

SSS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1st October 2025

1030-1200

Minutes

In attendance:

Jonny Pearson (JP)
Katherine Duncan (KD)
Ben Graham (BG)
Ian Lowe (IL)
Chris Sellar (CS)
Anna Edvaldsson (AE)
Freya Rennie (FR)
Liv Stevens (LS)
Stew Fowlie (SF)

Apologies:

Euan Smith (ES)
Julia Stenhouse-Walton (JS-W)

n.b. Partner organisations
(BUCS and **sportscotland**)
were excused from
attending this meeting

1. Welcome and introductions

JP welcomed everyone to the meeting, confirming what a privilege he feels it is to be the Chair of SSS and inviting all members of SSS Exec to be as fully engaged in the group as possible, so as to help support the vitally important and impactful work being done across the network.

2. Terms of Reference & plan for the year

JP and SF introduced the (pre-circulated) terms of reference, emphasising the importance of the student input, the action and communication between meetings and the role of Exec as looking up, out and ahead. These terms of reference were unanimously adopted.

Discussion followed on the opportunity to being guests and partners in to the meetings throughout the year. Suggestions included senior **sportscotland** staff, our Equality Action Group Chair, Colleges Scotland, CG 2026 and invitations to these will be considered as the year pans out.

The following dates and venues were provisionally agreed:

21st November @ Strathclyde
13th February @ Edinburgh College (Sighthill Campus)
15th May @ Heriot-Watt
26th June via Zoom

This info should be reflected in updated calendar invites to be issues by end Oct.

Action JS-W

3. Homologation

The group received notes from the May and June meetings of Exec, which were endorsed for accuracy. There were no matters arising.

4. Current context

Short snippets of local activity and institutional outlook were given around the table, noting the following themes:

- Semester has started brightly across the country, with encouraging levels of engagement and activity around sport and active wellbeing
- Organisational change is widespread across the whole network, in response to increasing pressures on institutional finances
- Continuing to advocate about the value of sport and active wellbeing remains vital

5. Understanding the team

SF reported back on the results of the 'Joining The Family' survey to Exec members which has been completed by all but two members of the committee. **Action JS-W**

The survey had identified no major skills gaps but did identify some opportunities for support and/ or tailored approaches to various projects or areas of work that may arise during the year. Group members agreed to freely voice questions and to seek additional clarity where needed, and SF offered to initiate pre-meeting briefing calls with the student members if this is ever of value.

SF thanked everyone for describing their aims and motivations – which have been useful in assigning project work across the group – and for their preferred methods of thanks which will enable SSS to better recognise the efforts of each volunteer.

6. Strong Organisation

SF introduced the final 25-26 budget, which closely matched that presented at the AGM. This budget was unanimously approved, with Exec noting the intention to post a small deficit on the year at circa £15k, exclusive of any discretionary spend on special projects.

7. Advocacy and Influencing

SF spoke to the pre-circulated advocacy and influencing paper, describing the current intentions and processes that Exec members would be asked to support. Some discussion followed on the preferred approaches to this work and on the optimal line-up for each project group. FR and LS agreed to switch portfolios and with that one change the initial sub groups were adopted. Each group should expect a further briefing note/ introductory chat with SF in the weeks ahead to kick start further work.

Action SF

8. Close

There being no AOCB the meeting was closed by JP with a vote of thanks to everyone for their time and input.

Date of next meeting: 21st November 2025 @ University of Strathclyde

Summary of Actions:

Action	Owner	Notes
1. Update calendar invitations for 25-26 Exec meetings	JS-W	
2. All committee members to complete SSS Family documentation	JS-W	
3. Provide briefings/ intro material to sub groups	SF	