



Title:	Supporting the Sparkes Cup
Author:	Rob Park, President
Date:	08 June 2017
Purpose:	For Approval

History

The Sparkes Cup is a trophy awarded to the winner of the intra-College rugby tournament, held been the Royal College of Science, City & Guilds and the Royal School of Mines. The competition has not been held since the 1990s.

Strategic Aim

In the wider work of bringing together a strategic plan for the period until 2023, the theme of supporting practical events and student projects whilst promoting the existence of the Association hand-in-hand with a contemporary 'revival' of traditional intra-College activities became apparent.

Historically, within the realm of sports, rugby saw the Sparkes Cup and cricket saw the Stan Raimé's Memorial with other varsities in football and indeed in darts. These varied between inter-CCU (RCSU v CGCU v RSMU) and student v ex-student competition. The proposal is for the Association to have an active role in supporting and facilitating these, starting with the Sparkes Cup from this year and looking to cricket next year and supporting the second year of the Imperial v LSE varsity in November.

For the Association, this is awareness of our existence within the student body and can be a positive promotional recruitment tool outside the Association's more recent catchment group. Operationally, it also enables us to build a working relationship that is deep and meaningful within ICU and the RCSU - with us continuing to support student events such as the Science Challenge.

Proposal and Budget

Following the last Committee meeting, the students engaged with the Sparkes Cup proposal suggested that they could re-launch the competition this year, with the event on 24 June. The Executive received a budget and endorsed it over email.

Whilst the costs are relatively high for the first year, with support for bespoke Sparkes kit for the RCS team, agreement to fund the pitch hire (an external pitch had to be got as the College is re-seeding all of their grounds), transport for players and a food offering, the Association will be helping student events here and now practically, and I request the Committee endorses the expenditure:

	2017	2018 onwards
Pitch Hire	£500 + VAT	-
RCS Match Kit (expected to last ten years, proposed to incur full cost this year).	£1075 + VAT	-
Refreshments	£500	£500
Coach Hire	£350	£350

We propose that the Association commits to supporting this event this year and next year based on these numbers, and that future sustainability is worked into the strategic plan 2023.

Rob Park
President
08 June 2017