

## CHANGES TO ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS COUNCIL EXEC COMMITTEE

Following the Annual General Meeting in May 2008, the Executive Committee approved the election of Office Bearers as follows:-

Kenneth Gibb – Chairman

Jim Conn – Vice Chairman

James Lessells- Treasurer

Alison Hodgson- Secretary.

A profile of Kenneth our new Chairman is on page three of this newsletter.

Jim Conn has been involved with Aberdeenshire Sports



Council, and its predecessors Aberdeenshire Sports Council and Banff and Buchan Sports Council for over twenty years. For all that time he has been a club representative for Buchan Riding Club, but also has interests in other sports clubs. Jim first became Chairman of Aberdeenshire North Sports Council in 1995, and

continued as Chair when the three area Sports Councils amalgamated in 2000. He has therefore been instrumental in the major developments within the Sports Council, and the development of the successful partnership with Aberdeenshire Council.

More recently Jim has been a committee member of the Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils, and earlier this year was elected as their Chairman. He therefore decided that although he wanted to remain as a club representative on Aberdeenshire Sports Council, he would not be able to continue as Chairman.

We wish Jim all the best for his new role with Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils, and thank him for all his hard work over the years for Aberdeenshire Sports Council.



### GROUP INSURANCE COVER

Just a reminder to all clubs that we offer all affiliated clubs Insurance Cover, a short proposal form will need to be completed by each group, these can be obtained from Christine Edward or Tracie Lovie on 01261 813383.

Clubs that are already members of the insurance scheme should note that fees will be due again at the beginning of October, reminder letters will be sent out nearer the time.

If you have any queries regarding the scheme please contact Lynne Walster on 01467 632418 and shw will be more than happy to answer your questions.

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# Aberdeenshire Sports Council Executive Committee 2008/2009

## ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS COUNCIL CONTACT LIST

The following have been elected to Aberdeenshire Sports Council Executive Committee for 2008/09. There are still a number of vacancies - contact us if you know of any reps who would like to get involved. We are keen to fill these places as soon as possible.

Should you have any queries regarding Aberdeenshire Sports Council contact Fraser Govan (Administrator) on the number(s) given below or any of the Executive Committee who should be able to help.

a) Three elected Members appointed by Aberdeenshire Council.

Councillor Ron McKail	01224 742095
Councillor Hazel Al-Kowarri	01467 642984
Councillor Sandy Stronach	01771 653724

b) Sixteen volunteer representatives, from affiliated clubs, forums, organisations, individuals.

Lynne Walster	(Swimming)	01467 632418
Rhona Lawrence	(Highland Dance)	01358 789429
Gordon Ingram	(Angling)	01339 882398
James Lessels	(Pony Club)	01771 637834
Alan Still	(Football)	01261 818303
Mark Chisholm	(Football)	01261 818303
Jim Conn	(Equestrian)	01771 644414
Kenny Gibb	(Basketball)	01467 633425
Alison Hodgson	(Equestrian)	01771 644384
Hilary Quick	(Orienteering)	01467 629022
Tricia Morrison	(Trampolining)	01467 642045
John Morrison	(Trampolining)	01467 642045
Tracy McGarry	(Shooting)	01346 532939
Albert Middler	(Curling)	01224 781248

Vacant  
Vacant

c) One Sports Development Officer, appointed by Aberdeenshire Council Education, Learning and Leisure Service.

Fraser Govan 01569 768355

d) Three representatives, to be appointed by Aberdeenshire Council Education, Learning and Leisure Service, to represent the Community, Primary and Secondary Education Services.

Vacant	Secondary	
Neil Ironside	01651 871312	Community
Vacant	Primary	

e) One representative appointed by Aberdeenshire Disability Sport

John Wills 01467 628158

f) Director of Education, Learning and Leisure for Aberdeenshire Council, or representative.

Tim Stephen-Sport & Leisure Manager  
01224 665515

g) One representative appointed by sportscotland

Ewan Menzies 0131 3177200

h) One representative appointed by Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils

Oliver Barsby 07530871456

i) Two young person representatives (under the age of 25 yrs) from affiliated clubs, forums, organisations, or affiliated individuals.

