

Amba Gooden

She/Her

Main Manifesto:

My manifesto stems from my personal experience of sport at the university, as well as the opinions of other students whom I have communicated with, to ensure that as Sport Officer I meet the wants and needs of all students.

I have 5 specific areas that I believe will improve the overall experiences of students in sport.

REPRESENTATION –

As President of Netball this year, I appreciate how difficult the year has been for everyone involved in university sports. It is, therefore, important we work closely together on the journey back to happier times of playing sport again. As Sports Officer, I will be receptive to all students' sporting wants and needs.

My first manifesto point aims to:

- Widen Varsity participation by organising a varsity community festival, where both universities work with schools and fundraise for charity. As well as this, I want to build more of a community around the event, working with outside clubs for varsity night outs and local businesses, for stalls during the day.
- Develop a live timetable for clubs to make it easier to identify training times and court bookings if changes occur.
- Improve engagement with the Sport Executive team and with sports clubs' presidents, continuing the bi-weekly session.
- Improving cross-club relationships by allowing sports clubs to get involved in each other's activities with internal competitions.
- Collaborating with Sutton Bonington by improving communication with SB Sports Exec. This will make sure their concerns are heard, especially around IMS participation and gym membership.

WELFARE –

My second manifesto point is to strengthen the network of sport welfare programmes. COVID-19 has illustrated the importance of prioritising our mental health, therefore as Sports Officer, I will improve the way the university supports student welfare by:

- Streamlining the pathway for welfare issues within sports by establishing clearer steps for issues to be dealt with, including the appropriate people.
- Bringing IMS underneath the structure of welfare by ensuring all IMS officers have welfare training and organising dedicated welfare days.

Amba Gooden

She/Her

- Making changes to the current welfare in sport structure to establish, 'the Welfare in Sports' chairperson on the Sports Executive board and the Welfare officers of each club as part of 'the Welfare in Sports' society.
- Improving welfare training so that it is purposeful and effectual.

INCLUSIVITY –

It is important to ensure sporting opportunities are accessible to everyone at university. This will only happen if everyone has the opportunity to get involved and if minority groups are represented in sports.

In this regard, I will work to improve inclusivity by:

- Supporting the current initiative of putting Equality Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) officers in committees and improve EDI and Liberation training. This will show sports clubs how they can make their activities more inclusive.
- Increasing the amount that events such as "Girls Night In" and "Men's Health Active" are hosted throughout the year, and adding additional inclusive activities for example, walking netball and blind football.
- Promoting sporting activities for low-income groups and minority groups.

INTEGRATION OF IMS –

It is not always clear, especially to newer students, what the IMS and Engage programmes do and how they work. My fourth manifesto point is to improve student understanding of the different levels of sport at university. As Sports Officer, I will make sure to value all sporting opportunities available at the university equally. I will do this by addressing two areas for IMS, promotion and incentives.

This will be achieved by:

- Involving IMS in BUCS awards, like the end of term awards and at Sports Ball.
- Improving communication between the IMS Chair and Sports Officer by having regular meetings to ensure all IMS concerns and achievements are discussed and, if needed, acted upon.
- Introducing an IMS and Engage stall at the Freshers Fair.
- Promoting IMS activities through increased publicity on IMS social media platforms.

SPONSORSHIP –

This dreaded word often causes Sports clubs great distress at the start of the academic year. Supporting clubs with sponsorship is more important now than ever before as clubs look to recover from the financial impact of COVID-19.

My final manifesto point involves:

Amba Gooden

She/Her

- Hosting an event at the beginning of each semester for all clubs' committee members to meet with local businesses to try and secure long term sponsorship opportunities.
- Improving sponsorship training by utilising the new UoNSport' s sponsorship employee.

What makes you suitable for the role? –

Having previously been elected both Social Secretary and President of the Netball club, I am used to being an advocate for students, working with both UoNSport and the SU.

My time as President this year has been challenging working within a global pandemic. I have learnt how to be a strong but supportive leader, a motivational team member, and innovative with my ideas, as a result I am able to leave the club in a stable position for next year.

I have first-hand experience of the challenges sports clubs have faced this year, which means I would be able to understand how to best support them over the upcoming year.

Over my time at UoN I have strived to get involved in all aspects of sport including programmes such as IMS, BIG BUCS Wednesday and the leadership academy. This has developed my knowledge of other ways students can participate in sport outside of sports clubs.

My leadership style is resilient yet approachable, which I will use to be a strong voice for students, but also to listen and communicate effectively.

Overall sport has been a large part of my life and I would be grateful for the opportunity to give back and allow sport to be a part of everyone's university experience in some aspect. I know that my understanding of student needs and clubs' challenges, my tenacity, and my ability to listen effectively and clearly communicate the needs of others means I can **MAKE SPORT A GOODEN**.

Manifesto Summary- 200 words

REPRESENTATION: To represent of all students' sporting wants and needs by improving the profile of varsity and the communications with sports clubs.

WELFARE: Strengthen the network of welfare in sport and create a more streamlined pathway for welfare concerns.

INCLUSIVITY: Ensure sporting opportunities are available to everybody by increasing the opportunity to get involved and the representation of minority groups in sport.

INTEGRATION OF IMS: Ensure all sporting opportunities are equally valued by concentrating on improving promotion and creating incentives for IMS.

SPONSORSHIP: Help clubs recover from the financial impact of COVID-19, using sponsorship events and training.

Overall, with these improvements I know I can **MAKE SPORT A GOODEN**.