

SportTayside & Fife

DEVELOPING SPORTING PATHWAYS IN TAYSIDE & FIFE

I am delighted to be able to introduce the second of our Partnership newsletters to update you on our recent progress and outline some of the exciting developments ahead.

Planning for Sport

Our Partnership sits across local, regional and national organisations and therefore it is important that we take a planned approach to developing sport within Tayside & Fife to maximise our effectiveness and make a positive impact. We are therefore taking a lead role in this process to ensure selected Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport's national strategies are filtered through to local level and the sports move forward in a co-ordinated manner in line with the rest of Scotland.

We are currently writing a strategic framework for the Partnership and each of our sport specific and coaching team are undertaking a similar exercise for each sport in order to:

- Strengthen the infrastructure of sport in Tayside & Fife
- Increase participation in sport leading to lifelong involvement
- Improve performances of our developing athletes to achieve national standards or Area Institute of Sport level

Whilst the regional team will concentrate on Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, Clubs, Facilities and sport specific Player Improvement Programmes we will work in partnership with local partners to provide more participation opportunities at local level in our priority sports (Athletics, Basketball, Clubgolf, Gymnastics, Hockey, Rugby, Swimming and Girl's & Women's Football).

Over the coming few months, the regional team will be consulting with sporting communities through development groups and regional associations on how we hope to work with you for the next three years. If you would like to get involved in this process, I would urge you to contact the team directly.

Player Improvement Programmes

Coming soon! Some of our sports will be launching new Player Improvement Programmes to support our developing athletes at regional level. This programme aims to enhance the current provision within the sport and support the athlete / player development pathway in partnership with clubs, coaches and parents.

Farewell

On a personal note, I will be moving on to take up post as the Area Manager of the Tayside and Fife Institute of Sport in September. I have worked with the **SportTayside & Fife** Partnership for four years and I would like to thank all who have worked with me and supported me throughout my time here. I'd like to wish the new management and the Partnership well and look forward to continuing the good partnership working between both organisations.

Catriona Semple

Acting Regional Manager

Athletics

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DEVELOPING ATHLETICS IN TAYSIDE & FIFE

Sport Tayside & Fife Championships Imminent

Sunday 3rd September sees the first **SportTayside & Fife** Combined Events Championships being held at Caird Park, Dundee. The event was previously known as the Tayside Combined Events Championships. These Championships are open to anyone and consist of Triathlon competitions for Under 11s and Pentathlon competitions for Under 13 to Seniors.

Sunday 17th September sees the Track and Field Championships taking place. This event is open to anyone born, living or studying in Tayside & Fife. The event caters for athletes from Under 11s to Seniors. Entries close on September 6th so if you have not got your entry in yet and would like to compete then contact Alasdair Donaldson on the details below.



If you have not entered either of these events yourself then it would be great to see as many people as possible there to support the athletes; entry is free to spectators and action gets underway at 10:30am and runs until 4pm on both days.

Left: Action from last years sprint hurdles

Tayside Athletes of the Year Nominations

At this year's Tayside & Fife Championships there will be Athlete of the Year awards made for Angus, Dundee and Perth & Kinross. These awards are possible thanks to the generous support of the START fund. Nominations should be sent to Alasdair Donaldson.

New Regional Squad Structure

We are currently working with **scottishathletics** on a new Regional Squad format which will be rolled out across Scotland and there will be a Tayside & Fife regional squad operating from this winter onwards. The exact details of the squad will be finalised in Mid-October; keep an eye on the Scottish Athletics website for further news: www.scottishathletics.org.uk

Local Athletics Partnerships

Local Athletics Partnerships have now been set up for both Tayside & Fife. These aim to aid the development of athletics across the region by bringing together Clubs, Active Schools, Local Authority Sports Development, Scottish Athletics and **SportTayside & Fife** to work in partnership. By sharing resources, experience and expertise across the region it is hoped that athletics will become a stronger, more enjoyable and fulfilling sport for all.

