

# Appendix 1

Application by

The Society of Sports Therapists

to the

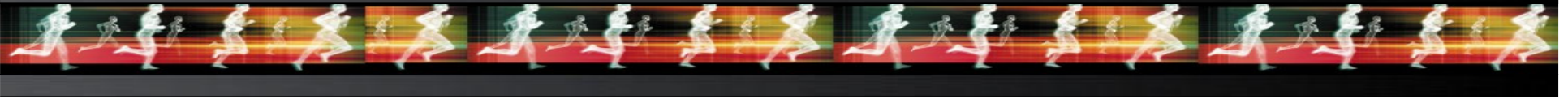
Health Professions Council

for the regulation of

Sports Therapists

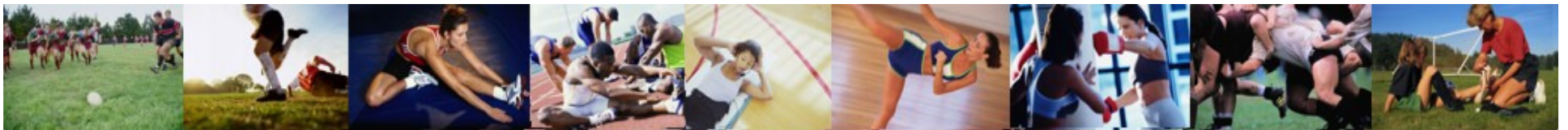


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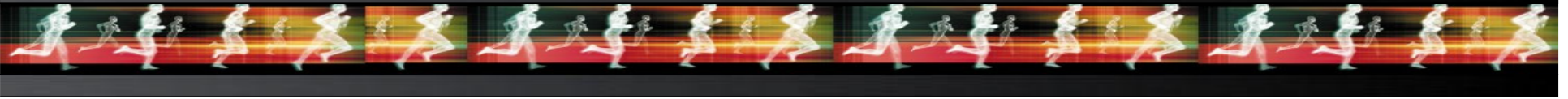


## Aims of presentation

- History of Sports Therapy
- Professional Development & Recognition
- Academic Development
- Risks:- *Real & Perceived*
- Reasons for Regulation



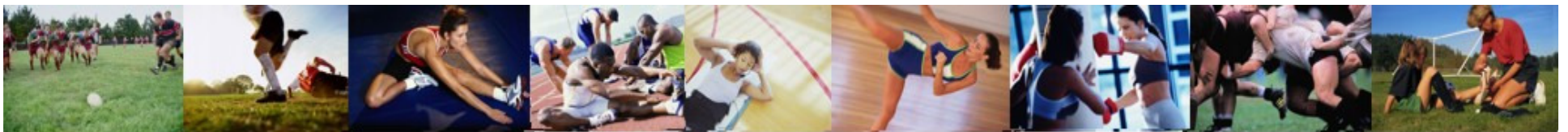
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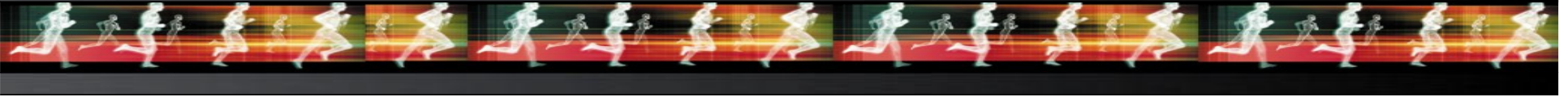
## History of Sports Therapy



- Concept
- Beginning & Early Years
- What is a Sports Therapist?

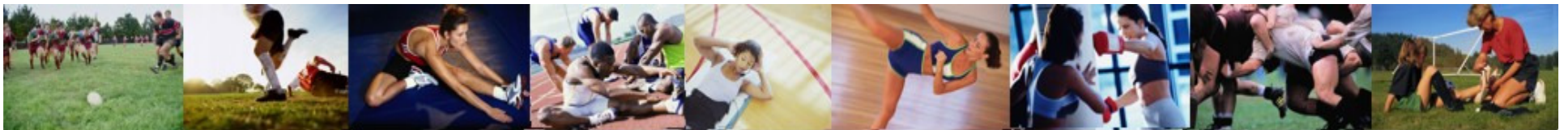


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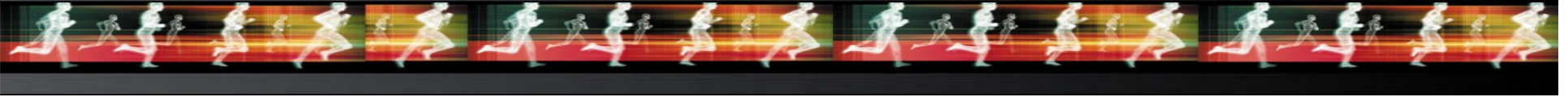


