



Derbyshire Schools' Competition

Newsletter Issue Four December 2009

Celebrating Sporting Success in Derbyshire Schools

The Derbyshire Schools' Sports Awards took place in September celebrating a fantastic year of school sport, with great success on and off the pitch.

The Awards are organised by the Derbyshire Schools' Sports Association (DSSA) to recognise the achievements of performers, officials and volunteers – both young and old – within school sport in Derbyshire.

More than 150 guests gathered at the Dome in Buxton, part of the University of Derby, to see the winners recognised in sports including athletics, hockey, badminton, football, snooker and ice skating.

Amongst the guests was World Bobsleigh Champion Nicola Minichiello. A resident of Derbyshire, she presented awards to the individual winners before sharing some of her experiences with all of the young people present.

The 2009 Secondary Sportsperson of the Year went to Hannah Jones (pictured).

Hannah, a student at Ecclesbourne School, is currently ranked number 10 in the world in ladies snooker. She won the World Ladies Junior Championship in 2007 and 2008 and the World Ladies Doubles Championship in 2008. Hannah later went on to claim the University of Derby Junior Sportswoman of the Year Award at the Derbyshire Sport Awards.



Sophia Nasser, an ice skater from Gorseybrigg Primary School, won the Primary School Sportsperson of the Year Award. Nine-year-old Sophie took her first gold medal in April 2009.

Successful teams were also recognised with Walter Evans C of E Primary School taking the Primary School Award for their footballing success. The judges were unable to split the Derbyshire Under 17 Girls Hockey Team and the Derbyshire Intermediate Girls Athletics Team for the Secondary Team of the Year Award. Both teams were crowned National Champions and both fully deserved their joint award.

Alongside the success of performers, the outstanding work done by volunteers in supporting the delivery of school sport was also rewarded on the night. The service to school sport by Simon Ord from Chellaston School, Derby, earned him the title of Adult Volunteer of the Year.

Meanwhile, Oliver Hooper from Brookfield Community School, Chesterfield, took the award for Student Volunteer of the Year. Recognition from Derbyshire goes alongside widespread national recognition of Oliver's work, which has seen him travel to Olympia with the Youth Sport Trust, become a member of the England Netball Advisory Group and address a national conference in front of over 1,500 people. At the Derbyshire Sports Awards in November he was also named Connexions Derbyshire Limited Young Sports Leader/Young Coach of the Year.

The evening concluded with the awarding of the John Bainbridge Grants. The Grants are distributed by Sheila Bainbridge in memory of her late husband, John, who died in 2004 aged 51. The ten awards are intended to support some of the brightest talents in the county to further their development.


Chair of DSSA, Suzanne Meehan, reflected on the past year saying, "This has been a fantastic year for school sport in Derbyshire and it is important to recognise and celebrate the talent and achievements of young people across the county.

"These awards are also a great way of rewarding the hard work and dedication of some of the incredible volunteers, without whom many of the sporting opportunities enjoyed by young people in our schools would not be possible."

Opportunities for disabled young people continue to grow

Work across all parts of Derbyshire to provide high quality opportunities for young disabled children has continued in 2009 – 2010 after an amazing previous academic year.

A wide range of opportunities were provided for the first time ever in 2008 – 2009, including rugby, table top games and gymnastics. More than 1,000 children took part in festivals throughout the year.



This year's programme is looking to build on past successes and provide even more new opportunities. Alongside the informal festivals that draw high levels of participation, this year's programme aims to provide opportunities for greater levels of competition and talent development.

Additional work is taking place to ensure that opportunities are available for disabled young people in mainstream schools to access the same opportunities as those in Special Schools.

A greater lead is also being taken by Swanwick School and Sports College for the organisation of competitions and festivals. The School is the only Special School that is also a Specialist Sports College within Derbyshire and the role within this programme is seen as a means of helping them to develop their role throughout the county.

For further information on any of the work with young disabled people please contact Catherine Slater, Derbyshire Sport's Disability Sports Development Officer, on 01773 571231 or email Catherine.slater@derbyshire.gov.uk

Playground Challenges continue

The second round of the 2009 – 2010 Derbyshire Playground Challenges is now under way, with pupils testing their ability to bounce.

