



ANNUAL REPORTS

2023

CONTENTS

ULSTER BADMINTON CHAIR'S REPORT	1
ULSTER BADMINTON EXECUTIVE MANAGER	2
ULSTER BADMINTON HONORARY TREASURER	3
ULSTER BADMINTON DEVELOPMENT OFFICER	4
BADMINTON IRELAND ACTIVATION OFFICER- Cavan, Monaghan & Fermanagh.....	6
ULSTER BADMINTON PARTICIPATION OFFICER.....	8
ULSTER BADMINTON PATHWAYS OFFICER.....	11
ULSTER BADMINTON TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR REPORT	13
ULSTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION	15
UBBUI FINANCIAL STATEMENT	16

ULSTER BADMINTON CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to my Report as Chair of Ulster Badminton and I am pleased to provide a short foreword to its Annual Report.

This will be my final report as a successor has been lined up and I wish them every success in their term of office.

Our Leagues continue to grow, and it is also good to increasingly see some younger players playing on the teams.

We ran a full Calander of tournaments during the year with entry numbers on the rise, our Under 15 tournament in April had the biggest entry in our history.

Master's events continue to show increasing numbers, and this is extremely encouraging. We also had a number of our masters players selected to represent Ireland at the Nations cup held in Holland at the beginning of June.

Our young players continue to be selected at various age groups to represent Ireland.

As per usual I would like to personally thank the hard-working staff of Andy Stewart, Kyle Dunn, Leslie Dewart and Jacob Davidson who have not only continued their great work but like a lot of us have had to adapt their working patterns.

Not forgetting fellow Officers, Council Members and especially to our Treasurer Tony Clarke and Tournament Officer William Martin who continue to work tirelessly for the Branch.

At last year's AGM we elected a new President; Doreen McClements who has been kept busy during the year. I wish her well in her term of office.

During the year one of our longest employees Emma Nesbitt decided to move to a new field of work, I would like to thank her for all her work and dedication during her time with us. I wish her well in her new role.

Badminton is a sport open to all ages from the very young to those much older, covering all abilities and standards.

Finally, my thanks to those who volunteer at every level of our sport, you are invaluable, and we cannot do without you, so thank you and keep up the good work.

Colin McClements
Chair Ulster Badminton

ULSTER BADMINTON EXECUTIVE MANAGER

After starting my role of Executive Manager in May 2023, it has been exciting to lead on the implementation & delivery of the New Ulster Badminton Strategic Plan 2023-27 & Restructure of the organisation. Sport Northern Ireland continue to be our core funders and we thank them for their continued support. We have expanded our income through other funding streams & partnerships including Department of Foreign Affairs, Rank Foundation, Job Start, Dorman Accounts, Council Grants and Department for Communities. The 2022-23 Season has been a success with a significant increase in delivery & activities at Club, School, participation & Community level, alongside an increase in School, Club and Provincial level competitions & events we have delivered. As a result, we have had an increased in our membership, affiliated clubs and participation levels both in Schools & community settings. This in turn has helped us achieve, exceed and/or be on course to achieve the targets & objectives for Year 1 of the Strategy.

We introduced a number of new programmes during the season including the Graded Cups, Cross Boarder Community Schools programme, Women in Sport Programme (in partnership with Ulster University) & the introduction of a new Ethnic Minority Community Badminton programme in Belfast & Londonderry/Derry. These have been very successful in providing more playing opportunities for our affiliated members, affiliated Schools and also participation on wider scale across the province.

Building from last season we have expanded the East Ulster League with 3 new clubs joining, 6 additional Teams & an additional Division. The Decathlon Ulster Junior League continues to develop with more Junior Clubs entering each Year, culmination in a great Finals Day in March. Across the board our schools' programmes have massively expanded with over 2200 children participating in an 8-week badminton programme in Schools across the province & a further 500 children returning for the Schools Festivals.

Our Performance Programme continues to grow with great success Internationally, Nationally & provincially from the players in the programme, alongside numerous Ulster & Ireland caps/ representation at Underage Level. We re-established the Regional Development Squads as a 'stepping-stone' into the Performance programme and had a great turn out at both the Lisburn & Northwest Talent ID Days, with whom we selected players for the Squad. We look forward to developing further the programmes in the coming season/s.

Our Club & Provincial Events have seen an increase in entries, which has been very welcoming & a big thank you to our Tournament Director, Referees, Umpires and Volunteers who without their support & dedication we would be unable to run the level of events we do.

Following on from the 2023 Governance review, we have been implementing the recommendations and currently operating under the new structure & has been put forward to be approved at the May 2024 AGM. We have a number of new Director's incoming, alongside our existing Board Directors, who will help continue to drive the Strategic direction of the Organisation.

The Staffing re-structure has been a significant change from previous operations within the organisation, however the staff have embraced and adapted very well to their new roles and thank them for they hard work & continued support.

My Thanks goes to our Commercial Partners, FZ Forza, Decathlon, Belfast and our event Sponsors Expleo, McAuley Badminton Coaching & Alderwood Studios. Lastly, I would like to thank the Ulster Badminton Board, Club members, Clubs & partners or your continued support to help drive & improve Badminton in the Province

Many Thanks
Andrew Stewart
Executive Manager

ULSTER BADMINTON HONORARY TREASURER

At the outset of this report, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have helped and given me support during this past season.

