

# DISABILITY SPORT NEWS

sp<sup>o</sup>rt  
ABERDEENSHIRE DISABILITY



## GB Special Olympic Summer Games - Leicester

July/ August 2009 saw the City of Leicester host the GB National Special Olympics Summer Games. The games brought together athletes with Learning Disabilities from across Britain to compete in sport. Grampian had a strong team of 52 athletes and 28 coaches/ support staff which competed in the following sports swimming, cycling, football, bowls, tennis, boccia, table tennis, equestrian and gymnastics. Over a week of tough competition the team produced outstanding achievements to bring home 31 golds, 34 silvers, 13 bronze and 46 final places. Wow the achievements were there for all to see. Over that week not only did the athletes gain confidence in their sporting ability but in many others areas to enhance their lives. Athletes gained skills to be more independent, gained friendships that will last a life time and memories that will brighten tough days. Every coach and support staff that travelled with the Grampian team were so proud of the achievements, conduct and sportsmanship of all the athletes. WELL DONE TEAM GRAMPAN.



Members of the Grampian team at the Christmas lights parade Union Street Nov 2009.



**Special Olympics**  
Grampian

## Football



Squad celebrating with John Hughes, Hibs Manager after victory at National 7's September 09

Congratulations to Stuart Gordon, Colin Knox, Daniel McIntosh, Gavin Rothney and Michael Mortimer for securing their places in the Scottish FA U19 squad to play internationally at the Home Nations Championships in Belfast, Northern Ireland in April 2010.



Daniel McIntosh at National 7's September 09

Further congratulations go to the Grampian Football squad who received the Sunday Mail Team of the year award at the Scottish FA grass root awards on Thursday 21st January at Hampden Park.

They received their Award from Kenny Dalglish and Craig Levein. Proudly looking on were the squad coaches Jackie Buchan and Yvonne Alexander. This award was well deserved after their amazing season winning both the Scottish Disability Sport/ Scottish FA LD National 5 a-side and 7 a-side Championships and sit top of the National League. The squad have remained undefeated all season.

For further information on the football structure across Grampian for players with a disability please contact: Claire Bonner Disability Sport Development officer on 01467 628812 or email [claire.bonner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:claire.bonner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

For further information on the National football structure across Scotland for players with a disability please contact:

Stuart Sharp Scottish FA Development officer (Disability) on 0141 6166077 or email: [stuart.sharp@scottishfa.co.uk](mailto:stuart.sharp@scottishfa.co.uk)

## TOTAL boost Aberdeenshire Disability Sports Funding

After 2 - 3 years of new experiences and professional development TEP UK's 2006 / 2007 graduate intake have reached the end of their tailored graduate programmes. Individually, it's been a fascinating journey. Together as a team, they wanted to celebrate their accomplishment by asking everyone in the business to go that 'extra mile' for charity.

"After wracking our brains for a suitable way to mark the close out of our graduate programme we came up with the idea of getting everyone involved in a virtual triathlon from the Altens office to our HQ office in Paris," said Laura Doyles, Mechanical Engineer.



Malcolm Watt Senior Facilities Manager presenting Claire Bonner with Cheque.

Teams were invited to challenge the 7 graduates, James Hayes, David Moir, Stephen Crawford, Rachel Keown, Jackie Mann, Luther Sullivan and Laura Doyles, during the month of October to beat their virtual time to cycle 960km (equivalent distance from Aberdeen to Dover), swim 35km (length of the crossing at the English Channel), and run 295km (distance from Calais to Paris). Teams had no limit to the number of participants in order to encourage as many people as possible to get involved. Approximately 20% of the Altens office took part.

Each team member was asked to pay a minimum joining fee of £5 and encouraged to raise further money via sponsorship for local sports charity Aberdeenshire Disability Sport (ADS). The amount raised totalled £3600.

The teams were left to their own devices on how to achieve the distances – some cycled or ran to work others preferred to use the on site gym or the facilities at The Robert Gordon University

Teams recorded their times and distances and progress will was shown weekly on a dedicated area of the intranet to encourage the competitive spirit.

