

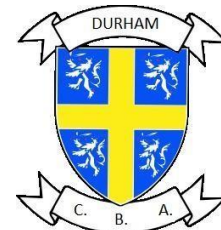
North East Badminton Quarterly Newsletter

December 2021 Edition



Welcome to the fifteenth edition of the North East Badminton newsletter!

The interactive newsletter will be produced quarterly throughout the year and will provide county associations, community badminton networks, clubs, coaches, volunteers and players with current news, opportunities, information and support across Northumberland and County Durham.



About Me

I'm sure the majority of you have been in contact with me by now but, for anyone who doesn't know, my name is Holly Robson and I have been a keen badminton player, Level 2 coach and volunteer for a number of years now, representing the Durham County senior teams and Elmfield Badminton Club in Newcastle as well as playing an active role on the Durham County Badminton committee.

I joined the Badminton England team in May 2018 as the North East Relationship Manager where I work closely with the badminton community across Northumberland and Durham (and now also Yorkshire) to further develop badminton and provide more opportunities for people to get involved and grow the sport across the region.



Holly Robson
North East & Yorkshire
Relationship Manager

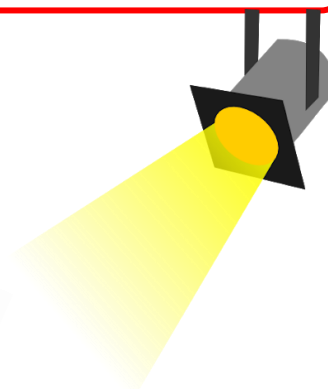
Please see the end of this newsletter for my contact details.

Club Spotlight

Gateshead Badminton Club (Durham)

Established in 2012, Gateshead Badminton Club play at Gateshead Leisure Centre on Monday evenings, 8pm – 10pm, and currently have a men's team and a mixed team who compete in the Northumberland Badminton League.

The club recently achieved Badminton England Premier Club status which is Badminton England's Clubmark standard and indicates that they are a club that provides the right environment, ensuring the welfare of members, and encouraging everyone to enjoy sport and stay involved throughout their lives.



Sport Newcastle – Unsung Hero Award

Congratulations to Karen Davison who received the Unsung Hero Award at the Sport Newcastle Presentation Evening on 21st October!

As a volunteer, Karen is Northumberland Badminton Association's Schools Co-ordinator and also a member of the Northumberland Badminton Association Management Committee.

Karen set up junior badminton sessions in Morpeth 32 years ago, followed by an adult club at Riverside Leisure Centre in Morpeth. Once established, she entered teams in the Northumberland League and still acts as the Club and Match Secretary, actively encouraging strong juniors to play on teams.



She mentors suitable players to become coaches and even to run social sessions in Ashington. After some clubs disappeared, Karen was responsible for getting badminton going again in her area and in 2016 she and two young coaches received equipment to help develop badminton in the new Ashington Leisure Centre.

Karen is well known for organising an annual 24 hour Badminton Marathon, now in its 10th year, having raised over £25,000 for local charities including the Children's Heart Unit at the Freeman Hospital.

Karen is the Assistant Head Coach of Northumberland's Performance Centre and during the pandemic she went out of her way to organise Zoom training sessions for the juniors and set up a link with the Hull Performance Centre for players and coaches to exchange ideas on strength, conditioning and general training. Karen is paid to coach at the Performance Centre but goes way beyond this role, organising and managing teams as well as writing reports on competitions.

In Morpeth, Karen delivers No Strings sessions for social players and Over 50s, many of whom live on their own. During the COVID pandemic she kept in touch regularly with players (especially the over 50s) so they were not neglected or alone, organised online chats, quizzes and group walks for players, made sure that shopping was organised and kept in touch with her own club members to keep them up to date with developments.

CIMSPA Digital Marketing Hub

The Digital Marketing Hub by CIMSPA offers volunteers, coaches, community groups, and charities in the sport sector the opportunity to develop their digital marketing skills for free.

The Hub specifically explores how people and organisations can boost participation and re-engage participants, while looking at key themes in digital marketing, including audience development, online visibility, and content production.

