

MPH/ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS AWARDS 2007

On Friday 28th March, Aberdeenshire Sports Council held their annual sports awards evening at the Exchange, Thainstone. Almost 200 people attended this enjoyable and inspirational evening. The winners were selected from 65 nominations, all of a very high standard and as ever it was incredibly difficult selecting the winners.

The awards were sponsored by Masson and Glennie Solicitors from Peterhead, Craigdon Sports Goods suppliers from Inverurie, Limehillock developments from Grange, the Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils and McIntosh Plant Hire who were the main sponsors of the evening.

The company was addressed by the Provost of Aberdeenshire, Bill Howatson and by Jan Stander, coaching Manager of Grampian Coaching.

Awards Evening Winners

Outstanding Achievement Of the Year Award –

Sponsor Masson and Glennie

Winner

Vicki Keenan Disabled Dressage Rider



Despite withdrawing from the 2007 Riding for the Disabled Championship because of a family bereavement, Vikki was still selected for the Special Olympics Equestrian team on the strength of her results in able bodied competitions.

At the Special Olympics in Shanghai, she won 1 gold and 2 bronze medals. She was also the subject of a TV documentary following her progress before and during the games.

Vicki is currently studying for a SVQ2 at Elmwood College and still spends a lot of time helping at the RDA where she is a wonderful role model for younger riders

Service To Sport Award –

Sponsor sportsScotland and Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils

Winner

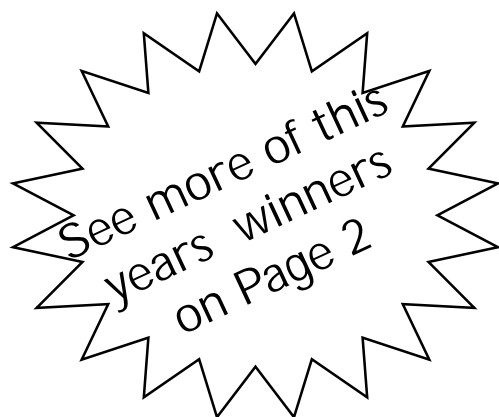
Ronald Anderson Buchan Riding Club



Ronald is a founder member of Buchan Riding Club which celebrated its Silver

Anniversary in 2007. He has been chairman for the past 22 years being very much the embodiment of the spirit of the club. He has been cross country course builder at the renowned course at Philorth which over the last 30 years has raised many thousands of pounds for charity. He is much in demand as a course builder for show jumping and working hunter competitions.

Ronald is always willing to go that extra mile to help anyone in the development of equestrian sport.



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Coach of the Year Award –

Sponsor Limehillock Developments

Winner

Iain Hunter Ythan Amateur Swimming Club

Iain was previously Scottish Breaststroke Champion.

Over the last 10 years he has taken Ythan from a club struggling for survival to a successful dynamic club which has won the Cromar Cup on three occasions.

They have also won the DNV Challenge Cup as well as the Upper Deeside and Ythan Cups. He has taken several swimmers to the Scottish National Championship and currently has 3 swimmers in the North District Development Squad. He wants to keep the club an all inclusive one where children of all standards are equally valued.



Team of the Year Award –

Sponsor Limehillock Developments

Winner

Mintlaw Academy Senior Girls

The Senior Girls again won the Bank of Scotland Girls Senior title winning their 5th Scottish Winners medal in 5 years.

They also won the North of Scotland Cup for the first time.

There has been International recognition for 5 team members at Under 15 Scottish Schools level.

The girls are trying their hardest to maintain this unprecedented run of success.



Young Female Sports Personality of the Year Award –

Sponsor McIntosh Plant Hire

Winner and McIntosh Plant Hire Scholarship winner

Kay Copland International Small Bore Rifle Shooter

This year, Kay represented Scotland Ladies, Juniors and Seniors in the Scottish Championships.

She shot in the GB team in the European Championships in Granada and the Junior International in Pilzen Czech Republic where she set a new Scottish Junior record equalling Sheena Sharpe's then senior Scottish record of 294. In the Scottish Championships, she was promoted to X Class at the tender age of 16.

She is also Scottish Champion in Mixed and Open Pairs.

Kay is a fantastic prospect for the Youth Commonwealth Games being held this year in India



Young Male Sports Personality of the Year Award

– Sponsor MPH

Winner And McIntosh Plant Hire Scholarship

James Byrne Banchory Golf Club

With a current handicap of + 3.8, James represented Scotland and GB and Ireland at both boys and mens level

Gained 1st full Scottish cap at European Team Championship where he was a Bronze medallist.

Represented GB & I Boys v Europe in the Jaques L'Eglise Trophy

Represented Scotland at the Boys World Team Championship in Japan

Ranked 1st in Scottish Junior Order of Merit for 2007
Beat his own course record at Inchmarlo by 2 strokes with an 8 under par 63



Sports Personality of the Year Award – Sponsor

Craigdon Sports

Winner

Sheena Sharp
Huntly Small Bore Rifle Club

Following her outstanding double Gold medal victories in 2006, Sheena continued to improve her standards of performance in 2007

She won the British Womens Indoor Championship and was 3rd in the British Short Range Championship being the only woman in the final

She was selected for the GB Womens 50 metre team for the European Championship at Granada

She broke her Scottish record by 2, scoring 596 from a possible 600, a truly amazing feat.

