Welcome to the summer 2016 edition of the newsletter. As always it is jam packed with information about the ongoing activities of the sports clubs in North East Fife area. We held our Annual Awards ceremony at the Gateway in St Andrews in May which was deemed a great success once again. Congratulations to those who were nominated especially those who made it to the shortlist and the eventual winners, once again it proves that there is real depth of sporting talent in North East Fife. Talent that is supported by dedicated coaches and volunteers who tend to go unrecognised for all the effort they put in throughout the year - so please remember to nominate your club coaches and volunteers next year.

Later in the summer we will be holding a Sports Quiz which will be a golden opportunity for club members to gather socially and compete for the title of Sports Quiz Champions 2016. I challenge all affiliated clubs to enter this event and make the occasion a success. We also plan to provide an Autumn Club Evening Workshop to fill the gap from the cancelled Club Conference that was planned for February of this year. Mr Svend Eikjaer of sports Marketing Network has been invited to give a comprehensive talk on the subject of Growing Your Sports Club. This topic will undoubtedly be useful to the affiliated membership and you are all encouraged to take advantage of this event.

Finally I wish to congratulate the Junior Section of the East Fife Triathlon Club in their very recent success in having 3 girls selected for the Scottish IRC Team. Anna Hedley and Ruby Methven have both been selected for Tristars 2 with Isla Hedley in reserve for the team. Best of luck to you all in forthcoming international events.

Bruce Bowers (chair)
St. Andrews Coastal Rowing Club
The St. Andrews Coastal Rowing Club was formed in 2012 and in keeping with the ethos of Scottish Coastal Rowing the club has its roots firmly imbedded in the community. Attracting equal numbers of men and women, most of whom have never rowed before. We offer social as well as strenuous rowing and race training sessions in the summer evenings and weekends through the year. We regularly compete in distance rows, harbour days and competitive regattas. The picture below shows us competing in the N.Berwick Regatta last year.

Ladybank Junior Golf
The Junior Golf Pro at Ladybank, Gregor Wright shown below, aims is to grow the game of golf in the local community and increase participation by breaking down the cost barriers associated with the game. The cost of equipment and coaching costs is very much a problem for parents wanting to assist with children aspiring to be competitive golfers. Recent funding assistance from the East Fife Sports Council will make the game more accessible for all. It is hoped this initiative will help to secure the future of junior golf at Ladybank and buck the trend of dwindling junior numbers.

Road to Rio Programmes
During June Road to Rio Events were held in St Andrews for the Madras Cluster schools and in Cupar for the Bell Baxter cluster schools. Active Fife linked with Duffus Park Community Sports Club to deliver the event based at SRUC Elmwood College Campus, Cupar Leisure Centre, Bell Baxter High School and Duffus Park. Thirteen sports clubs hosted over 1000 children from across the eighteen cluster schools. The sports the children in Primary four to seven tried included football, rugby, tennis, bowls, athletics, handball, hockey, netball, basketball, karate, golf, cricket and badminton. Pictures from the events are seen below:
The East Fife Sports Council Annual Awards Ceremony was designed to recognise the achievements of sportspersons in our community during the year to 31st January 2016. This prestigious event was held on 4th May at the Gateway Building in St Andrews with around 160 guests in attendance. The evening began with a wonderful buffet reception and then Bruce Bowers, the Chair of East Fife Sports Council welcomed everybody and introduced Richard Brickley MBE, our very able MC for the evening.

Michael Kavanagh, Sports Development Officer for Active Fife then introduced a short DVD about the North East Fife Badminton Association and the achievements of this organisation. Richard Brickley the MC then proceeded with the Awards. In all there were nine different categories of awards celebrating all age groups and abilities.

After the main awards finished the Guest Speaker Alison Bell gave a fascinating and inspirational talk on her career going from strength to strength in her chosen sport of Women’s Hockey culminating in many caps for Scotland and representing the country in the Commonwealth Games of 2014 in Glasgow.

Councillor Margaret Kennedy concluded the evening with a Vote of Thanks to all the sponsors, prize givers and everybody else who helped at or took part in this highly successful and entertaining event.

Photos by Dave Smith of Links Media
AUTUMN WORKSHOP—GROW YOUR CLUB

A workshop packed with entertaining and informative ideas and help on how to make your club vibrant, visible and viable, provide great experiences, communicate better and grow your income

10th November (Registration at 7.00pm—Finish at 9.30pm)
Duffus Park Bowling Club, Carslogie Rd, Cupar KY15 5HY

Community sports clubs need to adapt to a new mindset and learn a new skill set - taking the best from successful social enterprises and the hospitality sector. They have to recognise that sport operates in the experience business and that it is competing for people’s leisure time and money and has to attract people away from shopping centres, U-tube, apathy etc. by providing better experiences.

This workshop will cover how sports clubs can develop the enterprise culture and skills required and how to get a clear vision of what their club is for. It will help clubs become vibrant through the activities and events the club creates, visible through its communication with members, supporters, sponsors and the world at large thus creating a viable club.

It all starts with helping participants to understand how absolutely vital it is to develop a welcoming culture towards new people, ideas and partners. It will then focus on how clubs can become business-savvy and build and maintain positive relationships with new and existing partners. Delegates will also be given the basic tools to promote their club and attract new members by using innovative ways of engaging with their customers and their community. Participants will learn how to run the club effectively and efficiently and how to develop new ways of working in order to generate new income streams.

This is a hands-on workshop which will provide you with literally dozens and dozens of proven ways your club can become vibrant, visible and viable. No boring theory…just exciting, positive and proven action points drawn from best practice from sports clubs at all levels.

Participating Clubs will have the opportunity to apply for a follow up service consisting of one to one mentoring from the Speaker to enhance the prospect of positive results.

Presenter is Svend Elkjaer: Founder and Managing Director of the Sports Marketing Network, which exists to provide thoughts, tools and to-dos for community sports clubs on how to become vibrant, visible and viable. More than 4,000 community sports providers from all across the UK have participated in a Grow Your Club workshop run by Svend.

Clubs wishing to Register for this event

Contact the Secretary East Fife Sports Council by E-Mail: secretary@eastfifesportscouncil.org.uk to register for attendance. There is no charge for this event.