The Playground Challenges grew throughout 2008 – 2009, with increasing numbers of schools becoming engaged with the programme, as the Challenges spread across the county. Following a review and revamp they are now firmly under way again.

Part of the review process was to add an additional age group – the three age groups for 2009 – 2010 are:

- Reception – Year 2
- Year 3 – Year 4
- Year 5 – Year 6

Challenges become progressively demanding for pupils as they move through the age groups. Points are awarded for performances in each age group, with winners being announced for each age group. Each half-term sees a new Challenge available for schools to deliver and record.

All resources are available from the Derbyshire Sport website (www.derbyshiresport.co.uk). Click on 'schools competition' then 'competition kitbag'.

Affiliation fees collected and re-distributed

The process of collecting and re-distributing schools' affiliation fees to the Derbyshire Schools' Sports Association has now been completed for the second year.

Although the fees are centrally collected, DSSA re-distributes all of the funding directly to local Area Associations. This funding is designed to help Area Associations to deliver ever stronger programmes of competitions, festivals and squads for schools in their area.

Meanwhile, Sports Associations have applied for funding to deliver their countywide programmes of competitions and squads for 2009 – 2010. The sports, which include hockey, netball, athletics, cricket and rounders, will provide a range of opportunities for children of all ages within Derbyshire schools. In return for the funding, sports will again charge no entry fees for their competitions at county level and below.

Four more sports complete national review

Four more sports have successfully completed the National Competition Review process and have had their 'priority competitions' accepted by the National Competition Review Panel.

Athletics, basketball, table tennis and fencing have been a part of the 16 priority sports identified in June 2009 but until recently had not officially outlined their priority competitions. These competitions provide a central core to the work of the Competition Manager teams across the country, including the Derbyshire team.

The main priorities of the additional four sports are shown below:

Athletics	Sportshall	Years 5&6
	Quadkids	Years 5&6
	Sportshall	Year 7
Basketball	Girls (5v5)	Under 14
	Boys (5v5)	Under 14
Table Tennis	Team	Under 13
	Individual	Under 13
Fencing	Mini fencing	Years 5&6
	Mini fencing	Year 7

The inclusion of these four sports leaves only judo and football as sports from the 16 priorities yet to be given the green light by the National Competition Review Panel. The Youth Sport Trust will continue to work with these sports at a national level to complete this process.

Date for National School Sport Week 2010 Confirmed

The 2010 National School Sport Week (NSSW) has been confirmed as the week from Monday 28 June 2010 to Friday 2 July 2010. Please note that this date may be different from that previously published, following a national change.

The week will again seek to celebrate the excellent work undertaken throughout the year to provide opportunities for young people to take part in school sport.

Competition Managers will be working with local and national partners to provide an innovative and exciting range of opportunities for children in Derbyshire to participate in. If you would like to contribute your thoughts to the development of these opportunities, please contact your local Competition Manager.



Schools can already register for NSSW 2010 by going to the NSSW website at <http://www.schoolsportweek.org/>

Basketball sessions increase teacher confidence

As part of the drive to increase the quantity and quality of basketball in schools three free basketball CPD workshops, organised by the Schools' Association, took place in the autumn term.

The aim of the workshops was to increase the confidence of teaching staff to deliver and referee competitive school matches. The sessions included work to develop refereeing skills and allowing the game to flow, along with introducing basketball to new pupils and Key Stage 4 pupils.

All the sessions were well attended with over 16 schools and 30 staff present at the refereeing. A big thank you to Steve Lawes who gave up his time to organise the sessions and provide hand-outs for the schools present.

For further information please contact phil.basterfield@derbyshire.gov.uk

Interface10 – Igniting Derbyshire Dance

Schools in Derbyshire are being given the opportunity to play a part in the 2012 Cultural Olympiad after funding was secured to support a programme of dance activity leading to Interface10, the County Dance Platform.

