

# 2027 Wheelchair Basketball European Championships

Liverpool, September 2027

## Independent Steering Group Members - Candidate Pack



### About the event

British Wheelchair Basketball (BWB) has been awarded the rights by the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) Europe to host the 2027 Wheelchair Basketball European Championships. The event includes championships for both men and women and acts as a direct qualifier to the 2028 Paralympic Games. Hosted in Liverpool from 11-19 September 2027, the event is set to provide an incredible platform to showcase the unstoppable energy of wheelchair basketball in an adrenaline-charged event that will leave fans on the edge of their seat.

Both Great Britain men's and women's teams will be looking to secure their ticket to the 2028 Paralympic Games, by qualifying directly in front of a packed arena of home fans. This is a great opportunity for the men to regain their European title and the women to win their first, both were a close second in 2025 – before heading to LA in 2028 aiming to win medals.

But it's not just about what happens on the court. Off the court, wheelchair basketball has the power to change lives, to support positive narrative for disabled people and to change societal attitudes to disability. This event aims to elevate the visibility of Paralympic athletes, while driving greater opportunity, representation, and lasting social impact for the disabled community. At its core, the event will deliver an inclusive and accessible experience, ensuring that all athletes and audiences can engage meaningfully and equitably.

This event will showcase the world's best athletes who redefine what it means to be powerful, skilled, and relentless whilst providing a platform to change societal narratives around disability. Wheelchair basketball isn't just a sport, it's a high-speed, full-contact display of heart and hustle.

More information: event website – [www.wbeuro27.com](http://www.wbeuro27.com) or @wbeuro27 on social channels

### About the Steering Group

The event will be planned and delivered by UKEL, a new independent event hosting company, is offering a full end-to-end solution for UK Sport by managing the funding, contracts, stakeholders, procurement and event director/programme management services for the event. With event funding provided by UK Sport, Liverpool City Council and BWB, the steering group will play a critical role in ensuring good governance that underpins the successful delivery of the event.

The Steering Group will oversee the delivery of the strategic goals and associated objectives of the event. The group will be made up of representatives of Liverpool City Council (LCC), British Wheelchair Basketball (BWB), UK Sport (UKS) and UKEL, plus three independent steering group members and an independent chair.

The steering group will have the following responsibilities (but not limited to):

- Setting the strategy and objectives
- Monitoring and where appropriate approval of event budget and financial planning
- Monitoring & managing risk
- Stakeholder management and liaison
- Monitoring operational progress and readiness
- Providing area specific expertise/support to the group and Event Director as required
- Post event review

### **About the roles**

Through this process, we are looking for four independent steering group members:

- Steering group Chair (x1)
- Steering group Member (x3)

Candidates should understand the role that sport, participation, elite sport, and major events can play in society. We would particularly welcome applicants who have experience of wheelchair basketball.

Candidates could come from a wide variety of backgrounds with relevant skills to enhance the steering group's ability to support the delivery of a successful event. We are specifically looking for individuals with expertise in the following areas:

- Elite Paralympic athlete (wheelchair based sport/discipline)
- Commercial income generation
- Social Impacts
- Marketing / Ticketing of major events

The stakeholders are keen to build a diverse steering group. Thus, we are particularly focused on achieving better disabled, female, black, Asian and minority ethnic representation. We are particularly keen to have representation on the steering group from those with lived experiences of disability.

**Independent Chair** – it is essential that this person has previous experience as a Chair or a steering group, board or similar committee.

**Independent members** - previous steering group, board or similar committee experience is preferred although training and mentoring can be provided for the right candidates.

The post is not remunerated, though reasonable expenses will be paid. Meetings are expected to take place bi-monthly (approx. 10 meetings total during term) and will take place at venues in Liverpool or virtually. We would hope that appointees would be willing to make considerable contributions/provide advice, within reason, outside of the steering group cycle of meetings. The event is delivered by a small core team, but one with a huge drive to achieve an ambitious vision for this event, so support from steering group members will play a huge role in ensuring a successful event delivery.

