



# Memorandum of Collaboration Between The British Association of Sport and Exercise Science and The British Psychological Society.

## 1. Purpose:

The purpose of this Memorandum of Collaboration is to enhance the developing alliance between the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) and the British Psychological Society (BPS) by presenting a formal working relationship between BASES and the BPS.

## 2. Background:

### 2.1 BASES:

Established in 1984, [BASES](#) is the professional body for sport and exercise sciences in the UK. BASES mission is to deliver excellence in sport and exercise sciences through the promotion of scientific research and evidence-based practice, and the development of professional standards for the sport and exercise sector.

### **BASES Strategy**

BASES vision is to deliver excellence in the sport and exercise sciences. Its mission is to lead the advancement of knowledge and evidence-based practice within the UK's sport and exercise sciences for the benefit of human performance, health and education.

The application of scientific principles to sport and exercise is principally achieved through one of the three branches of science (biomechanics, physiology and psychology) or through interdisciplinary approaches.

BASES' aim is to develop and enhance professional and ethical standards in the sport and exercise sciences. The Association's key strategic objectives are:

- the promotion of research in sport and exercise sciences
- the encouragement of evidence-based practice in sport and exercise sciences
- the distribution of knowledge in sport and exercise sciences
- the development and maintenance of high professional standards for those involved in sport and exercise sciences

- the representation of the interests of sport and exercise sciences nationally and internationally

### **Sport and Exercise Psychology Accreditation Route - SEPAR**

The [Health and Care Professions Council](#) (HCPC) has approved BASES as an Education Provider to deliver the [Sport and Exercise Psychology Accreditation Route](#) (SEPAR). Successful candidates are then eligible to apply for HCPC registration as a Practitioner Psychologist.

### **BASES Accreditation**

BASES also offer [direct Accreditation](#) which allows members to become accredited Sport and Exercise Scientists but this is not an approved route to HCPC registration. BASES is licenced by the Science Council to [award Chartered Scientist status](#) to members who meet the requisite standards and criteria of BASES accreditation as this includes the Chartered Scientist standards

### **BASES Undergraduate Endorsement Scheme- BUES**

The [BASES Undergraduate Endorsement Scheme](#) (BUES) awards endorsement to sport and exercise science degree courses that provide undergraduates with the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills essential to enter into the profession.

BASES endorsement is awarded to courses that meet criteria covering the necessary foundation of sport and exercise science knowledge, technical skills and professional development competencies required to succeed in the profession.

### **Post Graduate SEPAR Endorsement Scheme- PSES**

The [BASES Postgraduate SEPAR Endorsement Scheme](#) (PSES) has been designed to allow registrants to evidence expediently, the completion of an appropriate M-level qualification for entry onto to SEPAR, which covers the relevant knowledge-based HCPC Standards of Proficiencies. In essence, this scheme will support future Sport and Exercise Psychologists choose an MSc. programme that is BASES endorsed, and which will appropriately position them for application to SEPAR upon completion.

### **2.2. BPS:**

The [British Psychological Society](#), incorporated by Royal Charter, is the learned society and professional body for psychology and psychologists in the United Kingdom. It is a registered charity with a total membership in excess of 60,000.

Under its Royal Charter, the objective of the British Psychological Society is "to promote the advancement and diffusion of the knowledge of psychology pure and applied and especially to promote the efficiency and usefulness of members by setting up a high standard of professional education and knowledge". The BPS are committed to providing and disseminating evidence-based expertise and advice, engaging with policy and decision

makers, and promoting the highest standards in learning and teaching, professional practice and research.

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) have approved BPS to deliver the [Qualification in Sports and Exercise Psychology](#) (QSEP) which confers Chartered Status and eligibility to register as a Practitioner Psychologist. The BPS also accredit [independent Doctorate programmes](#), which are approved by HCPC, through partnership with Higher Education Institutions which confer Chartered Status and eligibility to register as a Practitioner Psychologist alongside use of the title 'Dr'.

The current BPS strategy has six cross cutting objectives;

1. We will promote and advocate for diversity and inclusion within the discipline and profession of psychology and work to eradicate discriminatory practice.
2. We will strive to create a vibrant member-centred community with a meaningful membership identity.
3. We will promote the value of and encourage collaboration in interdisciplinary development and engagement.
4. We will be the home for all psychology and psychologists and uphold the highest standards of education and practice.
5. We will increase our influence and impact and advance our work on policy and advocacy.
6. We will strive to be more innovative, agile, adaptive and sustainable.

BASES and its [Psychology Division](#) and [The Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology Section](#) (DSEP) of the BPS share common goals of promoting excellence in research, teaching and practical applications in sport and exercise psychology.

### **3. Collaboration**

#### **3.1 Research:**

In the area of research BASES and the BPS will work together in pursuit of more generous funding for research into aspects of sport and exercise psychology. The two associations will also seek to collaborate in the production and dissemination of research findings.

#### **3.2 Teaching and Learning:**

The members of both associations are typically involved in teaching the discipline at undergraduate, taught masters and MPhil/PhD/Professional Doctorate level. They will seek to collaborate to provide opportunities for the promotion of excellence and opportunity at all levels.

#### **3.3 CPD:**

The BPS and BASES recognise the importance of evidence-based practice in the development of sport and exercise psychology interventions and the evaluation of their effectiveness. Both associations share the common goals of ensuring that individuals, teams and organisations receive best practice in the provision of psychological services in sport and exercise settings. To further this aim, BASES and the BPS will collaborate in supporting

the profession through joint continuous professional development opportunities, such as webinars and events.

#### **4. Working arrangements:**

The day-to-day relationship between BASES and the BPS will be between The BASES Division for Psychology and the BPS DSEP. Both Head Office teams shall be kept updated on a regular basis, providing further support as necessary.

BASES and BPS will develop enhanced benefits for members of both associations through economies of scale. This may include access to association insurance schemes and conference rates as well as formal joint membership categories.

In all interactions with other parties, BASES and BPS will act with the other's interests in mind as well as their own, and wherever possible will do so on the basis of mutual consultation.

An up-to-date version of this Memorandum will be published on the BPS and BASES websites.

#### **5. Duration and Review**

This Commitment to Partnership becomes effective from the date that the representatives of the participating parties sign this agreement below. The intention is for the agreement to continue for three years, with an annual review. At the end of the term, Memorandum of Collaboration may be extended by the mutual written agreement of both organisations.

This Memorandum may be revised through the mutual agreement of both organisations and may be terminated by either party upon giving six months' written notice signed by the recognised Executive Officer of the notifying party.

#### **6. Dispute resolution**

Any disagreements or differences in opinion that arise regarding interpretation of this Memorandum are expected to be settled informally between BASES and BPS in a timely and reasonable fashion. Disagreements that cannot be resolved in this manner should go to mediation. The mediator, if not agreed on by the parties, should be nominated by and should follow the rules of [Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution](#) (CEDR).

#### **7. Named Responsible Contact**

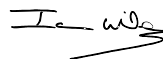
In witness to this agreement, the following individuals append their signatures:

**For the BPS**



Name: Sarb Bajwa  
Post: Chief Executive Officer  
Date: 27/09/2023

**For BASES**



Name: Ian Wilson  
Post: Chief Executive Officer  
Date: 20 November 2023