Been inducted into the Scottish Small Bore Rifle Association Hall of Fame where her citation reads " not the normal granny"

Once again, our Sports personality of the year is Sheena Sharp



ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2008

This will probably be the last occasion I will address Aberdeenshire Sports Council AGM as Chairman: in February this year, I had the honour of being elected chairman of our national body, the Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils (SALSC) and feel it's not possible to effectively serve in both posts.

I would like to thank all the wonderful people I have worked with over the last 13 years in the Sports Council, officers, councillors and most importantly volunteers, I would particularly like to thank my fellow office bearers, Alison Hodgson, Jim Lessells and Kenny Gibb who have always been a pleasure to work with.

We have managed to increase our membership to over 350 affiliated clubs and individuals representing over 45 different sports making us one of the largest Sports Councils in Scotland as well as being one of the most active and progressive. There is still ample scope to increase membership – so do spread the word.

Our club accreditation programme, clubCAP is being taken up by an increasing number of clubs with participating clubs reporting good development benefits from the process. This year Aberdeen City and Moray have agreed to accept clubCAP as their accreditation programme which is a great compliment to the hard work done by the volunteers and Fraser Govan in developing it.

We have a good working relationship with the Aberdeenshire Active Schools Team which has now been expanded to cover the whole of Aberdeenshire. I would encourage member clubs to make contact with their local co-ordinator and take advantage of Sport Council funding of up to £1000 for developing initiatives.

We are also continuing to support Grampian Coaching which this year has appointed a full time development manager, Jan Stander. Jan has already done a great deal to expand the operation of Grampian Coaching and recently organised their first coaching seminar which attracted a good sized audience from across Grampian.

During the 2007/08 financial years we made 115 grant aid awards amounting to £24000 to individuals and clubs from 30 different sports and we have also continued to support Aberdeenshire Disability Sport, Aberdeenshire Sports Medicine Clinic and the Chris Anderson Trust.

As part of our marketing and promotion we have continued to produce our quarterly newsletter of which 2000 copies per issue are distributed. I would like to thank the grant recipients who produce such informative and interesting reports for the newsletter, which makes it such a good read.

On the 28th march 2008 we held our annual sports award evening and the Thainstone Exchange at Inverurie. I would like to thank the committee for their hard work in organising this evening. I would also like to thank our sponsors for their generosity over many years, particularly Bert McIntosh of McIntosh Plant Hire who were the main sponsors for the evening and funded £500 sporting scholarships for the winners of both the junior male and female classes. The evening was well attended and is a fantastic showcase for a staggering array of sporting talent and dedication. It's always extremely difficult to select the winners.

We held a Club Network evening last June at Archeolink which had presentations from Children 1st, Active Schools and advice on fund raising. The evening was well attended and a similar evening will be held soon. We also held open sessions at our executive meetings at Fraserburgh, Huntly and Westhill. The first were well attended and gave us useful feedback.

We ran a consultation with member clubs and received 62 responses. The answers to this consultation will be used to help formulate the new Aberdeenshire Sport and Active Lifestyle and I thank the respondents. We also held an open meeting to discuss developing links between clubs and schools which attracted 30 clubs from across Aberdeenshire. It is evident that there is concern in many clubs about child protection, disclosure checks and the need for first aid cover we will address in the coming year.

We should have launched our new Aberdeenshire Sports Directory by now but the response from clubs has been disappointingly slow. We are now almost ready to go to print but I would appeal to club secretaries to keep us up to date with information particularly if they leave post.

Aberdeenshire Sports Council will continue to provide quality advice and support to member clubs and organisation, volunteers and individuals offering a "one-stop" shop for advice and assistance, delivering a comprehensive range of services.

"Let us support you."

Jim Conn
Chairman.

SPORTassist - a new concept in sport funding

SPORTSassist is a new way for sports clubs to make money by working together with its members, its members friends and family and its supporters, in a way which won't cost them anything extra. It's a new but amazingly simple concept that can easily transform your club's finances forever.

SPORTSassist has created a panel of professional providers all of whom are passionate about sport and who are keen to build their own business but are equally keen to support and assist sports clubs financially. All of these professional providers will pay clubs regular sums of money via a SPORTSassist marketing payment to clubs who market their services. This is done by payment of quarterly SPORTSassist marketing payments being made to clubs who market to members and others the services available through SPORTSassist. There are no strings attached, this is not government money or charity, it is money the club has earned by its own efforts, and it can be spent any way the club wants without reporting to anyone.

SPORTSassist is not traditional sponsorship; SPORTSassist is a win win service which benefits both parties.