Sport Northern Ireland (SportNI)

SportNI grants are covered by the following programmes (a) Sports System Investment in Governing Bodies Programme covering Retention & Growth, Pathway Access, Workforce Planning, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, Governance (b) Athlete Award helps to cover training or competition costs for specific players. It should be noted that that these grants account for nearly 50% of our income and without this essential funding we would not be able to exist, and we are grateful for their support.

April 2024 was the start of a new grant period and seen the same level of investment as last year, but the categories have changed to Retention & Growth, Medals & More. Once again, this programme is for one year which is expected to be developed into a further 4-year plan.

Other Grants

During the year we obtained other grants for various areas to assist in our work, with the following results:

- a) The 'Start Here' programme of £90,000 covers a 3-year period starting in January 23 – which has employed a Participation Officer for work in schools, clubs and community groups and will assist our current staff.
- b) The 'Athlete Award Scheme' is for funding to go to specific athletes for their development.
 - £2,500 – approved for the period April 23 to March 24 for one athlete
- c) The Department of Foreign Affairs programme of €6,200 to assist in our work in our border counties.
- d) Dormant Account £55,000 is a 3-year programme is for Council Training and extra costs for posts.

Accounts 1st August 2022 –31st July 2023

This set of accounts has been prepared using Section 1A Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). We operate in two currencies (Sterling & Euro), our software package records in both currencies but only reports in Sterling as is shown in the Annual Report.

Our accounts show various figures for income, costs, net income and expenditure and are summarised in our overall position as follows: -

Total Income-	£220,034, with main income streams of SportNI Grants, Other Grants, Membership Fees, Tournaments, Competitions, Coaching & Squads.
Total Expense-	£218,896, with main expenditure areas of Wages, Administration, Tournaments, Coaching & Squads.
Surplus -	£1,138

Our running costs for the year increased by approximately 4%, which influenced our final position. Our position on 31st July 2023 is £107,599

Within this funding there are special reserves of £11,483 which covers specific requirements outside our normal operations, further details are as shown in our accounts.

General Comments

Our financial initiative with Ulster Schools Association continues to function, this works well for both parties. A similar arrangement is available to our clubs experiencing financial issues, there are certain conditions that need to be met, further information is available on request.

Tony Clarke
Honorary Treasurer

ULSTER BADMINTON DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Information in this report relates to the developments during the 2023/24 season.

Objectives:

- ❖ 436 new junior members this season
- ❖ 247 new adult members this season

Sport NI Targets:

Target Areas	2023/24 Numbers
Total Club Members	2051
Total No. of affiliated clubs	79
Total No. Active Volunteers	196
Total No. Coaches	615

The table above shows an increase in all of the areas from the 2022/23 season. Over the past year we have seen an increase in the total club members across the province. Throughout the 2023/24 season we have seen the development of increased playing opportunities through our Leagues and competitions.

During the 2023/24 season we have seen an increase in overall club members with 436 new junior members and 247 new adult members. This season we currently have 1251 club members and 79 clubs.

Work Programme Summary

Over the past year we have continued to grow our club development and coach development programmes / courses which has had a great impact on increased club numbers and clubs that are playing across Ulster. This has been due to the increase playing opportunities for club members through our leagues, club cups and competitions. We have also continued to develop our coach education courses with running a number of coach education courses across Ulster which has seen a great increase in the number of coaches across Ulster.

Coach Development

Throughout the season Ulster Badminton have delivered the following Shuttle Time Courses:

- 30/09/2023- Doohamlet Community Centre, Castleblayney, Monaghan (8 participants attended the course)
- 07/10/2023- Strathearn School, Belfast (11 participants attended the course)
- 16/11/23- Northern Regional College, Coleraine (12 participants attended the course)
- 09.02/24- Cavan (11 participants attended the course)
- 22/02/24- University of Ulster, Coleraine (17 participants attended the course)
- 28/04/24- Omagh Leisure Complex, Omagh (10 participants attended the course)



Ulster Badminton have delivered the following Level One Courses:

- 24/09/2022- 25/09/2022 & 29/10/2022-30/10/2022 (9 participants attended the course)

This season we ran a coach education workshop on Coaching in a Club Setting including how and what to deliver within a club setting and utilising limited space. The workshop was delivered on the following:

- 13/10/2023- Enniskillen Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen

This season we were delighted to be able to launch the Ulster Badminton Coach Mentoring Programme with 4 coaches being selected to participate on the programme. The programme was launched in March 2024 with the first group session taking place on Sunday 3rd March. The programme will include 3 group sessions along with one-to-one support from a selected individual mentor on the programme.



Club Development

I was delighted that throughout the 2023/24 season to be able to work with a number of affiliated clubs to discuss ways that Ulster Badminton can support these clubs their club members and continuing to grow these clubs. Ulster Badminton have also conducted a number of club visits, and these have helped identify areas that Ulster Badminton can support these clubs going forward over the next few years. If there are other affiliated clubs interested in having a chat about their clubs aims and areas, they require support in, it would be great to hear from you as I am sure that there will be areas Ulster Badminton can help support you with.