The Digital Marketing Hub covers topics such as:

- Reaching New Audiences
- Insight Application
- Measurement
- Channel Skills



[CLICK HERE](#)

**for more information and to access the free
CIMSPA Digital Marketing Hub**

Local Person

Martin Fagan

Martin has been involved in badminton across the North East for almost 40 years as he began playing at St. Cuthbert's Badminton club which was based at his secondary school in Wrekenton (in Gateshead).

Jennifer Morrison from the club encouraged Martin to start attending DSS Badminton Club which then combined with Newcastle Telecom Badminton Club in the 1990s and Martin has been a playing member of Telecom ever since, representing the club in both men's doubles and mixed doubles in the Northumberland Badminton League.

Martin has represented both Durham and Northumberland at senior county level and now plays for Northumberland in masters county events.



Martin is a Level 3 badminton coach and coaching is his full-time job. He is the Head Coach at the Northumberland Junior Performance Centre and also at Newcastle University. He is the Performance Coaching Co-ordinator for Northumberland Badminton Association as well as one of the junior and senior county selectors and delivers coaching sessions in various primary and secondary schools across the area.

NBA Walter Arkley Award

Congratulations to Muriel Burgess who was presented with the Northumberland Badminton Association Walter Arkley Award at the Northumberland Masters Silver Tournament on 7th November!



Muriel received this prestigious award for her exceptional long-standing contribution to Masters' badminton in Northumberland. Muriel has been running the Northumberland Masters Tournament since the inaugural event at The Louisa Centre in Stanley in 2000, where 80 players took part in over 40s to over 60s events.

This year was the 21st time the event has been delivered and Muriel still runs it with the same enthusiasm as in the early days, encouraging players to enter and enjoy the competition. The age groups have now expanded from over 35s to over 75s and many people don't realise the amount of effort and organisation which Muriel puts in each year before the event to make the tournament happen.

The award was presented by Steve Abbott, Chairman of the Northumberland Competitive Play Board and Tournament Referee for the Northumberland Masters Silver Tournament.

Local Success Stories!

Deaf Awareness NE Badminton Club Taster Day!

On Saturday 30th November, Deaf Awareness NE Badminton Club held a badminton taster session at The Linskill Centre in North Shields.

The aim of the session was to introduce new players from the deaf community to badminton through delivering a variety of fun games, activities and skills challenges.

Nine players attended the session, which was organised by Derek Craigie, Chief Executive Officer at Deaf Awareness: NE and delivered by local Level 2 coach, Sarah Burtenshaw.

Derek Craigie - *"The badminton taster day was a great event that helped to bring together deaf and hearing people across a range of ages, promoting inclusion and acting as a fun introduction to the game for many people. With the support of Holly and Sarah, the skills challenges were particularly enjoyed by all and, we are pleased to say, that our regular weekly badminton club has seen an increase in membership because of this event!"*



Hartlepool No Strings Badminton Session!

Hartlepool Badminton Club and Level 2 coach, Vicky Evans, have worked closely with Badminton England to set up a new No Strings session at Brierton Sports Centre.

The session began in October and runs weekly on Tuesday afternoons, 1pm – 2pm, at a cost of £4 per session. Adults of all ages and abilities are welcome to attend.

The sessions have an average of 6 regular players attending weekly plus others who drop in and out of the sessions.

Vicky Evans – *"The sessions are going really well with about 10 players who like the pay and play element and can drop in and out when their hectic schedules allow!"*

For more information on the No Strings session or badminton opportunities in Hartlepool, contact Vicky on: smashingcoaching@outlook.com

no strings
badminton



Senior County Championships 2021-22 Update

The 2021-22 Senior County Championships will start in January 2022, with the second and third weekends in February and March 2022.

2021-22 Senior County Championships Dates:

- 🏸 Saturday 15th January 2022 (and Sunday 16th for Premiership and Championship Divisions Only)
- 🏸 Saturday 12th February 2022 (and Sunday 13th for Premiership and Championship Divisions Only)
- 🏸 Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th March 2022 – All Divisions



Durham are entering one team in the Senior County Championships for this season and Northumberland are entering two teams.

Durham are competing in Division 2 North for the 2021-22 season where they will face the following teams: Cheshire 2, Cheshire 3, Lancashire 2, Lancashire 3, Cumbria 1, Yorkshire 4 & Yorkshire 5 and all matches will be played at York Railway institute on the dates listed above.

