIVES US?

The International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation bases all it does on its core messages and values. Under constant review, these messages underpin the direction we take as an organisation to offer the most opportunities, to the most athletes ensuring we remain a vital contributor to the development and growth of the Paralympic Movement.

OUR VALUES

Sportsmanship, Unity, Respect & Friendship

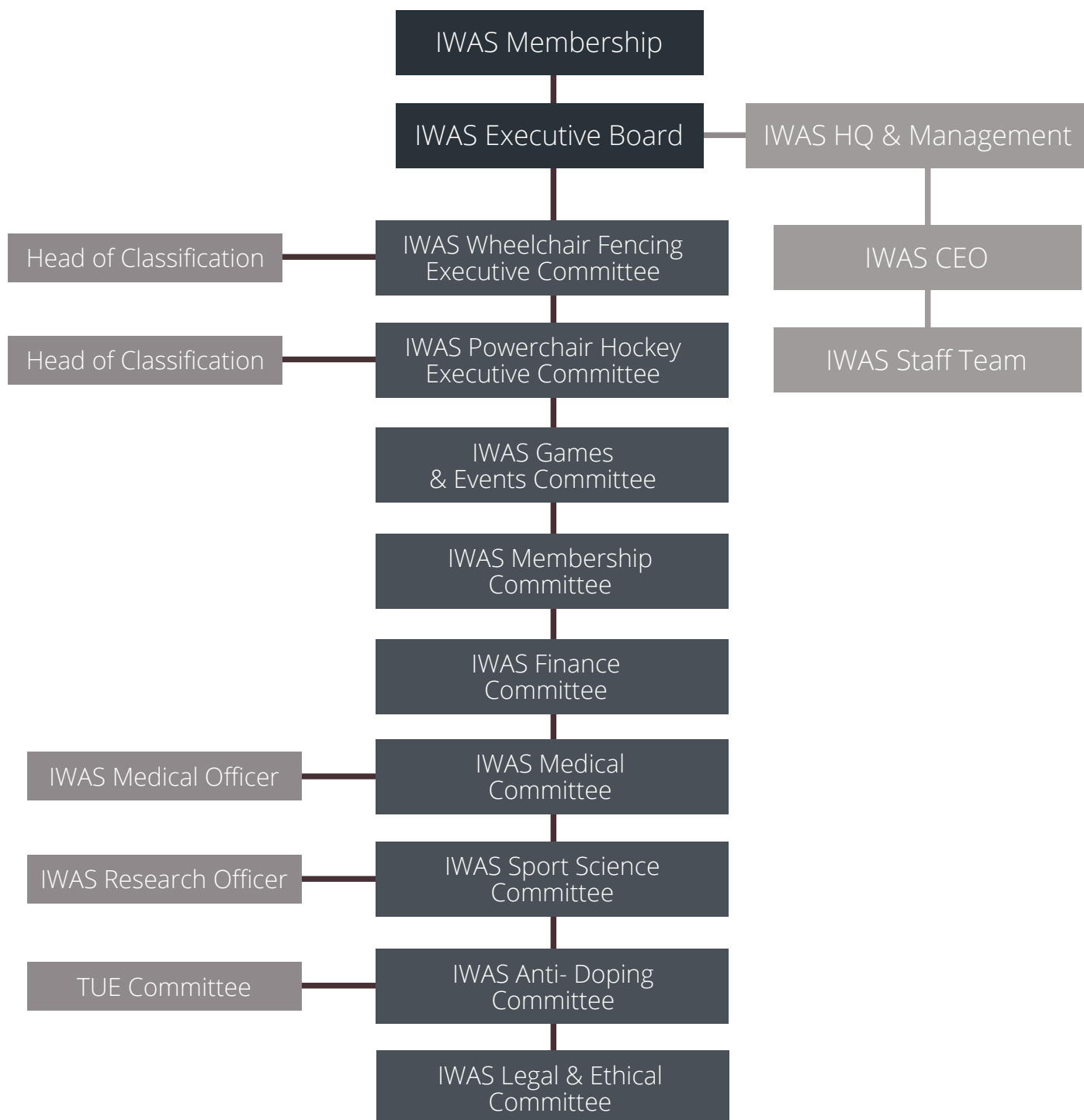
OUR VISION

Develop sporting opportunities for athletes to maximise their potential.

OUR MISSION

Inspire Worldwide Achievements in Sport

OUR ORGANISATION





OUR MEMBERS

"WE CONTINUE TO WELCOME NEW & PAST MEMBERS TO THE IWAS FAMILY"

IWAS PRESIDENT

Following the motion carried at the 2017 IWAS General Assembly, 2019 saw IWAS continue to broaden its membership base with a three tiered system of full, secondary and developing membership available to organisations and countries. A category was also established called 'IWAS Partners', aimed at research institutes, universities, rehabilitation centres & hospitals as well as sponsors and funders.

NEW MEMBERS

Seven new organisations joined the IWAS Membership in 2019, making use of the new three-tiered membership system.

FULL MEMBERS

National Paralympic Committee of Algeria
National Paralympic Committee of Indonesia
Nepal National Para Swimming Association

SECONDARY MEMBERS

Czech Sports Association for the Physically
Handicapped
Sports Control Board of India for the Disabled

DEVELOPING MEMBERS

Costa Rican Fencing Federation
Uruguay Fencing Federation

Full details of the Membership structure including fees, entitlements and obligations of each Membership tier can be found on the [IWAS website](#).



