

Personal Statement: Phil Yelland

I was born and brought up in Edinburgh and went to Edinburgh University where I did a law degree before becoming a solicitor, initially in private practice and then with the regulator, the Law Society of Scotland. I left my post as Executive Director of Regulation in May 2020 having taken the decision to retire early.

In my working life I was part of a senior management team running the business which apart from regulating the legal profession was there to serve its members and I understand as a result of that the challenges that can be faced in terms of dealing with members and trying to ensure that communication is good and that the aims of the organisation are explained and reported, on going forward.

I am married with two grown up children – and one almost grown up! My oldest son is involved in playing and coaching the game.

In cricketing terms, I have played with what is now Murrayfield Dafs CC in Roseburn Park in Edinburgh since 1972; I am currently Club President and I am also actively involved in growing our thriving youth section, including coaching an acting most recently as All Stars activator and before COVID running an after school cricket activity for the local primary school. The club faces the challenges which many face and the additional issue of playing and practising in a public park.

I first joined the ESCA Committee in the 1980s for several years and was secretary at that time of the Edinburgh Public Parks Cricket Association. I re-joined the ESCA Committee in 2012 and served as President between 2014-16. I remain on the Committee and have been involved more recently with Cricket Scotland on dealing with discipline issues and have worked as part of a sub Group this winter to produce model processes and guidance around complaints and discipline.

As the country recovers from the pandemic, sport has to be one of the keys to health and well-being. Cricket is a great game and it needs to be supported to recover at all levels so that we can grow participation whether it's the international teams doing well in global events, or local T 20 competitions, junior softball or disabled cricket to promote the benefits of the sport and well-being through it and inspire the Scottish population to choose ad play the game we love.