



Ayrshire Tigers Powerchair Football Club Chairperson's Report and Financial Statements

for the period from 1st January 2019 to 31st
August 2021

Annual General Meeting
23rd September 2021

Registered Charity No. SC048926



Charity Contact Information

Charity Name	Ayrshire Tigers Powerchair Football Club
Scottish Charity Number	SC048926
Principal Address	4 Kennedy Park, Dreghorn, KA11 4DW
Training Venue	Coylton Activity Centre, Hole Road, Coylton, Ayr, KA6 6JL
Telephone number	07936295779
Email address	ayrshiretigers@gmail.com
Website	www.ayrshiretigers.weebly.com



Charity Trustees

Names of the charity trustees on date of approval of Chairperson's Annual Report

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted
1	Stuart Niven	Chair	From 14 December 2018
2	Adam McGovern	Vice Chair & Safeguarding Officer	From 14 December 2018
3	Gordon Rainey	Treasurer	From 14 December 2018
4	Annmarie Robertson	Secretary	From 14 December 2018
5	James Dull	Players Rep.	From 1 July 2019
6	Doreen Paterson	Parents Rep	From 1 July 2019
7	Dee Andrew	Carers Rep	From 13 November 2019

Names of all other charity trustees during the period, if any, (for example, those who resigned part way through the financial period).

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Objectives and activities

Charitable Purposes

The charities mission is to *"help improve the lives of all disabled powerchair users in Ayrshire, by reducing social isolation and engaging the whole community through the sport of Powerchair Football."*

The club became a registered Scottish charity in December 2018.

The charities aims are as follows:

1. To provide recreational opportunities to all powerchair users in Ayrshire with the object of improving their quality of life. No-one will be discriminated on grounds of race, sex, religious beliefs, political views or other opinion.
2. To advance the public participation in sport by providing coaching and playing opportunities through membership of the national league, as well as developing strong relationships across the private, public & voluntary sectors.
3. The promotion of equality and diversity by: encouraging disabled people to participate in the sport of powerchair football and associated activities, thus encouraging inclusiveness within society.
4. To provide the training facilities and equipment to assist and enable powerchair users to play powerchair football.

Charity Structure, governance and management

Ayrshire Tigers Powerchair Football Club was incorporated on 14th December 2018 and registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator as a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) under charity number SC048926 on that date. The funds held by the previous unincorporated association, also called Ayrshire Tigers Powerchair Football Club, were transferred to the SCIO upon registration.

The structure of the organisation consists of the ~~members~~ who have powers to appoint those who will serve on the board and take decisions on changes to the constitution itself and the board, who generally control the activities of the organisation. The people serving on the board are referred to as Charity Trustees. The Trustees at the date of this report are shown on page 2.

Chairperson's Report

I would like to welcome everyone to Ayrshire Tigers first AGM.

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the period 1st of January 2019 to 31st of August 2021.

I am going to start my report by talking about how the tigers have done on the pitch over the last two seasons and then finish with how the club has developed since it became a charity in December 2018.

On the pitch

For season 2018/2019 the Tigers had 2 teams playing in the Scottish Powerchair Football League for the first time. The first team played in the premiership hoping to go one better than their runners up finish the season before. Unfortunately, the tigers had a poor season by their standards finishing a distant 3rd in the league, which was won by Clyde Alba. The tigers only won 2 of the 9 games they played and suffered some heavy defeats. However, the main reasons for the poor results was that key players were unfortunately unable to play in all the matches and Clyde and Tayside players had better chairs. One positive was the performances of Colby who finished the season as top goal scorer.

The Championship team played valiantly but were held back mainly because of a lack of players on match weekends which meant having to bring in players from other clubs to make the up the numbers. There were some good performances by the players especially Cameron who improved throughout the season. The league was again won by Lothian Wolves with the Tigers finishing bottom of the league.

Neither of the tigers teams managed to reach the semi-finals of either of the cup competitions.