FULL MEMBERS

This is the highest tier of membership available within IWAS. It is reserved for National Paralympic Committees and/or national organisations representing athletes with physical impairments. Full membership entitles members to all benefits including full voting rights and the ability to put forward motions at the General Assembly, nominations to the IWAS Executive Board and entry for athletes into IWAS competitions subject to the requirements of individual events.

ALGERIA

Algeria Paralympic Committee

ARGENTINA

Argentine Federacion de deportes
Sobre Silla de Ruedas (FADISIR)

AUSTRALIA

Disability Sport Australia

AUSTRIA

Austrian Sports Federation for Disabled

AZERBAIJAN

Azerbaijan Paralympic Committee

BELARUS

Belarus Paralympic Committee

BELGIUM

Belgian Paralympic Committee

BRAZIL

Brazilian Paralympic Committee

CANADA

Canadian Fencing Federation

CHINA

Chinese Disabled Persons' Federation

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica Fencing Federation

CROATIA

Croatian Paralympic Committee

CYPRUS

Cyprus Para Sports Federation

CZECH REPUBLIC

Czech Sports Organisation for the Physically Disabled

DENMARK

Denmark Paralympic Committee

ESTONIA

Estonian Paralympic Committee

FINLAND

Finnish Paralympic Committee

FRANCE

Federation Francaise Handisport

GEORGIA

Georgian Paralympic Committee

GERMANY

Germany Paralympic Committee

GREAT BRITAIN

WheelPower - British Wheelchair Sport

GREECE

Hellenic Sports Federation for Persons with Disabilities

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association
for the Physically Disabled

HUNGARY

Hungarian Paralympic Committee

INDIA

Paralympic Committee of India

INDONESIA

National Paralympic Committee of Indonesia

IRAN
IRI Sports Federation for the Disabled

IRAQ
National Paralympic Committee of Iraq

IRELAND
Irish Wheelchair Association Sport

ISRAEL
Israel Paralympic Committee

ITALY
Italian Paralympic Committee

JAPAN
Japanese Paralympic Committee

KAZAKHSTAN
National Paralympic Committee
of the Republic of Kazakhstan

REPUBLIC OF KOREA
Korea Disabled Veterans Organisation

KUWAIT
Kuwait Disabled Sport Club

LATVIA
Latvian SOD

LITHUANIA
Lithuanian Sports Federation for the Disabled

MACAU
Associacion Recreativa dos
Deficientes de Macau

MALAYSIA
Persatuan Orang-Orang Cacat Anggota

MOROCCO
Royal Moroccan Federation of Sports
for Disabled

NEPAL
National Para Swimming Association Nepal

NETHERLANDS
National Paralympic Committee of
the Netherlands

POLAND
Polish Sports Association for the Disabled

PORTUGAL
Portuguesa Federacao de Desporto para Pessoas
Deficiencia (FPDD)

RUSSIA
Russian Federation of Sports with Physical Impairment

SINGAPORE
Singapore Disability Sports Council

SLOVAK REPUBLIC
Slovak Sports Association for the Disabled

SLOVENIA
Paralympic Committee of Slovenia - Sports Federation for
the Disabled of Slovenia

SOUTH AFRICA
South African Sports Association for Physically
Disabled (SASAPD)

SPAIN
Spanish Sports Federation for People with
Physical Disabilities (FEDDF)

SWEDEN
Swedish Sports Organisation for the Disabled and Swedish
Paralympic Committee

SWITZERLAND
Wheelchair Sport Switzerland

THAILAND
Sports Association of the Disabled of Thailand

TURKEY
National Paralympic Committee of Turkey

UAE
UAE Paralympic Committee

UKRAINE
National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine

USA
Adaptive Sports USA



SECONDARY MEMBERS

Secondary Members can send athletes to IWAS competitions and attend the General Assembly with one delegate, but cannot propose motions. Organisations such as a national sports body or impairment specific group are eligible for this Membership providing there is an existing Full IWAS Member within the country.

Cyprus
Cyprus Paralympic Committee

CZECH REPUBLIC
Czech Sports Association for the Physically Handicapped

INDIA
Sports Control Board of India for the Disabled

DEVELOPING MEMBERS

Developing Members are entitled to one vote at the General Assembly. They can also enter athletes to IWAS competitions and are subject to the same requirements as full and secondary members. Whilst being a developing member is not the same as full IWAS membership, the programme is designed to be the first step towards becoming one.

Costa Rica
Costa Rica Fencing Federation

ROMANIA
National Paralympic Committee of Romania

URUGUAY
Uruguay Fencing Federation

Full details of the Membership structure including fees, entitlements and obligations of each Membership tier can be found on the [IWAS website](#).

IWAS EXECUTIVE BOARD 2017-2021

The Executive Board continues to be the supreme decision-making body for IWAS. The current board members were elected in 2017 for a four-year term and will therefore continue to the next General Assembly in 2021.



