

The Changing **TIMES**

The newsletter of



SCOTTISH DISABILITY SPORT

Leading the development of sport in Scotland for people of all ages and abilities with a physical, sensory or learning disability

Scots Paralympians set for Beijing Adventure

This has been a particularly exciting year for SDS and our high performance athletes have been training and competing incredibly hard in order to achieve selection to the Great Britain team to participate in the Summer Paralympics Games which will be held in Beijing, China from 6th – 17th September.



An estimated 4,000 athletes from over 150 countries will take part in the 13th Paralympic Games along with 2,500 coaches, trainers, and technical officials.

Following a gruelling selection process 16 Scots secured their places across six sports following the announcement of the Beijing squad endorsed by Paralympics GB. This equates to 8% of Team GB and is an increase from those selected in Athens in 2004.

Whilst there are a number of athletes with previous Paralympic experience, it is particularly exciting to note that for 11 Scottish athletes, Beijing will be their first Paralympic Games. Beijing will provide these first time Paralympians with invaluable experience and vital preparation as our attentions turn to London 2012.

Broxburn swimmer Jim Anderson, a multiple Paralympic medallist in the pool, will compete in a remarkable fifth Paralympic Games alongside fellow swimmers Andrew Lindsay, Sean Fraser, Mhairi Love and Charlotte Henshaw.

Another well known name on the Paralympic scene is visually impaired cyclist Aileen McGlynn who hopes to repeat her form from Athens four years

ago which resulted in a gold medal in the 1km Tandem Time Trial and silver in the Tandem Sprint.

On the track, Paralympic veteran Stephen Payton will be joined by the exciting young talent of sprinters Libby Clegg and Neil Fachie.

Graeme Paterson, Jonathon Paterson, Kieran Martin and Mark Robertson have teamed up to be selected for the Cerebral Palsy 7-a-side football squad whilst Gordon Reid and Kevin Simpson have made the wheelchair tennis team.

Last but not least Borders' Kate Murray has achieved her Paralympic dream to compete in the archery competition in Beijing.

Most of Scotland's athletes competing at the Games as part of Team GB have been supported at some stage on their athlete journey by the expert support services provided by the Scottish and Area Institutes of Sport.

Scottish athletes selected for Paralympics GB:

- Archery: **Kate Murray**
Hawick, Scottish Borders
- Athletics: **Libby Clegg**
Newcastleton, Scottish Borders
- Athletics: **Neil Fachie** Aberdeen
- Athletics: **Stephen Payton**
Livingston, West Lothian
- Cycling: **Aileen McGlynn** Glasgow
- Football: **Graeme Paterson**
Duns, Scottish Borders
- Football: **Jonathon Paterson**
Motherwell, North Lanarkshire

Continued overleaf >>>

September 2008

In this Issue...

BRANCH NEWS

Several changes happening in Angus **2**

New weekly clubs for Annandale & Eskdale **3**

A successful year for Dundee **4**

Loads of news from Fife **5**

AGM and more from the Lothians **6**

Perth & Kinross selected for development **7**

EVENTS AND REPORTS

Success Down Under **9**

Boys from Brazil **10**

Badminton initiatives across Scotland **12**

'Get Wet' project set to introduce new sailors **14**

Beijing bound: Athlete Profiles **16**

SDS Updates across the board **18**

Calendar of Forthcoming Events **19**

Names and telephone numbers for contacts **20**

Branch News

Aberdeenshire Disability Sport – Balmoral Event

This year's Balmoral Road Races attracted the highest ever number of entries in the events ten year history with over 2,400 runners ranging from



primary school children to seasoned veterans. The event took place on 26th April on the Balmoral Estate, Royal Deeside, Aberdeenshire.

Aberdeenshire Disability Sport (ADS) worked closely with Run Balmoral to

include a wheelchair event on the 2008 programme. A dedicated Wheelchair 10km race featured athletes from across the UK including Richie Powell from Wales, Jason Gill, Andy Cheek, Paul Rae and Steve Williamson from England and Scotland's own Mark Telford. Unfortunately Kenny Herrriot had to pull out of the event due to an accident. The event was a great success and it is hoped to build on this success for the 2009 event which will be held on 25th April. ADS and Run Balmoral would be delighted to see some up and coming Scottish athletes in this race next year!!

The result of the 2008 wheelchair event was as follows:

- 1st Jason Gill 27:11
- 2nd Mark Telford 27:20

- 3rd Richie Powell 29:31
- 4th Paul Rea 30:56
- 5th Steve Williamson 31:03
- 6th Andrew Cheek 31:06

Several members of the Grampian triathlon squad also participated in the 2008 event with some outstanding performances in both the 5km and 10km events. Well done to Scott Walker, Murray Dingwall, Conor Reid and Craig Wilson.

Anyone interested in getting involved in disability sport in Aberdeenshire should contact Aberdeenshire Council's Disability Sports Development Officer, **Claire Bonner** on **01467 628812** or email **claire.bonner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk**

Angus Disability Sport

2

In the past year, several changes have taken place within Angus Disability Sport. A restructured committee with a new chair in place and a one year development plan implemented with key objectives being set. This has



led to an increase in provision within Angus with sports taster days, special events and regular primary school programmes delivered.

Angus Disability Sport in partnership with Angus Council also secured funding of £25,000 to establish a new multi sports club, assist with the delivery of a summer programme, purchase rebound therapy and other equipment and to provide taster sessions in each of the Angus burghs.

The Angus Holiday Project was nominated and highly commended in The Angus Council Excellence Awards for Team / Partnership Building. The aims of the Holiday Project are to cater for children and young people with complex additional support needs aged from three to 16 years during the summer period. The project aims to provide a period of childcare and respite provision for the families and also an opportunity for children to experience activities that they would otherwise not be able to access.



Anyone requiring further information regarding opportunities in the Angus area should contact **Laura Smith** on **01307 475367** or email **smithlap@angus.gov.uk**

Continued from front page

- Football: **Kieran Martin** Falkirk
- Football: **Mark Robertson** Penicuik, Midlothian
- Swimming: **Jim Anderson** Broxburn, West Lothian
- Swimming: **Andrew Lindsay** Cowdenbeath, Fife
- Swimming: **Mhairi Love** Stirling
- Swimming: **Sean Fraser** Edinburgh
- Swimming: **Charlotte Henshaw** Stirling
- Tennis: **Gordon Reid** Helensburgh, Argyll & Bute
- Tennis: **Kevin Simpson** Linlithgow, West Lothian

Key Scottish staff and support team attending Beijing Paralympics:

- Athletics: **Richard Brickley** IPC Athletics Chief Classifier
- Athletics: **Edward McKenna**
- Boccia: **Jacqueline Lynn, Jim Thomson and Ruth Thomson**
- Swimming: **Anthony Stickland, Paul Wilson and Eddie McCluskey**
- Tennis: **Karen Ross**
- Womens Wheelchair Basketball: **Steven Duff**
- Paralympics GB: **Jacqueline Brickley** GB Medical Staff
- Paralympics GB: **Paul Noble** British Swimming Media Support

The Paralympics GB squad for Beijing, comprises a total of 205 athletes across 18 of the 20 Paralympic sports which will be one of Paralympic GB's biggest teams of all time.

Branch News

Annandale & Eskdale Disability Sport

The development of the Annandale & Eskdale Disability Sport Group has led to increased provision in this area with special events, multi sport tasters days, regular programmes of after school activities and a variety of coaching sessions. Such is the success of these initiatives that Annandale & Eskdale have now established six new weekly clubs including:

After School Sports Club – a weekly club for children with additional support needs attracting 24 children at each session.

Multi Sports Club – a weekly sports club for adults and children with physical and learning disabilities with over 12 people attending every week.

Wheelchair Curling – a weekly club open for adults and children with a physical disability. Due to the success of these sessions the group have now formed a club and are playing regular games against other clubs and have competed this year in the Friendship Trophy Competition playing home and away ties.

Football Coaching – weekly football coaching continues to grow attracting 16 footballers per session, enabling teams to compete in SDS National Football Championships.

Swim for Fun & Fitness – a swimming group for adults and children with physical and learning disabilities of all ages and abilities.

Athletics Coaching – a weekly athletics coaching session for adults with a learning disability has been established, with 14 athletes working towards



attendance at the SDS National Athletics Championships.

SDS National Championships & Competitions – teams from Annandale & Eskdale have attended six SDS National Championships in Football, Athletics and Swimming, winning numerous medals in Athletics and Swimming. Annandale & Eskdale also hosted this year's SDS National 11 a-side Football Championships.

Sam Pattinson from Annandale & Eskdale attended the Down Syndrome May Phillips Swimming Championships in Reading last September winning an array of medals. Due to his success he was asked to train with the Great Britain squad who will compete in the Down Syndrome World Swimming Championships in Portugal this November.