In the summer of 2019 the Tigers started a partnership with Glasgow Gladiators to give all players the chance to play in friendly matches. The matches have been held at the Gladiators training base in Glasgow on Saturday afternoons. These events have all been well attended and most importantly the feedback has been very positive.

From July 29th to August 3rd 2019 Largs was the venue for the European Powerchair Football Association "Next Generation" Event. Young powerchair footballers from all over Europe were invited to attend a week's long event with coaching from World Cup winning coaches. Colby was invited to the event and he really enjoyed the experience and received really good feedback from the coaches.

For the 2019/2020 season the club decided to only enter one team in the league and cup competitions because of a lack of players for a second team.

The Tigers performed really well in the league cup in January narrowly losing to Tayside Dynamos 1-0 in the semi-finals, despite being the better team. The tigers were victims of some poor refereeing decisions.

The Tigers were lying in second place in the league going into their final 3 fixtures in March. Unfortunately, the team were unable to play their remaining fixtures due to not having enough players because of illness and the impact of the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic the SPFA Committee decided to postpone the final MDUK league event scheduled for April. All powerchair football was suspended until further notice including club training sessions. A decision was taken to end the season with Tayside being awarded the MDUK Premiership league title with the Ayrshire Tigers finishing in third. The team played nine games in the premiership and won 4, drew 1 and lost 4.

I would like to congratulate our team captain James on being selected to play for the national team. James competed in a tournament down in Leeds in January 2020 and he was by all accounts the best player on show scoring 5 goals.

The way in which our teams have played and conducted themselves on and off the pitch was yet again complimented by rival players, spectators and the coaching staff of other teams. Teamwork, fair play and respect has been our mantra for a few years now and I have been especially proud of how our players have conducted themselves especially when other club officials and players have not behaved themselves well at times.

On behalf of the club I would like to thank South Ayrshire Council for providing us with coaches on Thursday nights over the last few years and giving us the hall at a reduced rate. The energy and time all the coaches put in at training is always appreciated by all the players. I would like to especially thank Adam and Billy who have given up a lot of their spare time at weekends to help the team at SPFA competitions and friendly fixtures against Gladiators. Personally, I can't wait for competitions to get under way in October and hopefully we will soon win our first trophy.

Club Development

In November 2019 the committee decided that the club would become a charity with its own constitution and bank account. A decision was made that players would be required to start paying membership fees and the club would start applying for grants, fundraising, and trying to secure sponsors to help raise funds for the club. Becoming a charity would also safeguard committee members in the event of any debt being accrued by the club. The club became a charity on the 21st December 2018 with all committee members becoming Trustees.

Since the beginning of 2019 the Trustees have been holding meetings roughly every six weeks since the charity was formed which even continued online during lockdown.

The club held its first annual awards night in June 2019 with the prizes presented by MSP Brian Whittle. Regretfully, we could not hold a prize-giving in the summer of 2020 because of the pandemic.

The club stopped training in March 2020 because of Covid and only started training again in July this year. The period during lockdown was extremely difficult for our players without having powerchair football and many having to shield during this time and not being able to see their family and friends.

The impact of Covid has resulted in a few challenges for the club.

Firstly, the council told us over the summer that when training resumed we would have to move our training base from Whitletts activity centre in Ayr to the activity centre here in Coylton. We realise this is not ideal for some of our players but at the moment we don't have another venue to go to where storage is provided. Storage on site is essential for training to be able to take place. The committee has held meetings over the summer with members of the three Ayrshire councils to try and find a more central located training venue: with a larger sports hall and most importantly with adequate storage for our chairs and equipment. However, we have exhausted every option at the present time. South Ayrshire Council have recently agreed to let us have a storage container outside in the car park here at Coylton and they are also continuing to give us the hall hire at half price.

The council also informed us before we returned to training in July that they were no longer able to provide us with coaches. Adam kindly agreed to volunteer his time on Thursdays and we are also taking on volunteer coaches to help Adam out at training and hopefully on match days when competitions resume in October. We are also currently in discussions with Ayr Utd Football Club regarding coaching support and help with player recruitment.