PRESIDENT
Rudi Van Den Abbeele
France



VICE PRESIDENT
Dr Tariq Sultan bin Khadem
UAE



2nd VICE PRESIDENT
Pavel Rozhkov
Russia



HONOURARY TREASURER
Bob Paterson MBE
Great Britain

MEMBERS AT LARGE



GAMES COMMITTEE
Dina Sotiriadi
Greece



LEGAL & ETHICS
Karl Vilhelm Nielsen
Denmark



MEMBERSHIP
Maryam Shokouhi
Iran



**WHEELCHAIR FENCING
CHAIRMAN**
Pal Szekeres
Hungary



GAMES COMMITTEE
Ernesta Strydom
South Africa

NON-VOTING



PRESIDENT EMERITUS
Paul DePace
USA



CEO
Charmaine Hooper
Great Britain



Assistant Treasurer
Ian Donald
Great Britain



IWAS STAFF & OFFICE

In 2019, IWAS made some changes to improve the efficiency of its lean staffing structure.

The Chief Executive Officer, Charmaine Hooper, continues to lead the team from the IWAS Headquarters where Elin Luce remains as Head of Operations and Hilary Sahota as Sport Manager for wheelchair fencing. Elin Luce began her maternity leave in July followed by Stacey Ashwell's resignation from her position as Office Manager in August.

IWAS also continued to employ part-time consultants to manage media and communications and book-keeping.

All staff are based at the IWAS Headquarters at Aylesbury College, Buckinghamshire. The seat of the organisation is just a stone's throw away from the Stoke Mandeville Hospital where the Paralympic Movement was born some 80 years ago.

IWAS STRATEGIC PLAN

The draft IWAS Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 was developed in 2018 and contained a number of innovations.

In 2019 the evolution of the document continued with Key Performance Indicators added for the first time. Given the additional information needed and added importance of the document for guiding the work of IWAS, the approval of the final Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 by the Executive Board was delayed until January 2020.

The final document can be downloaded from the IWAS website.



IWAS GAMES **PROGRAMME**

"THE IWAS WORLD GAMES IS INTENDED TO BE AN EXCITING MIX OF JOURNEYS, DESIGNED TO CHALLENGE AND HELP DRIVE ATHLETES FORWARD IN THEIR LIVES AND SPORTING CAREERS."

IWAS PRESIDENT, OPENING CEREMONY OF SHARJAH 2019

The 2019 edition of the IWAS World Games took place in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, from 10-16 February 2019.

The programme featured seven sports – archery, athletics, badminton, swimming, shooting, table tennis and wheelchair fencing.

More than 500 athletes from 50 countries made the journey, competing over 6 days in three venues across the Emirate – the Al Tiqah Club for the Disabled, the American University Sharjah and the Al Dhaid Sports Club.

A spectacular Opening Ceremony was held as part of the famous Sharjah Festival of Light, featuring a large fireworks display and laser show.

For many, the competition was an important stop on the road to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, and was once again a strong proving ground for emerging athletes. A number of sports on the programme offered qualification for the 2020 Paralympics and as a result multiple national, regional and world records were broken; five world records on the track and field alone.

As always the medal table was tightly contested throughout the Games. The host nation, UAE took second position with a total of 71 medals losing out on the top spot to 2021 Games hosts, Thailand with a total of 97 medals, including 32 gold. Third place went to India with 61 medals while fourth went to Algeria on their IWAS World Games debut.

IWAS WORLD GAMES SHARJAH 2019





"THE IWAS WORLD GAMES SHARJAH 2019 DEEPLY RESONATES WITH THE EMIRATE'S VALUES DEMONSTRATED THROUGH OUR COMMUNITY INITIATIVES DIRECTED TOWARDS ACHIEVING INCLUSIVITY LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY."

SHEIKH SULTAN BIN AHMED AL QASIMI,
CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

In wheelchair fencing, the competition acted as the opening World Cup of the year and also featured the under 17 and under 23 World Championships.

The Badminton World Federation, who recognised the results from the IWAS World Games for the first time, used the opportunity to host a successful training workshop alongside the competition aimed at promoting the sport in the region.

Paralympic medallists lined-up once again across all sports, showing that the IWAS Games are not only a place for developing athletes.

Sharjah 2019 was also one of the most successful IWAS World Games on social media. A team of videographers, photographers, editors, digital media experts and writers covered all sports across platforms throughout the competition.

GUTTMANN GAMES

"I am delighted that the IWAS Guttman Games will give the opportunity for participants in non-Paralympic sports to compete on an international level."

EVA LOEFFLER OBE

In 2019, IWAS announced a new addition to its Games programme – the IWAS Guttman Games.

The Games will only feature sports and events not currently on the Paralympic Games programme, offering athletes with physical impairments the chance to compete at an international level in upcoming and developing disciplines.

The Games are a tribute to Sir Ludwig Guttman, the father of the Paralympic Movement and founder of the IWAS forbears - the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation and International Sports Organisation for the Disabled, to honour his incredible legacy in growing Para sports.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 the first edition is yet to be held but the idea has the backing of Sir Ludwig Guttman's daughter, Eva Loeffler OBE.

Eva offered the following words when IWAS launched the concept in 2019: "I am delighted to give my support to the proposed IWAS Guttman Games in 2020. My late father started the sport movement for people with disabilities which has now become the third largest sports event in the world. The first games in Stoke Mandeville consisted of a few wheelchair competitions and changed over the years to become the Paralympics."