Coach Education and Development

Through consultation with coaches, teachers, the **SportTayside & Fife** Club/Coach Development Manager and **scottishathletics** we plan to run a comprehensive Coach Education programme for athletics within the Region. This will look to address everyone's needs, whether it is through providing NGB courses or CPD workshops.

Coach Scholarships are also available to assist with the costs of coach education for coaches operating at Level 2 and above. For further information please contact the **SportTayside & Fife** Club/Coach Development Manager on: 01382 431 852, or at: derek.welch@dundeecity.gov.uk

AAA Championship Success

Tayside & Fife's top athletes travelled to Manchester on 15th & 16th July to contest the AAA Senior Championships. The top local performance of the weekend came from Gemma Nicol (Dunfermline & West Fife) who, at only 19, claimed her first AAA senior medal with silver in the 400m, recording a personal best of 53.46secs.

There was further success for Tayside & Fife's finest at the AAA Under 20 & Under 23 Championships the following weekend. Graeme Oudney (Pitreavie) ran a fine race to claim silver in the Under 23 800m while Fife ACs Noni Mordi picked up bronze in the Under 20 Triple Jump and Gemma Nicol gained her second AAA medal in as many weeks with bronze in the Under 23 400m.

Relay Boys Lead the Way at Celtic Games

Tayside & Fife's best Under 18 athletes headed to Waterford (Ireland) as part of a Scottish team for a match against their Celtic counterparts on 12th August. The Scottish team brought home the overall team title to round off a successful day. The highlight was the triumph of an Under 18 men's 4x100m team made up entirely of Tayside & Fife athletes and led by regional squad coach Dave Combe (Dundee HH). Chris Lavery (Dundee HH), Bob Mitchell (Dundee HH), Connor Hill (Fife AC) and Ryan Oswald combined to take 1st in an excellent 42.41seconds. Oswald had earlier sealed a fine sprint double, winning the 100m and 200m. The region was also represented by: Lisa Glover and Ian Hendry (both Fife AC), Craig Robinson and Megan Frail (both Pitreavie) and Ryan Knight and Nicola Campbell (both Dundee HH).

Celtic Cup Proves a Big Hit

Thousands of fans witnessed a memorable night of athletics at Grangemouth Stadium on 18th August as Scotland won the inaugural Celtic Cup ahead of Ireland and Wales. A number of local athletes took part in this innovative new competition, representing Scotland, the Scottish Development Team or as guests. Gemma Nicol produced one of the performances of the night with a fantastic 400m race to score a clear victory. Dundee's Graeme Oudney finished second in the 600m race but won the match, as the race victor was a guest American, to take the \$1000 prize. Nick Smith also won the match race, in the 100m, again finishing second, this time to Darren Campbell who was running his last ever race. Nick was one of three Pitreavie athletes in the 100m, along with Ryan Oswald and Jamie Coull. Local representation was completed by Stacey Downie (Pitreavie) in the 100m and 200m and Noni Mordi, who was part of the new "team" triple jump.

National Junior Record for Noni

The Scottish Senior Championships took place on July 12th and 13th at Glasgow's Scotstoun Stadium. Noni Mordi, still a junior, was the star performer claiming the Triple Jump gold and then adding silver in the Long Jump. Noni's gold medal winning performance broke her own Scottish Junior Record with a leap of 12.81m. This was also a Championship Best Performance and the longest jump ever achieved by a Scot of any age in Scotland. In total Tayside & Fife's athletes brought home a total of 13 medals, with an amazing nine gold!

Scottish Schools

This year's Scottish Schools Championships produced the usual raft of fine performances by Tayside & Fife's athletes who brought home a total of 10 gold, 16 silver and 15 bronze medals. Pick of the bunch was Craig Robinson (Woodmill High) who won the Under 14 800m and High Jump titles; he also produced Championship Best performances in both events!

Emma Dawson Scores National Pentathlon Record

In late May Emma Dawson (Perth Strathtay), a former gymnast, caught the eye as an athlete in winning the U13 girls pentathlon at the Scottish Multi-Events Championships with 2624 points, a new Scottish record by 137 points, and won the competition by an amazing 501 points. Emma is pictured right with Chris Baillie and his Commonwealth silver medal.