The club are also planning to start a second session very soon at a venue with a larger sports hall which will be for players the coaches feel are at the required level to play in the premiership and/or championship level. Glasgow Gladiators have been in touch to enquire if we would consider entering a joint premiership team for season 2021/2022 into the league because both clubs have a shortage of players at premiership level. Gladiators are also interested in us having a joint training session for our premiership players on Monday night between 8 PM and 10 PM at their training venue. Gladiators are still open to resuming friendly matches between all players at weekends every six weeks.

The SPFA have just announced that the league matches will resume on November 28 for players playing in the premiership or championship. The other league match days are on the last Sunday of February and March. The Scottish Cup will be played in May and the League Cup will be played in June.

All players from each club will be invited up to the Peak on Sunday, 31 October to play in friendly matches.

There will be three development/grassroots match days during the season for beginners and players not playing in their club's premiership and/or championship teams. The first development match day will be in the middle of November. We are waiting for the dates to be released.

We are supporting the EPFA's fantastic new 'twinning' initiative to develop the sport of Powerchair Football and bring international communities closer together. We have agreed to partner with Middlesbrough PFC and look forward to developing our relationship with them by sharing ideas and knowledge which will hopefully improve both our clubs. The ultimate aim is to organise to play them either down in England or for them to come up here.

One of our continuing aims has been to encourage new players into the sport but it's fair to say we have not had much success in recent times. Efforts have been made over the last two seasons to recruit new players by placing adverts in libraries, sports centres', supermarkets' plus advertising in the local press and on social media and even on local radio. The club have also been working with Ayrshire Sportsability and Active Schools. A few players have come along but only 1 player has stayed long term. However, one positive is that we have retained our existing membership and one of our old players has returned to the club. Welcome back Richard! A couple of potential new players have recently made enquiries about coming along to a taster session.

We are in the process of speaking to Ayr Utd and Kilmarnock football clubs to try and form a partnership agreement to support grassroots powerchair football. Ayr Utd have said they will try and support us with coaches and help us find new players. We want to ensure that there is a pathway for the players from the grassroots sessions to move up to play for Ayrshire Tigers in the premiership and/or championship.

Ayrshire Tigers continue to assist the Scottish Powerchair Football Association and Scottish Disability Sport by demonstrating, informing and selling the game of powerchair football at local Para Sport Festivals.

Trustees, players and their friends and family have raised in excess of £5,000 over the last 3 years for the club through a number of fundraising events including a sponsored push, walking the west highland way, the sale of charity badges, a line dancing fundraiser, and a sponsored run. St Meddans church also recently raised £480 for us through the sale of their Christmas cards last Christmas. A big thanks to everyone that has raised funds for the club it is very much appreciated

We have done well over the past two seasons in attracting sponsors with 4 different sponsors supporting the club over the last couple of years. We currently have 2 sponsors, Irwin Mitchell Solicitors and Newland Assets confirmed for next season.

The club have also been awarded grants from a number of other charities over the last two years to help with purchasing new club powerchairs and to help with running costs.

The club asked all club members in March last year on what they thought the club's goals should be moving forward. The three main goals were as follows:

1. Increase participation (particularly find younger players)
2. Increase the storage area for chairs and equipment
3. Find more coaches and volunteers.

The second and third goals are well on the way to being achieved however we would still like to find more players especially younger players.

I feel it is also important to acknowledge the work and commitment of the SPFA officials who put in a lot of hard work even though at times in the past we don't always agree with their philosophy. Personally, at the moment I am very positive about the direction the new committee is taking the sport.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow trustees for all their support and hard work over the last few years. It would not be possible for the club to continue without people volunteering their time. However, I am keen to advertise for more support from people out in the community to make sure the club is stronger going forward.