Clubs – How the concept works to fund sport

Clubs will sign an agreement with SPORTSassist. There is no cost whatsoever to the club in signing this agreement or at any other time. This agreement guarantees that club officials, members, and friends and family of club members can obtain the services offered by SPORTSassist Professional Providers. The services offered are listed on the services page. The club will be committed to market the services of the Professional Providers and will receive a quarterly SPORTSassist marketing payment. The more successful your marketing is the larger your marketing payments will become. Basically the more members and friends use our Professional Providers for their personal business the more money the club will get. It is as simple as that and there is a huge range of services which members will regularly require – some such as insurances which must be renewed every year. If these transactions are directed to SPORTSassist your club will make money. If the club can motivate members to use SPORTSassist for things they will be doing anyway – the member's club will benefit financially – it is as simple as that.

SPORTSassist has negotiated generous marketing payments from the Professional Providers, and clubs who actively use this scheme may expect to receive substantial payments. Payments to clubs will be made quarterly in arrears.

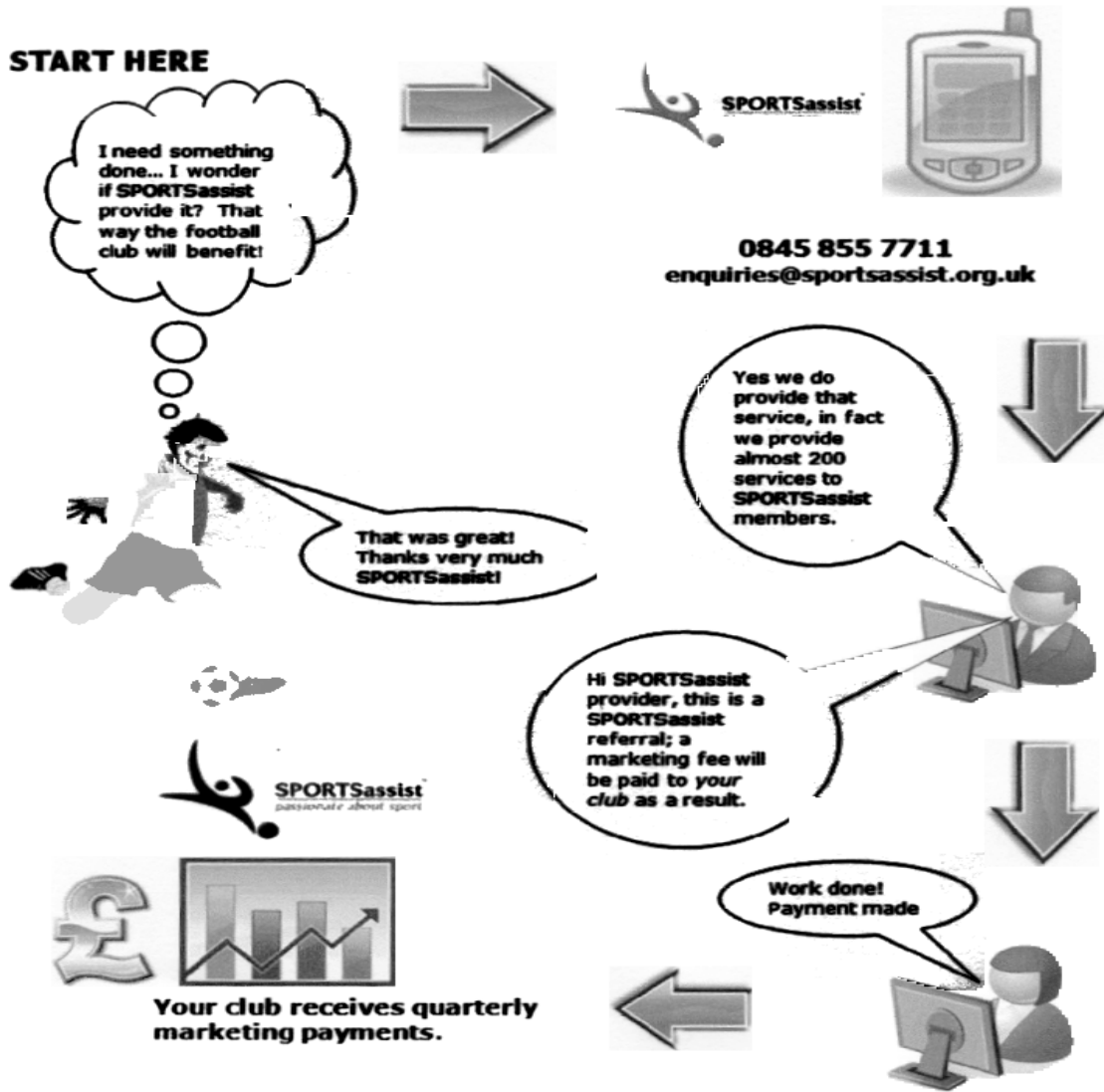
This is a working agreement designed to enhance club finances and to develop the business of the Professional Providers. It is not any form of gift or a concept similar to traditional sponsorship. Clubs which sign an agreement with SPORTSassist will be expected to market the services of SPORTSassist and the Professional Providers vigorously and effectively throughout the duration of the agreement. Marketing materials will be provided by SPORTSassist. The key marketing material is the club members' SPORTSassist card. We ask clubs to give these cards to all members, their families and friends, and to motivate members when they are thinking of using one of the two hundred or so services we have on offer – just to phone the number on that card. That simple step is the key to a club making money. There is no catch.