Annandale & Eskdale Disability Sport continues to grow, establishing a database of over 100 local people with a disability who receive regular updates on new activities, events and clubs that they can access.

Anyone requiring further information on activities taking place in Annandale & Eskdale should contact **Laura Vickers** on **01461 207045** or email **laurav@annansportstrust.co.uk**

North Ayrshire Marymass Special Highland Games

Every year Irvine, home of North Ayrshire Sports Association for the Disabled (NASAD) holds their annual Marymass Gala, which dates back to the middle ages. As part of these festivities and sporting events, NASAD holds annual Lawn and Carpet Bowls



events for its members as well as the increasingly popular Marymass Special Highland Games.

Around 20 competitors took part in the games including putting the shot, tossing the caber, hurling the haggis and flinging the wellie. All the competitors had a thoroughly enjoyable day which had a real carnival atmosphere. The event was finished off with the grand finale, a tug-of-war including all competitors' carers, volunteers and officials.

For further information on other activities in the North Ayrshire area, contact **Stephen Browning** on **01294 317457** or email **SBrowning@kaleisure.co.uk**

3

Smashing Borderers get full marks from national coaches

Wheelchair tennis players in the Borders made a big hit with some of the country's top coaches last October.

A skills session presided over by Tennis Scotland Performance Coach, Karen Ross, assisted by Gordon Reid and Kevin Simpson was held at Jedburgh Grammar School. Gordon and Kevin took time out of their



busy competition schedule to put young Borders players through their paces. As well as benefiting from their experience, local players received high praise from the experts.

The event was organised by Scottish Borders Council Development Officer Jed Renilson, who hailed the day as a huge success for tennis in the Borders.

Branch News

Borders: Successful day for young athletes

Disability sport is already huge in the Borders, but after the recent Scottish Borders Disability Sports Group's multi sports day, it looks set to get a whole lot bigger.

A festival of fun took place at Tweedbank Sports Complex during May with children from all over the Borders taking centre stage. The youngsters were invited to take part in a variety of sports including: athletics, tag rugby, football, cricket, tennis, snaggolf, new-age curling, boccia and indoor bowls. The Borders' top coaches were all on hand to give help and advice as required.

The SFA Borders Development Group's inflatable football pitch proved a massive hit, led by Football Development officers Dougie Anderson and Drew Kelly.

Glorious sunshine ensured the summer sports were well attended, with Kelso Orchard Tennis Club's Leslie Thomas having a smashing time on the courts and Cricket Development Officer Neil Cameron's classes proving a big hit.

Those looking to emulate some of the area's greatest sporting stars joined in the tag rugby, ably supervised by SRU regional development manager Brian Renwick, while future stars of

track and field paid a visit to coach Neil Renton.

Eleanor Pearson ran a highly popular snaggolf trial with new-age-curling led by Amanda Riddell and boccia by Gwen Bradley. An indoor bowls session was supported by members of the Tweedbank Bowling Club.

Anyone requiring further information relating to opportunities in the Scottish Borders area should contact Scottish Borders Council's Disability Sports Development Officer, **Jed Renilson** on **01835 824000 (ext 5354)** or email jrenilson@scotborders.gov.uk

A successful year for disability sport in Dundee

4 This has been a busy year for Dundee City Disability Sport (DCDS) and all its members. In September 2007 the association hosted the 9th Annual Discovery Games. Teams travelled from all over the UK to compete in carpet bowls, boccia, powerlifting, motor activities, table tennis and swimming.

Many thanks go to everyone who helped out at the event and to the many teams who support DCDS year in year out.

DCDS affiliated Clubs, with the support of Disability Sport Officers Gordon Quinton and Darren Thomson, have been busy over the past year, taking teams to competitions throughout Scotland. Athletes have represented Dundee at SDS National Championships in swimming, boccia, lawn bowls, carpet bowls, athletics, football as well as MATP and powerlifting events.

Two athletes who deserve a special mention are, Tricia Kirk who represented Scotland at the IBD World Bowls Championships in Sydney, Australia and Kristen McMaster who represented Scotland in Canada and Wales in the sport of boccia.

Additionally, Darren Thomson, was



180 school-aged children with disabilities taking part. This event is supported by the Rotary Club of Dundee.

Cycling, for people with additional support needs, has been introduced in partnership with Armitstead Child Development Centre.

Ten children attended the sessions this year with a success rate of 50% of the children being able to ride a bike independently by the end of the sessions.

DCDS would like to thank all athletes, parents, volunteers and supporters who have helped make this year a great success. Our athletes have always represented Dundee with great sportsmanship and pride.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the Disability Sports Officers who assist and organise many events and competitions, for and on behalf of DCDS.

Dundee City Disability Sport looks forward to another great year and hopes to have continued success at local, national and international events.

Anyone interested in getting involved in disability sport in Dundee should contact **Gordon Quinton** on **01382 432346** or email gordon.quinton@dundeecity.gov.uk

selected to escort Tricia to the IBD World Bowls Championships as a coach. DCDS would like to congratulate Tricia, Darren, Kristen and all our other athletes on a hugely successful year.

This year Dundee hosted the 3rd Annual SOMA (Sporting Opportunities for Motor Activities) Festival. SOMA Dundee in partnership with PAMIS hosted this event for athletes with profound and complex learning disabilities. 28 Athletes competed in a range of sports and events such as the bean bag lift, ball push, target throw and kick ball.

The 10th Annual Rotary Football festival was once again held at Dundee International Sports Complex with



Branch News

Disability Sport Fife

After 31 years of developing sport in Fife, and with support from Fife Council Community Services and the Big Lottery, Disability Sport Fife (DSF) now has a Development Officer employed through Sports Development and seconded to DSF. DSF is particularly proud that the officer appointed late in 2007 is an ex Paralympian, Anna Tizzard. Anna has settled into post quickly and has already made a considerable impact across many DSF priority areas. DSF has also engaged Richard Brickley as a part-time consultant. Together with DSF Administrator Norma Buchanan they make a formidable team.

The DSF IMAGE project funded by the Big Lottery came to a successful conclusion in 2007 and will be remembered for the number of children and young people it introduced to physical activity including sport. The launch of the DSF

VORTEX project late in 2007, also funded by the Big Lottery under 'Active Futures,' offers the opportunity for DSF to create weekly sports sessions for 17 to 24 year olds with a disability. VORTEX is run in partnership with the three Fife Colleges, Fife

Council Community Services, Education and Social Work Services plus the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust. A key element of VORTEX is the establishment of locally based sports specific sessions led by NGB coaches and / or teachers. Sessions have been set up so far for athletics, football, netball, badminton and boccia and DSF has increased its team of coaches / teachers by 12. VORTEX is also tied in with increasing Fife representation at SDS national events and preparing the Fife team for the Summer Special Olympic Games in Leicester in 2009.

A Service Level Agreement has been signed with Fife Council Sports Development and DSF is firmly established as the lead body developing

disability sport in Fife. A parallel Service Level Agreement is currently being drawn up with the new Fife



Sports and Leisure Trust and this will ensure that DSF receives the same level of support from the Trust as it has previously from Fife Council, its major partner since it was formed in 1977.



An audit of existing sports provision for children, athletes and players with a disability has been successfully concluded and this will influence the new DSF Development Plan. DSF is currently reviewing its membership to ensure that local clubs and sports specific sessions are 'fit for purpose' and meet member's needs. Issues of governance and accountability will be addressed during the remainder of this year. A small team of DSF officers and volunteers are currently engaged in ensuring that DSF policies and procedures on Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk meet the expectations of Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) and are compliant with the Accord signed by SDS. DSF has also identified Strand 1 to 4 sports and associated pathways for Levels 1 to 3.

For operational reasons DSF has established within the past six months, a Finance Sub-Committee, a Safeguarding Children and Adults at

Risk Sub-Committee, a Performance Sub-Committee and a new Organising Committee for the Special Olympics Summer Games of 2009.

The Performance Group essentially manages the Fife "Futures" squad, a small group of young athletes with potential for 2012 and 2014. In the last six months DSF has provided this group with strength and conditioning training, nutritional support, physiotherapy advice, family meetings and is about to embark on a programme of sports psychology. The DSF 'Futures' Squad now has its

own distinctive uniform.

DSF continues to be successful with fundraising and in the year ahead the key project will be to send a team of around 150 to the Summer Special Olympic Games in Leicester. DSF has improved its promotional materials and made a special effort to visit schools and clubs and take the DSF message to as many existing and potential members as possible. The main strength of the organisation remains its huge volunteer force operating behind the scenes in so many different ways. One perfect example of quality volunteering occurs in the sport of bowls. Around 50 volunteer bowls officials turn up to every DSF bowls event. At the DSF AGM of 2008 around 50 awards were presented to members, coaches and volunteers, all of which were donated by the bowls volunteers in Fife. In addition three of Fife's leading indoor and outdoor clubs host bowls tournaments and training sessions.