Northumberland 1 will be competing in Division 1 North where they will be up against: Staffordshire 1, Oxfordshire 1, Yorkshire 3, Lanarkshire 1, Warwickshire 2, Lothian 1 & Nottinghamshire 2, venues are not yet confirmed.

Finally, Northumberland 2 are competing in Division 3 North where they will be up against: Lothian 2, Derbyshire 3, Nottingham 3, Lanarkshire 2, Isle of Man 1, Cumbria 2 & Lancashire 4 and all matches will be played at Tyneside Badminton Centre.



[CLICK HERE](#)
for more information on the
Senior County Championships!



Club Webinar Series 2021-22

The 2021-22 Club Webinar Series offers a different webinar each month which will uncover a different theme, enabling you to learn from an expert, improve your knowledge and skills, and help your club to thrive.

- 👉 These free webinars cater for volunteers of all experience levels and are relevant to all types of volunteer roles within a club setting, unless otherwise stated in the webinar description
- 👉 The webinars will be delivered by a combination of Badminton England staff and external facilitators
- 👉 All webinars will be between 1 and 2 hour online sessions, hosted via Zoom

Webinar	Facilitator	Date	Time
Funding	Richard Sutcliffe (Funding 4 Sport)	Monday 17 th January 2022	7pm – 8pm
Using Badminton England Programmes within Your Club	Jenna Smith (Badminton England Programme Manager)	Thursday 24 th February 2022	7pm – 8pm
The Importance of Having an Online Presence	Sport Structures	Monday 21 st March 2022	7pm – 8pm

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information on any of the above webinars, to download the Club Webinar Series brochure or to book a place



VOLUNTEERS

Lucy Dodd Represents England in U15 Quadrangular

Congratulations to Northumberland junior player, Lucy Dodd, who was selected to represent England in the 2021 Under 15 Quadrangular Tournament!

After gaining good results in a number of junior silver and gold tournaments, Lucy was selected to represent England in the U15 Quadrangular tournament, against Scotland, Wales and Ireland, held in Glasgow from 1st – 3rd October. She is the first junior player in Northumberland to have been able to make this step for at least 15 years.

Lucy did not get to play singles in the team event but she scored four wins from her five matches in level and mixed doubles, helping England to claim the team title!

The team event was then followed by an individual tournament, in which Lucy achieved great success. She partnered Dan Kemp from Cumbria in the mixed doubles and three good wins took them to the final against another English pair where they managed to claim the title. Lucy was then seeded number one in the girls' doubles with Lucy Brierley from Nottinghamshire. The girls scored a good close win over an Irish pair in the semi-finals, before emerging victorious over a Scottish pair in the final!

Lucy also obtained great results in the U15 National Championships on 20th & 21st November where she reached the semi-finals in all three events (girls' singles, girls' doubles & mixed doubles).



Upcoming Coaching Webinars

Badminton England are running two new webinars in early 2022 which are aimed at coaches who are currently delivering, or would like to start delivering, in schools or to young people.

Coaching in Schools Webinar

Monday 17th January 2022, 7pm

Coaching Young People Webinar

Monday 28th March 2022, 7pm

WEBINAR



Both webinars will launch new content and resources available to coaches via the Badminton England Resource Hub to support coaches delivering and engaging young people both in school and club settings.

[CLICK HERE](#)

for more
information or
to book a place
on the Coaching
in Schools
Webinar



[CLICK HERE](#)

for more
information or to
book a place on
the Coaching
Young People
Webinar

UK Para Badminton Championships 2021

The UK 2021 Para Badminton Championships took place at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield on Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th December.

The event brought together the best players from across all four UK nations, with six different para-badminton classes represented: WH1, WH2, SL3, SL4, SU5 and SH6.

Congratulations to all the winners of the various events!

Particular congratulations to Will Smith from Northumberland who reached the semi-finals of the SL3 Men's Singles and then went on to claim the title in the SL3/4 Men's Doubles event, with partner Dan Bethell from Avon!



