

## Regional Development Officers (RDOs)

Promoting, organising and growing badminton in Scotland.



## Highlands, Islands and Moray: September 2023

After the summer break Badminton in the Highlands Islands and Moray IS **BACK with a BANG** in an area which covers more than 50% of the Scottish Landmass and less than 10% of the Scottish Population and these two statistics make communication between Clubs, Groups and Associations challenging.

And within the Area the Club Activity, School Badminton Sessions, Coach Education, Competition Opportunities all begin to emerge because of the planning that took place throughout the Closed Season and are now beginning to be delivered by our dedicated groups and individuals all of whom share passion for our Sport.

Badminton has burst out again and it is good.

The focus of the work this month in Highlands, Islands and Moray has been on Badminton Activity available to different age and stage groups of players.

## Community Sessions

Smash In2 Sessions are taking place in hotspots throughout the Area, including, Back on Lewis, Fortrose and Inverness. These sessions are managed by Partner Organisations; mainly Local Authorities. Depending on the Local Authority or Trust, participation in these session may be included within the Local Authority/Trust Access Card. People not having such a card would pay to participate in the Session. Work will begin to encourage more participation at the SmashIn2 Sessions over the coming months.

In Inverness there are regular Badminton Sessions for those aged 50 Plus as part of the TOFFS (The Over Fifty (or Fun) Fitness Sessions) Programme. Which takes place in Inverness Leisure Centre on Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:30 and Noon. All ages and stages welcome as long as you are Over 50.

Discussions with Facility Managers across the area indicate a willingness to engage with Community Badminton such as Smash In2 and our Learn to Play Scheme.

It's been a good time to get out and about meeting the Smash in2 Groups and to learn about the issues that affect them.

## Badminton Moray Updates





Badminton Moray has been busy delivering new Development Sessions in Elgin and refreshed squad sessions in Forres. More information can be found via Twitter @BadmintonMoray or e-mail Ann Rossiter on [moraybintonforum1@gmail.com](mailto:moraybintonforum1@gmail.com)

### **School Competitions**

- ❖ Ross-shire Secondary Schools Badminton Championships.

14<sup>th</sup> December 2023;

Dingwall Leisure Centre;

9am;

More details will be sent to Schools mid-October.

What more can we ask for Badminton Champs and mince pies.

- ❖ Inverness and Nairn Secondary Schools Badminton Championships

Working with School PE Staff to create a similar competition for School pupils in Inverness. Update on this in October's Update

- ❖ Moray Schools Festival

23rd November 2023

Moray Sports Centre.

Information will be sent to schools after October Holidays

### **Barra Badminton Club – Development Week**

First week of October sees a week of Development Activity taking place on Barra for School Teachers and Pupils; Coaches; Players and Volunteers. Led and shaped by Barra Badminton Club.

It's going to be a lot of badminton and importantly it's going to be fun.

Update in October.

### **Coach Education Courses**

Badminton Basics Closed Course – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023; Argay Badminton Club – Update in October

Badminton Basics 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023; Moray Sports Centre – Places being accepted now on JustGo.

If you want to know of upcoming activity in your area, or advice/help organising an upcoming event? Please get in touch [brian@badminotnscotland.org.uk](mailto:brian@badminotnscotland.org.uk)