Fife is proud of the achievements of its members and in particular the retired Paralympians who now play a very prominent role in the running of the organisation and through coaching. DSF acknowledges the achievements of Andrew Lindsay from Cowdenbeath whose record over the last ten years in international swimming has been exceptional. Dalgety Bay international swimmers Rebecca Lee and Craig Rodgie reign supreme in the S14 class and rising stars Steffan Hoggan,

Branch News

Arran Ritchie, Lucy Walkup and Owen Miller are the juniors to watch. DSF has a squad of outstanding bowlers who won 50% of all the singles titles contested at the SDS National Outdoor and Carpet Bowls Championships during the 2007 / 2008 season. DSF is particularly proud this year past of its athlete members with a learning disability who currently hold the national team trophies (Kintore and Bob Mitchell Trophies) for swimming and athletics. Coach Craig Martin and Special Olympians Stephen Burns, Ryan Peterson, Ruairidh Deans and David Kerr returned from the World

Games in China with six gold medals for GB for cycling, golf and swimming. The well established DSF events programme runs for 12 months of the year and offers 24 competitive events across a wide range of sports.

DSF continues to grow in strength under the leadership of Chairman Paul Noble MBE, Secretary David Thomson and Treasurer Alec Thorburn and an active management committee. DSF is indebted to Fife Council, the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, the Big Lottery, [sportscotland](http://www.sportscotland.gov.uk), Scottish Disability Sport, the Order of St John

and the many other partners who year after year support specific elements of DSF work. DSF sets high standards and is constantly striving to improve the level of service it offers to children, athletes and players with a physical, sensory or learning disability in Fife.

DSF personnel can be contacted through **Norma Buchanan**, Administrator, Disability Sport Fife, Fife Sports Institute, Viewfield Road, Glenrothes, Fife KY6 2RB **Tel. 0845 155 55 55 plus ext. 444 989** or email norma.buchanan@fife.gov.uk

Lothian Disability Sport

Annual General Meeting

The Lothian Disability Sport (LDS) AGM and annual awards ceremony took place at Meadowbank Stadium on 9th June.

Numerous local clubs, award winners as well as family and friends, attended the event, which is becoming ever more popular. A presentation by the LDS Chair, Helen Bruce, highlighted the work that has been carried out by the branch and the achievement of athletes over the past year.

Some of the more prestigious success stories include several athletes being selected to demonstrate their talents on the world stage. Eleven athletes and three coaches represented Lothian at the Special Olympic World Games that took place in Shanghai, China in October last year. In addition, three Lothian athletes will be flying out to China later this year with Beijing being the destination, for the 2008 Paralympics. Jim Anderson and Sean Fraser will be part of the GB swimming team and Mark Robertson will be part of the GB cerebral palsy football squad. For Sean and Mark this will be a debut appearance at the Games whilst Jim will be attending for an unbelievable fifth time!

Following the formal business of the AGM the annual awards ceremony took place, which acknowledges the achievements of many contributors to disability sport in the Lothian area. Award winner on the evening were as follows:

Senior Sports Person Award:

Claire Jeffray (skiing)

Young Sports Person Award:

Mark Robertson (football)

Volunteer of the Year: Richard Vallis / Jimmy Berry (archery)

Endeavour Award: Fiona Hagenbuch (No Limits Sports Club)

Club of the Year:

No Limits Sports Club

Special Award: Ken McGarrity



Edinburgh University offer PE sessions to pupils with ASN

During May this year Lothian Disability Sport (LDS) along with Active Schools Edinburgh and Midlothian coordinated a programme of PE sessions for pupils throughout the Lothian area. The idea was to allow schools to access further physical activity for their pupils with Additional Support Needs (ASN) as well as giving student teachers the opportunity to work with children with varying degrees of disability. The programme also allowed schools to tap into the expertise of the university and learn innovative ways to include children of all abilities within their current PE curriculum.



The University ran a combination of swimming, gymnastics, dance and various other forms of adapted physical education at the Moray House complex, St. Leonard's. Schools from across Lothian attended and the feedback from both schools and students was excellent. So much so that it is planned to run an extended version of the programme next year.

LDS and the Active School teams are looking forward to working in partnership with Edinburgh University over the coming year and an agreement is already in place for the student teachers to run some of the disability events within the school calendar. This continuing development will endeavour to increase the students' awareness of the issues surrounding disability sport; help the university produce better teachers and improve disability sport in general within the Lothian area.

For further information relating to this programme please contact **Gary Fraser**, LDS Development Coordinator on **01875 619 070** or email gfraser1@eastlothian.gov.uk

Branch News

New Start for Forth Valley

The last eighteen months have seen a new start for a committee, which has been reformed and developed to facilitate many new changes in disability sport in the Forth Valley Area brought about by the inclusion of disability sport in the SportCentral Regional Partnership.

Forth Valley Disability Sport (FVDS) has benefited from the many partnerships of the new regional structure in many ways but the main benefactors of the partnership working have been the many young people and athletes that have participated in an increased range of provision in the Forth Valley Area.

This year has seen many branch developments occur including:

- An increase in the number of entries in fun days, festivals and competitions
- The development of a new membership and grant aid scheme
- The creation of a new FVDS website

FVDS and its many partners contribute to an annual audit of Disability Sport in the Central area which was carried out by SportCentral over the last academic year. There have been significant increases in all areas of participation with some astounding



results in the percentage of increased growth. The audit has certainly been constructive in gathering statistics that provide evidence that disability sport is developing in the Forth Valley Area.

FVDS also hosted the inaugural SDS National 7 a-side Championships during the last year. Over 290

footballers came from all over Scotland to Little Kerse Playing Fields in Grangemouth. The event was supported by Russell Lattapy and Pedro Moutinho from Falkirk FC and Colin Hendry from Clyde FC who gave up their time to present the medals to the winning teams.

FVDS has recruited Graham Harvey as the new part time branch co-ordinator. Graham will assist the branch in further developing its governance as it has recently progressed to the second stage of the Lloyds TSB Capacity Building Programme.

The co-ordinator will also assist with the delivery of the disability sport strategic plan for Forth Valley and the co-ordination of the Special Olympics Team for Leicester next year.

Anyone interested in finding out more about activities in the Forth Valley area should contact SportCentral Disability Sport Development Manager, **Lynne Glen** on **01786 432323** or email **glenl@sportcentral.org.uk**

7

Disability Sport a priority for Perth & Kinross

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) has recently approved its priority sports for 2008-2011 and disability sport is one area which has been selected for development. This is exciting news for Disability Sport in the Perth area and it is anticipated that a sub-committee will be developed to take things forward, which will hopefully also actively contribute to Perth & Kinross Disability Sport (PKDS). One of the other sports which will be a priority for PKC is swimming and the Sports Development Officer for Disability Sport will also have this sport within her remit.

PKDS have recently assisted Perth & Kinross Leisure to source funding to help replace the ageing hoist at Perth Leisure Pool and also purchase a new portable hoist, which should make for a more inclusive experience for swimmers with additional support needs.



PKDS will also host a new annual Swim Gala in memory of previous Chairperson Kathleen Gardiner who died in late 2006. This will be a Tayside event and invitations will be sent accordingly. Also in memory of Kathleen Gardiner, a new Boccia Festival is to be held for primary and secondary school children early in 2009.

Existing Clubs have been sustained and have attracted several new volunteers to help continue this good work. Additional funding was received from the Sportsman's Charity to enhance the Junior Boccia Club and it is hoped

this will encourage new players to come along. Current Boccia Club member Joshua Rowe is enjoying success in national and international competitions and PKDS are looking to source a sponsor so that Joshua can continue to make progress in his chosen sport.

Many groups, schools and individuals have benefited from funding to purchase equipment or attend coach education courses and SOMA equipment has been purchased for the benefit of the Perth & Kinross area. The Dewars Centre, Perth also continues to support PKDS by providing two free rinks during the indoor bowling season.

Anyone requiring further details about opportunities in the Perth & Kinross area should contact Perth & Kinross Council Sports Development Officer, **Caroline Ness** on **01738 637129** or email **CMNess@pkc.gov.uk**

Branch News

South Ayrshire Access to Sport

South Ayrshire Access to Sport (SAAS) supports people with disabilities within local clubs and programmes by co-ordinating sport and physical activity to develop active and healthy lifestyles. SAAS has established a programme of varied activities to meet the needs of local athletes.

Club Development

SAAS co-ordinates a very successful weekly Multi Activity Sports Club for adults aged from 18-65 years at the Citadel Leisure Centre in Ayr.

Active Futures

SAAS part funds and supports the Active Futures programme within South Ayrshire. The club is a multi activity sports club for people aged from 17-24 years with disabilities based at the Whitletts Activity Centre, Ayr.

