

GUSA Council Member - Nomination Form & Manifesto 2024/25

Position:	Events and Fundraising Convenor
Name:	Grace McLoughlin
Club:	Women's Hockey



	Nominator's Name	Signature
1.	<u>Emma Duncan</u>	<u>ED</u>
2.	<u>Ramsay Newell</u>	<u>RN</u>

About me and my experience:

My name is Grace McLoughlin, and I am a third year Economic and Social History student running for the position of GUSA Events and Fundraising Convenor. Ever since I joined Glasgow University, I have praised GUSA for providing me with the unique opportunity to join different sporting clubs and the support system it has helped me create by the irreplaceable experiences and friendships I have made. After being a GUSA Fresher's helper for two years in a row now and being a group leader and a member of the GUSA Events team 2023/24, I have fully immersed myself in the association and I understand the importance of the work at hand. Having first-hand experience of attending all GUSA-ran events in 2023/24, I believe this has provided me with the suitable skills and knowledge to go into the role as GUSA Events and Fundraising Convenor, as I understand the significance these events hold for GUSA and the entire university experience and what it takes to run these events successfully.

This past year (2023/24) I have been Captain of the Glasgow University 4XI Hockey team, which has been a challenging, demanding and rewarding role, where I have been responsible for the weekly running of my hockey team, including selection of the team for matches and maintaining an excellent level of organisation and communication with the team. Over the past year, I have organised several events and activities for the team, so that they can bond and get to know each other off the hockey pitch, as personal relationships and uni work distress is important for student experiences and mental health. Through the creation of fun social ideas and the admin side of the job, communicating with opposition teams and Scottish Hockey, I believe this role has given me an abundance of skills that are necessary for this role. Being organised and a good timekeeper whilst working in high pressured environments is vital. Being flexible when things may not always go to plan is crucial in working in events as you must be adaptable and able to work through mistakes and with people who are not always cooperative. This is something I have first-hand experience doing through organising 25 different people's schedules. This role has let me be creative and experimental which I believe is fundamental for creating new concepts for GUSA events or adding new ideas to pre-existing events which are already a success. I am determined to display my skillset and hard work to maintain and build upon the imperative and successful work of the of Events and Fundraising Convenor, to make the student experience the best it can be.

Responsibilities & Understanding of the Events and Fundraising Role:

GUSA Events and Fundraising convenor is a role that I know carries a lot of responsibility as it is unique and vital in bringing clubs and people together, all while raising money for an important cause. I would like to carry on the work done by the previous Events Convenors and act as a support system for any club within GUSA if they need help with organising events, increasing their student participation, or fundraising for their charities. I aim to help clubs in their event endeavours and support them through any individual challenges they might face. Smaller clubs may lack resources to get their events off the ground and bigger clubs may have large scale numbers where it becomes too difficult to manage. Therefore, I will continue the Events Handbook, so that I can be there to assist clubs with their ideas for fundraising and event planning. When looking at the fundraising aspect of the role, I will put in an extensive amount of time researching and deliberating on GUSA's chosen charity of the year, one which is topical and will reflect the associations values. I will work alongside the rest of council to make our final decision on which charity best fits our community and one we can make an impact on. I aim to raise as much money as possible for our chosen charity by hosting events throughout the year to support its cause.

Event Proposals:

For this coming year I aim to continue some of GUSA's previous events, which have been hugely successful and are excellent ways for students to come together and promote sport, such as **GUSA's Fight Night** in Fresher's Week and the **GUSA Ceilidh**, which is a fantastic way for international students to experience Scottish culture.

I would also like to promote the idea of updating our fundraising bake sale to **The Great GUSA Bake Off**, where we will still sell the baking but adapt it to become an inter-club competition where students vote for their favourite. The **GUSA Dodgeball Tournament** has been a success in the past few years, and I would like to continue it as this event brings together a multitude of clubs through sport itself. This is something I would like to build upon this year by introducing a **Sustainable Sports Day**. I will look to work alongside the Sustainability Convenor to create a sporting day, by using club resources who have volunteered to participate and offer their equipment, using sustainable companies, and encouraging recycling. This would create a strong foundation for clubs to expand their reach across campus and draw in new members, therefore strengthening inter-club bonds.