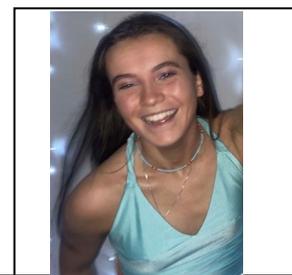


## GUSA Council Member - Nomination Form & Manifesto 2021/22

Position		Events Convenor
Nominee:	Name:	Sarah Hedley
	Club:	Women's Hockey
Nominator:	Name:	Sarah Hanley
	Club:	Women's Hockey
Seconder:	Name:	Josie Fakas
	Club:	Badminton



### **About Me & My Experience:**

My name is Sarah Hedley, and I am a second year Accountancy student running for the position of GUSA events convenor. Throughout my sporting career I have participated competitively in over 9 sports ranging from golf to basketball - the key element I have taken away from these experiences is the unique friendships I have made. Sport has always been a source of enjoyment for me that has brought many opportunities and comradery throughout my life so far, and I hope to help others find the same passion and create new experiences for them to enjoy.

Organisation is potentially the most important characteristic required of an events convenor and I have developed this skill and more through my experiences. These which include being a current member of the GUWHC, achieving SCQF Sports Leadership Level 4 and 5 awards, having worked as a multisport coach at Excel Sports camps during Summer holidays for three consecutive years (coaching children aged 5-17, planning a variety of activities daily), being promoted to Regimental Sergeant Major in my school cadet force (being the highest ranking student, responsible for around 200 other pupils- seriously increasing my organisation skills), being captain of the Scotland U18 girls touch rugby squad (and current member of the Scotland Women's Open squad), implementing- and running- a touch rugby club at school, and even volunteering to assist in organising and running a sports day for a special education school in 2019.

### **Responsibilities & Understanding of the Events Role:**

GUSA events convenor is a role that carries a lot of responsibility, particularly for the coming year when we will (hopefully) be exiting a national lockdown and there will be a huge appetite to partake in as many fun, social events as possible (restriction dependant, with the most COVID-safe return plausible). Next year, there will not only be one, but two whole year groups that have lacked a traditional university experience and will be desperate to meet new people and have experiences outside of their halls/homes. Events is a role that has a crucial ability to bring clubs and people together, big and small, through basic entertainment and enjoyment from small events to larger cross campus tournaments. Events convenor provides a strong foundation to help raise awareness of clubs and help reach new members, in turn crucially strengthening and building GUSA's community, as well as bringing new clubs and students together through amicable competition.

Events convenor should act as a support system for any clubs wishing to bring in new members or put on their own events. My main aim is to provide fun and enjoyable environments for clubs to demonstrate themselves and to make new connections with students that may not know much about them. I understand the difficulty of organising events for both smaller clubs, due to lack of resources, and bigger clubs, due to sheer masses of numbers, and therefore hope that I would act as an asset to aid in the process of organising any events by having a wider reach and more resources available to me.

### **Event Proposals:**

Ideas I have for the coming year include carrying on some of the previous events proposed, or put in place, by George and previous convenors such as: **The Intramural Leagues**, adding new sports as we hopefully move away from social distancing (potentially even introducing some sports that are not already a part of GUSA); and creating a **Martial Arts showcase** in the Union during Freshers' Week. Other proposals I have planned include combined club socials, and smaller one-off inter club competition events to increase GUSA relations. Alongside this, I would hope to run "**GUSA's got talent**", with the potential to be held online (COVID dependent), encouraging clubs to come forward and perform their talents out-with sport, with prizes for the winners. This event would not be restricted to individual clubs, or even to only existing GUSA members, and would therefore be a strong foundation for clubs to expand their reach across campus and draw in new members, alongside having some healthy competition and strengthening inter-club bonds.

My primary project is to put on a **Freshers' Sports Day**, with a variety of events ranging from fun races to bench-ball and disc golf, letting everyone try something new and meet people in a relaxed and friendly environment. Alongside this, GUSA members helping to run the events (in small teams led by events team members) will gain the opportunity to have a somewhat similar experience to freshers helping, even if not selected to be a freshers' helper (as it is a really sought after and competitive role) allowing for more people involved in GUSA to be rewarded with unique experiences and responsibilities. This will further GUSA's reach and in turn increase involvement, particularly within the events team. This event, if successful, can even be repeated throughout the year for other year groups.