

Newsletter  
Issue 4 - October  
2007

# Mencap SPORT



**Welcome** to the Mencap Sport quarterly newsletter. In each issue, we will bring you all the latest news and competition information.



## GB finish 2nd in Belgium, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Brazil

An 8 strong GB team, including 6 swimmers from England supported by Mencap Sport, finished an impressive 2<sup>nd</sup> in the recent INAS World Swimming Championships in Belgium.

The team, crowned World Champions two years ago, narrowly lost out to Australia despite a series of record breaking swims.

Superb performances from Craig Moate, who beat his own world record in the 1500m, and the Men's relay team who took the 4x200m world record, together with some great individual performances, saw the team finish with 13 Gold medals, 7 Silver and 5 Bronze.

Meanwhile, the GB Athletics Team travelled to Brazil in September to compete in the INAS World Athletics Championships. The 13 strong team gave excellent team and individual performances to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the medal table with 3 Gold's, 3 silver's and 1 Bronze.

Monique Davis topped the GB medal haul with Gold in the 100m, Silver in the 200m and 400m, meanwhile Callum Donkin took Gold in the 100m.

Jonathan Kay, competing in his first INAS event following his disappointment at not being selected for the Indoors earlier in the year, took Gold in the 200m.

### Mencap Sport Staff

**National Sport Manager**  
Nick Parr

**National Administrator**  
Kathy Anstey

### Mencap Sport Volunteers

#### **Mencap Sport Athletics:**

Paul Burns	Di Freeman
Christine Galloway	John Wootton
Emma Foden	Kathy Collins
John Matthews	Stan Bellaby
John Pirie	Vic Collins
Stephanie Johnston	Janet Horncastle
Marie Dixon	Greg Simmons
Graham Pilkington	Ian Eaton

#### **Mencap Sport Swimming:**

Carol Halpin	Christine Linekar
Steve Critchley	Francis Dart
Gemma Ripley	Mark Thomas
Steven Meanwell	

#### **Mencap Sport Table Tennis:**

Wendy Beech	Dennis Beech
Mick Vesey	Kevin Watt

#### **Events Working Group:**

Beryl Horton	Pete Mclaughlin
Mark Summers	Pete Bickers
Steve Ramage	

#### **EFDS Representative:**

Dave Agnew

#### **UKSA Representatives:**

Karon Nicol	Steve Ramage
-------------	--------------

Mencap Sport, 6a Caldervale Road, Wakefield, WF1 5PE  
t) 01924 234 912 e) [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk) web) [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

**Winner of the 2007 Npower Sports Governing Body of the Year award**

## News



### Entry forms available for national cross country championships

Entry forms for the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Cross Country Championships are available from the Mencap Sport website at [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport). The event features age group races and is open to athletes with a learning disability in England. The closing date is 19 October 2007.



### Regional swimming Gala – Yorkshire

Entry forms are available for the Yorkshire regional swimming gala for people with a learning disability which takes place at Ponds Forge, Sheffield on 8 November 2007. For details, contact 01924 279 305.



### Children with a learning disability banned from UK School Games

Over 300,000 children with a learning disability were not allowed to compete in the UK School Games, which took place in Coventry from 23-26 August.

Because athletes with a learning disability are currently excluded from the Paralympic Games, this has caused an unjust knock-on effect, preventing school children with a learning disability taking part in the UK School Games.

The Games were introduced in March 2006, with the intention of bringing together the most talented young sports people across the UK to compete in an environment designed to replicate the feel of major events such as the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

Dame Jo Williams, Chief Executive, Mencap, said: "It is inexcusable that children with a learning disability are being discriminated against because of the Paralympic ruling for adults. We are actively seeking the removal of the ban on athletes with a learning disability from the Paralympics and we are optimistic the ban will be lifted after Beijing 2008. We strongly urge the government to find a solution, so that children with a learning disability have the chance to compete in next year's UK School Games."

Philippa Russell, DRC Commissioner, said: "It is totally unacceptable that over 300,000 young people with a learning disability are excluded from the Games.

"My adult son with a learning disability benefited hugely from a range of inclusive sport programmes when he was a student. I want this generation of young people with learning disabilities to have the same opportunity."

### 2008 Events Calendar



Each year, Mencap Sport manages a huge programme of sports events, training for elite athletes, and support to regional, national and international competitions. We are currently putting together our 2008 calendar (below), and if you have local events that you wish us to feature then please email us at [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk)

Mencap Sport, 6a Caldervale Road, Wakefield, WF1 5PE

t) 01924 234 912 e) [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk) web) [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

**Winner of the 2007 Npower Sports Governing Body of the Year award**



## Paralympic campaign

In just one years time, the International Paralympic Committee will review its decision to ban athletes with a learning disability from Paralympic Sport.



