



# UNION COUNCIL MOTION

## Title of motion: Structural change of the funds available to all clubs of the Athletic Union

Change the two AU funds (coaching/non-BUCS fund) into three funds (coaching, equipment, competition) and continuously encourage HUSU to increase funding to mirror the inflation in cost of sport at the University of Hull.

### Hull University Students Union Notes:

1. The coaching fund goes as far back as 2013.
2. The Non-BUCS fund motion was put through in 2016.
3. The financial position of HUSU at this current moment as a result of the last 12 months may restrict their ability to increase the total of these funds for the next academic year (21/22)
4. The cost of sport is a big financial burden on many students and is a reason as to why they struggle/do not participate in sporting activities at Hull.
5. Increasing the accessibility of, and student engagement with, University sports clubs has been proven to bring benefits to all. For students, the benefits have been listed as improved social aspects and sense of belonging, increases in life satisfaction, and happiness and reductions to anxiety and depressive symptoms, whilst it has been proven that participants of University sport gain a higher percentage of first class and upper second-class degrees. A full list of benefits of student participation in University sport can be found within the BUCS report for 'THE VALUE OF UNIVERSITY SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY.'

### Hull University Students Union Believes:

1. The coaching fund should remain as it is quite a self-explanatory fund and some clubs heavily rely on this financial support in order to afford coaches.
2. The current title of Non-BUCS Fund is confusing and many clubs believe it is too vague. I.e. As President of Badminton in academic year 2020, Sam Mills used the Non-BUCS fund to purchase shuttles. However, there was no way to distinguish between which shuttles were used in local league fixtures and which were used in BUCS, so the non-BUCS fund was essentially partially used to fund BUCS activities.
3. Creating an equipment fund and a competition fund would make it clearer what each fund entails.
4. These are all areas that clubs struggle to financially fund themselves. For example, a singular Riding competition costs a minimum of £400



to enter, putting additional pressure of the members of the 'expensive' sports.

5. The creation of these funds will positively impact the retention and participation of members and increase engagement levels, which will result in an increase in overall student health, both physical and mental.

### **Hull University Students Union Resolves:**

HUSU resolves to change the two funds (coaching/non-BUCS fund) into three funds (coaching, equipment, competition).

HUSU resolves to make explicitly clear what these funds are able to go towards and what they are not allowed to go towards.

HUSU resolves to annually look at the level of funding allocated to the three funds and ensure it rises as far as possible at least with the rate of inflation

**Proposer: Sam Mills (AU Participation and Engagement Officer)**

**Seconder: Emily Birch (Post-Graduate Research Representative Students' Officer), Sian Doherty (President of Sport), William Bailey (AU secretary), Kate Robinson (AU BUCS officer), Aisha Forster (Non-BUCS officer), Charlotte Almond (AU Participation and Engagement Officer), Hebe Shepherd (Inclusivity and Diversity Officer), Jenny Berthelemy (AU Representative for women in Sport), Maya Bhakta (AU Marketing and Communications officer)**