[CLICK HERE](#)

to view all match
results from the
2021 UK Para
Badminton
Championships

Upcoming Junior & Senior Tournaments






Badminton England Junior Circuit Tournaments – January to March 2022

- 🔥 Tyneside Under 15 Silver – Saturday 22nd January 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 Northumberland Under 17 Silver – Saturday 26th February 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 Northumberland Under 13 Bronze – Saturday 5th March 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 Northumberland Under 19 Silver – Saturday 12th March 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre

Badminton England Senior Circuit Tournaments – January to March 2022

- 🔥 Northumberland Senior Gold – Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th January 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 Tyneside Senior Bronze – Saturday 5th February 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre

[CLICK HERE](#)
to visit
**Tournament
Software to
view and
enter circuit
tournaments
online**

 Gold	 Silver	 Bronze	 Tier 4	 Tier 5
Gold Circuits (Tier 1) Are for the elite and top level players competing to qualify for the English National Championships.	Silver Circuits (Tier 2) Aimed at strong county players and the very best club players.	Bronze Circuits (Tier 3) Aimed at strong local league and club players, open to players grade D and below.	Tier 4 Tournaments Are for players who have competitive experience in local tournaments and leagues, open to players below E grade.	Tier 5 The first step onto the competition pathway, played in a structured but friendly tournament atmosphere.

Northumberland Badminton Association Graded Tournaments – January to March 2022

- 🔥 B, C, D & E Graded Doubles – Sunday 23rd January 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 B, C, D & E Graded Singles – Sunday 30th January 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 A, B, C, D & E Graded Doubles – Sunday 20th February 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre
- 🔥 A, B, C, D & E Graded Singles – Sunday 6th March 2022 at Tyneside Badminton Centre

To enter any of the Northumberland Graded Tournaments, text Steve Porter on 07795204545 with your name, your partner's name and which grade you wish to play in.



County Restricted Tournament Results 2021

Congratulations to the winners and runners up of the 2021 Durham and Northumberland Senior & Junior County Restricted Tournaments!

The Northumberland Senior County Restricted took place on Sunday 26th September (doubles) and Sunday 3rd October (singles) at Tyneside Badminton Centre and the Durham County Senior Restricted took place on Saturday 9th October at Belmont School.

Durham County Senior Restricted 2021

Men's Singles:

Champion – Nilesh Wijesekera
Runner Up – Xuancheng (Chris) Shen

Ladies' Singles:

Champion – Holly Robson
Runner Up – Daisy Parsons

Men's Doubles:

Champions – Steven Andrews & Dave Williams
Runners Up – Murray Wright & Jason Yong

Ladies' Doubles:

Champions - Ella Hodgson & Katie Zissler
Runners Up – Holly Robson & Jacqueline You

Mixed Doubles:

Champions – Alex Robinson & Holly Robson
Runners Up – Steven Andrews & Ella Hodgson



Northumberland County Senior Restricted 2021

Men's Singles:

Champion – Garrylee McMullen
Runner Up – Philip Pahatouridis

Ladies' Singles:

Cancelled due to low entries

Men's Doubles:

Champions – Garrylee McMullen & Philip Pahatouridis
Runners Up – Eddie Burgess & Ryan Jelley

Ladies' Doubles:

Champions – Lauren Young & Robyn Luckley
Runners Up – Ellen Davison & Lucy Dodd

Mixed Doubles:

Champions – Philip Pahatouridis & Rachel Frobisher
Runners Up – Garrylee McMullen & Lauren Young



Northumberland Senior Restricted 2021
Ladies' Doubles Winners –
Lauren Young & Robyn Luckley



Durham Senior Restricted Mixed Doubles
Winners, Alex Robinson & Holly Robson, and
Runners Up, Steven Andrews & Ella Hodgson



Northumberland Senior Restricted 2021
Men's Doubles Winners –
Garrylee McMullen & Philip Pahatouridis



Volunteers,
Roger Cook &
Kim Robson,
working hard at
the Durham
Senior
Restricted



Durham Senior Restricted 2021
Men's Doubles Winners,
Steven Andrews & Dave
Williams, and Runners Up,
Murray Wright & Jason Yong

The Northumberland Junior Restricted Tournaments also took place on Saturday 9th (Under 13 & Under 17) and Sunday 10th (Under 15 & Under 19) October at Tyneside Badminton Centre.