At SPORTSassist we understand the effort necessary to run a club and keep things going. That's why we have made signing up with us easy and kept paperwork to an absolute minimum. Once a club has signed the agreement there is no more paperwork. The club gets on with marketing and we handle all the clients produced and report to the club quarterly. The club does the marketing, we deal with all administration, and the club makes the money. It really is that simple.

Working with SPORTSassist is not intended to conflict with any traditional sponsorships a club may have. If you have a shirt sponsor, a competition sponsor or any other type of sponsor we urge clubs to keep these arrangements in place. We do not seek recognition on strips or on tournament advertising – in fact we hope by getting more money into clubs via SPORTSassist clubs may improve their standards and find it easier to obtain traditional sponsorship. Working with SPORTSassist should add to the flow of funds coming into a club – not replace existing monies.

HOW TO MAKE MONEY FOR *YOUR SPORTS CLUB*

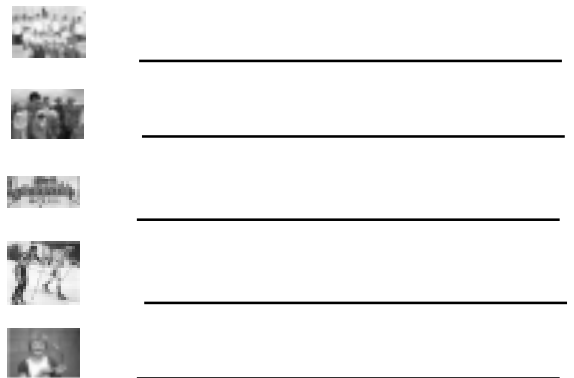
START HERE



For further details go to www.sportsassist.org.uk or call 0845 855 7711

Competition Time!

Your chance to win a £20.00 sports voucher for yourself or your club/organisation/school. We have reduced in size 6 photos all you have to do is write down which page the photo is printed on. One of the photos appears on 2 pages write both pages down please.



Name _____ Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel No _____

Club/Organisation _____

Return to: Aberdeenshire Sports Council, 1 Church Street, Macduff, AB44 1UR no later than Friday 4th July 2008

Active Schools & Club Network Evening

Aberdeenshire Sports Council, in conjunction with Active Schools, is organising a network evening for clubs.

The evening aims to bring together Active Schools Coordinators and clubs to discuss, amongst other things, joint working ideas and project areas to provide better opportunities to develop a pathway of progression for children into sport.

Attending the evening will be:

- * Children 1st to discuss the issues of Child Protection and some of the Governing Bodies, also to look at joint project working and funding ventures. This will include a presentation to look at best practice and the process for Disclosure, including an outline and the implications of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. To Be Confirmed
- * Funding Advisor to look at project funding for clubs, schools or joint approach to apply for funding for projects that provide new opportunities for children in sport and the community. Ideas for discussion can be wide ranging from Awards for All development projects to other avenues that are unknown of.
- * Aberdeenshire Council representative to discuss the new sport strategy and how this will be developed.
- * Aberdeenshire's Active School Manager & Active School Coordinators will give a presentation on Active Schools and how they can develop links with clubs.

The event will take place at:

Venue: Portlethen Academy
Bruntland Road
Portlethen
Aberdeenshire
AB12 4QL

Date: Wednesday 18 June 2008

Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm

- The evening will be free to attend and will include refreshments and a buffet. Please let us know if you would like to attend as spaces are limited and have to be offered on a first come, first served basis. Please complete and return the attached form, by Wednesday 11 June 2008, to book your place for this valuable, informative and idea inspiring club evening.

Active Schools & Club Network Evening Registration Form

Name of Club/Group

Contact Name

Address

.....

Telephone No

E-mail address

Website

Signature

Date

Please give details of all your club representatives would
will be attending the Active Schools/Club Network
Evening

Name

Address

Tel No

Position in Club

Name

Address

Tel No

Position in Club

Name

Address

Tel No

Position in Club

Name

Address

Tel No

Position in Club

Please return your completed registration form to: Alison
Hodgson (Secretary)
Aberdeenshire Sports Council
1 Church Street, Macduff, AB44 1UR

Closing Date for registrations is Wednesday 11 June
2008



AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS

TOGETHER WE WILL BEAT CANCER

Cancer Research UK's Relay For Life is returning to Peterhead for a third year after a record breaking event last year. Relay For Life is a unique, fun, 24-hour team fundraising



event which will be taking place in Peterhead at Lord Catto Park, on Saturday 21st - Sunday 22nd June, 11am-11am.

Almost £30,000 was raised in 2007, the most ever in the North East, along with a record 23 cancer survivors leading the way round the opening lap and 471 Candles of Hope lit at the evening ceremony.

Local woman, Angie Shearer 23, a PE teacher at Banff Academy, has been the Committee Chair for the past 4 years and is encouraging teams to enter. "Relay For Life is truly 24 hours that will never be forgotten. I first took part 8 years ago when my Granny died from cancer. Cancer touches most of us at some time in our lives, by taking part in Relay For Life it brings the community together to raise money for such an important cause and to have fun at the same time."