## Professional Development & Recognition

- The Society of Sports Therapists
- Membership & Professional Accountability
  - Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
  - Appropriate Skills
  - Insurance
- Academic Recognition



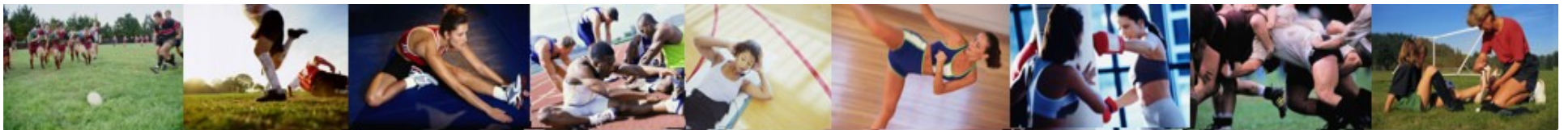
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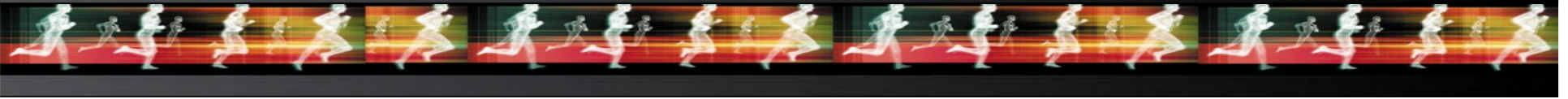
## Academic Development (1990-2006)



- Diploma Courses & HNDs
- BSc (Hons) Sports Therapy & Related Degrees
- MSc Sports Therapy



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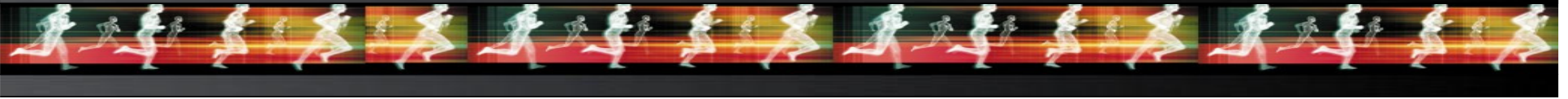


## Risks – *Real & Perceived*

- 300+ Colleges offering programmes that may enable students to call themselves Sports Therapists.
- Variety of courses of varying length & content purporting to qualify Sports Therapists.
- No protection of title – anyone can use it!
- Average of 790,000 sports injuries per year attending A&E in England & Wales (alone). (ROSPA)
- Where do these injured athletes go for treatment & advice?
  - NHS Physiotherapy?
  - Private treatments by regulated practitioners?
  - A Sports Therapist?

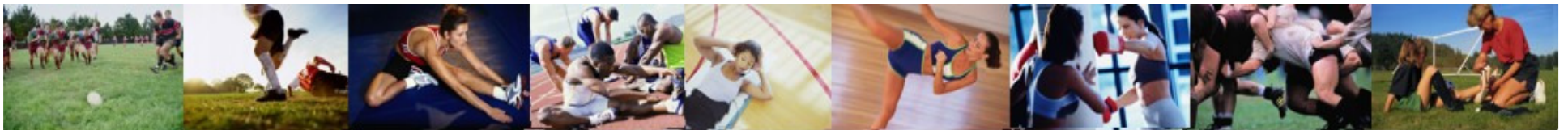
**\* THE PUBLIC IS AT RISK FROM EXPOSURE TO AN UNREGULATED PROFESSIONAL**

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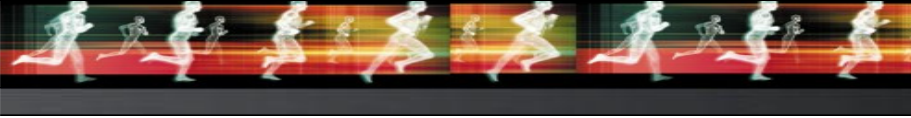


## Reasons for Regulation

- Can the actions of a Sports Therapist cause harm? **YES**
- Rapidly growing profession which will continue to grow if not regulated & controlled.
- The support for the regulation of Sports Therapists is widespread & unequivocally strong.