Craig Sanderson (Basketball)  
01467 624096

Vacant

# PROFILE OF NEW CHAIRMAN OF ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS COUNCIL- KENNETH GIBB

Kenneth Gibb  
My Profile

I have been involved with Aberdeenshire Sports Council since its conception in the 1990s, from the initial north, central and south division, to the current format as it is today as a one stop shop for the whole region and covering all sports.

I have been involved in various roles within my own sport which is Basketball, I am a club coach of Garioch basketball club and also chairperson . I have been Secretary of Basketball Grampian the Regional governing body for Basketball and am also active in developing basketball within the region.

I am one of the Grampian regional coaches for basketball under 12 - 14 and 16s boys and girls and assist with the Grampian flyers national league team.

During my time in Aberdeenshire sports council I have held the position of Vice Chair person, substituting for the chairman when he was not available, I have been an active member of the development committee assisting the development of sports initiatives (schools of sport – BA Games .and Clubcap)

## Qualifications

Level 2 Basketball coach  
Referee: basketball  
Regional Coach  
Getting Started Tutor (Basketball Scotland)  
Level 1 Cricket Coach (not used in a long time)  
Basketball development group member

## Sports Interests

I have played rugby for Garioch Rugby club 1st eleven  
Football with Inverurie FP's when they were first division amateurs  
Cricket with the Inverurie Cricket team 1st eleven and am now an honorary member.  
I currently play golf at Kintore golf club and have a 12 handicap.

## Goals

Continue the good work of Jim Conn by developing the partnerships within Aberdeenshire Sport Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Grampian Coaching and other national bodies

June 08

Jan-Michael Kochalski



British Alpine Ski Team

www.Janskiman.com

A big thank you to all my sponsors for the past and future seasons.
Aberdeenshire Sports Council
Atos Origin Champions and Challengers Barsley
IKS International Ltd
Mark at the Wimbledon Agency
Heatmax UK
Poyry Energy

The summer is the time for getting down to some hard fitness training and also working with various sponsors, ensuring that they get the maximum benefit for helping to support me and the team in our quest for medals.

Offroad driving with team sponsor. In early May the team were invited to the offroad driving centre at Dunkeld, Perthshire for a day with our sponsor Landrover. A great day, brilliant vehicles, and we look forward to a long and mutually rewarding relationship with them.



Etape Caledonia road race.

On the 18th May the team took part in this 81 mile road race as part of our cross training and to support several charities. The race started in Pitlochry went around Loch Rannoch and returned to Pitlochry

Table with 6 columns: No, Name, Amount, Date, and Visa logo. It lists various sponsors and their contribution amounts for a charity event.



Beijing send off ball.

On June 23rd I was lucky enough to be invited to the Sparks charity ball to send off our summer athletes to Beijing. Each athlete had to host a table of sponsors, I hosted the HBOS table it was great fun, lots of cash was raised for SPARKS and I made some new friends.

Summer fitness camp Biaritz. In early June we went across to Biaritz to have an intensive week of cycling and surfing as part of our fitness and preparation. Plenty of hard work but we also managed to have some fun!



Hand and foot warmers for outdoor sports
e-mail: nicki@heatmaxuk.com
www.heatmax.com
Web Site: www.heatmaxuk.com



Management & Consultancy services.
07778 935371 IKS@googlemail.com



Tel: 077 3308 4235
mark@thewimbledonagency.com

# DEVELOPMENT OF TRAVERSE CLIMBING WALLS IN ABERDEENSHIRE SCHOOLS

This year has proved to be extremely positive with Awards for All Applications. Five schools from our Network have all had success with funding bids to install Traverse Climbing Walls. I have worked closely with Extreme Dream in Aviemore to create this fantastic development for our network. Next year will see all individual walls hosting climbing competitions that will feed potential climbers on to the next level and give these athletes the opportunity to compete against children from across Scotland. The walls installed are very different and space, accessibility and Health and Safety Regulations have determined this.

This has had a positive effect on other networks who now have or are in the process of having traverse climbing walls installed.

The sport of climbing will begin to grow and develop with the continuous support of Active School Coordinators and climbing professionals such as Extreme Dream, Aviemore.