Teams of up to 15 people of any age can take part with team members taking it in turns to walk around the track throughout the 24 hours. Teams can be made up of family, friends, work colleagues, schools, clubs and organisations. There are many fun activities for the teams to participate in. Teams take along their own tents and are encouraged to dress up their tents and themselves for the Best Dressed Team and Tent competition. Entertainment will include inflatable sumo wrestling, a penalty shoot out, tug-o-war, quizzes, live music, midnight games and fancy dress laps.

There are two main highlights of the Relay – the "Survivors Lap" and the "Candles of Hope". Survivors of all ages are invited to attend the opening ceremony as guests of honour, to walk the opening lap. All survivors will receive a gift, t-shirt and pin badge for participating and afterwards there is a special reception, massage available and a limo trip, donated by Prestige Wedding Car Hire. In the evening the very poignant Candles of Hope Ceremony takes place. Beautifully decorated candles are personally dedicated in memory or celebration of someone affected by cancer. Participants and the public are invited to dedicate a candle to someone special to them.

Anyone interested in entering a team should contact Angie Shearer at peterheadrelay@aol.com, phone 01466 792410, or log onto www.relayforlife.org.uk for more information. There are many ways of supporting your local Relay For Life other than entering a team. Members of the public are more than welcome to come along and visit on the day, dedicate a Candle and attend the Candles of Hope ceremony at 10.30pm, and cancer survivors can attend the Survivors' Lap beginning at 10.45am. Anyone interested in finding out more should contact Angie Shearer.

Competition Results!!!!

Well done to Scott Forsyth and Emily West from Longside School who won the £20 Sports Equipment Voucher for their school.

Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

World Junior Nordic Ski Champs 2008 Schliding, Malles, Val Venosta – Italy

At the start of the summer training season the Nordic committee of SnowsportGB set the qualification standards for the world Junior champs scheduled for Wisla, Poland at the start of February. Following this the British Junior Nordic Ski Team set about a series of FIS races in Sweden, Norway and Canada along with the Norwegian Team selection races. This would be the first year since the early 90's that a team had been sent to the World Junior Championships, with our only recent representation being Al Duncan racing unsupported last season.



Spencer – Cheltenham

The subsequent team selected was
- Fiona Hughes – Huddersfield,
Sarah Young – Huntly, Alastair
Duncan – Kingussie
Alex Standen – Huntly, Andrew
Musgrave – Insch, PJ Barron –
Huntly
Simon Platt – Kendal, Simon

The team, which receives no financial support from SnowsportGB are extremely grateful to the British Olympic Association, who provided some funding towards the trip, which enabled the team to have a much larger coaching team than usual and to develop the skills of the coaching team. The coaching team for the world champs was

Al Dargie – Team manager and junior team coach
Roy Young – Head Coach
Les Parsons – Canadian coach to Olympic Gold medallist, Beekie Scott
Roger Homyer – Coach to the British Nordic Development Squad

Finally after several weeks of changing dates and venues from the original venue in Wisla, Poland the world Championships were moved to northern Italy. The final move was only actually finalised 7 days before the first races, which proved a logistical and financial challenge for the British Team. Another challenge was the move to a high altitude resort, which meant having to move and reorganised the planned holding camp from the British Olympic Training Centre at Lofer, Austria to the new race venue in Italy.

Upon arrival the team set about training and acclimatising to the altitude staying at 1200 metres in a fantastic friendly hotel in Burgeis, with training and chilling out at the competition venue at 1800 metres during the day. Training had to be done with great patience to avoid over stressing the body due to the altitude. It was good to see doping control taking pre start blood samples from almost half the athletes. This was also a new and important learning experience for our athletes.

The competition started with 1.3km skate sprint races on Saturday 23rd February. The standard of competition at world juniors is extremely high with several of the athletes also competing at world cup level, with one of the females having been on the podium at the senior world championships last year.

The highlight in the sprint race was Al Duncan who had a slightly lower finish position from last season of 70th but he improved his percentage behind the winner by a couple of percent to finish only 11.9% from the winner and gain his best FIS points to date of 178.00. Sarah Young finished 71st and 15.7% behind the female winner getting 223.34 FIS points. Simon Spencer was under 20%

while Simon Platt and PJ Barron were around the 23% behind the winner. Fiona Hughes finished in 74th position and was 27% off the winner.

Following the Sprint races the team enjoyed the opening ceremony at the regional sport school in Malles. Simon Platt, team captain carried the flag for Great Britain into a lively and upbeat opening ceremony. The ceremony was a great experience especially having been organised at such short notice and a good opportunity to mix with other teams.

Two days later was the Classic time trial, which was the best opportunity to score good FIS points. The conditions for the girls were fast with hard packed icy snow. In Fiona Hughes favourite discipline the swooping S bends and switchback corners proved tricky with 2 crashes slowing her down. Despite this she battled on to finish 70th and 19.8% behind the winner getting her best FIS points to date of 193.93. Sarah young finished 24.1% behind the winner gaining



228.56 FIS points. Conditions were very tough, so much so that a female member of the Polish team was hospitalised after crashing and flipping off the lip on one of the switchback bends.