This season we ran the Ulster Club Cup- Grade C at Lisburn Racquets Club on Saturday 9th March 2024. The Ulster Club Cup Grade C was open to all clubs across Ulster graded C and below and the tournament saw 7 teams compete for the Grade C Ulster Club Cup.

The Ulster Junior League in partnership with Decathlon, again took place this season the junior league took place in 4 venues across Ulster in the following venues: Monaghan, Belfast, Strabane and Lisburn. The competition is aimed at club level players who want to take the next step from competing in their club to playing against new people and different clubs throughout the season. If any clubs are interested in taking part in the league next season it would be great to hear from you.



This season was the second season of the East Ulster Badminton League and following on from a successful first season we were able to attract a further 6 teams into the league and increase the league from 3 divisions to 4 divisions. The league took place at Strathearn School, Belfast and the league ran over 16 matches dates across the season. The league had 18 teams in total being played in 4 divisions. This venture was started with the aim of providing more competitive playing opportunities for clubs and their players. We are delighted with the success of the league in the first two years and are keen to build on this success and to attract a number of new clubs involved each season and are keen to increase the number of divisions across the league over the next few years. If any clubs are interested in taking part

in the league next season it would be great to hear from you.

During the 2023/24 season we were able to launch the new Ulster Graded League and this league was for players graded D and below. The first season of the graded league saw 8 teams enter the league and the league took place in 3 venues across Ulster at the following area: Monaghan, Omagh and Belfast. We are to build on the success of the first season and continue to develop this league next season. If any clubs are interested in taking part in the league next season it would be great to hear from you.

Finally, I would like to thank all Ulster Badminton board members and members of staff for their work over the last 12 months and looking forward to a positive 2024/25 season.

Kyle Dunn
 Development Officer

BADMINTON IRELAND ACTIVATION OFFICER- Cavan, Monaghan & Fermanagh

Programme Name	Start/End Date	Target Group	Participants
Come & Try 4-week coached programme – St Pats School Cavan Town	04/01/24 – 25/01/24	Adult Beginners	20
Leaders of the Future – Primary Schools Programme – Shuttle time - Cavan	09/02/24	Teachers	9
Community Coaches – Shuttle Time Course - Cavan	09/02/24	Adults	11
Leaders of the Future – Primary School Programme – Blitz Day - Cavan	20/03/24	Juveniles	X5 Schools Participants 146
Come & Try – 6-week coached programme – Mullagh Community Hall – Cavan	21/02/24 – 03/04/24	Adult Beginners	22
Badminton Taster Night – Adult Women – St Pats Hall Cavan town – (WIS WEEK)	04/03/24	Adult Women	16
Badminton Taster Night – Active Adults 50+ - Cootehill – (WIS WEEK) - Cavan	04/03/24	Active Women 50+	6

Badminton Taster – Mullagh Badminton Club (WIS Week) - Cavan	06/03/24	Adult Women 18+	14
Badminton Taster Night – Drum Badminton Club Monaghan (WIS WEEK)	08/03/24	Adult Women 18+	12
Badminton Taster Night – Carrickmacross Badminton Club – Monaghan (WIS WEEK)	07/03/24	Adult Women 18+	11
Disability Inclusion Programme – 4 weeks coached – Leisure Complex Cavan	05/03/24 – 26/03/24	Cavan Day Services	17
St Macartan’s College – Multi Sport Day Event - Monaghan	23/04/24	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th year	80

Emma Naughton
 BI Activation Officer

ULSTER BADMINTON PARTICIPATION OFFICER

Work Programme Summary

Over the course of this season, I have revisited the participation programmes associated with Ulster Badminton and I have seen a huge positive impact for players, pupils, teachers, and coaches in our sport throughout the season. The participation programmes created the opportunity for coaches to develop passionate badminton players at any age or ability. Additionally, the affiliated schools involved gained access to the BWF Shuttle Time course to ensure that teachers can continue the development of Badminton.



Participation Programmes

Since the beginning of the new year, the DFA Cross Community Schools Programme has been greatly supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs. Our School's Programme has been greatly supported by our local councils across Northern Ireland. The councils that have supported both of our schools' programmes is the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, Belfast City Council and Derry and Strabane Borough Council. This support enabled us to deliver many different participation programmes across Belfast, Lisburn & Castlereagh, Londonderry/derry and Donegal. Ultimately, the programme involved Badminton sessions within schools alongside good relations sessions. Once their badminton sessions and good relation session within their school was completed, they were then invited to a Badminton Festival which allowed the schools to interact with different schools on the programme and engage in more good relations sessions.



The DFA Programme involved young people aged 8-11 male and female. We targeted those from Londonderry/Derry and Donegal areas, which include PUL, CNR and mixed areas. Those in Londonderry/Derry, both Waterside and Cityside areas. In Donegal, we targeted schools in Raphoe and Killygordon areas. The Schools' Programme we targeted Newtownabbey, specifically schools in and around the Carnmoney area. We targeted Bangor with school pupils involved being from areas surrounding Crawfordsburn and Central Bangor. We also targeted children from Belfast from CNR and PNL background who have limited opportunities to connect with young people across Belfast. The children involved have come from high social needs areas with limited good relations learning.