For further information, support and advice on how to progress this initiative you can contact:

Susan Mackintosh  
Active School Coordinator  
01261 813391  
[susan.mackintosh@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:susan.mackintosh@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

Or contact directly

Scott Muir Bed PE (hons)  
Managing Director Extreme Dream, Aviemore  
01479 812466  
[www.schoolclimbingwalls.co.uk](http://www.schoolclimbingwalls.co.uk)



Banff Primary School - Free Standing



Bracoden Primary School - Panel Fixed



Fordyce Primary School - Direct Fix



Whitehills Primary School - Free Standing



Macduff Primary School - Free Standing

## AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS

### BON ACCORD SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB WINS THE TREBLE

The Bon Accord Smallbore Rifle Club which is based at the Denwood Shooting Centre in Hazlehead Park in Aberdeen maintained its position as the premier smallbore shooting club in the UK by winning the British Team Championships, Scottish Team Championships and Division 1 of the National League competition earlier this year. The British and Scottish Team



Championships are knockout competitions involving all the major clubs in the UK and in the last 10 years Bon Accord has won the British Championships on 5 occasions and the Scottish Championships 8 times. The club has a very strong team including shooters who have competed in the last two Commonwealth Games and also Jonathan Hammond who is competing in the Beijing Olympics where he is taking part in 3 of the shooting events. Jonathan Hammond lives in Banchory but has been training in the USA most of the past 12 months and has also been taking part in World Championship events in preparation for the Olympics.

The Club has three Commonwealth Games shooters including Sheena Sharp and Neil Stirton who won medals in the Melbourne Games in 2006, Sheena

Sharp won two Gold medals in the women's Individual and Team 50 metre prone events and Neil Stirton won a Silver medal in the men's Team 50 metre prone event. Neil Stirton is now a member of the GB team and recently set a new GB record score when he came second in the World Championships event in Munich with record scores of 599 in the qualifying round and a final score of 703.2 which was only 0.1 behind the winner.

The Bon Accord Club competes in all smallbore competitions at distances from 10 metres for air rifle and pistol competitions, to 25 yards, 50 metres and 100 yards for 0.22 rifle competitions using the indoor and outdoor ranges at the Denwood Shooting Centre. The Club caters for all standards of shooting including disabled shooters and has a section dedicated to blind shooters who use a combination of light and sound to locate the centre of the target.

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### OLD RAYNE OSPREYS

Firstly, our P6-7 5 aside team won the Strathburn 5 aside football tournament in June 08. A great achievement (we feel) for such a small school.

Secondly, We held the 2nd Old Rayne Ospreys football tournament on the 28th June which was a huge success. With 18 teams competing at levels P1-2, P3-4 and P5-7. The weather was kind and the teams came from as far a field as Milltimber and as nearby as Oyne.

Medals and certificates were issued to all teams with a shield given to the top team in the P5-7 category, which was won by the P7 Old Rayne Ospreys team. All the Old Rayne teams did well with the P5-6 team only having one defeat which helped the P7's secure victory. The P3-4 team were unbeaten with a couple of victories and draws and our 2 P1-2 teams winning and taking part in the enjoyment of it all.

### ELLON SUB AQUA CLUB

Ellon Sub Aqua Club will be participating in the national British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC) try dive campaign. It is usually held in September, though we will take people at any pool session by prior arrangement.

Anyone wishing to try diving should be able to swim and aged 14 years minimum. Our pool sessions are two Thursdays out of three and the first one this season starts on 11th September.

Details on the web page:  
[www.ellonsubaquaclub.co.uk](http://www.ellonsubaquaclub.co.uk). Anyone wishing to try diving can contact me by email or telephone - 07775 500424

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### BANCHORY TRAMPOLINE CLUB

Banchory Trampoline Club had four qualifiers for the British Championships in double mini tramp ( a discipline of trampoline) One of our boys, Ruairaidh Simpson came ninth in the under 13 boys at grade nat "c" and another, Duncan Ross, came fourth in the higher class of fig "b" under 15 boys. These results are due to very hard training in this discipline, we are the only club in Scotland coaching and training in double mini tramp.

John Wills

## AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS

### DEVERONVALE FC YOUTH SET UP HAS ONCE AGAIN HAD A GOOD SEASON WITH VARYING SUCCESSES BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

Following on from last terms SFA Quality Mark and Aberdeenshire Sports Councils Enhanced Clubcap Awards the Vales overall set was recognised by the National SYFA Committee and at a ceremony at Hampden were presented with the North Region Club of the Year Trophy. With 5 Juvenile, 4 Development and 3 girls Squads the club has 35 volunteer coaches in the system working with squad numbers in the region of 18 per team. A



spokesperson for the club said, "These individuals give up a lot of time to not only coach the youngsters but help fundraise to finance the transport and kit through selling

lottery tickets and various other means. Without their commitment we would not be in the position we are at now and to that end the club is eternally grateful. We would also like to thank the many kit sponsors who have come forward to help these squads as like everything else to do with a football club outside help is vitally important and our teams are very fortunate to have generous individuals and firms ready to come forward and donate hard cash.

