

NATIONAL TRUST AND SPORT ENGLAND LAUNCH SUMMER OF SPORT AT SPEKE HALL

**Families invited to 'Come and Try It' sessions at Speke Hall, Liverpool
Friday, 25 July 2014, 11am – 5pm**

The National Trust has embarked on an exciting new partnership with Sport England to make the most of sporting opportunities at Trust properties across the UK.

At Speke Hall in Liverpool, His Worshipful the Deputy Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Cllr Tony Concepcion will launch a new summer sports programme on 25 July as part of the Sport England initiative.

Speke's Sports Development officer, Rachael Hanlon explains: "We've been working with Sport England and several major sporting organisations to pull together a really great sports offer at Speke and we are very grateful for their enthusiastic support".

"Cycling Project 'Wheels For All', British Cycling, Bridgefield Archers Club, Longbow Events, Liverpool Volleyball Club, Archery GB, British Orienteering (with Deeside Orienteering Club) and Run England (Get Going Programme) have all provided help and expertise to ensure that families who take part in sport with us this summer have a fantastic time" says Rachel.

Sport England Director of Business Partnerships, Tanya Joseph, said: "We're really pleased to be working in partnership with the National Trust to help more people get out and give sport a go. By offering people the chance to enjoy sport in an informal and relaxed setting where they feel comfortable taking part, we'll help more people develop a lifelong sporting habit."

On the day the sports initiative is launched, 25 July, Speke is holding family sports taster sessions for people to try, including Xplorer Orienteering Challenge, Archery Taster Challenge, running, volleyball, fishing (bring your own equipment), and football sessions. The taster sessions will run from 11am – 5pm.

Speke's summer sports calendar of events officially kicks off on 29 July with opportunities for families to try sports such as orienteering, adapted cycling, volleyball and archery.

"There'll be new and fun ways to take part in archery," says Rachael Hanlon "We're also stepping back in time and recreating a Victorian Sports Day on the first three Saturdays in August with lots of traditional fun and games. It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors and get fit at the same time".

"We're delighted that His Worshipful the Deputy Lord Mayor of Liverpool has agreed to launch our summer of sport on 25 July – and we hope he will try out one or two of our activities" says Rachael.

Rob Joules, national Sports Partnership Manager for the National Trust said: “We want to help everyone make the most of the incredible open airspaces at our properties – and one of the best ways to enjoy the great outdoors is through sport, whether it’s running, cycling, table tennis, archery, football or orienteering. The particular emphasis of our partnership with SportEngland is the 'entry level' end of sports participation rather than competitive sport which means everyone can have a go – even if you’re a complete beginner”.

For more information on sports activities at Speke Hall this summer go to www.nationaltrust.org.uk/spekehall and download the ‘Speke goes Sporty’ leaflet.