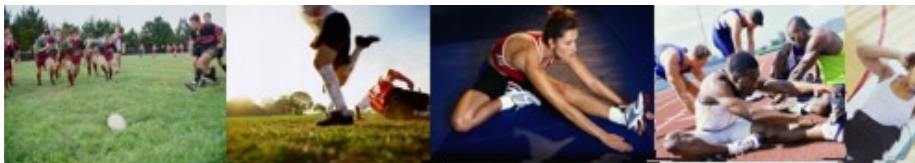


# Application to the HPC for th



## Examples of Support

- **British Association of Sport and Exercise Medicine (BASEM)**
- **Kate Hoey MP**
- **Gary Lewin**
- **Dr Bryan English**
- **Lawrence Dallaglio MBE**
- **Sally Gunnell MBE**
- **Lord Colin Moynihan**



LORD MOYNIHAN



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The Society of Sports Therapists  
16 Royal Terrace  
Glasgow  
G3 7NY

12<sup>th</sup> January 2006

**Re: The Application by the Society of Sports Therapists for Health Professions Council Regulation of Sports Therapy & Sports Therapists.**

Throughout my career, I have recognised the need for specialisation in certain aspects of sport. This is especially true with regard to the prevention of injury and the rehabilitation process. However, there is currently no State Registered profession in this country to deliver that service. The numbers of sports participants and active individuals in this country is rising due in part to Government encouragement and while some aspects of sport provision are improving, the specialist medical services required to prevent and treat injuries have been sadly lacking. I am therefore delighted to endorse this application for State Registration and Regulation.

The Society of Sports Therapists is at the forefront of this initiative. They have clearly demonstrated the need for this service and have worked diligently to facilitate the process of recognition by the Health Professions Council.

Recognition of Sports Therapy by the HPC is vital both as a service to all of those involved in sport and exercise and also to ensure the protection of the public from unqualified practitioners calling themselves Sports Therapists.

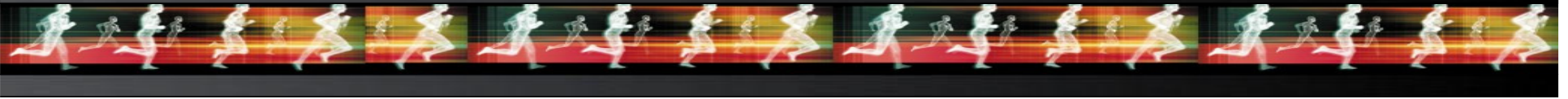
Yours sincerely

Lord Moynihan

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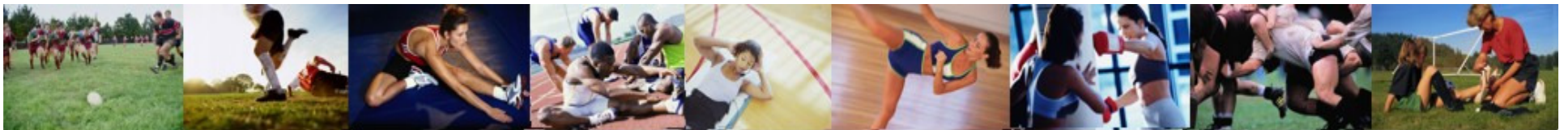


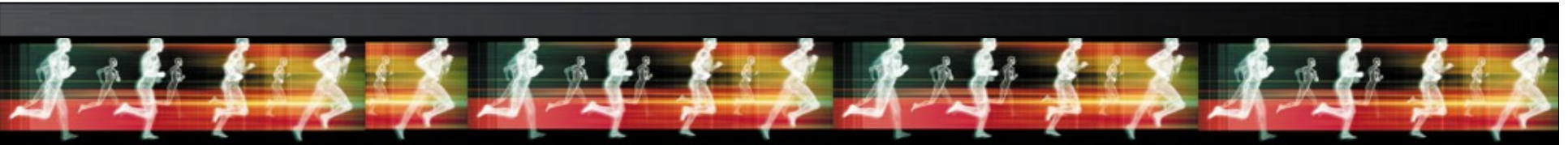
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## Conclusions

- It is the primary role of the HPC to protect the public – failure to regulate Sports Therapists will put the public at increasing levels of risk for harm to occur in the future.
- The Society of Sports Therapists has tried to identify the risks & problems that are real & increasing. It has also attempted to present the rationale & reasons for Sports Therapists to be regulated in a logical and informed manner. It has done so for the benefits & protection of the public – *NOT ITSELF!*





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# The Society of Sports Therapists

to the

# Health Professions Council

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# Sports Therapists