Vales Football Partnership with Princess Royal Sports and Community Trust currently delivers Fitness Through Football to 12 Rural Primaries, Banff Academy CSU pupils and Aberdeenshire Disability Sport. Close on 500 individuals benefit from this programme weekly during and after curriculum time and the project is expected to expand over the next 12 months. The club hosted the Aberdeenshire Disability Football Tournament and in conjunction with the SFA and the Bank of Scotland delivered a midnight league to teams in the age group 12 to 16 with great success leading to

further programmes over the next winter session. The Holiday Football Camp attracted 50 kids per day over the week long event which was part sponsored by Bremners of Foggie and received glowing reports from many parents and guardians. Funding from Sportsmatch, Sports Relief, Castlegate Newsagents, SFA, Scottish Football Partnership and Deveronvales Football Partnership helped with costs of much of the Schools programme and individual projects received help from Aberdeenshire Council and Aberdeenshire Sports Council during the last years busy workload. The club also help deliver SFA Courses to help enhance not only their own coaches, but make them available to many of the boys clubs coaches in the catchment area. The SFA Regional Manager Graeme Sutherland said of the clubs youth set up, "Vale are undoubtedly one of the best run youth development clubs in the country and are an absolute pleasure to work with. They have a standard of qualified coaches in the mix which is the envy of many of the clubs in the higher leagues. Although they are a part time semi pro club it is run more like a full time set up, with some hard working individuals in the background with strengths in many departments which is the key to success in team work and partnership working. Aberdeen based Graeme Burnett, one of the regional SFA coaches has now joined the Vale Youth set up and brings even more strength to the team.

Deveronvales Youth committee is Linda Legge, Alan Still, Eddie Bruce, Mark Chisholm, Bob Mc Lardy and newly appointed Graeme Burnett.

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### Peterhead Sailing Club Youth Regatta 2008.

On Saturday 16th August, Peterhead Sailing Club hosted a very successful open Youth Regatta attended by young sailors from the club itself, from Aberdeen and Stonehaven Yacht Club and from the Bridge of Don Sea Cadets.

A dry and pleasant day with a good breeze at F3 – F4 from the E made for good sailing conditions and all the competing sailors stayed out for a series of 5 races during the day in spite of a few capsizes among the younger and less experienced members.

A low turnout in the age 15 – 17 category meant that only 2 boats competed for the Under 18 category prize and in 2nd place were Graham Hawkesworth and Connor Christie in the Bridge of Don Sea Cadet Bosun. The winner of this category was Tom Murdoch from PSC sailing a Topper.

Four young competitors sailed in the under 12 category which was won by Rory Rose from ASYC in his Hobie Holder Hawk. In second place was Calum Murdoch from PSC, in 3rd place Dylan Thissen

from ASYC and in 4th place Niall MacRae of PSC, all sailing in Toppers.

The middle age group consisting of 12 – 14 year olds saw Sam McEvilly of PSC take 2nd, Cameron Harris of PSC narrowly take 3rd from Rona Rose of ASYC in 4th and with Kelly Tsang of the Bridge of Don Sea Cadets take 5th place.

For her efforts and for coping well with the loss of her rudder, Rona was awarded the prize for Endeavour.

The winner of the 12 – 14 years category, and overall Regatta Champion was Graham Adie, a young man worth keeping an eye on for the future.

Peterhead Sailing Club hope to make this regatta a fixture in the calendar for this same weekend every year just before the schools go back

# Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

## VOLUNTEERS ATTEND COACH TRAINING

by Dale Kitching

Aberdeenshire Sports Council sponsored two coaches from Aboyne Gymnastics Club to attend a Scottish gymnastics Association training course at Elgin in May.

Kathryn Baird and Ross Ferguson have been assisting at Aboyne Gymnastics Club for almost a year. The Assistant Coach course gives training in the skills required to work with pupils on the beam, vault, bars and floor. This is the first step on the training ladder which will ultimately allow them to run their own gymnastics classes.

