



Convener's AGM Report - June 2025

By Jill Smith, Lanarkshire Badminton Group

Another season seems to have very quickly gone by and I think that may be due to the many events that the Group have hosted. Badminton Scotland are currently undergoing change and I would like to record the support and stability that our RDO, Jack McLean has provided. We continue to promote badminton for all and strive to offer events within the Lanarkshire area to help grow our sport.

The tournament calendar has been busy and Lanarkshire have delivered tournaments at all age groups, a Bonanza and Junior Singles League. Frank will give more detail as Tournament Convener however I am also delighted to report some additional events in Lanarkshire including the recent LGBTQI event at Ravenscraig run by Janis Hunter, Danny Robson's Quarters tournament and Katie Wright's junior event in Airdrie. It has been great to see all of these well attended events adding something different to the calendar.

One of the highlights must be The Senior County Team who have had an excellent season. Not only did they get promoted to the Premiere Division in the ICC Championship but they also won the Snr Inter Group Competition in November, which as far as I know is a first. I wish them well for the forthcoming season.

We have entered a Junior Team in all the inter group and inter area competitions and although haven't been quite as successful as the Seniors, the players seem to have enjoyed the experience and continue to participate.

The Vets also entered the Inter Group which was a new format this year and another good day of badminton was had by all.

The U13/17 event in March saw an excellent entry with some good quality badminton. Being held at Sir Craig Reddie Badminton Centre we capitalised on the kitchen and ran a cafe to boost our funds. The U15/19 was held at Ally McCoist Complex, EK and although unable to run a cafe we did manage to sell some home baking, football cards and clothing.

The ongoing work in relation to BASE is fully supported by the Group aiming to provide more playing opportunities for those who want to participate competitively or socially. The Junior Clubs in Rutherglen, Lanark, Hamilton and East Kilbride are thriving as is the Adult club in Uddingston. A club has also been started in Cumbernauld and is growing steadily.

Unfortunately Base were unable to take on Stewartfield Community Centre as their own premise as it was deemed the risk was just too big.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Strathclyde Badminton Club based at Ravenscraig on becoming the 2025 Scottish Senior Cup champions. A fantastic achievement for players and club - well done!

I would like to thank all those who have sponsored us through generous donations. These donations are vital in helping us achieve our goals.

The past season has been productive and the want to increase both activity and performance is very much alive. Lanarkshire are proud to say that in addition to the successful County Team they have some excellent performers coming through the ranks. Kirsty Gilmour achieved another Silver in the European Championships, Matthew Waring is currently ranked No2 in Scotland, and Toni Woods has excelled in ladies doubles. Alfie Martin, Lanna Campbell, and Elona Kennedy are all achieving highly and Chris Agnew should be commended for his commitment.

Lanarkshire Badminton Group Committee meet in person on a regular basis (4/5 times per year) in the Lighthouse in Larkhall and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the existing members for their contributions whilst inviting any new people who would like to join us in promoting the game, assisting at any of our events and generally contributing ideas and energy into Lanarkshire Badminton.

I think we have successfully achieved in terms of performance, event management and junior recruitment. A strong committee with a wide skill base is vital, particularly when people are leading busy challenging lives and our doors remain open to new members.

I do hope that those currently involved continue to support so that we can strengthen what we already have.

Thank you for all your contributions and I look forward to a successful forthcoming season.