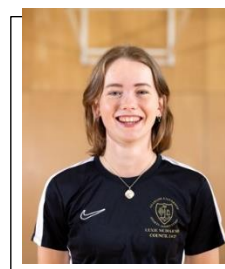


## **GUSA Council Member - Nomination Form & Manifesto 2025/26**

Position:	Vice President
Name:	Lexie McDiarmid
Club:	Lacrosse



Hi! My name is **Lexie** (she/her), I am a fourth-year Product Design Engineering student, and I am running for the position of GUSA **Vice President**. I am a member of the Lacrosse club where I have competed in the Women's 1<sup>st</sup> team for all 4 years at GU, and I have also previously competed with the Ski and Snowboard club. I served on Lacrosse committee for 2 years firstly in 2022-23, I was Publicity & Fundraising officer and then last year (2023-24) I was **Club Captain**. After an enjoyable year as Club Captain that then led me to run for council. This year (2024-25), I have been on GUSA council as the **Health and Performance Convenor** where I have spent the year supporting performance athletes and overseeing GUSA initiatives such as the Active Buddies programme, Female Only Hour and introducing the Blood Drive this year. I was also primarily responsible for the organisation and coordination of the annual Sports and Refreshers' Fayres. After a very successful year on council, I was awarded the **Presidents Cup** for Most Outstanding GUSA Council Member. I believe this well-rounded experience between GUSA council and lacrosse committee makes me the **ideal** candidate to be the next Vice President of GUSA.

### GUSA Ball

Since organising GUSA Ball is one of the key responsibilities of the VP role, and given its past success, I am eager to build on the well-planned existing structure and ensure the event continues to run seamlessly. Having gained large-scale event organisation experience this year with the Sports Fayre, which had over **13,000 attendees**, I am confident that my ability to manage logistics, coordinate clubs, and manage timescales will allow me to enhance the event's overall experience. While still ensuring ticket prices remain as low as possible, I would like to look at possibility of improving the ceilidh space, whether that's expanding the dance floor or seeing if there are any other rooms available alongside the ball.

### Freshers Week

During Fresher's week I would like to promote **safety**. This year at the Sports Fayre, we were able to help increase advertisement for Safe Zone. I would like to work together with the other Unions and security to help make sure that all students know what procedures are in place for them and how to access the help they might need. Freshers' Week plays a significant role in GUSA's recruitment and advertisement efforts. Given the crucial role that fresher helpers play in this process, I propose offering pre-allocated GUSA Ball tickets to them as a means to enhance participation and recognise their contributions. I want to work with the incoming Outreach Convenor during Fresher's Week to help increase **international student participation** in sport by advertising to them in different ways, such as by using the international student newsletter to ensure they know what we have on offer for them. I want to offer sessions of sports like football and volleyball to international students the week before, and during, Freshers Week to increase **engagement** throughout the rest of the year.

### Recstravaganza

I want to use Recstravaganza to help increase student participation to those outside of the GUSA community in sport and as a way to promote a **healthy lifestyle**. I will do this by organising it to take place on different days of the week as well as continuing to offer a range of sports. Following on from the **inclusive and accessible** initiatives started in Freshers week, I would like to use Recstravaganza as a gateway for international students to become more engaged in GUSA.

### Welfare

Having been a club captain, I understand the difficulties that club committees face, and I know that I can work to provide the appropriate **support** for them. I would like to speak to clubs about the already existing disciplinary handbook and gain feedback to ensure it is kept as useful as possible. Working with the Inclusion and Culture Convenor I want to build on the **16 Days of Activism Campaign** and continue get more clubs involved. I would start speaking to clubs early in the year and look to provide more women's only self-defence classes during the campaign.

### Women in Sport Week (WiSW)

Having been a woman in sport my whole life, I feel very passionately about raising awareness to barriers in participation and lack of equal representation in sports. I want to highlight **all women, in all sports**. I will feature those who are performance athletes as well as others who exercise recreationally. Promoting equal gender representation in sport is something I care deeply about and as such I am proposing launching a '**GUSA Girls Day Out**', in collaboration with a professional women's sports teams in Glasgow, such as the newly formed Glasgow Warriors RFC or Glasgow City FC. This event will celebrate women supporting women by bringing our members together to attend a sports game and engage with women's sports. The '**GUSA Girls Day Out**' will **challenge perceptions** and raise the **visibility** of women's sports by showcasing the talent and passion of professional female athletes. By celebrating women supporting women, it will help to inspire our members, highlight the excitement of women's sports, and drive greater appreciation and engagement at every level. To encourage **greater participation** in GUSA, I will work with UofG Sport to aim to provide all women at Glasgow University with free access to club recreational programmes throughout WiSW. Building on the success of the female-only hour that I organised this year as the Health & Performance Convenor, I would also aim to organise female-only sessions in Studio 1 every day during WiSW. These sessions will showcase a variety of skills, promote **inclusion**, and create new opportunities for women who may not have had them before.

My well-rounded experience within GUSA and club CTS makes me the **strongest** candidate to become the next Vice President. I will work to **advocate** and **support** every one of our members and ensure all your needs are **prioritised**. Vote Lexie for #1 Vice President of GUSA!