Ross is an ex-dancer who has a daughter at the Club. Kathryn is a sports student at Aberdeen College. Both have made a considerable contribution to the Club since their arrival and attendance at the training course will allow them to develop their own skills further, and those of the gymnasts in their care.

Although Aboyne Gymnastics Club has existed for twenty years there is always a shortage of trained coaches. The support of Aberdeenshire Sports Council is therefore very much appreciated in providing continued funding for new coaches to attend courses.

## GARIOCH RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB (Inverurie)

by Pete Thomson

Schools Coaching Coordinator

Since August 2007, being the first 3 terms of the school year, Garioch RFC has conducted rugby coaching to 16 primary schools plus Inverurie, Kemnay and Meldrum academies. IN addition to the academies, this catered for all 8 primary



Learn, giving the children at least 6 week blocks of ripper tag rugby. A total of more than 700 hours rugby has therefore been provided to well over 1000 schoolchildren, completely free of any charge to the schools.

With Inverurie Learn having no Active School Coordinator, a festival was held in October to coincide with the Rugby World Cup. This was at Kellands Park, the home of Garioch RFC. 6 of the 8 Primary schools in the Inverurie network attended and provided 12 teams with a total of 151 schools children attending. We had 6 games of ripper tag rugby running concurrently and consecutively all afternoon. The SRU provided a little foam SRU rugby ball for all attendees to take home.

On 23rd November, we held a tri-academy 10s tournament, again at Kellands Park, between Inverurie, Kemnay and Meldrum Academies, in both U15 and U18 age-groups. Inverurie Academy came out on top.

## NECARNE INTERNATIONAL DRESSAGE FESTIVAL

by Carmen Gammie

Thanks very much for awarding me a sports grant. This enabled me to take part in the Scottish dressage team at the Necarne International Dressage Festival held in Northern



Ireland at the beginning of May with my pony The Butler who I have on loan from the grant family from Aberdeen. I was thrilled to be picked for the Scottish team and it was really exciting going on the ferry with the horsebox across to Ireland. Despite the fact that I was youngest competitor (11) and my pony was the smallest pony at the competition (12.3hh), we achieved some good results. The highlight was winning the last class on the Sunday with the highest percentage of the whole competition, 74.19%, which is an exceptional score for a dressage test.

Based on these results I have been asked once again to represent Scotland with The Butler at the next International competition which is to be held at the beginning of July in Southern Ireland at the Marlton Stud. The following week, I have been selected for another Scottish dressage team on my other pony Picasso to compete at an inter-regional competition at Keysoe in Bedfordshire. I have also qualified Picasso for the Riding Club championships to be held in Lincoln in September so my summer holidays are going to be very busy competing with my ponies.

Many people are involved in my success; my Mum and Dad who drive the lorry to all the competitions and help me look after my ponies, my poor brother Scott also gets involved when I can persuade him to help me, Mary McFarlane who trains me on a regular basis and Pauline Kidd who has helped me with my core stability through pilates. I also need to thank the Grant family for letting me ride The Butler, he has taught me an enormous amount and constantly challenges me to ride better.

# Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

## MY SEASON 2007/2008

by Alex Tilley

I began my season with an October training camp for two weeks in Tignes, France. It was full of early morning runs followed by a stretch. The skiing



was great and I made some massive improvements which I put down to the fitness work I had done over the summer with my new personal trainer.

I came home full of

confidence and enthusiasm looking forward to the big races at Christmas. Between the two camps I carried on working on my fitness. The Christmas camp was split between Tignes and Les Menuires. Although I didn't get the results I was hoping for I still found myself improving.

After just two weeks at home I was back out to Chamonix, France at the British Ski Academy for four weeks. During my stay at BSA, I kept up with my school work during afternoon sessions and still managed to fit a whole morning full of ski training. I also took part in the Welsh Championships in Champéry, Switzerland where I gained a gold medal in the slalom. My stay at BSA was cut short to allow me to compete in my first international race of the season in Spain. Here I got a 7th in the giant slalom but due to a crash in the second run I wasn't able to maintain my 3rd place in the slalom.