Throughout this season, we have delivered school sessions in 41 different schools across the council areas and have delivered five badminton festivals within Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre, Olympia Leisure Centre, Valley Leisure Centre, Templemore Sports Complex and Foyle Arena. We also have delivered two Ethnic Minority Community Badminton programmes within Falls Leisure Centre and Foyle Arena. Additionally, we also ran various camps throughout the season, one Halloween camp being held in Strathearn School in October and a half term camp which was held in Strathearn School also. The DFA Programme involved Good Relations learning through workshops and these sessions were delivered by Hollywood Family Trust and Macdonald Educators.



Number of Children involved within School sessions – 2205.

Number of Badminton sessions within schools – 271
 Players involved in badminton festival – 510.
 Number of attending camps – 35
 Players coached in community setting – 58.
 Children involved within good relations sessions – 448.
 Number of good relations sessions delivered- 16.

The DFA Programme has enabled us to address good relations needs and being involved in these areas has allowed us to target schools that has no experience in good relations programmes. Targeting both Londonderry/Derry and Donegal schools allows the opportunity to interact with schools that they have never met before and help assist their further understanding of exploring identity, cultural diversity and friendship making. The programme also helps the pupils understand what different communities are out there, which may help many children gain confidence in making friends and reaching out to people from different backgrounds. The participants involved had the chance to learn more about their cases, exploring each of their likes, dislikes, and common interests. Implementing education surrounding different backgrounds and how their culture and identity is different into this programme gave the children insight into how everyone can have things in common.



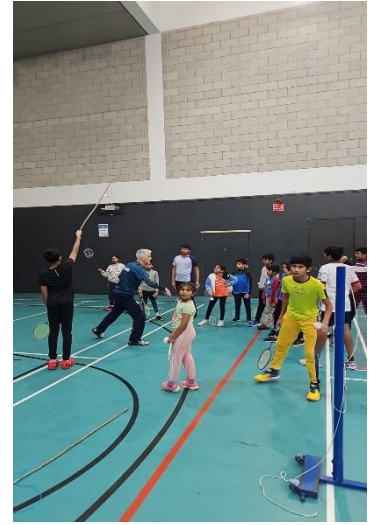
Nearing the end of the season, we ran a Women in Sport Programme in partnership with Ulster University. Our main objective was to target female sport students to allow the opportunity for these students to learn more about badminton and self-develop throughout their studies. The programme was made up of 2 in person workshops at Ulster University Belfast Campus and an online workshop. The two in-person workshops were delivered by the Female Sports Forum which they delivered a workshop on Imposter Syndrome and Communicating and another workshop on Networking and Collaborating. The online workshop was delivered by Moria Aston (CEO – Canoeing Ireland) which she delivered a zoom workshop on Leadership Skills and Core beliefs. Upon the completion of the Women in Sport Programme, the participants were asked to provide feedback on the workshops and the programme. The students thought that these workshops were beneficial and relevant to their current situations as they were going through a busy exam period. One feedback response mentioned that having the 'Imposter Syndrome and Communicating workshop was great as I have experienced this before so it's great to learn more'. Another response stated that 'It's great to learn more about Networking and Collaborating as I am starting up my own business and would like to learn more'. This positive feedback enables these programmes to continue for the future and allows us to continue to increase participation within our sport, whilst always identifying ways to expand the reach.



The Ethnic Minority Badminton Programme consisted of two 6-week programmes which were delivered in Foyle Arena and Falls Leisure Centre. These sessions gave the public the opportunity to try a new sport, socialise with new people and most importantly have fun. The sessions were accompanied by an Ulster Badminton coach, delivering fundamentals of badminton, facilitating game play, and focusing on technical and tactical badminton skills. The Ethnic Minority Badminton Programme we ran out of Falls Leisure Centre welcomed enthusiastic badminton players from the Indian Community. Collectively, we had around 44 participants involved throughout the 6 weeks, including both junior and senior groups. Once the programme finished, we gathered verbal feedback from the seniors and juniors. The seniors thought that the programme was great for players from their community to receive coaching from Ulster Badminton alongside appreciating that the juniors were also



getting this opportunity. As a result of this programme, the players from the Indian community have now formed their own affiliated Badminton club. Additionally, the Ethnic Minority Badminton programme in Foyle Arena welcomed members of the Chinese Community who would regularly play casual badminton. Collectively, we had 14 participants throughout the 6 weeks engaging in structured badminton coaching delivered by an Ulster Badminton coach. Similarly, we gathered verbal feedback from the seniors involved and they really enjoyed obtaining coaching and have stated that they would get involved with another programme in the future, if the opportunity comes up again. This positive feedback enables these programmes to continue for the future and increase participation within our sport. Having community badminton programmes like this in place creates the opportunity for casual players to make that next step into playing for a club and competing in competition. Implementing the junior section in the Falls Leisure Centre allows the young individuals to experience what a structured badminton session looks like and educate them on how they can develop in the sport. This programme did not only benefit novice Badminton players but also benefited returning players who have expressed interest in getting back into playing Badminton.