"I am delighted that the IWAS Guttman Games will give the opportunity for participants in non-Paralympic sports to compete on an international level. I wish the Games every success."

The Guttman Games are a huge part of IWAS' commitment to being a world leader in the development of all Para sports. The aim is to continue the work that Guttman started when he founded the International Stoke Mandeville Games in 1952.

This is especially important for sports and events not on the Paralympic programme, where competition opportunities are sometimes limited because of funding or awareness.

IWAS is looking to work with a variety of different partners to launch the Guttman Games in the coming years.

Event Logo



**IWAS
GUTTMANN GAMES 2020**



**IWAS
GUTTMANN GAMES
2020**

IWAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



"AS THE IWAS MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO GROW, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE IWAS FAMILY FOR ITS ONGOING SUPPORT AND INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STRENGTH OF THE ORGANISATION"

IWAS PRESIDENT (IWAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

The 2019 IWAS General Assembly was held on 10th February 2019 in Sharjah, UAE where Members from 29 countries attended, as well as six formal proxies.

Several new members at various levels were approved during the Assembly, including full membership to, National Paralympic Committee of Algeria, National Paralympic Committee of Indonesia and Nepal National Para Swimming Association. Secondary membership was approved for Czech Sports Association for the Physically Handicapped and Sports Control Board of India for the Disabled while Developing memberships were granted for the Fencing Federations of Costa Rica and Uruguay.

The IWAS income and expenditure for 2018 was presented to the Membership and subsequently approved, alongside a financial report from the organisation's external accountants. The budget for 2019 was also considered and approved and Hillier Hopkins were again appointed as the IWAS accountants.

Presentations were made by IWAS Powerchair Hockey Chairman, Fabio Rodo and IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Chairman, Pal Szekeres on developments in their sports. The IWAS Regional Office based in Sharjah updated the Membership on its latest operations and development initiatives.

The hosts of the 2020 IWAS World Games in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand, took the opportunity to update Members on the plans for the next edition of the IWAS World Games.

IWAS Board Member Maryam Shokouhi presented the revised membership structure following its approval at the 2017 General Assembly, and explained the different rights and obligations of each membership level. The main aim of the new structure is to create opportunities for more athletes to compete under the IWAS banner.

The minutes from the Assembly will be presented for approval at the next General Assembly in 2021.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	PURPOSE
New website tendering process	IWAS HQ	At the start of 2019, IWAS received bids from three design companies and appointed Radical Web Design to lead the development of the new IWAS website.
European Paralympic Committee General Assembly	Netanya, Israel	The IWAS President and CEO attended the General Assembly.
Meeting with the British Paralympic Committee	London, England	The IWAS CEO met with her counterpart at the British Paralympic Association to discuss future collaboration.
IPC Open Day	Bonn, Germany	The IWAS CEO accompanied members of the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee to meet with IPC representatives regarding matters related to wheelchair fencing
IPC Chief Medical Officers meeting	Bonn, Germany	The IWAS CEO attended the meeting on behalf of IWAS Wheelchair Fencing.
Site Visit: IWAS Guttman Games	Lanzarote, Spain	Representatives of the IWAS Office assessed the proposed venues and Local Organising Committee for what was then the 2020 IWAS Guttman Games.
Meeting with WheelPower	Stoke Mandeville, England	Meeting between representatives of WheelPower and IWAS on cooperation around multi-sport Games
Site Visit: IWAS World Games	Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand	Representatives of the IWAS office reviewed the on-site progress of preparations for Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand.
VISTA 2019	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	The IWAS CEO attended VISTA, the Paralympic Movement's gathering of scientists, classifiers and researchers.
IPC Heads of Classification meeting	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	The IWAS CEO attended the meeting on behalf of IWAS Wheelchair Fencing.
Russian Paralympic Committee 20th anniversary celebrations	Moscow, Russia	The IWAS President and IPC CEO celebrated the 20th birthday of the Russian Paralympic Committee.
IPC Conference and General Assembly	Bonn, Germany	The IWAS President and CEO attended the General Assembly alongside hundreds of representatives from Para sport organisations.
IPC Marketing Summit	Bonn, Germany	The IWAS CEO attended to receive and share ideas for improving the marketing of Para sport.



WHEELCHAIR FENCING





MESSAGE FROM IWAS WHEELCHAIR FENCING CHAIRMAN, PAL SZEKERES

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing continued to offer an extensive competition calendar in 2019 on the road to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games, including a World Championships.

We were once again delighted to be on the IWAS World Games programme in Sharjah, UAE, where the World Cup season began. It was followed by an excellent youth competition where we saw some new faces emerge. These athletes went on to compete at senior World Cup competitions in 2019 and in some cases challenged for medals.

Other milestones were reached with the staging of the first World Cups in Amsterdam and in the Americas in Sao Paulo. We continue to search for new hosts to expand the reach of wheelchair fencing.

The highlight of the year came at the Cheongju 2019 World Championships in South Korea. As well as being a top quality competition that showcased the increasing level of the sport, we were also able to broadcast live to the world throughout.

