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**CIMSPA AND UK COACHING REACH AGREEMENT TO CREATE**

**A SINGLE DIRECTORY FOR EXERCISE AND FITNESS PROFESSIONALS**

**\*\*UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 1545 (GMT)** **27/02/2020\*\***

27/02/2020:

The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA) and UK Coaching, who currently operate the Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs), today announce an agreement to combine REPs with the CIMSPA Exercise and Fitness Directory, creating a single directory for all exercise and fitness professionals.

The initiative will create a unified recognition system for people working in the sector and a single endorsement mechanism for training providers. Under the agreement, all current REPs members will be given the opportunity to transfer into the CIMSPA membership scheme, with the new directory being hosted and managed by CIMSPA.

UK Coaching will provide CIMSPA fitness and coaching members with access to their comprehensive online learning and development platform, which offers a wider range of learning and development resources, including CIMSPA accredited learning, which carries CPD points to maintain professional status. UK Coaching will also provide insurance for all CIMSPA exercise, fitness and coaching members.

The new unified directory will be launched in the coming months, with CIMSPA and UK Coaching working closely together to ensure a smooth and effective transition process for all REPs and CIMSPA members. In the interim, all members are advised to renew with their respective membership bodies as normal to maintain their professional recognition and, where appropriate, access to insurance.

In parallel with the creation of a single directory, CIMSPA and UK Coaching will also complete the standardisation of training provider support. Commercial training providers will be able to access a unified endorsement system, aligned with the sport and physical activity sector’s professional standards framework and backed by the sector’s only chartered professional body.

**Tara Dillon, CEO, CIMSPA** welcomed the announcement**:**

*“I’m very pleased that we have reached this agreement with UK Coaching to deliver a single directory of qualified exercise and fitness professionals that confirms the status of those working within the sector. It will be an exciting time ahead, as we work towards making this a reality. In the meantime, we have one clear message for REPs and CIMSPA members: renew and stay engaged with REPs (UK Coaching) and CIMSPA as we build a single directory that benefits members, employers and the public.”*

**Mark Gannon, CEO, UK Coaching,** added**:**

*“This is an exciting partnership between both our organisations that will provide all exercise and fitness professionals with the ability to retain their professional status, a pathway towards chartered status and a destination to access best in class learning and development resources required to maintain their professional status.”*

The agreement to unify the CIMSPA directory and Register for Exercise Professionals realises important elements of the Government’s 2015 Sporting Future strategy and Sport England’s 2016-2021 Towards an Active Nation strategy. **Tim Hollingsworth, CEO, Sport England**, who announced the agreement at the CIMSPA & QUEST NBS Conference, said:

*“Sport England welcomes this important milestone towards building a unified and excellent sport and physical activity workforce.* *A single directory for the professionals working in our sector will enhance our ability to provide skills, training, recognition and career development. This in turn will empower the workforce to deliver even more positive experiences for everyone seeking to be active in communities right across the country.*

*I would like to thank both CIMSPA and UK Coaching for how they have worked towards this and congratulate them on agreeing this partnership”.*

CIMSPA and REPs members can access more information at [www.cimspa.co.uk](http://www.cimspa.co.uk) or [www.exerciseregister.org](http://www.exerciseregister.org).

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**About CIMSPA**

CIMSPA is the professional development body for the UK’s sport and physical activity sector, committed to supporting, developing and enabling professionals and organisations to succeed and, as a result, inspire our nation to become more active.

CIMSPA helps to nurture talent, develop careers, inspire professionalism and set clear regulatory standards for success, continuing the development of a modern, prosperous and respected sport and physical activity sector.

Together we’re developing a vibrant, UK-wide sport and physical activity sector, with the highest standards of service delivery.

<http://www.cimspa.co.uk/>

**About REPs**

REPs is an independent, public register which recognises the qualifications and expertise of health-enhancing exercise instructors in the UK. REPs provides assurance to the public and employers that all professionals on the register have the knowledge, competence, skills and qualifications to perform their role effectively.

REPs has been a leader in the fitness industry for over 15 years. It is the largest and longest established independent public register for the health and fitness industry in the UK.

For more information, visit [www.exerciseregister.org](http://www.exerciseregister.org), email info@exerciseregister.org or call the membership team on 03300 040004.

**About UK Coaching**

UK Coaching is the brand name of the National Coaching Foundation. Great coaching encourages people to be more active and lead healthier lifestyles and our mission is to put coaching at the heart of physical activity and sport.

Coaching is in our DNA. For more than 30 years, alongside our partners, we have provided the coaching workforce with the skills and knowledge they need to make a positive difference. We’ve also supported our partners to do the same.

We’re now widening our scope to do this on a broader scale. How? By adopting a wider definition of coaching and extending our reach into new markets where great coaching makes a difference every day.

We’re here to:

* raise the profile of coaching so that it is recognised for the wider benefits it brings to society and individuals
* help our partners create coaching systems to deliver a fit for purpose workforce that better reflects society
* make coaching easier to get into and stay involved in
* supply the coaching workforce with the information they need to be participant focused
* be a hub of research excellence for coaching
* help coaches feel better connected, more knowledgeable and confident
* be central to the sport and physical activity landscape; we’ll run an effective and efficient organisation
* encourage technology to enable coaches and coaching.

In England, we support governing bodies of sport, Active Partnerships and leisure providers, as well as many other organisations across the sport and physical activity landscape.

In Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and at high performance level, we work with the relevant sports councils to reach partners throughout the coaching system.

Further information on UK Coaching can be found on our website: [www.ukcoaching.org](http://www.ukcoaching.org)

**About UK Coaching Subscription**

The UK Coaching Subscription is an extension of its online learning and development platform, which unlocks the most valuable guidance for improving a coach’s PEOPLE skills, as well as providing amazing discounts and free learning.

Subscribers will be able to access a wide range of exclusive resources, learning and offers designed to connect, grow and empower PEOPLE – from all walks of life.

It includes access to a passionate community of diverse coaches who can unlock all the secrets of #GreatCoaching. Every week practical resources are added to the treasure trove of tips, guides, videos and webinars to help coaches improve, as well as free and discounted access to online courses, including recordings of UK Coaching’s popular Time2Learn webinars. There are also a range of priority offers, handpicked to help make a difference on a coach’s journey in addition to the opportunity to ask experts for their advice on all areas of coaching.

Further information can be found at [ww.ukcoaching.org/subscription](https://www.ukcoaching.org/subscription)