LANGSIDE SPORTS CLUB

Langside Sports Club
Chairs Report 2025

Firstly, we would like to convey a huge thank you to all members and associates who continue to support the Club through excellent sport, enhancing nature and volunteering across committees, working groups and the Board.

To set some context, the Board has been operating with a rotating Chair since Jamie Frail left in July 2024. Therefore the following report is from the Board of Trustees and a reflection of all the work achieved this year and provides an insight into the year to come.

The intention for 2025 was to deliver on our strategic objectives. These were developed late in 2024 and we have made some progress towards them. They included completing outstanding governance and financial policies and procedures, continuing to recruit new board members, growing and diversifying income streams, enhancing the volunteering opportunities and developing operational practices. Here, follows a summary of our progress and achievements.

Governance

- All policies and procedures have been reviewed and shared with members, held on a shared drive, with hard copies in the club house. Two meetings were available for consultation, queries and feedback from members. This included the implementation of the Health and Safety policy and procedure and a review of all risk assessments for sports sections and the club as a whole.
- We held a volunteer thank you event in September, with over 15 people in attendance. This was a great opportunity to say thank you to everyone who contributes towards the club. We know many more people support the club in different ways and we will be hosting this twice a year and hope more can come along.
- After three years, the speculative approach from a telecoms consultant to host a 5G mast in Albert Park, has finally concluded. Many people across the club were involved in the resistance to the mast, we can't thank you all enough. Our collective action and their own analysis of the site means it will not be progressing.
- We have two new board members, Gregor Wishart (member) and Ross Wilson (non member). Both bring lots of experience and knowledge to the board, which builds on the skills required and the capacity for the Club to progress.
- After 6 years, Anne Greer is stepping down as Secretary. Anne has navigated the Club through the several phases from asset transfer, to establishing the welfare function of the club and much of the administration of the club. We would like to say a huge thank

you for all the time and expertise. Anne is keen to remain an active member of the club and will retain her welfare role.
- Mark McGraw is also stepping down, after an accumulated 5 years on the board. He has brought an external view to matters, legal advice and was instrumental in delaying and stopping the 5G mast request. Mark has established the football section and so recently became a member.

Financial

- Following a review of financial procedures earlier in the year and a revised financial report process, the club's finance working group meetings have resumed and will be meeting four times a year.
- The club is particularly keen to look at the longer term and more significant investments that our existing sport sections need. The club will work with each section to ensure finance is in place to maintain high quality facilities.

Site and operations

- The Grounds & Buildings working group has continued to focus on the day to day maintenance of the Club, this portfolio of work ranges from ensuring the grounds are fit for sport and our buildings are safe, usable, clean and open. A huge thank you to the team; Gregor, Neil, Graeme, Nancy, Graham, Lee and Jackie.
- During 2025, we have, in addition to the sizeable task of maintaining the grounds and sports playing surfaces throughout the year, made significant inroads into tackling the issue of overgrown laurels around the site. The great work to date clearing the laurels highlights the value of cooperation between BIO and G&B groups.
- Focusing on 2026, key priorities are to roll out new processes to capture and manage the work of G&B and to make the extent of that work more visible across the membership. A key deliverable of this will be an asset management plan allowing the club to plan expenditure to ensure facilities, machinery, and playing surfaces remain fit for purpose.
- In addition to this, there has been a review of the buildings use, exploring improvements and how they can be maximised for sport and income. There still needs to be some further work and some member consultation which will be shared later in 2026.
- The Marketing Working group has been sharing all the Club Open Days, updating the Club noticeboards, producing newsletters and building Instagram followers.
- We would like to extend special thanks to the BIO group who have been working extremely hard all year to continue enhancing the biodiversity and nature of Albert Park.
- User groups at the club have remained with some key partnerships with the Gym in the Pavillion, and Yoga & Pilates in the clubhouse. User groups, providing important links between the club and the wider community, have continued to make use of the facilities throughout the year including Parant is Paiste Gaelic Playgroup, La Leche Breastfeeding Group, NHS Mental Health Group, Glasgow Food Network, Glasgow and District Bee Keepers, and Glasgow Home Education Group.

Sport Sections

- Club membership during 2025 has grown to 453 from 353 (2024) members across all our sport sections, with each section achieving progress in leagues and personal sporting bests.
- We now have a football section, Langside Football Club, sharing the playing fields with the cricket section and training on the back green during the summer months.
- We introduced the sport section best practice check list, to support and where required improve governance and operations of sport sections while also enabling more autonomy. This has proven useful and has been revised and adopted for 2026.

The Langside Rest
The Rest continues to grow its calendar of both internal and external parties, gatherings and fundraisers hosted at the Club. The Rest provides vital income to the Club for investment in our facilities, we rely on members using the space to raise funds for key investments. Thank you to Lee, Jackie, bar volunteers and bar staff for enabling the Rest to be a fabulous party destination and facility for the members.

Looking forwards to 2026
We will focus on supporting sport section investments, attracting more use, improving facilities to enhance sports use, improve our volunteering opportunities, explore new ways of operating the site with volunteers and potentially staff.

Finally, we would like to emphasise that Langside Sports Club is our collective club. We know that the club is an important part of our members and users lives. As individuals and as a collective we have a responsibility to maintain the values of the club.

Thank you
Anne, Derek, Lee, Mark, Gregor, Ross & Izzie