GLL Sport Foundation (GSF), in partnership with Lambeth Council’s Gifted and Talented Programme, supports talented athletes who live, train, or are educated in the borough. 2018 saw 94 supported athletes, with many using Better facilities, whether that is for their sports sessions or their strength & conditioning and fitness training.

**ATHLETE OF THE MONTH — NOVEMBER 2018**

The performance levels of this group continue to impress. Numerous athletes were recognised for their performance and debuted for Great Britain or England this month. That being said, this month’s Athlete of the Month Award was awarded to 10 year-old BMX rider, Xander Mavolwane Wright. Xander has had a fantastic finish to the season, winning the Racing Under The Roof Experts Male 9-10 and the BMX South Region Championships. These results have helped see him crowned the BMX South Region Series Champion (U11s) and the HSBC BMX National Series 2018 Champion (Boys 10).

**OTHER RESULTS**

**INTERNATIONAL:** October started well for Rhys Smith, now a senior hockey player for Great Britain and England. On the 2nd and 3rd October, Great Britain played Belgium. His debut ended well with a 2-1 win against the current World Number 3s. Unfortunately, Belgium rallied back on the second day with a 3-2 win. Later that month, Rhys again debuted for his country, this time for England, in the Four Nations competition. He played in the 4-3 win over France and 2-1 defeat to Ireland. Frederick Bialokoz also represented England last month. At the NEVZA U19 Volleyball Championships, the squad were unable to match last year’s bronze, losing in the semi-finals and third-place play-offs to Sweden and Denmark respectively. Ice Skating duo, Atl Ongay-Perez and Ashley Slatter, had their first taste of international competition as Team GB athletes in Hungary. After their two pattern dances and one free dance, they secured the silver medal above the German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, and Ukrainian competitors.

**NATIONAL:** At the Nottingham Open, speed skater Alexandra Snowdon, recorded new personal bests in 500m, 400m, and 333m events. Only two weeks later, she won the Sheffield Open 500m event with a new PB - 58.90s, just outside of the ISU’s Star Class programme qualifying standard. Eva Holland (cross country) came 4th at the British Athletics Cross Challenge in Cardiff and improved two weeks later to help her team win the Bruce Judd Surrey Cross Country Relay Championship. Fencer, Hal Jones, also achieved podium success in October, with a bronze medal at the Elite Epee competition. Jules Dang Akodo, who now plays basketball in Germany, has had a great start in their domestic season, scoring 36 points in 5 games for Fraport Skyliners Juniors as they continue their undefeated season.

**OTHER:** There are promising times ahead for Ultimate Frisbee player, Kirsten Wells as she is currently undergoing trials for the GB Beach and GB Senior squads, both mixed and women’s teams. Forrester Osei has also received selection to represent Ghana at next month’s Weightlifting World Championships. Best of luck to all our athletes at their upcoming events. Please visit [www.gllsportfoundation.org](http://www.gllsportfoundation.org) for more information about GLL’s Sport Foundation.