The funding, from Igniting Ambition, will provide developmental support to schools progressing from local platforms to Interface10. The close work with a range of dance professionals will enable schools to develop the pieces they present at local platforms, increasing the quality of dance performances across the county.

Dance professionals will provide approximately eight sessions in each school that is selected to attend Interface10 as a representative of their School Sport Partnership. These sessions are principally intended to develop the work in time for Interface10, however some of the work may take place after the county platform to broaden the experience of the dancers.

Interface10 will take place at Buxton Opera House on Monday 17 May 2010. It brings together performances from schools with those from community groups and private dance schools as part of the national UDance programme.



Picture courtesy of Thea Aimeé Brunton and Deda

A programme of CPD is also in place to support teachers from both primary and secondary schools in delivering effective dance programmes to their pupils. For further information please contact Clare Limb, Dance Development Officer at Deda - C.Limb@deda.uk.com

Quicksticks developing in High Peak

New Mills School hosted the first ever Quicksticks Festival in the High Peak. Year 12 Sports Leaders introduced year 5 & 6 pupils to the new game through a variety of sessions designed to develop hockey in our primary schools.

Thanks to the excellent leadership of the young leaders from New Mills School Sixth Form the Festival was an outstanding success. 11 teams from the New Mills area attended the festival and every pupil returned to their school with new skills and enthusiasm for the game of hockey.

Credit must also be given to the 70 pupils from across the area that attended the event for their great attitude throughout despite the cold November weather.

Bolsover and District Champion Schools awarded

The Bolsover and District Champion Schools Awards for the 2008 / 2009 Academic Year were awarded at the Bolsover and District Sports Awards in September to the following schools:

The Award seeks to recognise the continued work done by schools to promote opportunities for young people throughout the year. Points are awarded to schools for entering Cluster level and Partnership level competitions, numbers of 'NEW' children entering competitions, winning Cluster, Partnership, County and Regional level Competitions and numbers of children taking part in Playground Challenges.

Small Schools (less than 100 pupils)	1 st Place: Brockley Primary School 2 nd Place: Westhouses Primary School
Medium Schools (100 – 200 pupils)	1 st Place: Barlborough Primary School 2 nd Place: Tibshelf Town End Junior
Large Schools (more than 200 pupils)	1 st Place: Glebe Junior School 2 nd Place: Park Junior School

The 2009-2010 Bolsover and District Champion Schools Award is taking place again with schools gaining points for the work that they are doing within competitive school sport.

Amber Valley Sportshall continues growth

The first two terms of the year have seen AV SSP organising 18 sportshall athletics competitions for years 3 – 6 for local schools. Judy Payling, School Sports Partnership athletics coach, was as enthusiastic as ever in getting over 500 pupils taking part in the year 5 and 6 events.

Separate events were held for small, medium and large schools to provide opportunities for all to compete. The winners of each event were:

Large school winners – Swanwick Primary

Medium school winners – Herbert Strutt

Small school winners – Denby Free



In order to provide an Amber Valley representative to the county final, scores from the finals were averaged out. Denby Free, winner of the small schools' final, will go forward to the county final on Tuesday 2 March 2010.

Gifted and talent programme in Chesterfield

The gifted and talented programme for children in Chesterfield Primary Schools has been given a boost by tying it more closely to the competition programme within the Partnership.

Attendees for the Easter Gifted and Talented camp have traditionally been selected by their primary schools, with no means of comparison against other pupils. By putting together a series of competitions for gifted and talented pupils the School Sport Co-ordinators leading the programme are hoping to provide a more objective measure of the ability of children, ensuring the most able are invited to attend the camp.

The programme of competitions will measure the ability of children across a range of sporting disciplines throughout the preceding year. Competitions will consist of skills challenges based upon the sports involved. Whilst winners will be awarded for each competition, scores logged at each competition will also eventually provide a robust measure of each child's ability across sporting disciplines.

Quadkids athletics and tennis led the way in July 2009, with rugby and hockey to follow in December 2009. A further session in February 2010 will complete the cycle of events. The children that have the highest scores across the programme will then be invited to attend the camp at Brookfield Community School at Easter 2010.