Finally, I would like to put on record my thanks to the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, Belfast City Council and Derry, Strabane Borough Council, Hollywood Family Trust, and MacDonald Educators for their continued support through these participation programmes. It has been of great benefit to us as a sport and we have thoroughly enjoyed working with them on these programmes. I look forward to working with them on future participation programmes going forward.

Jacob Davidson
Participation Officer

ULSTER BADMINTON PATHWAYS OFFICER

Work Programme Summary

Over the course of this season, the focus of work has been transitioning with Ulster Badminton from the Paralympic Coaching role to having an impact for players within the pathway programmes. The pathway programmes have created the opportunity for coaches to continue to develop better badminton players within competitive age bands or on ability through the Raw and Emerging squad programme whilst transitioning into Senior/Graded Badminton events with UB looking to build a stronger base through the re-introduction of the Regional Development Squad Programme.

Regional Development Squad Programmes

The initial re-introduction of the RDS programme has been targeted and started in both Derry/Donegal and Bangor/Newtownards. Post the identification of coaches and local club link s- 2 try out sessions were held in both Derry and Bangor with seventy registrations for the 2 sessions.

From January - 2 squads were formed meeting weekly between January to April for a 12 - week coaching block. The coaches involved have been supported and are both involved in the newly formed coach mentoring programme.



ULSTER Badminton

Thank you for the received nomination

Ulster Badminton look forward to the session ahead at the Bangor Aurora on Thursday 14th December starting at 6.30pm and finishing at 8.30pm

- Please bring suitable footwear/Badminton(sports kit)
- Also, a drink in a suitable sports bottle
- Please note rackets can be borrowed if required

See you all then – if any problems I can be contacted at email pathwaysofficer@ulsterbadminton.com or mobile as below

Leslie Dewart 07365140294



ULSTER Badminton

Thank you for the received nomination

Ulster Badminton look forward to the session ahead at Templemore Sports Centre on Saturday 16th December starting at 1.30pm and finishing at 4.00pm

- Please bring suitable footwear/Badminton(sports kit)
- Also, a drink in a suitable sports bottle
- Please note rackets can be borrowed if required

See you all on then – if any problems I can be contacted at email pathwaysofficer@ulsterbadminton.com or mobile as below

Leslie Dewart 07365140294

Para Projects

The Disability Sport NI Inclusion Award has been completed and will enable continuation of development projects to support the previous Para Framework/ findings ahead with BI Para working group.

A follow up six-week programme was run in conjunction with Table Tennis Ulster and initiated with Disability Sport NI and Causeway Coast District Councils. This will continue ahead with the goal of establishing new playing/coaching hubs to support the new RDS work. Three Para Come and Try days were also completed with DSNI that included targeted approaches with both amputee and wheelchair targeted populations.



ULSTER Badminton

Ulster Badminton / Table Tennis Ulster
'Come & Try It' Disability Programme

Ulster Table Tennis and Ulster Badminton is providing an inclusive opportunity for anyone with a disability to get involved and experience both sports in a fun and supported environment.

The 6 week programme will introduce the fundamental skills, fun games and provide an opportunity to make new friends.

All equipment will be provided on the night and previous experience is not required. Friends and family are welcome to come along and get involved too!

Where: Causeway Coast District Centre
Dates: Wednesday 21st February to 27th March 2024 (6 weeks)
Times: 5pm-7pm
Ages: 8 years+
Cost: £10 for the course

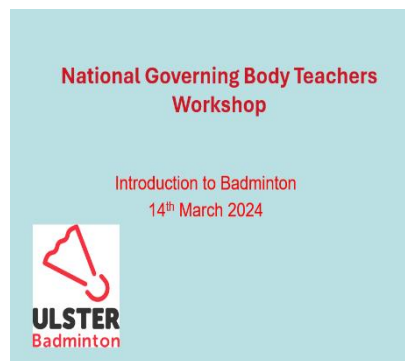
To register or for more information contact John on: john.ball@causewaycoastdistrict.gov.uk

Sponsored by:
Disability Sport NI, Causeway Coast & Bangor District Council



Pathway/Club and School Links

An exciting pathway project was established in partnership with Armagh/Craigavon/Banbridge District Council through Sport NI, with 8 Primary schools targeted over 8 weeks and 3 Teacher Training workshops held. 200 players were involved, and 40 Teachers supported with both in house training and continuation equipment supplied.



Well done to all the players that have represented Ulster throughout the season at both Junior and Senior events. At the recent Interprovincial Senior series, a super win was recorded in the A Grade event and very closely contested matches in the Masters events competing at 40s and 50s. The Masters continues to grow and it is great to see so many in Ulster adding to the progress of the events including both the overseas competitions and those that have been selected to represent Ireland in newly added representative fixtures.

As Pathways Officer I am extremely grateful to Sport NI for their continued support through the Pathway programme funding and the partners that have supported the ongoing work. The programme projects have been of great benefit to the sport both provincially and nationally with further after school projects planned to build new links to clubs and the new pathway phases within programmes.

There is a lot of competition for recruiting new players into the pathways and much work ahead needed to try and generate more sustainability/inclusion and additional fund generation.