### Role description

<b>Title</b>	Independent Chair of the Steering Group (x1) & Independent Member of the Steering Group (x3)
<b>Time Commitment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend and active input into up to 6 steering group meetings a year, plus reading of the associated papers</li> <li>• Attend up to 6 sub-group meetings (possibly Chair some of these sub-group meetings - TBC)</li> <li>• Press and media interviews as requested in the run up to the event</li> <li>• Attendance at some PR activity in the run up to 2027</li> <li>• Attendance at some activity during the event in 2027</li> </ul>
<b>Remuneration</b>	All reasonable expenses will be covered
<b>Length of Term</b>	The term of office will begin June 2026 and last until December 2027.
<b>Overview of the role</b>	The steering group is responsible for the oversight and planning of the event as executed by UKEL.
<b>Main responsibilities of the Independent Chair</b>	Same responsibilities as Independent Member plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair all steering group meetings (whether in-person or virtual)</li> <li>• Lead on the creation of the event’s vision, purpose and values, with the support of other steering group members</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devise steering group meeting agendas, confirm meeting dates and review minutes with support of the Event Director</li> <li>• Review steering group papers before circulation to the wider steering group ahead of upcoming meetings</li> <li>• Provide direct support and counsel to the Event Director as required</li> <li>• Oversee and coordinate the discussion surround key event decisions, whether risk, governance, financial or reputational related</li> <li>• Ensure all steering group members act according the terms of reference</li> <li>• Manage any conflict of interests that might arise within the group</li> <li>• Act as an ambassador and advocate for the event and its vision throughout the term of office</li> </ul>
<p><b>Main responsibilities of the Independent Member</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that the Group is effective in discussing and setting the company’s strategic direction in delivering the event.</li> <li>• To act as a member of the Group, offering guidance, support, expertise and an objective perspective on the key matters of strategy, governance, commercial and financial affairs, and risk management.</li> <li>• To sit on (and possibly chair) specialist sub-groups of the Group as appropriate and agreed, particularly in respect of the specific skills and experience that each director brings.</li> <li>• To play a key part in the decision-making process on strategic and governance issues</li> <li>• To ensure that the event is run in a transparent and equitable manner</li> <li>• To act in accordance with the Steering Groups Terms of Reference</li> <li>• To help identify and manage any conflicts of interest that might arise within the Group.</li> <li>• To offer advice and guidance in a consultative capacity to the executive as required, helping to ensure that the organisation has a robust, workable and viable operational strategy, and monitoring the performance of the organisation (and the executive management) against that strategy.</li> <li>• To maintain positive relationships with major external stakeholders</li> </ul>

<b>Skills and Experience</b>	<p><b>Essential</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial literacy</li> <li>• Objective thinking</li> <li>• Business skills</li> <li>• High standards of professional conduct</li> <li>• Experience working in the sport or events industry</li> </ul> <p>For the Chair role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior experience as a Chair or a steering group, board or similar committee.</li> </ul> <p>For the member roles either</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience as an elite Paralympic athlete (wheelchair based sport/discipline)</li> <li>• Experience of commercial income generation</li> <li>• Experience in major event marketing / ticketing campaigns</li> <li>• Lived experiences of disability</li> <li>• Local knowledge / from the Liverpool area</li> </ul> <p><b>Desirable</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major Sports events delivery</li> <li>• Marketing and Audience Development</li> <li>• Commercial and Sponsorship</li> <li>• Social Impact</li> <li>• Environmental Sustainability</li> <li>• Experience of working with public funding</li> </ul>
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## **Guaranteed interview scheme & accessibility**

We aim to tackle inequalities in the workplace and society in general, therefore we will guarantee an interview for anyone declaring a disability in their application and who meets the job's minimum skills and experience requirements.

If individuals require any reasonable adjustments to be made to enable you to participate in the interview process, or more accessible versions of this document we commit to supporting those needs. This commitment extends to successful candidates for the duration of their term as a Steering Group member.

## **Appointment process and how to apply**

In line with best practice the event partners are recruiting the role via an open and transparent process.

To apply for either role, please provide the following to [chriswalker@ukel.co.uk](mailto:chriswalker@ukel.co.uk) by midnight on Sunday 21 June 2026.

- A copy of your CV
- A cover letter (not exceeding 2 pages) explaining why you are interested in the role and how you meet the key skills and experience required.
- Please state on your submission email if you are interested in the Chair, Member or both roles.

For more information on the role please contact [chriswalker@ukel.co.uk](mailto:chriswalker@ukel.co.uk)

The provisional timetable for the role is as follows:

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • 29 May 2026               | Applications open             |
| • 21 June 2026              | Closing date for applications |
| • Late June/Early July 2026 | Interviews and appointments   |
| • Mid July 2026             | Induction period              |
| • Mid/Late July 2026        | First steering group meeting  |