Northumberland U13 Junior Restricted 2021

Boys' Singles:

Champion – Aryan Kalluri
Runner Up – Aniruddh Kalluri

Girls' Singles:

Champion – Sophie Cockett
Runner Up – Tanida Prapunwong

Boys' Doubles:

Champions – Aniruddh Kalluri & Aryan Kalluri
Runners Up – Jack Atkinson & Dylan Jenkins

Girls' Doubles:

cancelled due to low entries

Mixed Doubles:

Champions – Daniel Proctor & Tanida Prapunwong
Runners Up – Dylan Jenkins & Sophie Cockett



Northumberland U15 Junior Restricted 2021

Boys' Singles:

Champion – Ryan Cockett
Runner Up – Matthew Jefferson

Girls' Singles:

Champion – Naomi Silva
Runner Up – Chalida Prapunwong

Boys' Doubles:

Champions – Ryan Cockett & Matthew Jefferson
Runners Up – Jude Wisby & Aryan Kalluri

Girls' Doubles:

Champions – Sophie Cockett & Chalida Prapunwong
Runners Up – Naomi Silva & Jasmine Osborne

Mixed Doubles:

Champions – Ryan Cockett & Naomi Silva
Runners Up – Matthew Jefferson & Sophie Cockett



Northumberland U17 Junior Restricted 2021

Boys' Singles:

Champion – Xuehan Zhang
Runner Up – Ben King

Girls' Singles:

Champion – Ellen Davison
Runner Up – Charlotte Graham

Boys' Doubles:

Champions – Jamie Grant & Jack Tilbury
Runners Up – Ryan Cockett & Xuehan Zhang

Girls' Doubles:

Champions – Ellen Davison & Katrina Ho
Runners Up – Charlotte Graham & Amy Ward

Mixed Doubles:

Champions – Xuehan Zhang & Ellen Davison
Runners Up – Jack Tilbury & Charlotte Graham



Northumberland U19 Junior Restricted 2021

Boys' Singles:

Champion – Tim Bodani
Runner Up – James Dodd

Girls' Singles:

Champion – Charlotte Graham
Runner Up – Ellen Davison

Boys' Doubles:

Champions – Tim Bodani & James Dodd
Runners Up – Jack Tilbury & Matthew Short

Girls' Doubles:

Champions – Ellen Davison & Katrina Ho
Runners Up – Charlotte Graham & Amy Ward

Mixed Doubles:

Champions – Tim Bodani & Charlotte Graham
Runners Up – Tom Hunt & Ellen Davison



**Special mentions to
Ryan Cockett
(under 15), Ellen
Davison (under 17) &
Tim Bodani (under 19)
who were triple county
champions in their
respective age groups!**


Upcoming Courses


Foundation Award (Level 1) in Coaching Badminton

The Foundation Award is the starting point for people who would like to get into coaching badminton and become a coaching assistant. This course will teach you to:

- Lead fun games, activities and tournaments
- Understand the badminton landscape and structure in England
- Support a Level 2 coach in the delivery of sessions
- Deliver Badminton England programmes such as: No Strings, SmashUp! & Racket Pack Lite
- Effectively support the development of clubs/sessions and maximise participant experience

Upcoming Foundation Award:

 **Dates:** Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th March 2022

 **Times:** 9am – 5pm on both days

 **Venue:** Tyneside Badminton Centre, Bowness Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 2TA **Cost:** £175 for Badminton England members & £195 for non-members

[CLICK HERE](#)

for more information on the upcoming Foundation Award at Tyneside Badminton Centre and to book a place

Emergency First Aid in Sport

All badminton clubs should have a designated First Aider who is able to quickly and effectively deal with sports-based injuries. All active coaches should have up to date First Aid training.

Please see the list below for upcoming First Aid courses in the North East:

- Friday 7th January 2022, 6-9pm at Bowburn Community Centre
- Tuesday 8th February 2022, 6-9pm at The Louisa Centre (Stanley)
- Thursday 10th March 2022, 6-9pm at Spennymoor Leisure Centre

To book onto any of the above courses visit:

<https://www.bookit.org.uk/> and search for 'Emergency First Aid in Sport'

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



If you would like more information or guidance on anything included in this newsletter or would like to see something featured in the next newsletter edition (March 2022), please get in touch.

Email: hollyrobson@badmintonengland.co.uk

Mobile: 07825 624282