Lastly, to all our players, friends, family, supporters, and sponsors a final thank you and I would like to say that collectively we all are part of the great achievements of the Ayrshire Tigers.

Stuart Niven

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S Niven". The letters are slightly slanted and connected in a cursive style.

Chairperson
Ayrshire Tigers PFC

Treasurers Report

I have been delighted to be able to undertake the Treasurers role during the last few years and play a small part in supporting the work of Ayrshire Tigers Powerchair Football Club.

Copies of the last set of accounts,(submitted to OSCR) for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020 are available for anybody to see along with the accounts for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019.

1. Income

Overall the income for the period from 1 January 2019 to 31st of December 2020 was £28,240 and the total expenditure was £2386. Hence, the balance on 31 December 2020 was £25,853. The balance on the 31 August 2021 was £25,224.

- Membership - £1350
- Fundraising - £3208 (Glasgow kilt walk, Line Dance fundraiser, sale of club badges)
- Donations - £10,662 (SAAS, St Meddans Church)
- Grants - £10,000 (Peter Harrison Foundation, ASDA Foundation, Bruce Wake Charitable Trust , Aldi Sports, GSK Community Awards, and the Mactaggart and Mickel Building Communities Fund)
- Sponsorships -£2485 (Irwin Mitchell, Newland Assets, Edwards Insurance Brokers, and Hillhouse Quarry Group.

The club's main sources of income during this period came from donations to the club (38%) and grants from charities like the Bruce Wake Charitable Trust and the Peter Harrison Foundation (35%).

The club and its supporters (including family and friends of the players) also raised funds through various fundraising events which has contributed towards 11% of the club' income.

The club has been sponsored by Irwin Mitchell Solicitors, the Hillhouse Quarry Group; Edwards Insurance Brokers, Newland Assets Ltd. Sponsorship over the last financial year has contributed to 9% of the club's income.

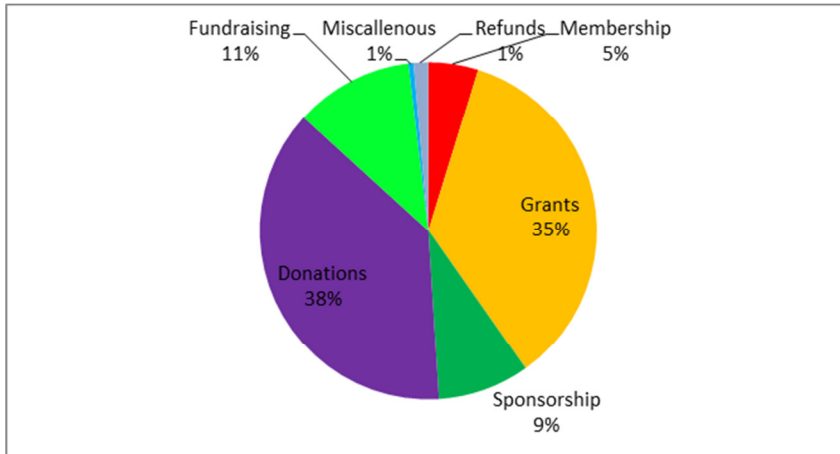
The remainder of the club's revenue has mostly come from membership fees (5%).

Roughly £6000 of the money we have received from grants and donations has been set aside for the purchase of a new Powerchair.

Since March 2020 we have seen a reduction in our income mainly due to:

- receiving no money from sponsors because of their being no competitions due to Covid.
- cancellation of membership fees over the lockdown period

