



BadmintonWales

Participation to Performance

Head of Operations Update

As the curtains close on 2017, I can reflect on the past 3 months of joining the team with much pride.

We have had our flagship event kicking off the festive period and I thoroughly enjoyed being back involved in a completely different capacity from when I was a player. I saw all the hard work that goes in behind the scenes with the planning and running of the event. It was great to see how the event has developed over the years, the software and facilities provided at this year's international were second to none and received many compliments from players, coaches, volunteers, officials and spectators.

The Yonex Welsh International was a great triumph and I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone involved from the players, coaches, umpires, referee, line and services judges, volunteers and of course the Badminton Wales Team. Each and every persons contribution made the event a success and one that we are very proud of.

We have some exciting projects developing in the New Year and with a great Team and Board in place we are all striving to continue growing badminton in Wales.

I am really looking forward to the year ahead and to continue to build on all the good work already in place.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at Badminton Wales.

Performance Update

The start of this season has been incredibly positive with the introduction of our new Junior National Coach, Donal O'Halloran. Donal's experience and overall passion for Badminton will be an asset to the development of our junior programme going forward.

Our Regional Academy players have had a busy start to the season with numerous players winning Badminton England graded events, the positive start has set up the remainder of the season very well with International Team events around the corner. Lowri Hart gained selection for U17 Europeans in Prague losing out to a strong seed, Donal commented "*It was valuable experience for Lowri to see where she currently is and what she needs to work on going forward, overall it was a great insight for us*".

Our National Champion Jordan Hart has had an encouraging start to her season having reached the Final of the Polish Open 2017 and following up at our Welsh International losing out at the Semi Final stage. These results have seen her World Ranking rise to an all time best of 120 and Jordan heads into the New Year aiming to build on her rise up the World Rankings.

Over recent months I have been working heavily with the formation of our Satellite Centre structure. The reaction has been incredibly positive from various County Associations who are now reviewing their own Performance and Participation Pathways in consultation with us. Its an exciting time with prospect of supporting Satellite Centres financially to help develop future players and coaches.

Our commitment to investing into Satellite Centres is highly important by providing the crucial link between our Shuttle Time programs which are now being rolled out nationwide via Local Authorities and schools into our Regional Academy structure. *For further information regarding the formation of Satellite Centres please don't hesitate to contact me matt.hughes@badminton.wales*



Chair Update

2017 has been a successful year for Badminton in Wales, made possible by the hard working volunteers working across Wales helping to organise clubs, tournaments, and leagues. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the considerable hours you put in to developing our sport.

My last thanks for this year goes to the thousands of parents with players in our system, the commitment really is phenomenal.

The Badminton Wales AGM will take place on Sunday 18th February 2018 from 10:00 - 16:00 in the Media Resource Centre, Llandrindod Wells. Formal papers will be circulated the first week of January.

Merry Christmas everyone, I wish you all a lovely break.





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Events Update

The first half of the 2017-18 Season has concluded and we have seen some great badminton played in Wales.

For Events & Marketing Officer, Carissa Turner, the season began with another successful 4 Nations Para-Badminton Championships in September which saw the Welsh players perform well and take home medals. It finished with the calendar's pinnacle event; the Yonex Welsh International Championships.

This year the International would run as a Future Series event, but this did not effect the entry - in fact this year the tournament entry level increased! Over 250 players from 30 countries came to Cardiff and competed to be crowned champions in one of the longest standing BWF events.

Thanks to the hard work of the staff, the event was better than ever with an increase in partners for the event, Live Scoring available, card payments and for the first time ever, live streaming was available via the Badminton Wales YouTube channel. Many thanks go to our officials and volunteers for their time and hard work which is crucial in delivering a successful event!

Badminton Wales introduced their online entry system this season too and after some feedback have added online payments for events too. Payment will be available at the end of the entry submission through PayPal - you do not need a PayPal account to make transactions but entries without payments won't be forwarded by Tournament Software. If there is no payment option upon entering, please contact the relevant tournament organiser for help.

The second half of the season has a lot in store! The first event in January will be the BW Welsh Masters Championships, followed by Wrexham BW Junior Gold and then the Yonex Welsh National Championships in February!



Development Update

This year has been a great year for the development of Badminton within Wales. The introduction of the BWF Shuttle Time initiative has already had a dramatic impact on the growth and impact of Badminton at the foundation level.

Since the introduction of Shuttle Time in the February of 2017 to date our Shuttle Time Tutors have delivered 14 teacher training courses and trained 211 teachers impacting over 10,000 children across Wales. We will continue the growth as we move into 2018 and look to expand on our partnerships with schools, Local Authorities and the wider Badminton Community.

There will be a particular focus on Higher Education by integrating the Shuttle Time University program into Colleges and Universities with the aim of making it part of the curriculum. Early signs have been very positive with engagement with Cardiff Metropolitan University, Coleg Cambria in Wrexham and Neath and Port Talbot all upskilling students to deliver into local schools, this has proved to be very successful and aim to expand this offer to other Universities and Colleges.

Badminton Wales would like to take the opportunity to thank the following Local Authorities who have supported Badminton Wales by launching the Shuttle Time program as part of their offer to local primary and secondary schools. Gwynedd, Conwy, Flint, Wrexham, Powys, Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Cardiff, Vale and Carmarthen.

For more information on the Shuttle Time program please contact

angela.stevens@badminton.wales

SHUTTLE TIME WALES

Shuttle Time

The next 10 week Shuttle Time session at Sport Wales National Centre, Cardiff starts on the 17th January 2018

6.30pm-8pm.

For further information please go to www.badminton.wales/course-schedule



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