

## **Dunfermline and West Fife Sports Council Report**

**Presented by Alan Kenney, Hon. Vice President D & W.F. S.C**

**Dunfermline and West Fife Sports Council, the second oldest in Scotland and now into its 42nd year, is an independent voluntary organisation established in 1967.**

**It exists to co-ordinate and lead the development of sport through the support and resources made available from local authority and other sources.**

**Though Fife Council, with whom we have a 3 year Service Level Agreement, is the largest single supporter, the Sports Council seeks to secure sponsorship from the private sector, public bodies, philanthropic organisations and government agencies for individual sports, activities and specific events.**

**Through affiliation to the Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils, as well as through its link to national sporting bodies, the Sports Council acts as a channel for giving:**

- ▣ Grants for sports development, coach training and equipment**
- ▣ Advance information and news of events at local, national and international level**
- ▣ Information on nation-wide schemes like Sportsmatch, Awards for All, the National Lottery, etc.**

**Affiliation means member clubs gain access to representatives of the local authority and to the other 64 Sports Councils in Scotland.**

**It also gives them the opportunity to bring the concerns of local sport directly to the attention of elected members: in effect, giving them a voice which can be used to influence and determine the direction their sport may take in the area.**

**The Sports Council seeks to nourish and encourage the growth and development of sporting activities at all levels in the community and at the same time open the door to national and international participation. We continually seek to broaden the opportunities of 'Sport For All' so that everyone can find fun, exercise or competition, whatever their individual abilities or ambitions.**

**The tremendous support we receive from the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust and the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust has enabled us to consolidate the number and scope of our 14 event series of Schools Sports Festivals, the**

**Sport For All Festival now approaching it's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary plus the annual Sports Awards Ceremony.**

**This partnership together the collaboration of Fife Active Schools Co-ordinators, Fife Council's Sports Development Team, Sport Tayside and Fife & our 90+ affiliated clubs allows us to enhance the sporting opportunities for our community.**

**Due largely to the efforts of our volunteers, the Sports Council continues to have one of the busiest sports development programmes in Scotland; we could not exist without them.**

### **PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS FESTIVALS 2008**

**This series of competitions, aimed at P4 to P7 Primary School pupils, was introduced about six years ago.**

**Approx 1900 pupils from 38 local schools took part in the 14 Festival series we organised in 2008 in partnership with Fife Council's Community Services, Fife Active Schools, Fife Sports and Leisure Trust and supported by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust.**

**The Festival series, which runs from March to December, involves 6 sports athletics, badminton, cricket, hockey, pop lacrosse and tennis, in a mixture of indoor and outdoor competitions.**

**Some competitions eg. Athletics, Hockey, Cricket and Pop Lacrosse were also qualifying rounds for Regional and / or Scottish events.**

**In 2008 Pittencrieff Primary School went on to the Scottish Championship to capture the Pop Lacrosse Open title while Donibristle P.S. took the U11's Award.**

**Donibristle PS also provided the Fife team for the Fun in Athletics Regional event in Dundee in February this year & came home with the Regional title.**

**Local clubs provide the coaches, referees and officials and all the necessary equipment, while some High School pupils are recruited by Active Schools to help out on the day.**

**All pupils received the traditional participation certificates or medals plus, for the first time this year, free swim vouchers supplied by the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust.**

**Presentations are made at each event or at the award winning school whichever is most appropriate. The local press coverage was excellent throughout 2008.**

Points are awarded to each school for participation with the first three placed schools gaining extra points leading to the annual Sports School of the Year Award.

These Annual Awards, to the three highest placed schools, took place at the schools in December. In addition, when the Sports Council held their Annual Sports Awards Ceremony in February 2009 some teachers and pupils of these same schools were invited to attend and the Awards were re presented before the audience of 180 invited guests.

The Festival series has now grown so popular it is close to outstripping the administrative resources of the Sports Council.

### **Sport For All Festival 2008**

The 2008 Sport For All Festival was, arguably, the most comprehensive in it's 20 plus years history.

Supported by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, Fife Council and the Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, in partnership with local clubs, national governing bodies of sport and committed individuals, the Festival delivered over 60 events in more than 20 different sports.

Come & Try events, displays, inter-club competitions and national competitions like the Stewarts Scottish National Athletics Championships and the River Forth Swim provided an abundance of sport for the community in September.

A varied and complimentary programme of activities, some offered free, was arranged by the local Community Use Schools managers. While the clubs booked the venues and dealt with all the technical aspects of their own event we negotiated the facilities, arranged the finance for the project and produced and distributed posters, leaflets and 10,000 full colour programmes containing free and / or reduced cost vouchers.

This shop window of sport provides the clubs with an opportunity to recruit new members while at the same time gives them the chance to widen their own experience in event organization and try things they may not otherwise have the resources to attempt.

The 'Beijing' effect was certainly felt in Dunfermline and West Fife during those very busy nine days of sporting excellence.

## **Annual Sports Awards**

**For over 20 years we have recognized the sporting achievements of Dunfermline & West Fife athletes from Regional Champions to National and Olympic and Paralympic Champions.**

**We currently have eight categories of award, for teams, coaches, administrators, masters, schools and individual athletes.**

**Nominations can be made by clubs, individuals and the general public and our Publicity and Events Sub Committee trawl the past years local papers to identify possible candidates. A neutral panel of local sports experts makes the final selection which, like the Oscars, are not announced until the evening of the ceremony.**

**For the 2008 Awards approximately 180 invited guests attended the ceremony in the Glen Pavilion on Wednesday 18th February 2009.**

**A Powerpoint Presentation was used to show the guests some of the nominees achievements before the winners were announced.**

**A number of presenters spoke in support of the Sports Council's work and both Dunfermline Press and the Courier gave extensive coverage to the occasion.**