Leslie Dewart
Pathways Officer

ULSTER BADMINTON TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR REPORT

Ulster Badminton only use online payment via PayPal for players wanting to enter tournaments, I would like to remind parents & players that entry into the players list for the tournament will Not be Accepted until your entry fee has been paid.

The first Ulster tournaments in NBC Lisburn were on 16th & 17th September 2023.
Ulster U13 Open Championship had 58 players in it with 101 matches played over the two days.
Ulster U17 Open Championship had 69 players in it with 115 matches played over the two days.
Ulster Grade C was played on the Sunday and had 18 players in it with 23 matches played.
No umpires were available for the tournaments.

Due to low entries the next tournaments were played to a conclusion on Saturday 30th September 2023 in NBC Lisburn.

Ulster Grade A Open Championships had 34 players in it with 37 matches played.
Ulster U11 Open Championships had 22 players in it with 41 matches played.
We had 5 umpires and two trainee umpires to help run the matches.

Ulster Badminton Closed Championships were held on 27th & 28th December 2023.
Ulster U11 Closed Championships had 17 players in it playing 44 matches on the day.
Ulster U15 Closed Championship had 36 players in it playing 84 matches on the day.
Ulster U13 Closed Championships had 22 players in it playing 52 matches on the day.
Ulster U17 Closed Championships had 23 players in it playing 52 matches on the day.
There were several players who played on both days in the tournaments which everyone enjoyed.

The first Ulster tournament of 2024 was held on Saturday 6th January 2024 in NBC Lisburn.
The Expleo Ulster Premier Open Championships had 52 players in it with 57 matches, so it was a one-day event.
We had one Ulster umpire and four umpires from Dublin area looking after the matches on the day.

The next tournament was on Saturday 27th January 2024 in NBC Lisburn.
Ulster Masters Open Championships had 141 players in it with 171 matches played on the one day.

The next tournaments were held on 13th & 14th April 2024 in NBC Lisburn.
Ulster U15 Open Championship had 84 players in it with 140 matches played over the two days.
Ulster U19 Open Championship had 56 players in it with 86 matches played over the two days.
We had two Ulster umpires and nine umpires from Dublin area plus two trainee umpires on the Saturday and two Ulster umpires plus 5 from Dublin area on the Sunday for all the semi-finals & finals.

When a player joins a different club the club secretary should be asking the player if they have been affiliated before and what their membership number is, also when a female player gets married and wants to use her married surname she does not need to be affiliated as a new member she can get her profile updated by Badminton Ireland if she is not sure how to do it themselves.
When players are added in as a new player, they will get a new number issued to them and appear without a grade. This causes problems when they try to enter tournaments using their old number online as it will not show them as not affiliated when we go to validate the players in tournament software also it might not show the correct grade for them.
The tournament director has to check with Badminton Ireland about any player who is not using their correct number to find out if they are affiliated as their entry will not be accepted until their affiliated membership is confirmed.

The closed events are now part of Ulster Team selection policy and give players a good chance to play

against Ulster Branch players which might not happen in Open or National Championships. Ulster Badminton plan to run the Closed Championships events again at Christmas time with U11 and U15 on 27th December and U13 and U17 on 28th December 2024, make sure you include the dates into you Xmas plans.

Online entry is being used for the closed championships so anyone thinking of entering that has never played in a tournament before will need to activate their Badminton Ireland account before the Badminton Ireland office closes for Christmas period otherwise you will not be able to enter the closed championships.

Ulster Branch could not run the championships if it was not for the support of the players and in the case of the underage ones their parents for transporting them to the events. Thank you.

I would like to thank the following, Alpha Badminton Club for their support for the Ulster Closed Championships, Colin McClements and Tony Clarke for their help at all the tournaments also all the umpires who helped at several of Ulster Badminton Open Championships. When you have umpires at the tournaments it cuts out a lot of the time wasting by players doing their warm-up after they have been called to court.

I would like to see umpires at all Ulster Branch Open Championships as they keep play moving along. Ulster Badminton would like to get their umpire numbers up so that we do not have to always have to ask for help from the umpires in the Dublin area. Some of the training is now done online with the practical at local tournaments, if you are interested in doing the umpires training course and willing to give up some weekends during the badminton season to assist Ulster Badminton at their championships then you should get in touch with Greg Farrell in Badminton Ireland or send me an email.

I would like to thank the Ulster Branch for asking me to take on the role of Tournament Director.

William R Martin
Tournaments Director

ULSTER SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

It is my pleasure to report on another busy and exciting year of Ulster School's Badminton. In total 22 schools from all over the province took part in this year's programme of events.

Our format of one-day tournaments at the minor, junior and senior age-groups is now well established, and this year's programme began in January with our minor tournament at Antrim Forum, with the Junior event following in Coleraine and the Senior tournament back at Antrim. Our thanks to these venues for hosting us. It was great to see so many players from all over Ulster enjoying some great games of badminton. In particular, it is encouraging to see a good number of new schools joining.

Successful Year 8 round robin tournaments took place at Bangor Grammar and Wallace High, and our thanks to those schools for running these events. A primary school's tournament also took place at Lisburn Racquets.