The winning team managed to complete the full challenge in just under 70 hours – quite an achievement!

"Participating in the challenge has improved the fitness level of everybody involved and raised a significant amount for a local charity" said Jackie Mann, Process Engineer, "We hope people will continue to keep up their fitness levels!"

Two committee members from Aberdeenshire Disability Sport (Claire Bonner and Lynne Walker) collected the cheque at the award ceremony on Monday 16th November.

"The effort by all involved in this challenge was exceptional and the money raised will go along way to enhancing sport and physical activity opportunities across Aberdeenshire" said Claire Bonner "We will keep in touch with this amazing group of people to ensure they know the impact they have had on the local community with disabilities and achievements that individuals have had due to their financial support"

Tel : 01224 681398 - Web : [bebo.com/AberdeenJudo](http://bebo.com/AberdeenJudo)



### Judo Demo & Teaser Session

Monday 29th March 2010  
From 7:30pm to 8:30pm  
Beach Leisure Centre  
**£££ - Free Entry**

Demo features .....

demonstration throws, display fighting,  
break-falls, holds, escapes and free fighting.

also with (optional) audience participation

Can you throw an experienced player?

Can you escape a judo hold in 30seconds?

Wear comfy clothes if you want to have a go!



29th March 2010 - Free Entry

Beach Leisure Centre, Beach Esplanade,  
Aberdeen AB24 5NR - Call : 01224 655401



EXISTING JUDO CLASSES

TUESDAY & THURSDAY's  
Juniors (8+) - 6:30pm to 8:00pm  
Seniors (16+) - 8:00pm to 9:30pm

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

£2.60 juniors or £4.95 seniors

COMING SOON!

DISABILITY JUDO

Begins on MONDAY

12th of April 2010

7:30pm to 8:30pm

Tel : 01224 681398 - Web : [bebo.com/AberdeenJudo](http://bebo.com/AberdeenJudo)

# ***International Paralympic Committee Announce inclusion of Athletes with Learning Disability in London 2012 Paralympic Games***

Ref: INAS- FID Website

## ***MEMORANDUM***

**From:** Peter Van de Vliet, IPC Medical & Scientific Director

**Date:** 15 December 2009

**Re:** Re-Inclusion of Athletes with Intellectual Impairment in Paralympic Sports

In November 2009, the IPC General Assembly voted in favour of the reinclusion of Athletes with Intellectual Impairment in the London 2012 Paralympic Games and beyond. The decision is based upon receipt of the progress report that was submitted by the joint IPC – INAS-FID Working Group that was established in 2007.

This Working Group was mandated by the IPC Governing Board and the INAS-FID Executive Committee to develop an action plan on the basis of:

- a conceptual framework for the development of a sport-specific eligibility criteria system;
- the provisions of the IPC Classification Code to ensure a sport-specific classification system.

The joint IPC – INAS-FID Working Group met on several occasions and provided updates of their work to both the IPC Governing Board and the INAS-FID Executive Committee. The action plan was approved by the IPC Governing Board in March 2009 and the INAS-FID General Assembly in April 2009. The action plan also formed the basis of the meetings with researchers that have been attracted to support the development of the sport-specific testing (see further). Throughout the process, the model and approach also has been presented to representatives of the different sports targeted for immediate inclusion (see further).

### ***What was the purpose of a 'conceptual framework' and 'action plan'?***

Classification under the IPC Classification Code is a system that sets eligibility criteria and ensures that an athlete's impairment is relevant to sport performance, minimizing the impact of the impairment on the outcome of competition. Additionally, the methods used to assess impairments under this definition of Classification should be reliable and preferably based on research indicating the relative impact of the impairment on the core activities of the sport.

