



Lancaster University Korfball Club

Development Plan 2024/25



After such a successful 2023/24 with increased membership, BUCS success, and winning LUSU Club of the Year, we are incredibly fortunate to inherit a fantastic setup for 2024/25. The club has grown significantly over the last two years and we want to continue our development whilst maintaining our ethos as a fun, friendly, and competitive sports club. Underpinning our aims this year is a focus on maintaining a positive and transparent environment in all we do, placing members at the heart of how our club operates.

Fundamentally, there are certain targets that we need to meet in order to pass on the same strong foundations for future years of korfball. As such, we've structured the document to highlight our three most important goals, along with five additional ambitions we'd like to achieve. For each goal, we have set out how we can work together to reach them and what our progress will look like. We've also included suggestions as to how you, as members, can help us succeed. There is so much more we want to do beyond this list and we're always welcome to your input. If you have any comments, questions, suggestions, or wish to get involved, then please do get in touch with the relevant exec member.

Thank you and happy korfing :)
Samuel and Niamh

MUST

What we want to improve	How we can improve it	How we can see our results	Questions? Ask...	What you can do to help
1. Maintain overall club numbers from last year with an emphasis on female recruitment	Despite last year's recruitment, we have a gender imbalance across our returning members. To develop our female player base, we're making small changes such as ensuring equal gender splits on our Freshers' Fair stand and during taster sessions, as well as targeting netball recruitment by holding friendlies with recreational teams. Furthermore, giving the opportunity for female guest coaches to take 3s sessions will better support new members in their development.	We have at least 25 female and male members by March 2025	Samuel Clark - chair Niamh McAuley - vice-chair	Introduce and welcome new members to the club, helping them learn both the sport and how the club operates

2. Establish a better system for developing and supporting new referees and coaches	Our club is currently operating on a small pool of referees and coaches. The North West Korfball Association has committed to putting on more courses, as well as providing continued support for newly-trained referees. Alongside this, we want to ensure all 1s players are theory-qualified to help them understand the game better, whilst opportunities to coach and referee in 3s/club training sessions will give members hands-on experience. Finally, the new NW3 division will provide an entry-level opportunity for referees wanting match experience	We have at least 20 theory-qualified referees, with 5 of these having taken charge of at least one NW match. We have supported at least 3 coaches to become level 1 qualified, and had a variety of members coach in 3s/club sessions	Samuel Clark - chair Barney Dudkowsky - club development coach	Take opportunities to get involved with refereeing and coaching, and be supportive of new referees during training sessions
3. Fairer reflect what members put in, and get out of the club	Given the club's expansion, we want to move to a fairer system where the membership structure better reflects each member's involvement and opportunities within the club. In line with our changes to training, we want to differentiate between those just coming to club sessions, those competing as part of the 3rd team, and those selected for BUCS teams.	We have created a tiered membership subscription which provides a fair and easy-to-use system for different levels of engagement	Samuel Clark - chair Niamh McAuley - vice-chair Conor McKenna - treasurer	Ask questions about the club so you know what you want to put in and what you can get out of it

SHOULD

What we want to improve	How we want to improve it	How we can see our results	Questions? Ask...	What you can do to help
1. Competitiveness of all three teams	Last year's BUCS success, combined with the significant recruitment of new members, gives us a strong number of experienced players. Weekly training will change slightly to provide consistency and increase the training time of our BUCS teams, whilst the 3rd team will become more formal than last year and benefit from other club members taking one-off sessions which focus on a particularly strong aspect of their game.	1st team qualifying for BUCS Trophy and staying in NW1, 2nd team placing top 8 in BUCS Plate and mid-table in NW2, 3rd team placing mid-table in NW3	Dan Mills - 1st team coach Samuel Florido - 2nd team coach Samuel Clark - 3rd team coach	Turn up to training and matches, support from the sidelines, ask questions to better understand the sport, and work positively with your teammates and coaches

2. The size, profit, and sustainability of running Lancaster Tournament	We want to continue the success of last year's tournament, and expand its size to welcome more teams to Lancaster, strengthening our connections with UK clubs and making the event more profitable. We want to work with NWKA to keep the tournament weekend clear of fixtures and keep our entry prices lower than equivalent events. By establishing these connections now, we hope to make it a staple event in the korfball calendar.	We hosted more teams and made a larger profit than last year's event whilst continuing the fun, friendly, and positive atmosphere.	Jess Johnson and Karina Jarmany - tournament secretaries Niamh McAuley - vice chair	Spread the word to friends in other clubs, turn up and get involved, volunteer to host players, and help with the running of the event
3. Accessibility to club documents	Currently, the club's documents are thorough, but outdated and lack relevance for club members. We want to give these a 'deep clean' and make them fit for purpose to ensure exec members know what is expected of them, clearly communicate to the membership how the club works, to make getting involved appealing for future years.	Documents have been reorganised and updated to reflect the club and SU's current practices. Members know how to access them and find them easy to understand	Samuel Clark - chair Niamh McAuley - vice-chair	Find out where they are, read them when circulated, and point other people to them

COULD

What we want to improve	How we want to improve it	How we can see our results	Questions? Ask...	What you can do to help
1. Our interactions with club sponsors	Learning from last year, the best sponsorship is one where mutual agreements are easy to meet for all parties involved. For us, we want to sign a contract with a Lancaster social venue so that members gain rewards both during club socials, and in their own time.	Members use sponsor benefits to connect with others in the club and are introducing new people to korfball through socials at this venue	Samuel Clark - chair Conor McKenna - treasurer	Attend socials, invite others along, and use our club sponsor's benefits
2. Host our first korfball alumni event	Having over 20 players graduate last year highlights the opportunity for us to strengthen our connection with our alumni. We'd love to establish a summer alumni event, run jointly by the outgoing and incoming tournament secretaries to give the new exec a taste of running a tournament, whilst also welcoming back former Ligers and keeping them as an important part of the club.	We successfully hosted the event and welcomed multiple alumni teams back	Jess Johnson and Karina Jarmany - tournament secretaries Niamh McAuley - vice chair	Spread the word to alumni, turn up and get involved, volunteer to host players, and help with the running of the event