I then came home for three days before flying back out to Slovenia for

another top international race, I was proud to achieve a top 30 in a very prestigious race as I got a 22nd. Another four days rest at home before heading to Bormio, Italy for the English Championships. Due

to a cancelled flight I missed out on the super-G but picking up a 1st in the slalom and 2nd in the super-G was good enough for me.



I then had a rest at home for a week until going back to BSA. I trained hard in preparation for the World Schools Championships in Alpe d'Huez, France, which I was due to take part in the following week. The Scottish team was

made up twenty athletes, four teams of five. A male and a female senior team, and a male and a female childrens team, I was a member of the childrens team and we managed to achieve the best ever result Scotland had ever had in the history of this competition. We got a silver, beating opposition such as Austria and Italy.

After this great result I spent two weeks at home before going to the British Championships in Meribel France. Whilst at home I took part in the Scottish Championships at the Nevis Range. Here I gained a gold in the slalom but unfortunately did not complete the giant slalom.

With all three slalom medals under my belt my aim was to collect the British slalom medal. At Meribel France



everything did not go to plan, as after the 1st run I was lying 3rd I knew what I had to do to get that gold medal but just three gates from the end of my 2nd run I fell, I was devastated but I have learnt to put my disappointments behind me and look to the next challenge. The super-G was cancelled due to bad weather conditions so they held another slalom where I was the first British in my age category only beaten by a girl from the Czech Republic I was pleased with my season overall and had a great report off my coach.

It was even better when I found out a couple of weeks later that I had been selected for the Scottish team and the GB youth team. So I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support it is most appreciated. As you can imagine the travel and equipment expenses will only get worse at the next level.

# Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

## PORTLETHEN COMMUNITY BASKETBALL CLUB

by Sandra McKechnie

Portlethen Community Basketball Club ended it's second season with the now customary end of season tournaments. However, as the club continues to develop, we ran two new tournaments for Under 18 youths and Under 12 mixed age categories. Thanks to the generosity of Aberdeenshire Sports Council and others we were able to fund these events, including referee costs, shields and medals and, of course hospitality for players, coaches and match officials.

Around 300 players participated in the events held over six weekends between April and June. Coaches and officials played their part and volunteer parents ensured hospitality was enjoyed by all. Winners of all tournaments are listed below:

Senior Men	Grampian Police Reserves
Under 18 Youth	Banchory Bulls
Under 16 Boys	Garioch
Under 14 Boys	Banchory
Under 12 mixed	Beacon
Under 18 Ladies	Portlethen Panthers

A huge THANK YOU to Aberdeenshire Sports Council for their continued support.

Photo – All under 12s, exhausted but happy, at the end of the tournament.



## SKIP 2 THE BEAT – COMPETITION SUCCESS ONCE AGAIN!

by Silvana Matheson

Friday 22nd February 2008 saw 3 members of Skip 2 The Beat together with coach Silvana Matheson, club secretary Val Fittall and skippers mum Nicki Fittall boarding a flight in Aberdeen to take them to Birmingham for the British Speed competition. This was the 3rd time they had taken part in this annual competition and they were hoping to beat, or at least match, their previous high scores.

On Saturday morning, feeling extremely nervous and anxious, the girls boarded the minibus and headed for the Studley leisure centre, the competition venue. Loud music emanated from the hall and every spare space was taken up by skippers practicing speed, double unders and Double Dutch speed. We watched in amazement as the ropes whistled through the air – we knew then that we were going to be up against stiff competition. Our fears were confirmed once the Novice section began and the first group of skippers took to the floor – they were in the 7/8 age group and reached an extremely good score. As the scores continued to rise the girls started to get really nervous – this was the highest standard we had come across so far and it was only the Novice section!

After lunch the British Nationals section took place, (this is the one our 3 skippers were in.) We found out that we were skipping against members of the junior and senior British team. The girls did really well, despite the fact that one girl's rope broke twice, once in the singles section and again in the pairs! Once it was all over we relaxed a bit – but not for long –there was a draw in one of the pairs events between two of our girls and two girls from one of the London clubs, The Bouncers so a 'skip-off' was held. Unfortunately the Bouncers beat us by 3 points.

It was now time for the Medal ceremony. We waited anxiously as the skippers in the Novice section received their medals before the ones for the Nationals were awarded. Loud cheers came from our group as Anya Matheson and Shelby Fittall were awarded Bronze in the pairs 12-14 years 'Double Unders' The cheers continued in the 15 – 17 years as Isla Matheson (who had paired up with one of the Blue & Whites team), won a medal in each event, 1 bronze, 2 silver and a gold.