Class Diamonds

8 SAAS supports Class Diamonds for people with a disability, a 12 week health and activity programme specially designed for people with a disability living within South Ayrshire.

Administration Update

SAAS are currently updating Policies and Procedures in line with SDS Minimum Operating Requirements in the areas of:

- Volunteer Policy
- Volunteer Pack
- Incident report form
- Code of Conduct for members
- Coach Profile Form
- Scottish Disability Sport – Ethics and Equity – Policies and Procedures

SAAS / SASC Directory

One of the most exciting and significant developments over the last few years for SAAS is the partnership forged with the South Ayrshire Sports Council (SASC). Through this partnership SASC and SAAS have made the SASC 'Sports Directory' to be more inclusive. The development of the SASC Directory will have a significant impact on sporting opportunities for people with disabilities and will eventually increase capacity within the community.

Ayrshire Sportsability

SAAS is represented on the

management committee of Ayrshire Sportsability and continues to support their aims and objectives. Ayrshire Sportsability facilitates a three-day event which attracts approximately 600 children with disabilities each year.

Volunteer Support

SAAS also supports Kilmarnock College students and other establishments by offering opportunities to volunteers within local clubs / programmes, thus increasing inclusion and disability awareness amongst coaches.

Athlete Support

SAAS also provides support to those with the potential to compete in Disability Sport events and also supports individuals into mainstream sport.

SAAS are delighted to be assisting –

- John Wardrope – SDS CP Football
- Scott and Jamie McCowan – SDS Boccia

Developments 2008 - 2011

- Development Plan aiming at 2012 Paralympics
- Grants award scheme for disabled athletes
- Disability football
- Boccia
- Class Diamonds: Mainline 2008
- Committee restructure
- Website update

SAAS would like to take the opportunity to thank Michelle Kennedy, our secretary for the last nine years for her unwavering and dedicated support and wish her well in the future.

On a very sad note we would also like to mention David Sutherland a dedicated committee member for the last nine years who so tragically passed away last year, David and his infectious smile are sadly missed by all who knew him.

Anyone requiring further details about opportunities in the South Ayrshire area should contact **Colin Duthie** on **01292 294732** or email **colin.duthie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

South Lanarkshire Wheelchair Bowls

Scotland's leading wheelchair bowlers gathered at Red Deer Bowling Club, East Kilbride on 3rd August to compete in the annual South Lanarkshire Wheelchair Open Masters Bowls Tournament.

This year's winner was World Championship Bowler Rosemary Lenton from Dumfries who, in the Final, defeated defending champion Robert Martin from Cumbernauld.

In the Semi Finals Rosemary recorded a victory over Tom Smith from East Kilbride playing in his first Semi Final. In the other Semi Final, Robert defeated William Harrison from Cupar.

Prior to reaching the Semi Finals, Rosemary won her qualifying group. In a day of several surprise results, former Scottish Wheelchair Singles Bowls Champions Charles Russell, James Sellar and Ivan Prior did not reach the Semi Final stages.

Provost Russell Clearie was in attendance to present the prizes and South Lanarkshire Disability Sport (SLDS) Chairman, Ian Dunn thanked Red Deer Bowling Club for hosting the Tournament and their members who carried out the duties of umpires, markers and caterers.

For further details relating to wheelchair bowls and other sports opportunities in the South Lanarkshire area, contact **Millar Stoddart** on **01698 476131** or email **millar.stoddart@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk**

Events and Reports

Success Down Under

The International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD) World Bowls Championships were held in Sydney, Australia, from 15th-27th October and the 13 strong Scottish team finished a very creditable 3rd in the competition for the World Teams Cup. Scottish Team Manager, Michael McCreadie and Head Coach, Bob Dick were both delighted with the performance of the Scottish players who were awarded a total of 90 points across the various classes.

Scotland's blind and partially sighted bowlers were the stars of the Scottish team performance winning three medals. Ada Meikle, Scotland's only representative totally blind woman bowler, won silver in the singles section and partnered George Gourlay in the pairs to win bronze. With back up from directors Robert Conway and Malcolm Graham they performed magnificently throughout the Championships.

Scotland's second bronze medal of the Championships was won by the B2 / B3 triples team of Shirley Ann Harris,

Alex Souden and Scottish team captain, Harry Harris. This was an outstanding performance by the five members of the Scottish Blind Bowlers Association who all returned home with a medal.

Eight physically disabled Scots also made the journey to Australia and the outstanding performance was recorded



by James Smith from Elgin in the men's open singles. The young wheelchair bowler has already recorded major successes in national and international bowls and there were hopes that he would produce his best performances at the World Championships.

James battled through to the final stages but lost narrowly by one shot to a very experienced Australian opponent in the play off for the bronze medal. However, James is now firmly established as the number four ranked singles player in the world.

SDS would like to pay tribute to all the support staff who gave up their time to travel with the team to Australia and played such a big part in the team's success.

With lawn bowls now firmly back on the programme for Elite athletes with a Disability at the Commonwealth Games for Delhi and Glasgow, there are opportunities for bowlers with a disability to compete at the very highest level once again. If the players continue to prepare and compete with the same commitment as they demonstrated in the lead up to the World Championships and throughout the event itself, then additional international success will undoubtedly follow.

New World Record in Brazil

Scotland's top athletes with a learning disability Alan Stuart and Laura Kinder have had an outstanding 12 months with success at both World and European level.

Alan was the star of the GB team at the INAS-FID World Championships which were held in Fortaleza, Brazil last September. He received the major honour of being voted the male athlete of the Games following his gold medal victories over 200m (21.45) and 400m (47.25). His run in the 200m was a personal best and a new INAS-FID world record. These two outstanding performances placed Alan in the top two in the Scottish ranking list for the 200m and his performance over 400m placed him at the top of the Scottish ranking list and in the top 20 in the United Kingdom.

Laura was also competing in Brazil and like Alan is an established member of



the Great Britain track and field team. In Brazil Laura ran well to win two relay medals, a silver in the 4x100m and bronze in the 4x400m.

Both Alan and Laura were in action again as part of the GB team competing in the INAS-FID European Athletics Championships which were held in Manchester during June. On this occasion, Alan won two gold medals in the 200m and 400m and Laura won gold as part of the 4 x 100m relay team.

Alan and Laura continue to achieve on the international stage in learning disability athletics and SDS is fully

supportive of the reinstatement of events for athletes with a learning disability within the Paralympic programme. Alan was a Paralympic silver medallist in the T20 class in Sydney but missed out in Athens because of the exclusion of athletes with a learning disability from the Paralympic Games.

Robert Ferrol is an up and coming young athlete with a learning disability who has recently been approved for UK registration. He is a member of the SDS Athlete Academy and competed at the Mencap National Games in Manchester in June where he came 2nd in both the 100m and 200m in personal best times. SDS has high hopes for his future development and there is no reason why he cannot emulate the success of Alan and Laura on the international stage.

Events and Reports

Boys from Brazil

The 7 a-side World Football Championships for players with cerebral palsy, head injury or stroke were held at the Deodoro Stadium in Rio de Janeiro between 3rd and 18th November 2007. The 12 strong Scottish squad travelled to Brazil courtesy of their 7th place finish at the 2006 European Championships in Dublin. The Scots were well prepared and supported on and off the field but came into the Championships as rank outsiders.



Scotland opened their Championships with an outstanding 2-1 win over Argentina. Despite conceding a first half penalty the Scots fought back to win the match with goals from Jonathan Paterson and Graeme Paterson. This was an excellent victory for the young Scottish team against one of the world's most experienced nations.

In their next match Scotland faced group favourites Russia which was to prove a much tougher test. The experienced Russian side emerged as 6-0 winners but they left the field of play knowing they had been in a contest. This meant a nervous couple of days for the Scotland squad as they

awaited the outcome of the final group match between Argentina and Russia.

Scotland had the opportunity to play a friendly challenge match against China who were sadly unable to take part in the Championships because of visa problems. A closely contested encounter finished 0-0. The Group D decider meant that Russia had to beat Argentina for Scotland to progress to the quarter finals and happily they did not disappoint. Russia won 5-0 to spark wild celebrations in the Scotland camp and among the 'mini tartan army'.

The scene was set for the quarter final ties and the contest for the top eight finishing positions. Iran defeated Scotland 6-0 which meant that the Scots would now face Ireland in their next ranking match. The last time that Scotland had played the Paralympic bronze medallists they lost 10-0.

However, the Scots had by now earned the reputation for producing the unexpected and their win after extra time and penalties eclipsed their group stage defeat of Argentina. Two goals from Kieran Martin meant the teams were level at full time and with no further scoring in extra time it was the



dreaded penalty shoot out. Scottish goalkeeper Craig Connell emerged as the hero saving two penalties.