Bolsover and North East Derbyshire joint leagues

Secondary schools from across Bolsover and North East Derbyshire have joined forces to ensure more chances for regular inter-school competition are provided for their children.

As both Bolsover and North East Derbyshire School Sport Partnerships have low numbers of secondary schools, with five and four schools respectively, it has previously proved difficult to provide a regular high-quality competitive experience in a variety of different sports.

Now that the two partnerships have joined forces, assisted by their Competition Manager, this has allowed the nine schools to organise a series of leagues and competitions across all ages and key stages within a variety of sports, including:

- Year 7 – 11 Football Leagues (Boys and Girls)
- Year 7 – 11 Netball Leagues (Girls)
- KS3, Y10 and Y11 Basketball Round Robins (Girls and Boys)
- KS3, Y10 and Y11 Badminton (Boys and Girls)

Sports scheduled to take place in 2010 include cricket, orienteering, rounders, athletics and tennis.

City schools driving forwards with rugby

An audit of schools in Derby identified rugby union as a priority for development of additional opportunities. As a result, three central venue league festivals were organised for years 7, 8 and 9. All events were based at Derby Rugby Club and the young people involved were encouraged to join the club.


In total, ten Derby City schools entered, bringing teams of 12 players. The festivals provided a safe and fun environment for pupils to try their first experience of rugby union.

Lloyd Dyson from Lees Brook School said: "It was great to see so many youngsters enjoying themselves whilst playing rugby on a professional ground, where support was provided by parents, young leaders and Derby Rugby Club staff."

Due to the high level of interest, the programme will be extended next year and will include input from Melbourne Rugby Club, which has a base at Chellaston School.

South Derbyshire increase cross-border opportunities

South Derbyshire and East Staffordshire schools have reinvigorated the Schools' Sports Association by including all schools across the two areas in new formal agreements and constitution. As a result all schools have now received yearly entry forms in personalised ES & SD SSA folders that included fax back forms and teacher diary copies so that they can keep an eye on competition dates throughout the year.



The competitions for the secondary schools have started well with the football being in full flow and girls 'touch' rugby being introduced and making a positive steps and introducing the game to a new audience. A central venue girls' football league for year 8 and 9 has begun with eight schools competing in a rolling league across five weeks.

A wide range of opportunities are still to come next year with competitions including badminton, cross country, hockey, futsal and basketball.

High Peak and Derbyshire Dales come together for rugby festivals

Schools from Derbyshire and High Peak joined forces to provide year 9 and year 10 pupils with a local opportunity to participate in rugby.

The first ever combined 'Emerging Schools' festival was designed for schools that traditionally do not provide rugby fixtures or participate in the county cup.

Pupils from Buxton Community School, Chapel-en-le-Frith High School, Hope Valley College, Highfields School and Anthony Gell School converged on Buxton Rugby Club. Volunteers from the club supported the event, with help from other local clubs acting as referees.

The success of this first event will ensure the work continues in future, with more regular opportunities being put in place.

Erewash strides forward with multi skill opportunities

A variety of multi skill and multi sport opportunities have been offered to children in Erewash Primary Schools throughout the autumn term, providing many with their first taste of school sport.

A mini tennis based event, hosted by local clubs in October, enabled pupils to try a range of skills, including serving, forehand and backhand shots, before putting these skills into practice in small games towards the end of the festival.

The playing fields of Kirk Hallam School hosted a running event for years 1 – 4, on what initially appeared to be the perfect day. Each school brought teams of five with an average of 25 pupils in each race. Competing in teams, pupils completed a lap of the field whilst having to overcome slalom twists, cargo nets and hurdles on their way around before passing the baton onto the next runner.

As the runners began the heavens opened with lashings of rain pouring over the course and the pupils who thoroughly loved their new muddy look. The event provided a fun and informal way of pupils experiencing competitive opportunities.

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Please note that Senior Competition Manager, Will Evans, will leave the role in January 2010 to become Partnership Development Manager for the Derby West School Sport Partnership. A new Senior Competition Manager is currently being recruited. Full contact details will be available from the Derbyshire Sport website (www.derbyshiresport.co.uk) in due course.