For finals' day we returned to the traditional venue of Lisburn Racquets, where cup and league finals took place at each age-group, including Year 8 and Primary School. It was a great day, with lots of really good matches and I think all the players enjoyed the experience.

Winners from finals' day progressed to the All-Ireland finals, and Ulster had a great set of results, winning 5 of the 6 titles at Division 1. We congratulate the teams from Friend's (Junior boys and Senior girls) and Royal and Prior (Minor boys, Minor girls, Senior boys) on their titles. Congratulations also go to Ballyclare High on winning the Div 2 senior boy's title.

All of us at USBA wish to express our sincere thanks to Mr William Martin for running our tournaments through the year so efficiently and professionally, to Mr Tony Clarke for overseeing our accounts, and to Mr Kyle Dunn for his help and support. It is my final year as secretary, so I just want to add my own personal thanks to William, Tony and Kyle for all their work over the last 3 years.

Gareth Boreland (secretary, USBA)

Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 July 2023

Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland

CONTENTS

	Page
Council of Management and Other Information	2
Accountants' Report	3
Statement of Comprehensive Income	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Statement of Changes in Retained Earnings	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7-10

Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland
COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHER INFORMATION

Council Members	Chairman	-	C McClements
	President	-	W Martin
	Treasurer	-	T Clarke
	Secretary	-	E Nesbitt (resigned December 2023)
	Tournament Director	-	W Martin
	Safe Guarding Officer	-	B Ringland
	Council Member	-	K Nixon
	Council Member	-	A McCullagh
	Council Member	-	N Darragh
	Council Member	-	G Anderson
Council Member	-	Pearl Donnelly	

Business Address

Badminton Office
National Badminton Centre
36 Belfast Road
Lisburn
Co. Antrim
BT27 4AS

Accountants

Quarter
St Anne's House
15 Church Street
Cathedral Quarter
Belfast
BT1 1PG

Bankers

Danske Bank Ltd
62/66 Bow Street
Lisburn
Co. Antrim
BT28 1YS

Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland
ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT
To the Council Members on the unaudited financial statements of
Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland for the year ended 31 July 2023

In accordance with our engagement letter we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of the Branch for the year ended 31 July 2023 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, and the related notes from the Branch accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

This report is made solely to the Council Members of Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Council Members of Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland, as a body, in this report in accordance with the guidance of Chartered Accountants Ireland. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland and its Council Members, as a body, for our work or for this report.

We have carried out this engagement in accordance with guidance issued by Chartered Accountants Ireland and have complied with the ethical guidance laid down by Chartered Accountants Ireland relating to members undertaking the compilation of financial statements.

It is your duty to ensure that Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus/(deficit) of Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland. You consider that Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of Ulster Branch Badminton Union Of Ireland. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

QUARTER

St Anne's House
15 Church Street
Cathedral Quarter
Belfast
BT1 1PG

Date:

**THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

			2023	2022
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Costs</u>	<u>Net Income</u>	<u>Net Income</u>
Turnover (note 3):	£	£	£	£
Description				
Sports Council Grants	107,044		107,044	118,159
Membership Fees	15,222		15,222	8,661
Other Grants	43,672		43,672	24,652
General	4,150	19,360	(15,210)	(14,070)
Tournaments	12,926	17,878	(4,952)	(4,314)
Competitions	850	917	(67)	
Coaching	21,576	52,613	(31,037)	(32,384)
Squads	13,896	15,576	(1,680)	(14,984)
			<u>112,992</u>	<u>85,720</u>
Wages (note 4)			90,938	65,692
Administration			17,823	10,782
Insurance			912	832
Bank Interest & Fees			1,001	626
Accountancy & Legal Fees			1,500	1,700
Loss/(profit) on exchange			(124)	115
Depreciation			261	383
Profit/losses on disposal of tangibles			108	-
			<u>112,419</u>	<u>80,130</u>
Surplus before Tax and Interest			573	5,590
Interest Receivable		5	698	84
Corporation Tax on Interest		6	(133)	(16)
Surplus for Year			<u>1,138</u>	<u>5,658</u>
Total Comprehensive Income/Expenditure			<u>1,138</u>	<u>5,658</u>

**THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	7		787		1,152
Current Assets					
Prepayments	8	1,643		1,474	
Danske Bank - No 1 Account		21,194		4,130	
Danske Bank - Business Investment		80,379		73,396	
Danske Bank - Money Market		55,454		55,039	
Danske Bank - Lottery Fund		723		3,009	
Paypal Account		403		22	
Petty Cash		265		243	
			160,061		137,313
Current Liabilities					
Danske Bank - Master Card		10		1,214	
Grants Received in Advance	9	49,900		40,700	
Expenses Accrued	10	3,206		2,421	
Corporation Tax	6	133		16	
			(53,249)		(44,351)
NET ASSETS			107,599		94,114
Represented By					
Accumulated Surplus at 1 August 2022			94,114		85,362
Profit and Loss Reserve Movement			8,958		(5,000)
Special Reserves Movement			3,389		8,094
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			1,138		5,658
Accumulated Surplus at 31 July 2023			107,599		94,114

The accounts on pages 4 to 10 have been approved by the council and are signed on its behalf: -

