

## Regional Development Officers (RDOs)

Promoting, organising and growing badminton in Scotland.



### Highlands, Islands and Moray: October 2023



With the first falls of Snow it's time to remind ourselves that Badminton is just the place you want to be as the Clocks change and Autumn moves into Winter.

It's been another busy month in the Highlands, Islands and Moray with huge amounts of activity taking place.

- Club Sessions have returned to facilities all over the area
- Competition is back with a bang. This weekend sees the Highland Badminton Group Under 19/15 players competing in Inverness.
- Local Authority Planning continues to develop
- Coach Education continues

### Volunteer Recruitment

There is a common thread in all badminton activity planned and delivered in the area and that is our badminton volunteers. It's a phrase often repeated and there is no apology in using it once more. Volunteers make our sport work.

#### Whether these volunteers are;

- Club Administrators: booking venues for Club Sessions; Inputting data into the Club JustGo Profile; arranging committee meetings; keeping the Club Accounts up to date; attending Club, Group, Association Meetings

OR

- Coaches; working on the weekly cycle of practice sessions; creating monthly/annual coaching plans; supporting players to develop and progress; attending CPD; taking on Team management roles

OR

- Family Supporters ; driving players and coaches to practice/competitions

OR

- Volunteers fulfilling the roles that are required in order to make our Clubs, Groups and Associations function on a daily basis.

All of the above tasks carried out whilst our volunteers maintain their work roles and family commitments.

Perhaps, then, as we begin our new Badminton Season it may be time for us to think about the work our volunteers carry out on our behalf in your Club, Group or Association, delivering a sport fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. As you think about that, perhaps you could look at your own skill set and ask at your Club if there is any assistance you can give which will lighten the load of our volunteers.

## Congratulations



Badminton Scotland Community Coach of 2023 - Angela Bell, Badminton Moray.

It was great news when Angela Bell was announced as the recipient of this award at the Scottish Open. Photographs will follow when we get the opportunity to present the Award to Angela in her base at Forres. Huge congratulations to Angela from all of us in the HIM Area and beyond.

## Looking Back and Forward.

I attended the Scottish Open at the Emirates Arena in Glasgow – It was a hectic few days and I was astounded at the work of the volunteers in making a competition of this size work.

It also provided the new RDO Team the opportunity to work together and I learned for the West Lothian Active Schools; Coaching Academy – a fabulous group of pupils that delivered two days of BIG Hit Activity in a thoroughly professional manner.

- ❖ University Of the Highlands and Islands; Moray – Volunteer Placement day. Attended the Volunteer placement Day with Ann Rossiter of Badminton Moray to highlight volunteering opportunities within our Sport. Followed up by a meeting with the Head of Department to discuss Badminton related opportunities that we can deliver together.



- ❖ Moray Council ASC's Meeting – Follow Up Meeting with Moray Council ASC Team on developing relationships with Badminton throughout the Council area. Looking to create a Community Provider Partnership that will focus on Coach Education; School Competitions; Create new and dynamic Badminton Clubs outwith the Forres/Elgin Corridor.
- ❖ Visited Fort George and met with The Black Watch to discuss more competition opportunities within the No 3 Scots and the Army in Scotland.



- ❖ Scottish Student Sport is back with a bang – Positive Meetings with the Student Reps and the New Development Officer at SSS. Looking forward to creating more opportunities within Student Badminton at University and Colleges
- ❖ LEAP Sports – Met with Graham, LEAP Sports Regional Officer to discuss promotion of LGBTQI+ activity in the Highlands, Islands and Moray and opportunities within Badminton in the Area.



- ❖ Coach Education in Ardgay – Jane Grant delivered a Badminton Basics Course in Ardgay Community Hall to eight participants.



## 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.

❖ Moray Schools Festival

23rd November 2023

Moray Sports Centre.

Information will be sent to schools after October Holidays

## Coach Education Courses

**CANCELLED** - Badminton Basics 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023; Moray Sports Centre

## Have a Halloween.



If you want to know of upcoming activity in the Highlands Islands and Moray, or advice/help organising an upcoming event? Please get in touch [brian@badmintonscotland.org.uk](mailto:brian@badmintonscotland.org.uk)