Once again 'Skip 2 The Beat' had held their own against the more experienced British clubs. I felt extremely proud of the girls as I watched them being awarded their medals. The competition is getting really stiff now that we are moving into the higher age groups but hopefully, with continued practice, we'll be able to keep up our high standard.

# Reports From A Number Of Previous Grant Recipients

## KART RACING

by Adam Mackay

I sit on the grid, gripping the steering wheel and waiting for the marshal to wave that all important flag. My engine is revving and my heart is revving just as fast! At last we're off, and 26 cadet karts pour out onto the track



ready to start the race. We drive slowly round the track lining up into our grid positions and getting ready to start the race. The start is one of the most important parts of the race – if you get a good start

and get ahead of the 'pack' it is easier to pull away and stay clear of all the crashes! Round the last corner and I start to press the accelerator harder – the lights turn to green and my foot's flat down – I'm away and out in the lead.....

I have been karting for two years now and absolutely love the thrill and excitement. I'm 11 years old and already driving at a speed of 65mph most weekends! I race in the cadet class – 8-13 years old – and race in Scotland and England. Last year I finished 2nd in the Honda Cadet Scottish Championship and have had over 40 podium places in Scotland. My local track is Boyndie near Banff and I spend hours there 'testing' and trying to improve my driving techniques and kart set-up. I also race in Golspie, Crail and Larkhall – the three other Scottish tracks. My dad is my mechanic and he spends all his spare time working on my kart and preparing it for race meetings. This takes up a lot of time as we are always looking to go faster and the set-up of the kart plays a huge part in this.

Last year I entered my first British Championship for WTP engines. This meant I had to race at tracks all over England and accumulate points from each race meeting. I traveled as far down as Kent and Cambridge, as well as Yorkshire, Cumbria and Lincolnshire. It was my first time racing at most of these tracks and it was really exciting to be racing in a big Championship against some of the best British drivers. At the end of the Championship I finished 13th in Britain – not bad for my first year of racing in England! The top 15 racers are 'seeded' and are allowed to race with the number that they qualified with – '13' certainly wasn't unlucky for me! I was the only Scottish cadet to finish in the top 15 in any of the British Championships last year and my dad and I were delighted. It made all the hard work worthwhile.

Because I did so well last year we have decided to enter the British Racing Drivers' 'Stars of Tomorrow' Cadet Championship. This is the ultimate Championship and is where Lewis Hamilton (my hero of course!) was first spotted. The best in Britain race against each other – 58 cadets all aiming to cross the finish line first! The racing is immense and the race weekends are

just like a Formula 1 weekend – just on a smaller scale. We have 'test day' on the Friday, practice on Saturday and racing on Sunday. I will be racing all over Britain and as far away as Belgium so there will be lots of traveling and driving for us. When I'm a Formula One driver I will have to travel even further!

I really enjoy racing in England as the grids are a lot bigger and therefore the racing is a lot better and I get lots of experience racing against the best drivers in Britain. My dad and I spend many hours driving to the tracks in our red van – an old Parcelforce van that we have converted into a race van. It has a garage at the back and also beds, a toilet, cooker and a fridge. We live in the van all weekend – there's even a TV in it and sometimes I take my playstation too. I have made lots of friends through karting and it tends to be the same boys that I see at the racing most weekends. They are from all over Scotland and England and we all get on really well.

I am aiming to finish as high up in the 'Stars of Tomorrow' championship as I can and would love to finish as a 'seeded' driver for next year. Racing in England most weekends means that I can only race in Scotland when there are no British Championship rounds. Unfortunately this means that I will miss some of the Scottish Championship race meetings so becoming Scottish Champion is not going to happen this year. The racing standard in the British Championship is way above Scottish club racing so look out Scotland when I do turn up.....

### 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

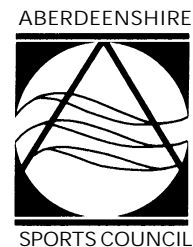
... and much more!

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](mailto:Christine.Edwards@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or [Tracie-Ann.Lovie@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Tracie-Ann.Lovie@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

# 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](http://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 \_\_\_\_\_