The above criteria guided the development of a framework for 'Classification' of athletes with an Intellectual Impairment by the IPC-INAS-FID

(International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability) Working Group. Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment are challenged by limitations in the cognitive or intellectual functioning area, and therefore an assessment of cognition in relationship to sport demands is needed to set criteria for inclusion in Paralympic Sport. Derived from different theoretical models in educational and clinical psychology, the key components of cognition or intellectual functioning that likely have sport specific applications include: reasoning, working memory and learning, visual-spatial perception, reaction time and processing speed, attention and concentration, and executive function. These components can jointly be referred to as 'sports intelligence'.

### ***Which sports foresee participation opportunities for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment?***

The decision of the IPC General Assembly confirms that events for Athletes with Intellectual Impairment will be included in the London 2012 Paralympic Games programme. The following sports foresee for such inclusion:

- IPC Swimming (IPC)
- IPC Athletics (IPC)
- Table Tennis (ITTF)
- Rowing (FISA)

The final decision on inclusion is the responsibility of the International Federation that has jurisdiction over the sport on the Paralympic Games programme. This decision, including the identification of the medal events and the applicable qualification standards for the London 2012 Paralympic Games, is due no later than Autumn 2010 (early 2011 for IPC Athletics). Inclusion will be implemented in a progressive way, starting with a limited number of events. The inclusion of Athletes with an Intellectual Impairment will be **in addition** to the programme currently worked out for the other impairment groups. The inclusion of Athletes with Intellectual Impairments will NOT lead to a reduction of the number of participating athletes in other impairment groups.

Sports other than those listed above that seek for inclusion of Athletes with Intellectual Impairment should liaise with the Working Group to seek guidance on the process and should extend their classification system on the basis of the above model.

## Scottish Swimming Update

Scottish Disability Sport (SDS) and Scottish Swimming (ScSw) are pleased to emerge from a period of change with a new shared approach for supporting disability swimming in Scotland. Key points from our support for the pathway are highlighted below:

### Development

- SDS will continue to support swimming through the existing branch structure.
- ScSw and SDS will work together to grow the number of swimmers at the start of the pathway through the development of the regional model in both organisations. ScSw has 5 such posts with the position in the North having the national lead for disability swimming. SDS currently has 4 such Regional posts, with expectation to grow that number to 7 in the year ahead. These posts will have a clear remit for Talent ID and development and have swimming as one of their core sports. Ongoing interaction between the regional managers across SDS and ScSw will be achieved.
- SDS and ScSw are committed to supporting and encouraging mainstream swimming clubs to work inclusively with swimmers with a disability through appropriate education & training and/or through links to local disability sport structures.

### Performance Development

- SDS will undertake to reinstate a calendar of national swimming events that meets the needs of swimmers with a disability in Scotland.

- ScSw will manage the National Disability Squads going forward.
- ScSw will manage the representative teams attending DSE Junior & DSE Short Course Champs and other identified UK and international events.
- ScSw will lead the Scottish Talent Programme (until swimmers are ready to be picked up by British Swimming).
- The ScSw disability swimming post is centred on the fast tracking of swimmers onto World Class programmes. The core focus of the post is Performance Development.

### Performance

- ScSw will liaise with BS to ensure the smooth transition of Scots into the BS World Class Talent, Development and Podium programmes.

We look forward to working together with athletes, staff, coaches and volunteers to take forward disability swimming in Scotland.

Key contacts for information on the above:

SDS – Ruari Davidson: [ruari.davidson@scottishdisabilitysport.com](mailto:ruari.davidson@scottishdisabilitysport.com)<<mailto:ruari.davidson@scottishdisabilitysport.com>>

ScSw – Paul Wilson [p.wilson@scottishswimming.com](mailto:p.wilson@scottishswimming.com)<<mailto:p.wilson@scottishswimming.com>>–

## Aberdeenshire welcomes improved Swimming pool access

As part of Aberdeenshire Council on going facility improvements has seen a stride forward in access to swimming pools for people with disabilities. Turriff, Peterhead and Banchory Swimming Pools are now fully inclusive in both changing and pool facilities. This is set to continue when the work is complete at Huntly Swimming pool and the new pool is built in Fraserburgh.. Further to this there is a long term plan which will see other sites across Aberdeenshire benefit from improved access in the future.

