

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCES



With global climate change at critical levels and set to worsen, the implications for people, societies, nature, and the planet are becoming increasingly apparent. In response, scientific and professional bodies across the world are doing what they can to both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to mitigate the negative impact of increased temperature. As a health-focused discipline and one which has considerable 'reach', it is important that Sport and Exercise Science does 'its bit' to help address the climate change emergency.

To play its part, in July 2021, the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) created a Climate Change Action Team (CCAT). More information on the CCAT can be found [here](#).

The vision of the CCAT is to enable BASES to achieve 'net zero' and to become carbon neutral. To do so, the CCAT will ensure that the Association's Climate Change strategy is evidence-based and impactful across BASES and Sport and Exercise Science as a discipline. The Team aims to meet the following three strategic objectives:

- 1) To reduce the carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions of BASES.
- 2) To promote sustainability and responsible practice across the Sport and Exercise Sciences.
- 3) To disseminate evidence-based education and guiding principles.

To meet these strategic objectives, the CCAT has established several workstreams to ensure it has a practical impact that is directly relevant to Sport and Exercise Science. Details of these workstreams can be found [here](#).

As a result of these workstreams and the formation of the CCAT, the following has been achieved:

- ✓ BASES has [signed up](#) to both the United Nations Sports for Climate Action Framework and the Pledge to Net Zero.
- ✓ A survey of the Association's membership on climate action has been conducted and the findings used to guide policy and action.
- ✓ A webinar entitled '*Race to reduce our carbon footprint: the role of the Sport and Exercise Scientist*' took place in February 2022. The speakers were Russell Seymour (Chair of the British Association for Sustainable Sport) and Adam Donnan (Chair of the UK Science Council).
- ✓ Work has been carried out to enable BASES to launch a CCAT webpage on 1 May 2022. Once the webpage is launched, we will share the link with ICSESP so members can view it and see our work grow and develop.

In addition to these achievements, work is ongoing to build partnerships with other organisations and experts in sustainable sport, exercise, and science.

To conclude, BASES would encourage other organisations to

- I. follow our example and to sign up to the [United Nations Climate Action Framework for Sport](#) and the [Pledge for Net Zero](#) and
- II. let us know what you are doing to tackle the climate change emergency so that we can learn from you.

The Founding Members of the BASES Climate Change Action Team

Dr Andy Smith (Chair), Dr Susie Crawford, Annabelle Davis, Romain Denis, Louise Ellis, Dr Andrew Garrett, Dr Lee Graves, Dr Stephen Mears, Dr Ash Willmott and Dr Julia Zakrzewski-Fruer. The CCAT is supported by Ian Wilson, BASES Executive Director.