

**Pauline Nahapiet**

## **BASrat Lay Member Report**

As a recently appointed member of the BASrat Lay Committee, with no background in sport or sports rehabilitation, my learning curve has been steep. I present this report as a record of my observations to date.

BASRaT's approach is inclusive, with all members being encouraged, both at meetings (through discussion) and regularly by email response, to express their opinion, submit documentation and evidence and have their input valued. In meetings, the level and intensity of discussion and questioning, plus the quality of background documentation and a strong Chair, ensure decisions are robust, objective and fair. Decisions are arrived at through interrogating factual information, reflecting on progress and always with members and future members' interests placed at the centre of the process. The expertise and experience of individual members are utilised to full effect in order to ensure BASRaT's members get value for money.

Recent agenda items have been varied in nature and complexity. All items are presented with clarity and insight and reference is constantly made to BASRaT's procedural documentation and mission statement. Concise and accurate minutes are kept, making the start of each meeting an efficient process. The pace of meetings is rapid, but the decision making process is always clear. Any decisions carried forward to future meetings are thoroughly reviewed before discussion continues.

BASRaT's processes and procedural documentation are clear and appear to be constantly revisited. BASRaT has a healthy and positive approach to the power of technology and works to enhance the work of the professional organisation through its use.

The Lay Committee is cohesive, hardworking, realistic and well balanced and BASRaT's aims and objectives are well served by it.

I am sure the conference will be a huge success. A healthy conference is vital for the future of the organisation, and a good conference enables members to leave with a renewed sense of why they are passionate about their chosen profession.

Along with many professional associations, BASRaT faces the constant dilemma of balancing funding streams, membership fees and organisational costs. Organisational development, including partnership working is costly. Although I am familiar with organisational development funding for the arts and creativity, I am not familiar with funding streams in this area. However, I do believe researching possible organisational development funding streams could benefit BASRaT in moving forward from this point.