_____	_____	Chairman
Colin McClements	Date	
_____	_____	Treasurer
Tony Clarke	Date	

**THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

	Surplus	Total
	£	£
At 31 July 2015	97,213	97,213
Deficit for the year	(5,785)	(5,785)
At 31 July 2016	91,428	91,428
Deficit for the year	(14,069)	(14,069)
At 31 July 2017	77,359	77,358
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(4,371)	(4,371)
At 31 July 2018	72,987	72,987
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2,222	2,222
At 31 July 2019	75,209	75,209
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	6,562	6,562
At 31 July 2020	81,771	81,771
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	3,591	3,591
At 31 July 2021	85,362	85,362
Special Reserve Movement	8,094	8,094
Profit/Loss Reserve Movement	(5,000)	(5,000)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	5,658	5,658
At 31 July 2022	94,114	94,114
Special Reserve Movement	3,389	3,389
Profit/Loss Reserve Movement	8,958	8,958
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	1,138	1,138
At 31 July 2023	107,599	107,599

THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

1 General Information

Ulster Branch Badminton Union of Ireland is a branch of the Badminton Union of Ireland. (The Badminton Union of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the Republic of Ireland). Badminton Office, National Badminton Centre, 36 Belfast Road, Lisburn, BT27 4AS, is the business address, which is also the principal place of business of the branch. The financial statements have been presented in Pound Sterling (£) which is also the functional currency of the branch for the year ended 31 July 2023.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 2023 Bye Laws of the Branch and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards. They have been applied consistently throughout the current and prior year.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for certain properties and financial instruments that are measured at revalued amounts or fair values, as explained in the accounts policies below. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The following accounts policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the branch's financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement

The company has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 Section 1A from the requirement to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows because it is classified as a small entity.

Turnover

Turnover represents the total value of sales made and grants receivable during the year.

Grants

Grants relating to revenue are recognised as income on a systematic basis over the periods in which the entity recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	25% Reducing Balance
----------------------------------	----------------------

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

3 TURNOVER

The turnover for the year has been derived from:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sports Council Grants	107,044	118,159
Membership Fees	15,222	8,661
General	4,150	12,365
Tournaments	12,926	10,430
Competitions	850	-
Coaching	21,576	13,486
Squads	13,896	10,420
Other Grants	43,672	24,652
	219,336	198,173

4 EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

The average number of persons employed during the year was as follows

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Admin	5	4

The staff costs comprise:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	88,707	64,281
Social security costs	89	269
Staff Pension Defined Contributions	2,142	1,142
	90,938	65,692

THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

5 Interest Receivable	2023	2022
	£	£
Business Investment Gross	283	82
Term Deposit	415	2
	<u>698</u>	<u>86</u>

6 Corporation Tax	2023	2022
	£	£
Opening Balance	16	16
Payments	(16)	(16)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Interest @ 19%	133	16
	<u>133</u>	<u>16</u>
Tax Deducted at Source	-	-
Closing Balance	<u>133</u>	<u>16</u>

7 Tangible Fixed Assets	Equipment	Computer	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 August 2022	4,624	3,187	7,811
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	(454)	-	(454)
At 31 July 2023	<u>4,170</u>	<u>3,187</u>	<u>7,357</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 August 2022	4,278	2,381	6,659
Charge for the Year	59	202	260
Disposals	(349)	-	(349)
At 31 July 2023	<u>3,988</u>	<u>2,582</u>	<u>6,570</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31 July 2023	<u>182</u>	<u>605</u>	<u>787</u>
At 31 July 2022	<u>346</u>	<u>806</u>	<u>1,152</u>

THE ULSTER BRANCH OF THE BADMINTON UNION OF IRELAND
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
8 Prepayments		
Office Rent	1,072	781
Insurance	456	429
Phone Line Rental	40	41
Broadband	75	113
NI Sports Forum	-	110
	<u>1,643</u>	<u>1,474</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
9 Grants Paid in Advance		
Sport NI	29,000	18,000
Start Here Programme	15,600	20,000
Dept of Foreign Affairs Programm	5,300	1,000
Events Programme		1,700
	<u>49,900</u>	<u>40,700</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
10 Expenses Accrued		
Accountancy	1,600	1,600
Holiday Pay Accrual	1,606	821
	<u>3,206</u>	<u>2,421</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
11 Special Reserves		
Commonwealth Games	1,500	1,000
Redundancy	4,500	4,000
Schools- see Note 12	1,234	898
Clubs - see Note 12	906	2,196
North Down Junior League Work	3,344	
	<u>11,483</u>	<u>8,094</u>

These funds have been put in place to meet the associated needs if and when they occur without them coming out of the normal running costs

12 Schools & Clubs - Funds held for Others

	2023		2022	
	Income	Expense	Profit / (Loss)	Profit / (Loss)
	£	£	£	
USBA	£2,148	£1,812	£336	£898
Coleraine Club	£0	£1,290	(£1,290)	£2,196
	<u>£2,148</u>	<u>£3,102</u>	<u>(£954)</u>	<u>£3,094</u>

USBA and Coleraine Badminton Club requested UBBUI to hold and administer their funds on their behalf. These organisations retain control of their respective funds and hence the funding associated with them do not form part of the profitability of UBBUI