On the final day of the championships Scotland met Holland in the play off for fifth place but had to settle for sixth following a 3-0 defeat. There was elation however in the Scottish camp at the achievements of this young inexperienced team of players and coaches and there was further celebrations to follow when it was announced that 16 year old midfielder Mark Robertson from Penicuik was voted Young Player of the Tournament.

SDS congratulates the Scottish CP Football squad and their coaches on their 6th place world ranking and much of the credit for this new found success must go to the Scottish FA's Development Officer for Disability Football, Stuart Sharp. The experience and confidence gained from Brazil will aid the future development of this young squad and everybody associated with the game should feel rightly proud.

World Wheelchair Curling

The Scottish Wheelchair Curling team travelled to Sursee in Switzerland in confident mood following their bronze medal success in the 2007 Championships. The Scots had also enjoyed international success in the run in to Sursee with victories at the Richmond BC International Cashpiel, Canada and the Utica International Bonspiel, USA.

In the group stages the Scottish rink of Michael McCreadie (Skip), Aileen Neilson, Tom Killin, Jim Sellar and Rosemary Lenton enjoyed wins against Canada, Japan and Russia but their final win record of 3-6 meant that on this occasion a place in the semi finals had



eluded them.

Scotland ended the group stages in a three way tie with Japan and Switzerland which necessitated a draw shot challenge to decide final placings and the allocation of Paralympic

qualification points. Scotland emerged from the challenge as clear winners to clinch a 7th place finish and crucially avoiding relegation to next year's qualifying event. The excellent result in the draw shot challenge also handed Scotland four Paralympic qualifying points and has effectively secured Great Britain their place at the Winter Paralympic Games in Vancouver, Canada in 2010.

SDS would like to congratulate the Scottish players, coaches and support staff for their continued success and to wish the team every success at the 2009 World Championships in Vancouver, Canada.

Events and Reports

Athletics Update

At the end of 2007 SDS, in partnership with **scottishathletics** and **sportscotland**, announced the appointment of Shona Malcolm in the newly created position of Disability Athletics Development Officer.

Shona has been involved in mainstream athletics since 1976 in a voluntary role as an athlete, official and coach. She has spent her first months in post finding out what provision is available to athletes with a disability as well as getting to know SDS Branch Contacts and Local Authority Development Officers. Shona has also played an active role on the Disability Athletics Performance Group and has had hands on experience at a busy time for athletics in Scotland.

Cross Country

The Cross Country Season has been particularly busy with the East and West of Scotland holding league matches with around 300 entrants between them. The SDS final was held in Livingston with 101 entrants from 13 schools. A fitting climax to the season was the inclusion of a race for athletes with a learning disability at the World Cross Country Championships in Edinburgh. This was an East v West race



with Owen Miller from Fife winning overall and the West winning the Team Prize.

Sportshall – Fun-In-Athletics

This indoor activity for all children and young people with disabilities challenges agility in a fun environment. This was only the second year that SDS had co-ordinated a final with teams from Angus, Fife, Forth Valley, Highland and Perth & Kinross entering. Around 50 youngsters took part on the day

and enjoyed an inspirational talk from invited guest, wheelchair athlete, Kenny Herriot.

Events

The season began with around 116 athletes taking part in the Highland Junior Championships, which were followed by the Forth Valley Junior Championships with 133 entrants. At the end of May on a cold windy day 160 junior athletes took part in the SDS Schools Championships at Meadowbank.

Unfortunately the Senior PD and VI Champs had to be postponed due to a lack of numbers. However, PD and VI events were included in the programme at the LD Athletics Championships in September which was once again a huge success.

Shona has already made a big impact on disability athletics in Scotland and plays an important role in promoting and developing the inclusion of athletes with a disability into mainstream clubs across the country. She also plans to work closely with SDS branches to encourage more young people to participate next year and help them reach their full potential.

Shona can be contacted through **scottishathletics** on **0131 539 7348** or email **shonamalcolm@scottishathletics.org.uk**

Wheelchair Tennis

It has been a fantastic year for wheelchair tennis with Scottish players enjoying considerable international success throughout the season. Whilst there have been a number of significant achievements the most notable has been the selection of Kevin Simpson and Gordon Reid to Team GB for the Paralympic Games. They will head to Beijing with the honour of being the first Scots to compete in a British Paralympic tennis team.



Kevin and Gordon have benefited greatly from the expert coaching and advice given to them by Karen Ross, High Performance Coach for Tennis Scotland who works with both players at the National Tennis Centre in Stirling.

In May 2008 both players were part of the Great Britain team that won the World Team Cup in Italy, earning Great Britain promotion back to the top flight of wheelchair tennis where they will compete alongside 15 nations in next year's event to be held in Nottingham.

Kevin who currently has a career high World singles ranking of No. 51 is an SDS Academy Athlete. His brilliant form prior to Paralympic selection, where he reached four finals in Canada and the USA, confirmed his selection for Team GB. Gordon, who was last year inducted into the West of Scotland Institute of Sport has also had a fantastic season winning three international singles titles and four international doubles titles including becoming the first ever British winner of the International Junior Masters in France. Gordon currently has a World singles ranking of No. 30 and a World junior ranking of No. 2.

Events and Reports

Badminton Success

SDS has formed an extremely strong partnership with *BADMINTONscotland* and both parties have been instrumental in the formation of the Scottish Disability Badminton Group (SDBG). The SDBG is made up of a committee of office bearers with a constitution and responsibility for disabled badminton activity in Scotland. Thanks to an Awards For All Grant, the SDBG has been able to establish and support numerous initiatives across Scotland.

Club Development

Glasgow Disability Badminton Club was formed on 16 January 2008 at Haghill. There are two qualified coaches attending the sessions. The numbers have been steady with 12-16 players regularly in attendance.

The SDBG has also worked in partnership with Disability Sport Fife to set up a club which started on 20 February 2008. Disability Sport Fife are generously providing the facility and paying for a coach, while the SDBG provides equipment and shuttles.

The SDBG is working closely with Lyndon Williams, Badminton Development Officer with Edinburgh City Council who is looking to establish a Wheelchair Club in Edinburgh.

There are also other developments taking place in other parts of the country. David Gillespie is heavily involved with the Scotland West Learning Disability Group. Christine Black works with Connor MacFarlane a young Cerebral Palsy athlete and Russell Hogg is working with some wheelchair athletes in Glasgow on a weekly basis.

Disability Badminton Carnival

The SDBG, SDS and *BADMINTONscotland* organised a Badminton Carnival for children with a disability on Thursday 15 May 2008 at Scotstoun Leisure Centre, Glasgow. This event targeted every SEN school in Scotland and Local Authorities with disabled sports clubs. It was the first

Carnival of this type and allowed us to increase our junior disabled player base. The carnival targeted Primary 4 to Secondary 4 pupils using a mixture of carnival and sportshall challenge stations.

Four Nations Disability Championships

80 competitors from Scotland, England, Wales, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland took part in the Championships, the first of its kind to be hosted by Scotland. The event was held at the National Sport Centre Inverclyde in Largs from 4-6 April. The Championships were a huge success for the Scottish players winning an astonishing 19 titles and 10 runners up places.

The Welsh Championships were held in Cardiff from 15-17 August and the Irish Championships are scheduled to be held in Lisburn from 21-23 November. It is hoped that England will host an inaugural event in February 2009.

European Disabled Badminton Championships

These Championships took place in Dortmund, Germany from 21-25 May. Scotland sent two representatives to the Championships, Alan Oliver in the standing category and Ryan MacDonald in the wheelchair category. Both players are members of the Glasgow Disabled Club.

Congratulations go to Alan who won a bronze medal in the Singles and a silver medal in the Doubles. What a fantastic effort and he becomes Scotland's first European disabled badminton medalist.

Ryan performed well against some of the World's best wheelchair players but did not progress from his pools but gained much from his experience.

Anyone requiring further information relating to the SDBG should contact:

Russell Hogg, Development Manager, *BADMINTONscotland* on **0141 445 1218** or email **russell@badmintonscotland.org.uk**



Events and Reports

Busy Year for Scottish Boccia

The past 12 months has proved to be a very busy and exciting period for Scottish Boccia with more competitive opportunities on the calendar than ever before.

At an International level the Scottish squad, with a blend of youth and experience competed at the Defi Sportif International in Montreal, Canada from 1st - 5th May. 87 players from seven countries took part in the event at the Maurice-Richard Arena, part of the 1976 Montreal Olympic Park. For many of the athletes and staff this was their first experience of international competition and they proved a credit to Scotland with their performances both on and off court. The seven players led by coach Claire Mands were able to learn a great deal from experienced Scottish players Peter and Stephen McGuire who were in Montreal with Jacqueline Lynne's GB

squad. Peter and Stephen had a very successful competition with victory in the BC4 pairs competition and a silver for Stephen and bronze for Peter in the individual competition.