Over the past few months, Mencap has been working closely with INAS to ensure that everything possible is done to ensure that the ban can be lifted. Dr Bob Price, the newly elected President of INAS has been working hard to ensure that there is a positive relationship between INAS and IPC, and that both organisations work together to resolve the exclusion which has now been in place for nearly seven years.

Mencap is also continuing to campaign within the UK for improved support to elite athletes with a learning disability. Despite being capable of winning medals at the 2012 Games, athletes with a learning disability are currently excluded from most of the UK programmes designed to support and develop athletes.

Mencap wants to see support for these athletes re-established.



## Nationwide DSE Sports Awards

Nominations are invited for the 2007 DSE Sports Awards supported by Nationwide. There are three categories being awarded - regional sports people, regional volunteers and the fantastic Rising Star award.

A cash prize of £500 will be awarded to the chosen winner in each region for the sports person and volunteer. Then, the winners will all be judged for the National Award, of which one sports person and one volunteer will win £1000 extra.

The nominated competitors/ volunteers must take part at DSE regional or national/ international events. It is open to any age group from 10 years old onwards.

The closing date for nominations is 1 OCTOBER 2007. More information and nomination forms, are available for download at [www.disabilitysport.org](http://www.disabilitysport.org)



## Correction

In the last issue, we told you that Hartlepool had won the girls 5 a'side football event held in Leeds in June, when in fact it was Stoke who took the title.

We would like to apologise to both the Stoke and Hartlepool teams for the error.

Details of the 2008 event will be published in the next issue in January, and we hope that many more girls teams will enter to give



## Special Olympic World Games kicks off in China

In October, 159 British athletes with learning disabilities and 50 coaches, will be travelling to China to represent Great Britain at the Special Olympics World Summer Games.

The 12th Special Olympics World Summer Games will be the largest disability sports event taking place in the world in 2007 involving over 7,000 athletes with learning disability from 160 countries

Unlike the Paralympics and INAS competition, Special Olympic competitions are banded so that athletes compete against people of similar ability. The British squad will compete in 16 out of the 21 Olympic-type disciplines and Mencap Sport would like to wish the athletes competing the very best of luck.

You can keep track of their progress at [www.teamspecialolympicsgb.org.uk](http://www.teamspecialolympicsgb.org.uk)



### Mencap Sport Email News

Sometimes we send out information about events and competitions by email. If you would like to be added to the mailing list then email us at [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk) putting the words 'mailing list' in the subject line.



### Mencap Sport Website

The Mencap Sport website is the best place to stay up to date with news, information, events, competitions and opportunities in sport. This year we will be making a big effort to update it every few days and keep it looking fresh and exciting.

We will still use the membership mailings and email in the future, but we want to make the website the main way that we get information to Mencap members and the wider community. You can visit the site at [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)



### Next issue...

The next issue of Mencap Sport News will be sent out at the beginning of January. If you have stories, events or news that you would like us to feature then please email them to [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk)

### Mencap Sport Education and Training

Mencap Sport training and education helps sports organisations, paid staff, volunteers, managers, coaches and policy-makers to understand learning disability and how to include people with a learning disability in your club or service. For more information, visit [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

Mencap Sport, 6a Caldervale Road, Wakefield, WF1 5PE

t) 01924 234 912 e) [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk) web) [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

**Winner of the 2007 Npower Sports Governing Body of the Year award**

# 2007 Mencap Sport Calendar



## International Events

• INAS European Cross Country Championships	Feb 22-26	Spain
• INAS World Indoor Athletics Championships	March 14-19	Prague
• Geneva Football Champs (Mencap members only)	May 24-28	Geneva
• INAS-FID World Swimming Championships	Aug 19-26	Belgium
• INAS World Athletics Championships,	Sept 16-23	Brazil
• INAS-FID Half Marathon World Cup,	October 5	Portugal
• Geneva Swimming Champs (Mencap member only)	October 13	Geneva
• INAS-FID World Table Tennis Championships	October 10-6 Nov	Japan