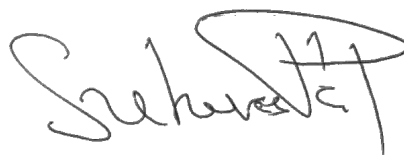
In terms of growing wheelchair fencing further, we were happy to welcome a new Development Officer who was tasked specifically with reaching out to new countries. In a short space of time this meant we were able to make contact with countries such as Jamaica and Mexico to offer them our support.

India also made their World Championships debut at Cheongju 2019 and we continue to work to build new relationships and encourage nations to start their own programmes.

On the all-important subject of classification I would like to thank Alexandre Villiere, his team from Middlesex University and our Head of Classification Anita Laszlo for their continued work in 2019. IWAS Wheelchair Fencing is conducting the biggest ever research project to create a sport specific classification system, which will help us to maintain our place on the Paralympic programme.

All of this continues to happen with the cooperation of countries who work tirelessly to ensure their athletes are ready to give their best.

I look forward to making more progress, welcoming other new countries and continuing to improve in all areas in the coming years.



Pal Szekeres

IWAS WHEELCHAIR FENCING CHAIRPERSON



2019 COMPETITION CALENDAR

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup
Sharjah, United Arab Emirates | 10-16 February

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Under 17 and Under 23 World Championships
Sharjah, United Arab Emirates | 10-16 February

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup
Pisa, Italy | 21-14 March

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup
Sao Paulo, Brazil | 20-26 May

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup
Warsaw, Poland | 10-15 July

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Championships
Cheongju, South Korea | 17-24 September

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup
Amsterdam, The Netherlands | 14-17 November

GOVERNANCE

Elected in 2016, the current IWAS Wheelchair Fencing Executive Committee continued to work to grow the sport around the world in 2019. The Executive Committee is supported by a series of commissions who provide advice and guidance on a wide range of areas.



CHAIR
Pal Szekeres
Hungary



SECRETARY GENERAL
Udo Ziegler
Germany



VICE CHAIR
Jakub Nowicki
Poland



HEAD OF CLASSIFICATION
Anita Laszlo
Hungary



COMMITTEE MEMBER
Peter Huggins
Great Britain



COMMITTEE MEMBER
Arno Schneider
Brazil



COMMITTEE MEMBER
Giampeiro Pastore
Italy



COMMITTEE MEMBER
Pascal Godet
France

COMMISSIONS & COUNCILS

REFEREE COMMISSION
Jon Moss
USA

RULES COMMISSION
Emmanuel Bogdos
Greece

DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION
Jakub Nowicki
Poland

COACHES COUNCIL
Pascal Godet
France

ATHLETE'S COUNCIL
Yu Chui Yee
Hong Kong



WORLDWIDE REACH

In 2019 IWAS Wheelchair Fencing provided competition and development opportunities for athletes from 48 countries.

In addition a Development Officer was appointed specifically to ensure that the sport continues to grow around the world. Their role is to be the point of the contact for IWAS Wheelchair Fencing and share best practice of getting programmes up and running.

ARGENTINA

Argentine Federacion de deportes
Sobre Silla de Ruedas (FADISIR)

AUSTRALIA

Disability Sport Australia

AUSTRIA

Austrian Sports Federation for Disabled

AZERBAIJAN

Azerbaijan Paralympic Committee

BELARUS

Belarus Paralympic Committee

BELGIUM

Belgian Paralympic Committee

BRAZIL

Brazilian Paralympic Committee

CANADA

Canadian Fencing Federation

CHINA

Chinese Disabled Persons' Federation

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica Fencing Federation

CROATIA

Croatian Paralympic Committee

ESTONIA

Estonian Paralympic Committee

FINLAND

Finnish Paralympic Committee

FRANCE

Federation Francaise Handisport

GEORGIA

Georgian Paralympic Committee

GERMANY

Germany Paralympic Committee

GREAT BRITAIN

WheelPower - British Wheelchair Sport

GREECE

Hellenic Sports Federation for Persons with Disabilities

HONG KONG

Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association
for the Physically Disabled

HUNGARY

Hungarian Paralympic Committee

INDIA

Paralympic Committee of India

INDONESIA

National Paralympic Committee of Indonesia

IRAQ

National Paralympic Committee of Iraq

ISRAEL

Israel Paralympic Committee

ITALY

Italian Paralympic Committee

JAPAN

Japanese Paralympic Committee

KAZAKHSTAN

National Paralympic Committee
of the Republic of Kazakhstan

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Korea Disabled Veterans Organisation

KUWAIT

Kuwait Disabled Sport Club

LATVIA

Latvian SOD

LITHUANIA

Lithuanian Sports Federation for the Disabled

MACAU

Associacao Recreativa dos Deficientes
de Macau

MALAYSIA

Persatuan Orang-Orang Cacat Anggota

NETHERLANDS

National Paralympic Committee of
the Netherlands

POLAND

Polish Sports Association for the Disabled

RUSSIA

Russian Federation of Sports with
Physical Impairment

SINGAPORE

Singapore Disability Sports Council

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Slovak Sports Association for the Disabled

SLOVENIA

Paralympic Committee of Slovenia
Sports Federation for the Disabled of Slovenia

SPAIN

Spanish Sports Federation for People with
Physical Disabilities

SWEDEN

Swedish Sports Organisation for the Disabled
and Swedish Paralympic Committee

SWITZERLAND

Wheelchair Sport Switzerland

THAILAND

Sports Association of the Disabled of Thailand

TURKEY

National Paralympic Committee of Turkey

UAE

UAE Paralympic Committee

UKRAINE

National Paralympic Committee of Ukraine

URUGUAY

Uruguay Fencing Federation

USA

Adaptive Sports USA





DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING & OTHER ACTIVITIES

For referee and ongoing professional development of officials, three seminars were held in 2019. A total of 22 referees from Germany, Italy, Poland, Russia, the USA, Brazil and Colombia attended training and assessment at courses in USA, Poland and Brazil.