Shortly after returning from Canada the Scottish team travelled to Cardiff for the British Championships, hosted for the first time by Wales. Again Peter and Stephen showed their class in an enthralling final with Peter coming out on top for the first time at the British Championships.

The final and probably toughest competition of the year was saved for July when the young Scottish squad headed to the Cheshire International Boccia competition. This was the final competition for many of the nations competing at the Beijing Paralympics and the standard of Boccia was simply breathtaking. In the BC3 competition

the young Scots were defeated in the group stages by Portugal and Belgium before winning their play-off against an equally young Welsh side. In the BC4 competition Peter and Stephen, playing for Scotland were in a tough group with Portugal and Canada and unfortunately failed to make it out of their pool.

In addition to the international events the Scottish CP and Open Championships have continued to grow and improve in standard. Many more local Branches are working with Boccia players to develop their skills and increase standards.

The future is looking bright for Boccia in Scotland as Peter and Stephen McGuire continue to challenge the world's best and the very promising crop of young players continue to improve with every event.

Home Nations Football Championships

In the past year, SDS football squads for players with cerebral palsy, head injury or stroke and players with learning disabilities have competed in their respective Home Nations Championships.

The University of Ulster in Belfast was the venue for the Home Nations Football Championships for players with cerebral palsy.

It was a very successful outing for the Scottish 'future' team who finished top of their group. They defeated the Republic of Ireland 4-0 and then Northern Ireland 2-1. Tribute must be paid to the coaching staff of Greg Taylor and Alan Karas who have helped mould the squad into an excellent competitive team over the past few months.

The senior team had two matches against England, winning them both comfortably. Scotland won their matches 3-0 and 7-0 respectively providing satisfaction within the coaching staff with the quality of victory in both games. Special mention

must be made of the performance of Connor Hays who scored on his debut for Scotland.

The National Sport Centre Inverclyde hosted the Three Nations Tournament for players with a learning disability with Scotland, Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland competing. The format is an 11 a-side game played over 90 minutes for players under the age of 18.

In their first match a young Scottish squad took the lead against Northern Ireland before drawing the match 1-1. Sean Cunningham's performance in particular caught the eye and the youngster from Peterhead continued this level of consistency throughout the tournament before being crowned

Player of the Championships.

The Republic of Ireland proved to be too strong for the Scottish squad

in their second match winning a very competitive battle 4-0. Credit must go to coaches Scott Kinross and Ian Mason who have worked closely with the squad this season in preparing them for the Championships and it was rewarding to see the team equip themselves so well.

Football for players with cerebral palsy, head injury or stroke and learning

disabilities continues to flourish. The Scottish FA / SDS partnership grows in strength with every training session, event or competition. Within disability sport in Scotland football is very much a growth sport.



Events and Reports

Delayed flight of the Phoenix

Lothian Phoenix Wheelchair Basketball Club travelled to the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield for the Great Britain Wheelchair Basketball Association (GBWBA) Play Offs on 18 and 19 May.

Having finished second in the GBWBA Division Three North, Phoenix did not gain automatic promotion, but rather had a play off against the second placed teams from the South and Central Divisions.

In their opening match against the West Coast Tornadoes, the Phoenix got off to a blistering start and finished the 1st quarter leading 24-9. By halftime the lead had been extended to 36-19, but it was the third quarter that sealed the fate of the Tornadoes as the Phoenix created a tempest of their own, led by

a whirlwind 12 points of scoring from Rab O'Rorke.

By the end of the quarter the lead had been further extended to 60-29 and Coach Stevie Duff took the opportunity to rest his starting five and closed out the game with the bench players.

The final score was 68-48 and part one of the task was complete.

Three hours later the Phoenix faced the Stratford Players, knowing victory would ensure their place in the second division in 2008-2009. The evenly matched teams slugged it out but Phoenix completed part two of the task and won promotion to the Second Division North with a 52-39 victory.

Congratulations go to all the players and coaches involved with the Lothian



Phoenix club and we wish you all every success in the Second Division North during 2008-2009.

For more information regarding the Lothian Phoenix Wheelchair Basketball Club go to the club's website at www.lothianphoenix.org.uk or contact **Stevie Duff** on **01875 619068** or email sduff@eastlothian.gov.uk

14 Smiles on the faces of New Disabled Sailors!

Thursday 19th June saw a new project to develop disabled sailing, 'Get Wet', take to the water in Strathclyde Country Park. This new project is part of an initiative being managed by RYA Sailability Scotland, in partnership with RYA Scotland and the Royal Highland Yacht Club. The 'Get Wet' project is managed by Alex Campbell, a visually impaired sailor from Bellshill, near Glasgow. Alex is a recent appointment to the post of RYA Sailability Scotland Development Officer, and brings to the role a ton of enthusiasm for sailing, and the eagerness to get as many disabled people in Scotland to try sailing as possible.

Alex managed to attract eight people from all over North Lanarkshire with a variety of disabilities, out on the water, even though rain threatened through much of the day. With the help of volunteers from the Clyde Cruising Club, Strathclyde Loch Sailing Club, and instructors Robin, Douglas and Gary from James Hamilton Heritage Park, everyone got out on the water in Challenger sailing dinghies for a real good blast, before heading back to shore soaking wet and dying for a cup of tea. Challenger dinghies have been

specially designed and built with people with physical disabilities in mind, and as they have three hulls, and a special mainsail, they go really quickly.

Many thanks to all the volunteers and instructors who helped out on the day, and to the new sailors for attending the event – we look forward to seeing you all again soon!



If you are keen to try sailing, or know someone who might, please contact **Jane Campbell Morrison** on **0131 317 4610**, or by email jane.campbellmorrison@ryascotland.org.uk, or **Alex Campbell** on alex.campbell@visibility.org.uk, to find out about opportunities that exist across Scotland. Alternatively visit www.ryascotland.org.uk/sailability, to catch up with the latest news.

Recognition By Her Majesty The Queen

Her Majesty the Queen recently announced that Tayside Special Olympics should receive The Queen's Awards for Voluntary Service 2008.

The awards, first announced by The Queen in 2002 to mark the occasion of her Golden Jubilee, recognises excellence in voluntary activities carried out by groups in the community.

The group was nominated by Councillor Iain Gaul and have been through a vigorous assessment and selection process. Tayside are one of only eight groups in Scotland to receive this prestigious award.

Six members of Tayside Special Olympics attended the Queens Garden Party on Tuesday 1st July, 2008 and a Civic Reception was hosted in their honour on Thursday 24th July, 2008 in Angus.

Events and Reports

Summer Sports Camp Buzz for 2008

The Scottish Disability Sport Summer Sports Camp has continued to grow each year with new athletes and sports heading to the National Sports Centre Inverclyde each July. This year saw 32 young people arriving from all over Scotland for three days of intensive sporting activity.

Nine sports were tackled over the course of the three days led by expert coaches which gave the athletes a taste of the many sports that they can get involved with in their local areas. The programme commenced with a highly energetic athletics session which set the tone for the rest of the camp. This gave new Scottish Athletics Disability Development Officer Shona Malcolm the chance to work with some of the budding youngsters involved in disability sport in Scotland.

This was followed by excellent sessions in tennis, football, badminton, archery, bowls, table tennis, boccia and shinty that challenged the athletes individually and within their teams.



Each year the athletes have the opportunity to hear from some of

Scotland's top performers and this year was no exception. A very inspiring talk was given by Scotland CP football captain Scott Troup and GB Paralympic footballer Kieran Martin, who then worked with coach Stuart Sharp to deliver the practical football session.

With a number of youngsters at the camp for the first time it was great to see how well the group gelled and worked together to ensure that everyone had an enjoyable three days.

The staff group once again put in a huge amount of work to keep the camp atmosphere buzzing and ensure that the athletes and visiting coaches were warmly welcomed to the 2008 summer camp. Hopefully this fantastic atmosphere will be back in 2009!

SDS Athlete Academy

The SDS Athlete Academy (Academy) was created to support the continued development of our most promising athletes with the potential to succeed at National, International, World, Commonwealth and Paralympic Competitions. The Academy will support athletes with their continued progression on a performance pathway by providing a system of sport specific support and education that will ensure our athletes are fully prepared for selection into the Area Institute of Sport, Scottish Institute of Sport and World Class Programmes.

Athletes who are identified by the SDS Sports Coordinator and / or appropriate sport specific representative, as having achieved their sports' criteria, will be considered for selection into the Academy. During this first year, ten athletes were identified and nominated within six sports. These athletes are:



- Athletics:** Collette Martin and Robert Ferrol
- Basketball:** Robert O'Rorke and Martin Dougan
- Boccia:** Cara McDonald
- Bowls:** James Smith
- Swimming:** Jennifer Somerville, Stefan Hoggan and Craig Rodgie
- Tennis:** Kevin Simpson

SDS is delighted to note that each of these athletes have continued to perform fantastically well on the national and international stage this season, fully justifying their inclusion as an Academy athlete.