In the Junior Men's race the highlight was a solid performance from Andrew Musgrave finishing in 72nd place. Conditions started hard packed, but with temperatures in the sun about 15 degrees c the later starters (including all the British athletes) had increasingly slow, slushy conditions. This stretched the field considerably and led to bigger percentages behind the winners that the team had originally hoped for. Andrew finished 17% from the winner and gained 172.04 FIS points, which are the best points any British skier had achieved in the last few years. Alex Standen finished 25% from the winner and Simon Spencer 27%. Unfortunately Al Duncan suffered blurred vision and dizziness at the top of the long climb and was pulled out by the coaching team.

After another day of ski testing and preparation the team was ready for the mass start skate races with the Junior Ladies racing over 10km and the men over 20km. The best way of describing the day was bedlam with athletes crashing all over the place, the conditions were hard and fast, in the

Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

World Junior Nordic Ski Champs 2008 Schliding, Malles, Val Venosta – Italy

ladies race a Ukrainian skier ended up in hospital with a badly dislocated shoulder following a crash. The British ladies were led by Sarah Young, finishing 68th position, 18.56% from the winner and gaining 294.85 FIS points. Fiona Hughes followed on finishing in 71st position, 22% off the winner.

If the ladies race had seemed like a bit like a demolition derby the men's race was complete carnage. As the coaches had predicted there was a major crash after the first bridge at a bottle neck leading to about 15 skiers crashing, many of who broke poles and one even broke a ski. Luckily the British team were well



prepared and managed to avoid the first big crash. Alex Standen and Andrew Musgrave arrived at the top of the first 2km long climb in the top half of the field and were looking really strong. PJ Barron and Simon Platt were also in the pack and fighting to hold position.

On the opposite side of the valley 1km later one of the bends caught some of the lead field off guard leading to a major crash injuring one of the Austrian team and finding 2 of the Norwegian team crash well off the track.

Alex Standen, still in the top half of the field pulled his hamstring in jumping over the aftermath of crashed skiers and had to withdraw from the race, sadly this also ruled him out of the relay.

Andrew Musgrave was by the second lap up in about 42 position and looking strong and also had to avoid a crashed skier by jumping over him. PJ Barron was having a strong second lap picking his way up through the field however crashed on the same corner as the Austrian hitting his head and suffering a concussion that led to him spending time in the medical tent, with a drip attached to him! Andrew Musgrave continued to climb through the field and was at one point in 38th position but faded a bit in the final 2km. Andrew Musgrave finished in 42nd place, only 7.66% behind the winner bettering Britain's best FIS points scored earlier in the week with points of 142.20. This is only 22.20 points off World Cup Qualification and had the same percentage from the winner been achieved in the time trial it would have gained selection to world cup. Simon Platt stuck into finish 27% from the winner gaining 422.10 FIS points. To sum up the team had 3 solid results with one outstanding performance and two athletes requiring considerable assistance from the on site medical team. Two skiers in the men's race ended up in hospital, the first a Polish skier from a fall and the other a Czech skier from pushing too hard at altitude and suffering cardiac problems.

After the mixed emotions of the mass start race the team was fired up and ready for the final event the Men's relay. As the only non snow nation entering a team into the relay we thought our chances of not finishing last were slim, but the relay is an essential part of our development program and our team spirit. The team started out with our strongest skier Andrew Musgrave giving us 13th place after the first leg, Andrew was an incredible 4.24% off the fastest time of the leg. Simon Platt then had a difficult leg where he skied well with 23.74% of the fastest skier but had skiers from Italy and Austria (etc) going past him. At the third exchange we were in last position but AL Duncan (23.46% of the fastest time for his leg) overtook 2 teams to hand over in 20th place. Simon Spencer paced the final leg brilliantly to extend the lead over Latvia but Ukraine had their best skier on the last leg and left us in a creditable 21st from the 22 teams.

Looking back at the championships the team is extremely proud of the results achieved. Putting it into context as our first appearance at the world

championships as a team, remembering we receive no governing body funding, are a non snow nation and our team was a young team with most of the athletes young enough to race in the same age category for the next 2 seasons. The results will be used as a benchmark for the coming years and clearly show that the Nordic team's performance are on a par if not better than Britain's other snow disciplines. The season is not quite over yet with some of the Youth and junior team still to race in Poland, Finland and at the new Olympic course in Canada.

The future looks extremely bright with a strong youth team coming through below the current junior team. Next year the team will be back even stronger and having learned many lessons from this trip. Next year will be an extremely busy year for the Junior, Youth and development teams along with their coaching and support team. The teams will be competing at FIS races, Continental Cup competitions and the European Youth Olympics.

There is also the probability that some of the juniors will represent Great Britain at the World Senior Championships. The best ranked British skiers (male and female) are in the junior team. Interestingly we are getting extremely close to world cup qualification standards and it is now a reality that we should have people qualified and doing part of the world cup circuit within the next couple of seasons, something Britain has not been able to achieve for 14 years now.

The team would like to express its thanks to the British Olympic Association for the funding contribution towards the world championships and the continued use of the British Olympic Training Centre at Lofer. The team would also like to express its thanks and appreciation to Nexen for their financial support which has enabled the team to purchase new waxing equipment and other essential hardware that the team needed this season. Thanks also go to McIntosh Plant Hire, Swix, Fischer Skis, Polar, High5 and Craft for their sponsorship and support during the year.



