

Badminton for Disabled People in Scotland

This fact sheet provides an overview of Badminton for disabled people in Scotland. It also provides useful contact details to signpost you to your local club to develop your skills and start to play, volunteer or coach disabled people in Badminton.

The Development of Para Badminton

Badminton is a dynamic game where players not only challenge an opponent(s) but also their own abilities as they develop their skills. The development of eye-hand co-ordination and movement skills as well as improving strength and speed make Badminton an excellent all round sport for Health and Fitness and also fun and enjoyment.

Throughout this fact sheet, reference is made to 'badminton for disabled people' and 'Para-Badminton'. This distinction is made because Para-Badminton does not at present support the development pathways for every impairment group, however badminton as a sport is available to all disabilities.



The Para-Badminton World Federation (PBWF), formerly known as the International Badminton Association for the Disabled was established in 1995 and is responsible for promoting and developing the sport for disabled people.

Its mission is to promote and develop badminton for disabled people in a non-discriminatory manner and to achieve and maintain Paralympic status using a constantly developing process. Badminton for disabled people is particularly strong in Europe and Asia with rapid growth also in Pan-America.



The first European Badminton competition for disabled people was held in 1998. The 4 Nations Working Group was established in the UK in 2005 and staged its first tournament in 2006 in Cardiff. This event proved such a success that since then each country has hosted their own 4 Nations tournament to cater for those performers with a desire to compete.

Opportunities for disabled people to play badminton are increasing all the time with more clubs opening and new coaches being trained on a regular basis.

A major step forward occurred in 2010 when PBWF was fully integrated into the Badminton World Federation (BWF).



Since then significant advances have been made across the world as the sport continues to develop, with a growing international calendar, a modern classification system and, with the full backing of the international body, inclusion in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. The positive development can be clearly seen with Para-Badminton now played in over 60 national member associations.

Scotland has been one of the driving forces within the 4 Nations and in May 2013 the Badminton Scotland Disability Working Group (BSDWG) fully integrated within Badminton Scotland and is driving a meaningful development programme across the country.

There are a few Disability Badminton clubs offering regular sessions to para players and players with learning disabilities. There is a great deal of work being generated to increase the profile of the sport. The BSDWG, Regional Development Officers and Inclusion Officer roles support the development of disability badminton sessions, and to encourage clubs to become more inclusive of disabled players.

Badminton Scotland and partner organisations/ clubs now organise and support a number of regional competitions

as well as an annual National championship.

Classification

Para-badminton includes pathways for all levels from grass roots to international.

However, to play in national and international tournaments, players need to be classified by the BWF which, at present, only classifies people with a physical disability and dwarfism. [Here are the classifications:](#)

- WH1 (Wheelchair/ severe impairment)
- WH2 (Wheelchair/minor impairment)
- SL3 (Standing/lower limb impairment/severe)
- SL4 (Standing/ lower limb impairment/minor)
- SU5 (Standing/upper limb impairment)
- SH6 (Standing/short stature)



People with a learning disability come under Scotland Learning Disability Sport national or internationally under the Special Olympics. Classification for this group is determined by skill ability, using the [LD Player Rating Form](#). People with a hearing impairment have their own national ([UK Deaf Sport](#)) and international ([ICSD](#)) governing body of sport.

Court Dimensions



All players play on a standard court as per the BWF Laws of Badminton. Amendments are made for standing and wheelchair classes (e.g. half court instead of full court) and details can be found [here](#).

Coach Education

Disability courses are available for all coaches. See below for a list of workshops for coaches who wish to further develop their skill set and knowledge in this area.

- **Badminton Scotland Introduction to Inclusive Practice (E-learning)**

Brightspace course available to all. This is an introductory online course to support volunteers and coaches.

- **Badminton Scotland Disability Inclusion Workshop**

2-3 hour workshop (theory and practical) available to coaches looking to increase knowledge and confidence on running disability badminton sessions and supporting disabled participants.

For the above courses, please refer to the [Badminton Scotland website](#) for further information.

- **Scottish Disability Sport: Disability Inclusion Training**

This workshop is aimed at anyone working with participants with disabilities in a physical activity or sport setting. For further information, please contact admin@scottishdisabilitysport.com



Helpful Resources

[Disability Sports Coach](#) – Find out more about how you can engage disabled people in sport.

[SDS Introduction to Inclusive Practice](#) - his free entry-level module is designed for everyone, but will be particularly useful to those who are new to inclusive coaching, would like to become inclusive coaches, or would like to gain confidence in coaching inclusively.

[BWF Resources](#) - The BWF provide educational resources for coaches and teachers, which are fully inclusive and cater for a range of ability levels.

[Badminton England Inclusion Hub](#) – A network of resources designed to support clubs and coaches to deliver in a more inclusive manner. This includes those delivering disability badminton sessions,

and covers topics ranging from policy and ethos to accessibility.

Leading Performers

Colin Leslie



Classification: Standing SL 3

Colin is one of only 2 badminton athletes in the world playing as a double below the knee amputee.

Colin won a bronze medal in singles and a silver in men's doubles at the European Championships in Spain. He has travelled to many competitions around the world and has won countless medals for Scotland, but one of his best results was playing the number 2 seed in Ireland and coming away with a win.

Gregor Anderson



Classification: Wheelchair WH 2

Reached quarter finals of European Championships 2023 in men's doubles; 2 Silver Medals in Helsinki Open; 2 Silver Medals at 2023 UK Championships (singles & doubles); Gold medal (singles) at 2023 and 2024 at National Disability Championships.

Andrew Davies



Classification: Short Stature SH 6

Andrew became Scottish national champ in 2022 for singles and has maintained the Scottish title for the last 3 years. He also got his first international medal (bronze) in 2022 in doubles in Spain. In 2023, Andrew got a bronze in the European champs for mixed doubles with his partner Daria, and in November he also got the men's doubles title at the uk champs in Glasgow with Isaac Maison.

James Pert



Classification: Learning Disability (7.2 rating)

Gold medallist (singles) and Silver medallist (doubles) at the 2024 National Championships; Gold medallist at the 2023 and 2024 West Open Disability Championships.

Competitions

1. Regional Competitions in Scotland:

- Dundee Discovery Games
- Perth & Kinross Open
- Lothian Disability BC Open
- West Open Disability Championships

2. Badminton Scotland National Disability Championships

3. UK Para-badminton Championship

4. [4 Nations Para Badminton International \(BWF\)](#) - The 4 Nations Para Badminton International is a collaborative international Para badminton tournament created in partnership between the badminton federations of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

5. Scotland Learning Disability (LD) Sports National Championships

Key Contacts & Links:

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[Badminton Scotland Website](#)

[Badminton Scotland Disability Facebook Page](#)