

Report and Accounts For the Year Ending 31st July 2024

**Charity Details**

Name: The Dylan Howells Foundation
Registered charity number: 1174188
Address: 28 Oaken Lane, Claygate, Esher, Surrey, KT10 0RG

Trustees:

Brian Howells (Chair)
Bethan Smith
Warren Saunders
Garry Taylor
Martin Wingfield

Treasurer & Bank Details:

Malcolm Watts
Account held at - Metrobank, Unit 1, Chiswick House, Festival Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7LD

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st July 2024**What Is the Dylan Howells Foundation?**

The charity was set-up by family and friends of Dylan Howells who tragically passed away suddenly in July 2016 aged 41 from a heart arrhythmia, leaving behind him a wife and two children. Passionate about sport in all forms, Dylan competed nationally and internationally in Triathlon and Aquathlon, becoming the Welsh National Aquathlon Champion in 2007 and finishing 6th in age group in the 2010 ITU Aquathlon World Championships in Budapest.

Dylan was also a football fan and keen supporter of many sports including swimming, athletics, boxing and rugby. As well as spectating and participating he was committed to helping others maximise their own potential, working with countless children and young adults who competed and trained at sports clubs in the Southwest London and Surrey area. It is our aim in the DHF to continue the work he started, by funding aspiring young athletes across a range of disciplines, helping them to achieve their goals and maximise their competitive potential. We also provide funding to sports clubs in need of equipment and sponsor events to encourage participation with a view to inspiring communities through activity, teamwork, achievement and most importantly – fun.

Our aims for our seventh year of operation ending 31st July 2024

Looking back on our seventh year, things remain consistent in terms of how we operate and our key means of funding. We delayed the gala dinner from Autumn 2023 until Spring 2024 – to give us a larger gap between events and to prevent things becoming ‘stale’ in any sense. The event itself was perhaps our best run so far and we were privileged to welcome Lauren Steadman OBE as a guest speaker. However as with many other charities we were impacted by cost-of-living challenges and did not raise as much as in prior years, despite reasonably strong attendance. As a result of this we will look at other avenues for funding in the year ahead including grants etc, to enable us to continue to fund new and current athletes.

We have retained a good stable of athletes in the current year and are comfortable that these are effectively means tested so that we know that the support is going to where it’s really needed. Our balance sheet remains healthy, and we end the period with enough money on hand to continue to fund our athletes for the coming year. We will however continue to pressure test the needs to make sure our funds are best utilised. Although we no longer support Kinetic we have stepped up our support for local clubs including Abel Karate, Foley Boxing and re-engaging with Elmbridge Eagles. This balance enables us to maximise our impact despite a potentially smaller budget for the year 2024/25.

As can be seen from the included accounts, receipts were down this year, primarily driven by the success of the auction, meaning we raised roughly £10,500 in the year to 31st July, around half of our receipts for the prior year. There are some other reasons for this shortfall, which will be covered in the report, but there is no question that this has been our least successful year in some time. Despite this we still end the period with £15,000 available for funding which will cover us for the initial 2025 round. We will continue with the gala dinner in future years, as well as looking at other avenues and as such believe that we continue to deliver on our vision and achieve our aims. As with prior years there are no ongoing costs to running the charity and everyone involved gives their time freely, we remain incredibly proud of what we have achieved and the lives we have enhanced with the funding raised and distributed.

Gala Dinner – March 2024

In order to keep the event fresh, we moved it to the spring of 2024, keeping the venue (Hilton Doubletree Kingston) and rough format the same. However, we spent more in the set-up of the event, in order to bring back a live band – instead of a DJ – and a guest speaker in Lauren Steadman OBE. Lauren was a great addition to the event, interviewing some of our athletes and inspiring us all with her stories of overcoming her own challenges to achieving gold medal Paralympic success. The auction however was not as successful as in previous years – relying more on the silent auction, where our cut is smaller, meaning a far lower overall profit. We are aware that many charities have also faced lower incomes in the last few years and we remain happy that the event was a success overall, but it means that we will need to look at other avenues in addition to the Gala Dinner moving forward. Currently the plan would be to hold the next dinner in the autumn of 2025 – leaving another 18-month gap between events. We see no reason why we would need to make major changes to the format but will be mindful in terms of cost so that we can clearly maximise the funds we can pass on to our athletes.

CRY Screening Day – 20th April 2024

Although not funded directly from the charity, this is an event we have been planning for some time and which has huge emotional resonance for us. CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young - www.c-r-y.org.uk) run testing days across the UK for young athletes, to help diagnose otherwise undiscovered heart issues. A memorial fund for Dylan was set up via CRY raising over £5000 which was used in April 2024 to run a testing day enabling almost 100 children to be tested. Charity trustees were present at the event and we promoted it through our website and social media channels.