The testing included written and preliminary practical testing for first time students, and practical testing for those with licenses going for a qualification in a second or third weapon.

In 2019, the SEMI Commission focused on the approval of designs for fencing wheelchairs. In addition several tests were carried out on new fencing frames together with their approval or rejection. This will allow for the expanded production of fencing frames, making them more accessible and affordable to more countries around the world.

The SEMI Commission also attended World Cups to ensure a uniform approach is taken to Weapon Control checks. This concept was introduced in 2018 and has worked well.

CLASSIFICATION

The year 2019 featured the continuation of a research project which aims to ensure that wheelchair fencing has a classification system which is specific to the sport. This is a key requirement of inclusion on the Paralympic programme.

The research, which began in Warsaw in 2018, progressed into the formal testing stages in 2019. It is being led by a team of experts from Middlesex University in London, Great Britain, that includes lead researcher Alexandre Villiere, biomechanists and performance analysts. The experts, academics and classifiers aim to carry out a series of tests on athletes to assess which elements of sports performance, such as strength and coordination, are important in wheelchair fencing. They have conducted a Delphi study with coaches that has taken in three rounds of questionnaires to establish their thoughts.


At the IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup in Warsaw, Poland, in July 2019 video recordings of bouts were made to allow Villiere and his team to move to the next phase of research.

The remainder of the year was spent analysing the footage – a total of around 400 bouts. These included pool rounds and direct eliminations across all three weapons for category A and B fencers. The aim is to quantify the movement patterns observed during competitions and potential differences based on the disability profiles. This is a lengthy process as preliminary research has to be conducted to validate protocols prior to analysing the bouts.



POWERCHAIR HOCKEY





MESSAGE FROM IWAS POWERCHAIR HOCKEY CHAIRMAN, FABIO RODO

Dear IWAS Family,

2019 was another busy year for IWAS Powerchair Hockey comprised of planning future activities and consolidating the results of the World Championships in 2018.

In order to achieve these goals, we took many opportunities to network and showcase powerchair hockey worldwide. Accompanied by Members of the Sport Executive Committee, representatives attended all major IWAS events, the IPC's VISTA conference, and the Qualification Tournament in Prague.

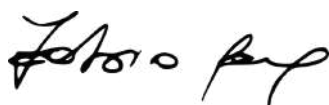
The IWAS General Assembly in Sharjah, UAE, provided a great opportunity to present our sport to the IWAS Membership and gain interest from a number of new countries.

Finland was awarded the European Championships 2020 that, even though postponed to 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we have no doubt it will be a memorable event in the IWAS Powerchair Hockey story.

2019 has seen us invest a great deal of time and effort in the review of our classification system, increasing the accountability and the accuracy of our processes. Research continues to be conducted to assist in our continual refinement of this vital system.

We enjoyed another year of building our contacts around the world while maintaining communication with our active organisations. Athletes and supporters have provided interesting and successful routes to development and growth and we continue to listen to their invaluable insight while maintaining transparent and proactive decision making.

We look forward to another productive year in 2020.



Fabio Rodo
IWAS POWERCHAIR HOCKEY CHAIRPERSON

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & COMMISSIONS

SPORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



CHAIRMAN
Fabio Rodo
Italy



VICE CHAIRMAN
Rasmus Dissing Nielsen
Denmark



TECHNICAL &
CLASSIFICATION OFFICER
Anna Rossi
Italy



SECRETARY OFFICER
Kenny Verbraekel
Belgium
(CO-OPTED MEMBER)

COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

REFEEREE COMMITTEE

Head of Committee: Davor Matijašević (SLO)
Committee Secretariat: Inge De Zwart (NED)
SEC Officer: Anna Rossi (ITA)
Members: Lauri Oksanen (FIN)
Kimmo Virtanen (FIN)
John Blackburn (CAN)

JURY MEMBERS COMMITTEE

Head of Committee: Dorte Berenth (DEN)
SEC Officer: Anna Rossi (ITA)
Members: all the licensed juries

CLASSIFIER COMMITTEE

Head of Committee: Kees van Breukelen (NED)
SEC Officer: Anna Rossi (ITA)
Members: Luca Tomasi (ITA)
Isabelle Pulver (SWI)

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Head of Committee: Rasmus Dissing Nielsen (DEN)
SEC Officer: Rasmus Dissing Nielsen (DEN)
Members: Dijana Lešić (BEL)
Glenn Nouws (BEL)
Hedwige Van Steen (BEL)
Seppe Hemerijckx (BEL)

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Head of Committee: Vacant
SEC Officer: Anna Rossi (ITA)
Members: Alejandro Diaz (SPA)
Danni Mogensen (DEN)

EVENT COMMISSION

Vacant

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Head of Commission: Vacant
SEC Officer: Vacant
Members: Kamal Tahtahi



WORLDWIDE REACH

IWAS Powerchair Hockey remains committed to expanding their worldwide reach and promoting the sport to new countries and players.