## Domestic Competition Calendar

• Northern Regional Swimming Championships	Jan 07	Sunderland
• West Midlands Regional Swimming Championships	Jan 13	Rugby
• Welsh National SC Swimming Championships 2007	Jan 21	
• Mencap/Gateway Football Trials	Feb 4	Warwick
• National Junior Swimming Championships	Mar 03 - 04	Sheffield
• Grand Prix Athletics 1	Apr 28	Nottingham
• South West Regional Athletics Championships	May 16	
• British International Disability Swimming Champs	May 18 - 20	Sheffield
• Grand Prix Athletics 2	May 19	Ormskirk
• Mencap National 5'a side Football Championships	June 9	Leeds
• British Open Athletics Championships	Jun 15-17	Manchester
• National Table Tennis Grand Prix	June 16-17	Crewe
• National Learning Disability Netball Champs	June 23	Nottingham
• National Learning Disability Athletics Champs	Jun 30	Watford
• National Junior Athletics Championships	Jul 07-08	Blackpool
• 2nd British SC Swimming Championships	Jul 14-15	Sheffield
• Grand Prix Athletics 3	Aug 25	Gateshead
• DSE Table Tennis Championships	Sep 01-02	Stoke Mandeville
• Grand Prix Athletics 4	Sep 01	London
• National Snooker Championships	Oct 13	Manchester
• Phoenix Open Swimming Championships	Oct 20	Colchester
• DSE National SC Swimming Championships	Nov 03-04	Sheffield
• National Cross Country	Nov tbc	Wakefield

## National Squad Training Calendar

• Swimming Squad Day	Feb 17 tbc	tbc
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	Feb 17-18	Grantham
• Athletics Squad Day	March 03	Bedford
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	March 24-25	Grantham
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	May 5-6	Grantham
• Athletics Squad Day	May 19	Sheffield
• Swimming Squad Day	June 30 tbc	Manchester
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	July 7-8	Grantham
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	Sep 22-23	Grantham
• Athletics Squad Trial Day	Oct 6	Sheffield
• Athletics Squad Day	Nov tbc	Sheffield
• Swimming Squad Day	Nov 24 tbc	Manchester
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	Nov 24-25	Grantham

More information and links to entry forms can be found at [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

Mencap Sport, 6a Caldervale Road, Wakefield, WF1 5PE

t) 01924 234 912 e) [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk) web) [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

**Winner of the 2007 Npower Sports Governing Body of the Year award**

# 2008 Mencap Sport Calendar



## International Events

• INAS World Indoor Athletics Championships	Feb/March	Estonia
• INAS-FID World Cross Country Championships	March	Poland
• Geneva Football Champs (Mencap members only)	May	Geneva
• INAS European Swimming Championships	tbc	Czech Republic
• INAS Open European Athletics Championships,	June 27-29	Manchester
• INAS European Football Championships,	July 22 - 4 Aug	Manchester

## Domestic Competition Calendar

• Northern Regional Swimming Championships	tbc	
• West Midlands Regional Swimming Championships	tbc	
• Welsh National SC Swimming Championships 2007	tbc	
• Mencap/Gateway Football Trials	tbc	Warwick
• National Junior Swimming Championships	Mar 01 - 02	Sheffield
• Grand Prix Athletics 1	tbc	
• South West Regional Athletics Championships	tbc	
• British Open Long Course Swimming Champs	April 25 -27	Sheffield
• Grand Prix Athletics 2	tbc	
• Mencap National 5-a-side Football Championships	tbc	
• DSE National Mini Games	May 9	Stoke Mandeville
• British Wheelchair Athletics Trials	May 10	Stoke Mandeville
• British Open Athletics Championships	June 7-9	Manchester
• National Table Tennis Grand Prix	tbc	tbc
• National Learning Disability Netball Champs	tbc	tbc
• National Learning Disability Athletics Champs	Jun 28	Manchester
• National Junior Athletics Championships	Jul 05 - 06	Blackpool
• 2nd British SC Swimming Championships	tbc	Sheffield
• Grand Prix Athletics 3	tbc	tbc
• DSE Table Tennis Championships	tbc	tbc
• Grand Prix Athletics 4	tbc	tbc
• National Snooker Championships	tbc	tbc
• Phoenix Open Swimming Championships	tbc	tbc
• DSE National SC Swimming Championships	tbc	Sheffield
• National Cross Country	tbc	tbc

## National Squad Training Calendar

• Swimming Squad Day	Feb 9	Sheffield
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	tbc	Grantham
• Athletics Squad Day	tbc	tbc
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	tbc	Grantham
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	tbc	Grantham
• Athletics Squad Day	tbc	Sheffield
• Swimming Squad Day	June 28	Sheffield
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	tbc	Grantham
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	tbc	Grantham
• Athletics Squad Trial Day	tbc	Sheffield
• Athletics Squad Day	tbc	Sheffield
• Swimming Squad Day	Nov 22	Sheffield
• Table Tennis Squad Weekend	tbc	Grantham

More information and links to entry forms can be found at [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

Mencap Sport, 6a Caldervale Road, Wakefield, WF1 5PE

t) 01924 234 912 e) [sport@mencap.org.uk](mailto:sport@mencap.org.uk) web) [www.mencap.org.uk/sport](http://www.mencap.org.uk/sport)

**Winner of the 2007 Npower Sports Governing Body of the Year award**