There is a number of notable and significant achievements worth highlighting:

- Kevin Simpson was selected by Paralympics GB into the Wheelchair Tennis Squad for the Beijing Paralympic Games.

- James Smith finished 4th in the Singles and was part of the Scottish team that finished 3rd at the IBD World Championships in Sydney. As a result, James has now been inducted into the Grampian Institute of Sport.
- Craig Rodgie was selected by Great Britain to swim at the INAS-FID European Championships in Poland, winning 3 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze at the Inaugural International event.

SDS would like to acknowledge the invaluable support and contribution provided by the coaches, clubs, families and branches of all Academy athletes. As the Academy is in its relative infancy, SDS will strive to improve the level of support afforded our athletes in the years ahead and investigate ways of supplementing and enhancing their existing programmes.

With London 2012 and Glasgow 2014 firmly on the performance calendar, SDS will endeavour to continue the identification and support of our most talented athletes.

Beijing Bound

In this edition of the newsletter, we focus on three of our most promising young athletes, who this summer, will be in Beijing with Team GB competing in their first Paralympics. We wish them every success.



Name: Jonathon Paterson
Sport: Football
Event: CP 7-a-Side Squad
Date of Birth: 15/01/1988

Factfile: Member of Scottish Team who finished 6th at the World Championships in Brazil, 2007.

What are your targets / aspirations?

This year has been about training hard and getting in the best possible condition to compete in Beijing. After that my target is to continue playing well for Scotland and play more competitive mainstream club football.

Biggest achievement as an athlete?

Personally, the biggest achievement has been how far I've come as a footballer. From being involved originally with the Scotland Squad, to performing so well at the World Championships in Brazil and now being selected for the Paralympics. I couldn't have imagined achieving so much so quickly.

Who is your biggest influence / role model and why?

David Beckham is my football idol, he's such an iconic figure and one I've admired since I was a kid. Also, my brother, he's someone I've always looked up to because he has played professional football in Scotland and now in America. It's great we can now discuss football stories and share our experiences.

Interests or hobbies?

I'd like to use my qualifications in Sports Coaching and Development to work with young children who have disabilities. I'm working to achieve a number of Scottish FA coaching certificates and would like to give something back into football.



Name: Sean Fraser
Sport: Swimming
Event: S8 100m Backstroke and 100m Fly

Date of Birth: 30/04/1990

Factfile: Won 3 gold medals at Cerebral Palsy World Championships in Connecticut, 2005.

What are your targets / aspirations?

I need to be realistic in Beijing as it's really my first major championships. However, I hope to swim to the best of my ability and hopefully make some finals. Longer term, I want to hold world records and win international medals.

Biggest achievement as an athlete?

Swimming at the CP World Championships in 2005 where I won 3 gold medals. My biggest honour though has been representing GB and selection for Beijing which is just amazing.

Who is your biggest influence / role model and why?

In swimming terms Alexander Popov and Ian Thorpe are always guys I've looked up to. It's also a great honour to have trained and competed with great Scottish Paralympians like Andrew Lindsay.

Interests or hobbies?

Generally I do what other guys my age do, relax and go out with mates and play the occasional game of football.



Name: Gordon Reid
Sport: Tennis
Event: Singles and Doubles
Date of Birth: 02/10/1991

Factfile: Winner of the International Junior Masters Singles and Doubles in France 2008.

What are your targets / aspirations?

Short term I want to make sure I play my best tennis in Beijing and challenge any player I come up against. Longer term I'm training for London 2012 where I hope to draw on my experiences this year and hopefully win a medal.

Biggest achievement as an athlete?

I have two really, winning the Junior World Team Championship with Great Britain in 2007 and doing the same again this year as part of the Men's squad. Apart from Paralympics it's the only time you really get to represent Great Britain.

Who is your biggest influence / role model and why?

My training partner Kevin Simpson, whose also going to Beijing was at my first ever wheelchair tennis session along with Peter Moore. Because of the support they gave me I've always really looked up to them.

Interests or hobbies?

I'm really into music and enjoy going to see live bands when I have the time. I also play and watch other sports such as football to help me relax.

Events and Reports

Inclusive Coaching

In April 2007, 17 National Governing Bodies of Sport and nine Scottish Local Authorities advised Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) in Pitlochry of their current position with disability sports coaching, and how the present situation might be further developed in the period ahead. Issues addressed included: what coaches need to know about disability sports: should training be delivered as a 'bolt on' or as an integral part of the NGB Award and who should deliver.

Not surprisingly responses were many and varied. Every return was however very positive. There was a clear willingness on the part of representatives to strengthen existing partnership working with SDS or develop links where these currently do not exist. **sportscotland's** investment has made it possible for SDS to concentrate resources on coaching for



the first time in its history. Through time SDS will develop an integrated coaching plan aligned to the action points of Coaching Scotland.

As well as being proactive in Scotland SDS is playing a lead role in the recently formed UK Disability Sport Coaching, Learning and Leadership Group (UKDS-CLL) which will lead and influence the requirements of disability sports coaching throughout the UK. Terms of reference have been written and adopted and these address the key priorities of our time. Included on the group are the main UK partners in the field of coaching, learning and

leadership. The UKDS-CLL will inform the UK Coaching Framework and its associated five strategic actions on issues relating to the needs of disabled coaches and coaches of disabled people.

The present SDS contribution to coach education is through Disability Inclusion Training (DIT) and the SDS education and training calendar. The education and training calendar offers a range of generic and sports specific bespoke courses, sometimes organised in conjunction with Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport. SDS personnel deliver the two Sports Coach UK Disability Sports courses in conjunction with **sportscotland** on a regular basis throughout the country. SDS is currently meeting with specific Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport to develop more formal pathways in coach education for existing and potential coaches involved in disability sport. A DIT course is currently being considered for the whole of GB and Northern Ireland.

SDS is currently trying to gather data on the number of Scottish coaches involved in disability sports in Scotland. A key priority for SDS in 2008 is to develop a coaches database and encourage mainstream and disability sports coaches to register through the SDS website. Through time this information will help influence and shape the SDS workforce development plan for coaching.

Coaches are now recognised for the vital role they play in supporting athletes and players and their contributions are acknowledged in print and on video on the SDS website. SDS is keen to engage ex athlete

members as coaches and use their experience to up skill potential mainstream coaches of disabled sports



people. By providing links to National Governing Bodies of Sport coach education programmes, SDS will encourage volunteers and leaders within disability sport to pursue a career in coaching and officiating.

Coaching is very much on the agenda in disability sport in Scotland. The Pitlochry weekend came at the right time and the formation of the UKDS-CLL group has offered the opportunity for a joined up approach that is truly UK wide. SDS enjoys a very healthy working relationship with many of Scotland's Governing Bodies of Sport, Local Authorities and **sportscotland** and the period ahead will be a time when inclusive coaching is the hot topic of the day.

Events and Reports

SDS Updates

Good Practice Guide Progressing

sportscotland has commissioned Leeds Metropolitan University to produce a Good Practice Guide to support the promotion and development of sports participation by people with a disability. The aim of the publication is to provide information, advice and good practice examples on how to include people with different disabilities in physical activity and sport. The primary target audience will be those who make sports policy or provide sporting opportunities: the Scottish Government, sportscotland, local authorities, governing bodies of sport, sport and / or disability associations, facility managers and clubs. The secondary audience will be people with disabilities interested in taking part in physical activity and sport or doing so more frequently or at higher levels. In addition, the project will result in a summary of research findings on sport and disability in the form of a policy-orientated research review. The Good Practice Guide is being produced in partnership with Sport Northern Ireland and will be officially launched later this year.

International Event for 2010

18 Within the current SDS Strategic Plan 'Towards London 2012 and Beyond', SDS has set the target to host a recognised international event in Scotland by 2012. SDS has committed to submit a bid to the Cerebral Palsy International Sport and Recreation Association (CIPISRA) to host the European Football Championships in Glasgow in 2010. An event working group has been established with key partners from the Scottish FA, sportscotland, Event Scotland, UK Sport, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow City Marketing Bureau. The event bid is due to be submitted to CIPISRA during February with the announcement of the successful bid scheduled for April. The Championships will take place during August 2010.

2009 Conference Date Announced

SDS will co-ordinate a major conference during 2009 which will focus on inclusion and the issues faced by young people with disabilities when accessing sport, physical activity and physical education. The conference will take place on **Thursday 26th February** with the venue being the Edinburgh Conference Centre at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh. An exciting programme of key note presentations and workshops is currently being compiled and information packs will be widely distributed later this year.