Other Fund-Raising Activities

In addition to the dinner, we raised a further £1500 through gift aid, smaller donations etc and interest on funds in the bank. We did not carry out the fun run or other activities in year but will look to revisit this moving forward. Thames Turbo Triathlon Club held their annual summer Aquathlon which supports and raises funds for the Foundation and gives all their members an opportunity to remember Dylan. However, the event was held slightly later in the year on 18th July and the funds raised were not received before the year-end and will be recognised in the next financial year.

Beneficiaries

In 2023/24 we kept a relatively consistent set of beneficiaries – based on our available budget we did not put efforts into recruiting new athletes but made sure we were able to continue with our current set – assuming needs were identified. We did however take on a new local karate club (Abel Karate) helping young athletes who would otherwise not have been able to afford tuition fees. We also said goodbye to Giorgio Visioli this year – his career is progressing incredibly well and as such he has access to other sources of funding moving forward, we wish him every success and will be following his progress with interest.

Beneficiary from May 2020 – Lilian Musgrove – Figure Skater

17-year-old Lilian has been skating since the age of 3 and qualified for the British Championships in 2020 – coming first at intermediate level. This is our fourth year of working with Lilian and her career continues to go from strength to strength. Her family are making considerable sacrifices to fund her continued ambition, and we are proud to continue to play a small part in her development and growth. During the year 2023/24 she has continued to successfully represent the GB junior team across Europe and maintained her training in both the UK and France. Despite suffering some injuries during the season she continues to work hard and is well placed to make the move to senior GB team in the future.

Beneficiary from May 2021 – Joseph Clifton – Karate

Joseph Clifton is a 22-year-old para karate student, living in Surrey with his parents and sister. Beginning by joining a local club at the age of 13, by 2019 Joseph was attending national training sessions, representing England at the Commonwealth Karate Championships in September 2022, coming away with two gold medals. His progress has continued in the current period and he has taken medals at almost every event he has attended in 2023/4, including gold medal at the British Karate Federation 4 Nation Championships in Durham – making him the current British Champion in his category. A local athlete who continues to go from strength to strength, Joseph is precisely the kind of athlete we want to support and seeing the progress he continues to make is incredibly heartening.

Beneficiary from May 2022 – Lucy, Matt & Emily Hutt – BMX

The Hutt siblings continue to deliver strong results on the BMX track as Emily took the under-23 women's Silver Medal at the 2024 UCI BMX Racing World Championships in South Carolina. As a result of this she travelled with the GB Olympic team to Paris 2024 as first reserve. Other siblings Matt and Lucy continue to compete and while Matt is balancing BMX with a full-time job and his coaching, he still managed 2nd and 3rd place nationally in the mens under 23 category. Youngest sister Lucy is also progressing well in her first year at Elite Level – achieving 5th and 6th place in the women's 17+ category. The overall level of talent in the family remains incredibly high and we are proud to continue our support and will look at how we can continue to work with them moving forward.

Beneficiary from January 2023 – Mai Sullivan – Ice Hockey

Mai is a 16-year-old ice hockey player living in Molesey. Despite only picking up the sport in her early teens she has made incredible progress, competing nationally for the GB under 16s team and for 3 club teams across the South-East. Her successful selection for the GB team has been a big step for Mai this year and puts further strain on family time and resources as she now needs to travel overseas to training camps and competitions across Europe. She successfully completed her GCSE's in Summer 2024, balancing the need to study with a punishing training and competitive schedule. She has become a strong ambassador for the DHF and we look forward to continuing our work with her in the coming years.

Beneficiary 2019 & 2022-24- Eva O'Dwyer – Karate

Eva remains a true force of nature in her chosen sport – winning gold in almost every event she chooses to compete in. She was also awarded her black belt in 2023, something she has been working towards since she was 6. Her punishing and consistent training routine keeps her at the top of her game and her Gold medals in National, European and World events is exciting to see. Eva will take a break from competition in 2024/25 to focus on her GCSE's – so we will not be funding her in the next round, but we will continue to watch her progress with interest as she returns to the sport in coming years.

NEW - Beneficiary from May 2024 – Abel Karate

Abel Karate run local classes for young athletes who wish to better their martial arts and first came to the attention of the DHF due to Joseph Clifton who trains there. Paul Abel runs the club and dedicates his time and effort to the local community running classes across the local area throughout the week. Impressed with the work Abel Karate were doing we looked at how we could support them moving forward, settling on funding two children with financial challenges who would otherwise be unable to afford the tuition fees. Both are progressing well, and we are happy to see the positive impact Paul and his team are having on both them and the wider community.