Les Parsons, travelled at his own expense from Canada to work with the team on a voluntary basis, and was quite simply a fantastic motivator, when someone who has coached an Olympic Gold medallist and currently coaches the highest ranked junior skier in the world gives the support he did, it is something very special from a true coaching legend.

Special thanks must go to the biggest supporters of the team the parents and families of the athletes and coaches who fund and support the athletes. Without their support none of the achievements this year would have been possible.

Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

Stonehaven Indoor Bowling Club

by Mrs Anne Hay

Stonehaven IBC has increased its intake of young bowlers this season and as a consequence we have had to increase our numbers of coaches – two of whom have sat and passed the formal Coaching exam. One new coach is an umpire of long standing and a bowler with many credits to her name.



Our Junior Section has done really well this season having taken part in a number of competitions at various venues in the north of Scotland. They have competed at Elgin IBC, Garioch IBC, Forfar IBC, Arbroath and District IBC, Dundee IBC and Perth IBC at the Dewars Centre. Obviously this

has involved a great deal of time and effort on the part of the youngsters and their coaches as they have to travel each time but no one has complained and they all seem to enjoy their days outings.

We have tried to involve all our juniors in the competitions but some are too young to take part. Those who have been competing have been very successful winning the Rotary Cup at Dundee and the Newbigging Cup at Arbroath.

There are still two competitions that we have to play one at Garioch and the other at Perth.

The Grant of £300 will be used to purchase small coloured bowls for our junior to help them improve even further in their chosen sport.

DONSIDER JUVENILE FOOTBALL CLUB

Donside Juvenile Football Club provides coaching and competitive football for boys and girls in the Alford and Upper Donside area.

In recent years the club has expanded greatly with more children attending coaching sessions and extra teams being formed with every new season. In order to maintain an appropriate ratio of coaches to players to properly supervise and carry out training sessions it has been vital that we recruit new volunteers and ensure that they have the coaching skills necessary. In addition our existing coaches are encouraged to improve their coaching by completing supplementary courses as the club works towards the SFA Quality Mark accreditation scheme and Aberdeenshire Sports Councils own ClubCAP Award.

Last year we were fortunate to be able to put several new and existing volunteers through SFA coaching certificates at Children and Youth Level, with other coaches broadening their knowledge by attending specialist courses in goalkeeping.

We were very grateful to Aberdeenshire Sports Council for their help with grant assistance towards the cost of enrolment fees on the various courses. Everyone who attended found the courses informative and left full of new ideas which they are putting into practice to keep coaching sessions challenging and enjoyable for the children.

Deveronvale 14s

By Keith Simpson

Deveronvale 14s attended a football tournament over in Barcelona and it was a great success. The boys really excelled themselves with games against Italy, France, Sweden and Germany.

On the first day of the tournament they played France drawing 1-1 next game was against Germany it was won 2-1. The second day they played Italy, the match being abandoned at half time due to heavy rain and thunder

and lightning. Italy were up 1-0 which was decided to be final score but the boys still went through to the quarter finals with the points they already had.

On the third day they played Holland beating them 1-0 and landing a place in the semi finals. There was a bit of a mix up with the tournament officials and five teams ended up in the semi finals. Deveronvale landed in a three way round robin against a French team and a Swedish team. They drew with the French 0-0 and beat Sweden 1-0 but ended up in a play off for third and fourth as the French went through to the final with the better goal difference.

In the play off they got beat 1-0 by another French team and ended up fourth earning them a trophy. With their head held high at their fantastic achievement, considering there were eighteen teams in their age group this was a great experience for the boys and a good time had by all.

Check Out Our Website!

The site includes:

- Photos and reports of recent events
- The Aberdeenshire Sports Directory
- Grant Aid Information
- Details of Courses & Workshops
- Affiliation Benefits
- Minutes of Executive & Working Group Meetings
- Annual Action Plans
- Copies of the Newsletters

... and much more!

The site is updated on a regular basis, so why not have a look now. Your comments on the site would be welcomed - we are always keen to hear your views. You can contact us on 01261 813383 or email Christine.Edwards@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or Tracie-Ann.Lovie@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

Scotland U21 Netball Squad

By Claire Brownie

This year I stepped up an age group when selected in September 2007 for the Scotland U21 Squad. This Squad is on a two year training programme working towards the 2009 Youth World Championships.

I was also selected for the Scottish Universities Team. Training took place nearly every weekend from September to March. We beat the Scottish Open Development Squad and a Cheshire team in practice matches. This year the U21 Squad took part in the Lanarkshire SuperCup and comfortably won all our matches.

I was disappointed to miss out on a match against a touring South African team but with a fractured right thumb and broken bone in my left hand, I resorted to cheering on Scotland from the sidelines.

I was honoured to take on the role of U21 Vice Captain the weekend before the European Championships and to add to my joy I was selected to join the Scottish Open (Senior) Squad.