The following countries are actively participating and engaged with IWAS Powerchair Hockey around the world;

AUSTRALIA

Disability Sport Australia

BELGIUM

Belgian Paralympic Committee

CANADA

CZECH REPUBLIC

Czech Sports Organisation for the Physically Disabled

DENMARK

Denmark Paralympic Committee

FINLAND

Finnish Paralympic Committee

GERMANY

Germany Paralympic Committee

ITALY

Italian Paralympic Committee

NETHERLANDS

National Paralympic Committee of the Netherlands

SLOVENIA

Paralympic Committee of Slovenia
Sports Federation for the Disabled of Slovenia

SPAIN

Spanish Sports Federation for People with Physical Disabilities

SWITZERLAND

Wheelchair Sport Switzerland

USA

Adaptive Sports USA

The SEC and supporting Committees continue to work on the worldwide growth and development of the sport and are currently at various stages of discussions with Austria, Estonia, India, Japan, Morocco, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden & Great Britain.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

NORTH AMERICA

The participation of Canada at the 2018 World Championships stirred up great interest in the sport in North America with thanks to the support of Jukka Kotti, floorball player/coach from Dallas. Contacts were made with the International Floorball Federation and the IWAS Member, Adaptive Sports USA, to create a formal local network for the sport. A Canadian team participated in the GP Bulls Eindhoven Tournament in August 2019.

INDIA

In March 2019, Aditya K.V, Founder and CEO at Umoya Sports India made contact with IWAS Powerchair Hockey. Umoya Sports is a not-for-profit based in India working in the intersection of sports, education and disability inclusion. Communication continues to explore the possibility of introducing Powerchair Hockey in India.

SPORT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Sport Executive Committee entered 2019 with a full contingent of six members. However following the resignation of Competition Officer, Niels ten Hagen and Development Officer Nikolaj Sylvest Richelsen, Secretary Officer, Kenny Verbraekel was co-opted by the SEC with full voting rights.

The Sport Executive Committee meet every three weeks while specific matters are managed directly with Committee Heads, volunteers and Commissions, as necessary.

2019 was a busy year for IWAS Powerchair Hockey. Chairperson Fabio Rodo presented to the IWAS General Assembly at the IWAS World Games in Sharjah, UAE, and joined the first IWAS Executive Board meeting of 2019 in South Africa. Both these events allowed the Membership and IWAS Board a greater insight into the sport and its developments.

Rodo alongside Kees van Breukelen, attended and presented at the VISTA Classification Meeting, organised by the IPC which proved to be an invaluable opportunity to network with classification experts, researchers and clinicians.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

The social media content and website management continues to be led by Vice Chairman and Marketing & Communication Officer, Rasmus Dissing Nielsen.

Live streaming has been a focus of the Powerchair Hockey Committee in 2019. Both the European Qualification Tournament in Prague and Drawing Ceremony and following exhibition game in Finland were live streamed via Facebook and YouTube for fans worldwide.

Connections through social media have been strengthened, particularly with the Powerchair Hockey movement in North America through the coverage of the Powerchair Hockey Canada Cup as well as multiple articles from North American news sources.





TECHNICAL

The development of a match table app continues. The app currently supports one active tournament and it is hoped with some refinements that the app can have the functionality to support multiple users and games simultaneously. This will allow the app to be opened up to the powerchair hockey community worldwide.

Further research and evaluation has also been conducted on the speed control device for powerchair hockey chairs. A group of mechanics and players from Germany made a proposal for a device that shows the speed result in a display. An official request has been sent by the Committee to test the device at an official tournament.

CLASSIFICATION

IWAS Powerchair Hockey embarked on a classification review led by Sjoerd Vennema of The Hague University of Applied Science focusing on trunk functionality of players. The findings have allowed the Classification Committee to begin an internal evaluation into how trunk assessments are performed during classification reviews of powerchair hockey players and will be included in the finalised Classification Manual to be presented at the Sport Congress 2020.

OFFICIALS

Challenges with the appointment of officials in 2019 allowed the Committee to review ways in which the officials infrastructure can be strengthened through more bespoke training. The review concluded that observers are required to undertake specific training more closely linked to referees than jurors, and therefore were moved under the jurisdiction of the Referee Committee. The hosting of more classifier training opportunities were also identified as a target for the coming years.



COMPETITION COMMITTEE

QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT - PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

IWAS Member, CSOPD (Czech Sports Organization for the Physically Disabled) along with CPHF (Česká federace Powerchair Hockey) hosted the IWAS Powerchair Hockey Qualification Tournament in Prague for the first time. Attended by Spain, Slovenia and host nation, the Czech Republic, the competition saw two days of exciting games enjoyed worldwide via live YouTube streaming. Technical Delegate Niels ten Hagen and Assistant Technical Delegate Kenny Verbraekel oversaw the competition that would eventually see Spain crowned the champions, securing their slot at the European Championships in 2020.