Beneficiary from 2022 Foley Boxing Club

Foley Boxing club is a long-established local boxing club which provides valuable support for the local community. The DHF have been working with them for the last three years, funding medicals for the young boxers and we remain involved with the club and are particularly impressed with the work they are doing in the community to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Beneficiary 2022 & 2024 – Elmbridge Eagles

Elmbridge Eagles are a local Rugby League club and we have previously worked with them as shirt sponsors for the girls' team. This year we decided to re-engage and are working with their Wheelchair team again as shirt sponsors. There are limited Rugby League teams in the area and we are proud to support this initiative to bring the sport to a broader and more diverse group of athletes and audiences.

Finances & Admin

The Charity met regularly during the year – with meetings of the trustees held on a monthly basis as a rule, but less frequently if there were no pressing issues or funding decisions to be made. We have continued to keep the stable of athletes relatively consistent in terms of numbers and generally bring new athletes on board as others move out. The gala dinner continues to be a strong fund raiser for us but under delivered in 2024 and we are now actively looking at other options either through grants or other fund-raising activities such as golf days or the reintroduction of the fun run etc. We continue to believe in the ethos and principles of the charity and the athletes we work with are all great ambassadors for the foundation and their chosen sports.

The trustees would again like to thank the efforts of treasurer Malcolm Watts, Mark Hards, Lee Martin, Michael Smith and of course Julia Howells who have put in an enormous amount of work in the year ending July 2024 and without whom the charity would not have been able to achieve its goals. We remain incredibly proud of the fact that we have a team of people with complementary skillsets that enable us to carry out all our activities and promotion without any cost to the charity, meaning that every penny is invested in the athletes and in fund raising.

Looking forward to the next year


As we look towards 2025, we remain keen to work with current and new stable of athletes retaining our scope and scale while staying true to our aims. As mentioned, we will need to look more broadly in terms of funding to do this particularly if we do not have our next gala dinner until Autumn 2025, but we have enough funding available to support the current stable through until that time. We continually stress test the needs of our athletes to make sure that funding is well placed and gets to where most needed, and believe that fundamentally the scale of the charity remains optimal in terms of both effort required and ability to generate support and fund local athletes.

In essence our goals remain, as they always have, true to our vision of enabling and encouraging young talent in the sporting arena. As cost-of-living challenges continue, we fundamentally believe that ability to pay should not be a barrier to sporting excellence and will continue, in our small way, to do what we can to help alleviate this issue.

Signed on behalf of the Trustee Board

Signed: 
Brian Howells, Chair

Date: 16th November 2024

Signed: 
Warren Saunders, Trustee

Date: November 11th 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustee Board of The Dylan Howells Foundation

I report on the accounts of The Dylan Howells Foundation for the sixth year of their operation ending 31st July 2024, which is set out on pages 10 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and whilst an independent examination is also not required, the trustees wish such an examination to be undertaken.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters require my attention.
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This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purposes. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements that I have made.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention;

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name and Address of Independent examiner:

ROGER D. MIDDEN
14 COVERTS ROAD
CLAYTON SURREY
KT10 0LN

Date: 22 JANUARY 2025

Receipts and payments

for the year ended 31st July 2024

	2023-24	2022-23
	£	£
	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds
RECEIPTS		
General Funds	19,238.91	28,885.49
Bank Interest	139.38	74.27
Total Receipts	19,378.29	28,959.76
PAYMENTS		
Funding recipient	-16,100.00	-15,300.00
Expenses to run events	-8784.99	-7,994.38
Committee expenses		
Bank Charges	-240.00	-240.00
Total Payments	-25,124.99	-23,534.38
Net receipts for the Period	-5,746.70	5,425.38
Funds		
Balance brought forward	20,730.52	15,305.14
Net receipts for the Period	-5,746.70	5,425.38
Closing balance	14,983.82	20,730.52

Balance Sheet

as at 31st July 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current Assets		
Deposits	0.00	0.00
Cash in Bank	14,983.82	20,730.52
Net Assets	14,983.82	20,730.52
Funds		
General Funds	14,983.82	20,730.52
Balance of Funds at Period End	14,983.82	20,730.52
	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>

Notes to the Accounts

Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

Financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, under the historical cost convention. This is consistent with Charity Commission Guidelines whereby CIOs with income less than £250,000 can prepare receipts and payments accounts.

Fixed Assets

At 31st July 2024, The Dylan Howells Foundation had no fixed assets. The policy is:

- To recognise fixed assets if they can be used for more than one year, recording them at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt; and
- To write them off on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives.

Income Recognition

Income is recognised after the completion of individual fund-raising events