The main event for the U21s in the 2007/08 season was the European Championships which were held in Belfast in March. It was a truly rollercoaster ride for the Scottish team. Heartbreak on the Friday night when we lead Wales for 58 minutes only to lose by one goal in the last two minutes. On one half of the court Wales were celebrating as if they had won the tournament and on the other the devastation, disbelief and despair of the Scottish side that had victory snatched from their grasp.

On the Saturday we played Northern Ireland, the tournament runners-up. We gained a point but looked like we were still coming to terms with the night before. Sunday and everyone's benchmark to reach and surpass, the English team. Scotland was in brave heart form and led the English at both 1st and 2nd quarter time with a four goal lead at half time. There was some thrilling court play from both sides but England clawed back Scotland's valiant lead to win 46-38. The Scottish girls could hold their heads high again.

For me, it was straight into Open Squad training the next weekend in the build up to the Scotland Malawi game. Malawi is 5th in the world rankings and will be a strong test for the Scotland Open Squad. I was thrilled when I was named in the Open Team of 12 players to face Malawi and am eagerly anticipating the game on 11th April in Glasgow.

Inverurie Golf Club Clubgolf Junior Development Programme

by The Clubgolf Team

We are about to embark on our 3rd year in clubgolf with a full compliment of enthusiastic children from the local community joining our junior coaching development programme. This year we have 53 children across Year1 – Year3, being coached by our voluntary PGA Level 1 coaches and Club Professional.

We have just opened our new putting facility, for which we secured a grant award of £10,000 from Awards for All and this compliments our 3 hole practice facility, also funded by Awards for All.

We were very proud to be selected as one of six finalists out of 55 applicants for the Dunfermline Building Society Junior Club of the Year 2007 Award and were invited to attend the Scottish Golf Dinner held on 28th March at the Crowne Plaza in Glasgow for the final. We came in the runners up, with Alford Gold Club taking the trophy and £1,000. Congratulations Alford. As a runner up were awarded £300, a much appreciated gift to wards junior funds.

In 2007 we held our first Junior Flag Day Competition at Inverurie Golf Club for 8-12 year olds. 40 Youngsters took part and on the success of this we plan to make it a permanent event in our club's golfing fixture list. This event was managed by our volunteer coaches and helpers and kindly sponsored by Paul Lawrie Junior Golf.

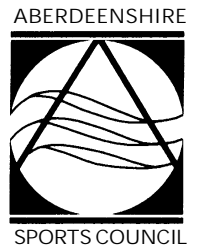
We have several very enthusiastic girls in our training programme and a major aim this year is to encourage and mentor these girls into gaining their handicaps and integrating them into the club competitions structure within the junior and ladies sections. The boy's junior section is as always going from strength to strength.

Finally Inverurie Golf Club Junior Section are very grateful to Aberdeenshire Sports Council for their continuing support in funding our coaches training requirements. Our coaches are essential in enabling us to continue to run our coaching programme for our local community and to provide a pathway for any youngster to take part in the game of golf.

Aberdeenshire Sports Council

Affiliation Form 2008 - 2009

Affiliation for 2008/2009 is now due - please complete and return now! We have one of the largest memberships in Scotland. We would be delighted to welcome new clubs, organisations and individuals. For details of the full range of benefits of affiliation contact Alison Hodgson, at the address below, for a promotional leaflet or check out our website on www.Aberdeenshire-Sports-Council.org.uk



Whichever method you choose, we believe that you receive excellent value for money and hope you do also! We look forward to receiving your Affiliation Form for 2008/2009

Return to: Alison Hodgson, Secretary, 1 Church Street, Macduff, AB44 1UR. Telephone 01261 813383

Name of Club/Individual _____

Numbers in Club (approx.) Senior Male _____ Senior Female _____
 Junior Male (U18) _____ Junior Female (U18) _____
 Special Needs/Disabilities _____

Contact Person (for correspondence) _____ Sport _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

E-mail _____ Club Website _____

I enclose at cheque for £25.00 payable to "Aberdeenshire Sports Council" (Only applicable if not electing to pay by Standing Order)

Signed _____ Date _____ Position _____

Clubs/organisations are requested to include a copy of their constitution



Cut Along Dotted Line or Photocopy and Return

Standing Order Form

If choosing the Standing Order option, complete the information above and below, return to Aberdeenshire Sports Council and we will forward details to your bank.

Please pay the undernoted on my/our behalf.

Name of Bank _____

Branch of Bank _____ Branch Code _____

Name of Account to be debited _____

Account Number

Reference Number | 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

Note: This instruction cancels any previous order in favour of the Beneficiary under this reference

Remit to Bank Clydesdale Bank PLC

Sorting Code Number 82-65-21

Branch Title Inverurie

Account Number 80102294

Beneficiary's Name Aberdeenshire Sports Council

Commencing Date 1st June 2008 (or a.s.ap. thereafter)

Standard Payment £20.00

Frequency Annually

Amount in Words Twenty Pounds

Date of Last Standard Payment _____

Special Instructions Payments in Subsequent Years to be paid on 1st June

Please debit my/our account with the amounts of payments effected in accordance with the above instructions plus any charges which the Bank may make in effecting these payments on my/our behalf.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____