

North West Cricket Union (NWCU)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: North West Cricket Union
Other Name: NWCU
Charity Registration Number: NIC 107737
Principal Address:

7, Mason Road,
Maghermason
Londonderry,
BT47 2RY

Trustees:

Mr B Dougherty
Mr T Patton
Mr Manav Bhavsar
Mr N Stewart
Mr M Kilgore
Mr B Allen
Mr J Semple
Mr R Goud Sama
Mr M V N Rao
Mrs J McLaughlin

Senior Management Team: General Manager

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The North West Cricket Union is governed by its Constitution. The charity operates in compliance with the requirements of charity law in Northern Ireland and any other relevant legislation.

Trustee Recruitment and Appointment

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Union's governing document. Recruitment is based on skills, experience, and commitment to the objectives of the charity. Trustees serve for defined terms and may be reappointed in line with constitutional provisions.

Organisational Structure and Decision-Making

The Board of Trustees is responsible for overall governance, strategic direction, financial oversight, and compliance. The Board meets regularly throughout the year to review performance and monitor risk.

Day-to-day operations are delegated to the General Manager, who leads the staff team and reports directly to the Board. Clear reporting structures and internal controls are in place to ensure accountability.

Risk Management

The Trustees are responsible for identifying and reviewing major risks facing the charity. Key risks monitored during 2022 included:

- Financial sustainability and funding continuity
- Safeguarding compliance
- Governance and regulatory compliance
- Operational capacity and programme delivery

Appropriate policies, procedures and controls are in place to mitigate these risks.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Objectives

The objectives of the North West Cricket Union are to:

- Promote and develop the sport of cricket across the North West region.
- Increase participation in cricket at grassroots, club and performance levels.
- Support affiliated clubs through governance, development and training.
- Deliver inclusive programmes to ensure accessibility for all sections of the community.
- Develop pathways for players, coaches, officials and volunteers.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit.

NWCU provides public benefit by:

- Delivering cricket participation opportunities for children, young people and adults.
- Increasing physical activity and promoting health and wellbeing through sport.
- Delivering school-based programmes that engage young people from diverse backgrounds.
- Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion across all programmes.
- Supporting cross-community engagement through structured sporting activity.

All activities are undertaken for the benefit of the wider public and are accessible to the community.

Achievements and Performance

During 2022, the Union continued to deliver on its strategic priorities, focusing on participation growth, performance development, governance strengthening and community engagement.

Participation and Schools Development

- Delivery of structured cricket programmes in primary and post-primary schools.
- Growth in girls' participation initiatives.
- Increased engagement through community outreach programmes.

Performance Pathways

- Delivery of regional performance programmes for male and female players.
- Ongoing coach education and development workshops.
- Strengthening of talent identification and progression routes.

Competitions and Events

- Successful delivery of league and cup competitions across affiliated clubs.
- Organisation of representative fixtures and regional events.
- Support to clubs in hosting competitive and community cricket activities.

Inclusion and Community Engagement

- Delivery of funded programmes aimed at increasing access to cricket in underrepresented communities.
- Partnership working with schools and community organisations.
- Continued focus on equality, diversity and safeguarding standards.

Trustees are satisfied that the charity made measurable progress toward its objectives during the year.

Financial Review

The Trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and ensuring proper financial management.

The charity's principal sources of income during 2022 included:

- ***Grant funding***
- ***Programme income***
- ***Affiliation and competition fees***
- ***Sponsorship and partnership income***

Expenditure was applied in furtherance of the charity's objectives, including staffing costs, programme delivery, competitions, facility support and governance.

The Trustees continue to monitor financial sustainability and maintain appropriate financial controls and reserves in line with the charity's reserves policy.

Reserves Policy

The charity aims to maintain sufficient unrestricted reserves to ensure operational stability and to mitigate financial risk. The level of reserves is reviewed annually by the Trustees.

Plans for Future Periods

In 2023 and beyond, the Trustees intend to:

- Expand participation programmes across schools and clubs.
- Strengthen women's and girls' cricket.
- Enhance governance and safeguarding standards across affiliated clubs.
- Secure sustainable funding streams.
- Further develop inclusive and cross-community initiatives.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Keeping proper accounting records;
- Safeguarding the assets of the charity;
- Preventing and detecting fraud and other irregularities;
- Ensuring the charity operates in furtherance of its charitable purposes.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on: 14/12/2023

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Name: B. D. [Signature]
Position: _____

[Signature] Gemple