AWARDING OF EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020

On 11 June 2019, the Finnish Sports Association of Persons with Disabilities were awarded the bid to host the IWAS Powerchair Hockey European Championship 2020. After much deliberation between the hosting cities of Helsinki and Pajulahti, the final bid was awarded to Pajulahti due to its recent hosting of a powerchair football competition and thus efficient set up for athletes with similar requirements.

The following Drawing Ceremony for the Championships were held in conjunction with an biannual Disability and Mobility convention held in Apuvaline, Finland. Appointed Technical Delegate Anna Rossi and Rasmus D Nielsen were present as IWAS Powerchair Hockey representatives at the event. Following the draw, an exhibition match was held between the Finnish national team and the Nokian KRP Floorball team building on the excitement for the upcoming Championships next year.

IPCH EUROSTARS 2020 - LIGNANO SABBIA D'ORO, ITALY

In February 2019, the Italian Powerchair Hockey organisation made a proposal to host a world ranking event alongside a number of educational opportunities for referees, observers, jury members and classifiers. The IPCH Eurostars 2020 will be hosted in February 2020 in the same venue as the 2018 World Championships in Lignano Sabbiadoro and attended by four teams Finland, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. The response to the officials training courses has been unprecedented with the referee course on offer being oversubscribed.



REPORTING

ANTI DOPING

IWAS remains committed to tackling doping, educating athletes and promoting clean sport.

As the International Federation for IWAS Wheelchair Fencing and IWAS Powerchair Hockey, as well as organising the IWAS World Games, we have an important role to play in anti-doping.

Our efforts are led by Dr. Guzel Idrisova, Head of IWAS Anti-Doping, and Pavel Rozhkov, our 2nd Vice President.

TESTS CONDUCTED IN 2019	IN COMPETITION	ADVERSE ANALYTICAL FINDING (AAF)
	Testing conducted 12 hours prior and during competition	A report from a laboratory or other WADA approved testing entity that identifies in a specimen the presence of a prohibited substance or its metabolites or markers, or evidence of the use of a prohibited method
IWAS World Games 2019 and U17 & U23 Wheelchair Fencing World Championships Sharjah, UAE 10-16 February 2019	18	0
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup - The Leaning Tower Pisa, Italy 21-24 March 2019	6	0
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Sao Paulo, Brazil 20-26 May 2019	6	0
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup - Szabla Kilinskiego Warsaw, Poland 10-15 July 2019	6	0
IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Championships 2019 Cheongju, South Korea 16-23 Sept 2019	12	0
IPCH European Championship Qualification Tournament 2019 Prague, Czech Republic 08-14 Oct 2019	3	0
2019 IWAS Wheelchair Fencing World Cup Amsterdam, Netherlands 14-17 Nov 2019	6	0
Registered Testing Pool x 2 Athletes	--	0
TOTAL	57	0

IWAS TESTING POOL & OUT-OF-COMPETITION TESTING

Two wheelchair fencers from Great Britain and Hong Kong were removed from the IWAS Registered Testing Pool in 2019 and two wheelchair fencers from Brazil and Russia were added. Currently these athletes provide their whereabouts information in ADAMS.

ADAMS (Anti-Doping Administration and Management System) was created by WADA as a web based database to assist with the coordination of anti-doping activities. IWAS is working towards using this system to its full potential.

THERAPEUTIC USE EXEMPTIONS

IWAS continues to use the expertise of its TUE and Anti-Doping Committees.

IWAS performed the following activities on the received TUE applications in 2019:

TUE applications approved: 7
TUE applications recognised: 6
TUE applications rejected: 4



TESTING
& TUEs

FINANCES

To maintain transparency about our work and activities, and as part of our status as a charitable organisation based in Great Britain, IWAS publishes reports and accounts on a yearly basis.

An Unaudited Trustee's Report and Financial Statements by Hillier Hopkins LLP are available on request. This Annual Review is also part of our regular reporting.

Together, these ensure we are open with our stakeholders and meet the requirements of Companies House and the Charity Commission.

Since IWAS qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

In 2019, the organisation received a total income of £372,212 (2018 - £395,714) and ran a net surplus of £86,299 (2018 – surplus of £8,334). IWAS also administers the accounts for IWAS Sports and below are their final account balances as at 31st December 2019:

IWAS Wheelchair Fencing: £54,489

IWAS Powerchair Hockey: £1684

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS 2019	RESTRICTED FUNDS 2019	TOTAL FUNDS 2019	TOTAL FUNDS 2018
	£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM				
Donations and legacies	725	60,766	61,491	22,289
Investment Income	945	-	945	300
Charitable Activities	258,319	51,547	309,776	373,125
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	259,989	112,223	372,212	395,714
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Raising Funds	11,473	-	11,473	9,095
Charitable Activities	191,176	83,264	274,440	378,285
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	202,649	83,264	285,913	387,380
NET INCOMING RESOURCES/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES	57,340	28,959	86,299	8,334
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	57,340	28,959	86,299	8,334
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1 JANUARY 2019	184,304	51,836	236,140	227,806
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019	241,644	80,795	322,439	236,140
Correct as of 23 rd July 2020				



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