SDS Achieves Equity Award

SDS is delighted to announce that the Association has successfully completed the assessment process for the Equity Standard: A Framework for Sport and has attained Foundation Level. The Equity Standard is a framework to guide sport and community organisations towards achieving equity. It assists organisations in developing structures and processes, assessing performance and ensuring continuous improvement in equity. SDS will commence work on the Preliminary Level of the Standard during 2009 which will include the compilation of an SDS Equity Action Plan which will be rolled out across the Association.

Branch Minimum Operating Standards

SDS is to roll out a programme of minimum operating standards in the areas of governance and child and adult at risk protection to all local Branches in the year ahead. This is being undertaken to ensure that all SDS Branches are 'fit for purpose' and follows on from SDS successfully completing the sportscotland management audit review and signing up to the 2006 Accord For The Protection Of Children in Scottish Sport. Details of the minimum operating standards were presented to the SDS Professional Officer's Group during June and three roadshows have taken place to present the standards to branch personnel across Scotland. Assistance will then be offered to all SDS Branches in the year ahead to support implementation.

INAS-FID Global Games 2009

The next major event for elite athletes with a learning disability will be the International Sports Federation for People with an Intellectual Disability (INAS-FID) Global Games which will be held in Prague during July 2009. A Great Britain team will be selected to compete in the sports of athletics, swimming, futsal, table tennis, tennis and cycling. At present a working group has been established under the auspices of the UK Sports Association for People with a Learning Disability (UKSA), comprising members of each home country to look at the selection of athletes and coaches along with the logistics of sending a team to an event of this size. It is hoped that Scotland will have representation in athletics, swimming, table tennis, tennis and cycling. For further information, please contact **Janice Eaglesham** on **0141 287 0260** or **Janice.Eaglesham@glasgow.gov.uk**

United Kingdom Sports Association for People with a learning Disability (UKSA)

UKSA is comprised of board members from each home country disability sport organisation along with a Chairperson, volunteer Chief Executive and National Director. It has an office base in London and exists to co-ordinate high performance sport for athletes with a learning disability. UKSA co-ordinates the selection and administration of teams competing at International Sports Federation for People with an Intellectual Disability (INAS - FID) European and World Championships. UKSA administers the national and international registrations of athletes with a learning disability from the UK. If athletes with a learning disability were to ever be accepted back into the Paralympics, UKSA would oversee this process on behalf of potential GB athletes. Scotland is represented on the Board of UKSA by Gordon McCormack and Janice Eaglesham.

Calendar of Events

2008

Sport	Day	Date	Activity	Venue	Time	Attendees	Sponsors	Contacts
Athletics	Sunday	10 October	10Km Wheelchair Championships	Jedburgh	1.30	Individuals	Scottish Borders Council	Jed Renilson 01835 824 000 +Ext 5354
Snooker	Saturday and Sunday	11-12 October	DSE Open Snooker Championships	Rileys, Belle Vue, Manchester	Various		DSE Events	Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Wheelchair Curling	Saturday and Sunday	1-2 November	Star Refrigeration National Pairs	Braehead				Sheila Swan 0131 333 3003
Swimming	Saturday and Sunday	1-2 November	DSE British Short Course Swimming Championships	Ponds Forge, Sheffield	Various	Scottish Team	DSE Events	Jen Quinton 01382 202 039 Norma Buchanan*
Swimming	Wednesday	5 November	SDS National Junior Championships for Blind and Physically Disabled Swimmers	Grangemouth Sports Complex	11.00 to 17.00	Branch Teams	Falkirk Council / Nationwide	Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Swimming	Wednesday	19 November	SDS National Junior Championships for Swimmers with a Learning Disability	Tollcross Leisure Centre, Glasgow	11.00 to 17.00	Branch Teams	Nationwide	Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Wheelchair Curling	Friday to Sunday	28-30 November	British Open for Wheelchair Curling	Kinross Ice Rink				Sheila Swan 0131 333 3003
Swimming	Saturday	29 November	SDS Inter Area Swimming Gala	Dalkeith	14.00 to 17.00	Branch Teams		Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Boccia	Saturday and Sunday	29-30 November	DSE Open Boccia Championships	Liverpool	Various	Individuals	DSE	Claire Mands 0131 317 1130
Cross Country	Tuesday	2 December	SDS Cross Country Series	Peffermill Playing Fields Craigmillar Road, Edinburgh	11.00 to 12.30	Junior and Senior Athletes		John de Courcy 0131 651 6520

2009

Carpet Bowls	Saturday	7 February	SDS National Carpet Bowls Championships	DISC Dundee	10.30 to 18.00	Branch Teams		Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Cross Country	Tuesday	24 February	SDS Cross Country Series	Peffermill Playing Fields Craigmillar Road,	13.00 to 14.30	Junior and Senior Athletes		John de Courcy 0131 651 6520
Conference	Thursday	26 February	SDS Conference	Conference Centre, Heriot Watt, Edinburgh				SDS Head Office 0131 317 1130
Athletics	Tuesday	10 March	Sports Hall Athletes Championships	Bells Sports Centre, Perth	10.00 to 15.00	Invited Branch Teams		Claire Mands 0131 317 1130
Wheelchair Curling	Friday to Sunday	20-22 March	Scottish Wheelchair Curling Championships	Aberdeen				Sheila Swan 0131 333 3003
Swimming	Saturday	18 April	SDS Senior Swimming Championships for Blind and Physically Disabled Swimmers	Fife Sports Institute, Glenrothes	11.00 to 17.00	Branch Teams	Nationwide / Fife Sports Leisure Trust	Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Football	Wednesday	29 April	SDS 5-a-Side Football Championships	Glasgow	10.30	Branch Teams		Claire Mands 0131 317 1130 Norma Buchanan*
Swimming	Saturday	9 May	SDS National Senior Championships for Swimmers with a Learning Disability	Tollcross Leisure Centre, Glasgow (possible change for refurbishment)	1.00 to 17.00	Branch Teams		Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989
Football	Thursday	14 May (provisional)	SDS 11-a-Side Football Championships	To be confirmed	10.30	Branch Teams		Claire Mands 0131 317 1130 Norma Buchanan*
Athletics	Wednesday	3 June	SDS Junior Athletics	Grangemouth Stadium Championships	11.00	Branch Junior Teams LD/PD		Claire Mands 0131 317 1130 Norma Buchanan*
Multi-sports	Thursday to Tuesday	9-14 July	INAS Global Games	Czech Republic		Scottish Team		
Multi-sports	Friday to Friday	24-31 July	SOGB National Special Olympics Summer Games 2009	Leicester		Regional Teams		
Athletics	Wednesday	2 September	SDS Scottish Championships for Athletes with a Learning Disability	Grangemouth Stadium	11.00 to 17.00	Branch Teams	Sports Council for Glasgow	Janice Eaglesham 0141 287 0260 Claire Mands 0131 317 1130

*Norma Buchanan 08451 555 555 +Ext 444 989

Contacts

Sports Co-ordinators

Sport	Co-ordinator	Telephone
Angling	John Hood	0774 949 2249
Archery	Vacant	SDS Head Office
Athletics – LD	Vacant	SDS Head Office
Athletics – PD	John de Courcy	0131 651 6065 (W)
Boccia	Jacqueline Lynn	SDS Head Office
Bowls	Vacant	SDS Head Office
Cross Country	John de Courcy	0131 651 6065 (W)
Football – PD	Vacant	SDS Head Office
Football – LD	Lori Ure	0141 287 5130
Swimming – PD	Jen Quinton	01382 202039
Swimming – LD	Gordon Quinton	01382 202039
Table Tennis	Vacant	SDS Head Office
Wheelchair Basketball	Fraser Govan	01569 768355
Wheelchair Curling	Kate Caithness	01356 647212
Wheelchair Road Racing	Vacant	SDS Head Office
Wheelchair Rugby	Dave Rhoney	0131 449 6668

Branches

Area	Contact	Telephone
Aberdeen	Andrinne Craig	01224 814788
Aberdeenshire	Claire Bonner	01467 628812
Angus	Laura Smith	01307 475367
Borders	Jed Renilson	01835 824000 (x5354)
Dumfries & Galloway	Laura Vickers	01461 207028
Dundee	Gordon Quinton	01382 432346
Fife	Norma Buchanan	08451 555555 (x444989)
Forth Valley	Lynne Glen	01786 432269
Glasgow	Gordon McCormack	0141 287 5294
Highland	Charlie Forbes & Lesley Jones	01463 232262
Lothian	Gary Fraser	01875 619070
North Ayrshire	Stephen Browning	01294 317457
Perth & Kinross	Caroline Ness	01738 637129
South Ayrshire	Colin Duthie	01292 294732
South Lanarkshire	Millar Stoddart	01698 476131

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