Figure 1: Income breakdown for period 1 January 2019 to December 31 2020



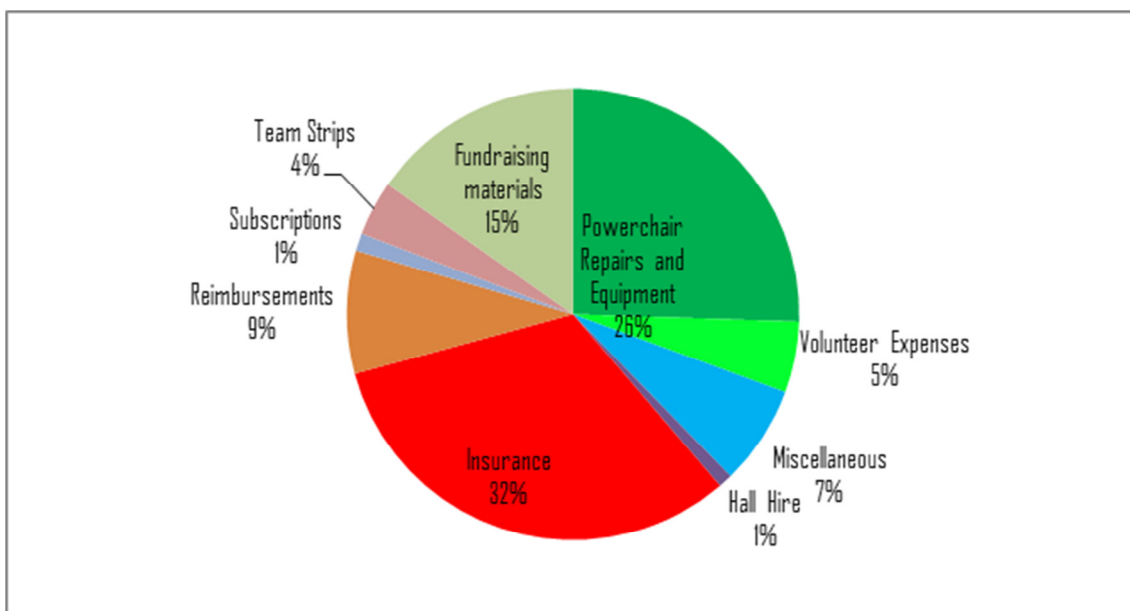
I would like to thank all those who have contributed over the period with donations, sponsorship, membership fees and grants.

2. Expenditure

As mentioned previously our total cost over the period from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2020 was only £2386. Costs were much lower than normal because of the clubs activities being much reduced over this period again because of Covid. Our biggest costs were taking out charity insurance (32 %), repairs to our chairs as well as the cost of equipment (26 %), and purchasing fundraising material (15%).

- Insurance- £765
- Maintenance, repairs to equipment- £610
- Fundraising materials - £365

Figure 2: Expenditure breakdown for period 1 January 2019 to December 31 2020



Since the start of 2021 because of our expenses exceeding our income we have been running at a deficit of £700. This has been mainly due to us mainly having to pay out nearly £600 on the repair of the club's powerchairs.

However, Ayrshire Tigers are in a sound financial position with the bank balance currently in excess of £25,000.

Going forward we are budgeting for the following costs for next year:

- Charity Insurance ~£800
- Repairs and maintenance ~ £500
- Van hire, fuel and insurance ~£2000
- Paying 2 coaches for match days ~ £1000
- SPFA registration fees £500
- Hall hire ~ £2,200 for both stations
- A storage container (to be kept in the car park at Coylton) ~£5500

Based on our anticipated costs and income from sponsorships and membership fees we will most likely have a deficit of around £10,400 (worst-case scenario) which means the club will have to raise by fundraising, applying for funding, and trying to secure more sponsorships.

No Trustee has received remuneration for their services nor expenses for their role as a Charity Trustee, expenses have been paid to Trustees in connection with other roles within the club (equipment transportation, representation of the Club on SPFA committees). In addition no contracts or transactions have been undertaken with person(s) with direct links to trustees.

Declaration

The following trustees declare that they have approved the chairpersons' report above.

Signature(s)				
Full name(s)	Stuart Niven	Gordon Rainey	Adam McGovern	Annmarie Robertson
Position (e.g. Chair)	Chair	Treasurer	Vice-Chair	Secretary
Date	15/09/2021	15/09/2021	15/09/2021	15/09/2021