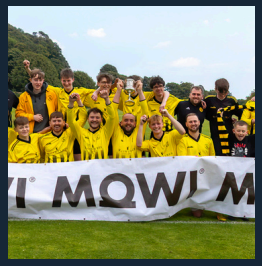


CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION
COMANN NA CAMANACHD

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

BURTON MORRISON -PRESIDENT











Writing this introduction to the 2024 Annual Report gives me the opportunity to look back and reflect on all that has happened in the shinty world over the past twelve months. The report itself provides a very detailed account of all competitions, events, activities and initiatives that collectively produce a packed shinty calendar for all of us involved in the sport. I'm sure my predecessors in this post would agree that each year brings fresh challenges in the administration of our game, but 2024 has brought some changes which are worthy of notice.

First of all, we have a change in Chief Executive Officer with Derek Kier leaving the post in July after a period of service of seven years. I would like to place on record our appreciation of Derek's contribution to the Camanachd Association and wish him all the best for the future. We are delighted to welcome Ruari Davidson to the role and look forward to a very positive future for the Association under his leadership.

The second change to note is the replacement of the Camanachd Cup trophy with the original being retired to Inverness Castle where it will remain as an exhibition centrepiece for years to come. The much-admired replica was presented for the first time to the winners at Fort William and the crafters Hamilton and Inches are to be congratulated on their outstanding work.

We also have ongoing change at the Bught Park, Inverness where refurbishment of the famous stand and adjacent dressing-rooms is taking place alongside the construction of a new building which will provide hospitality facilities and exhibition space for Shinty's Story detailed elsewhere in this report.

Further changes have taken place in the composition of the CA Board where Graeme MacDiarmid and Kevin Thain have joined as new Directors and Willie MacDonald has rejoined after serving an earlier term. My special thanks go to Lyndsay Bradley who steps down from the Board at the end of the year after six years of distinguished service. Each year brings the opportunity to elect fresh faces to the Board and I would encourage anyone who might be interested in playing a role in the administration of our game to come forward. I would like at this stage to thank all Directors, our Chieftain and Vice-Chieftain, and all those who serve on our sub-committees for their commitment and dedication to our game.

Furthermore, on behalf of our Board, I would like to thank all our staff for the huge contribution they have made to the success of our sport over the last year. Your commitment to shinty is exceptional and your efforts are really appreciated.

As always, it is important for me to express our gratitude to all our sponsors without whose support shinty just could not survive.

Congratulations to all our competition winners, men and women, boys and girls, at all levels, and a special mention goes to Kingussie senior team for their outstanding success in winning the Grand Slam.

Finally, my thanks to all team managers, coaches, officials, committee members and club volunteers who work tirelessly to see shinty thrive within their communities. This report is a reflection of your hard work. possible. Enjoy reading the Annual Report.







RUARI DAVIDSON - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The heartbeat of shinty in Scotland is undoubtedly its community. Our clubs, members, volunteers, coaches, referees, parents and of course the players themselves, without whom, we wouldn't have such a brilliant sport to engage in and enjoy. Without your continued dedication and hard work, the many successes outlined in this report would not be possible.

As we enter the final two years of our strategy, One Sport One Community, now is an important time to reflect on the significant progress we've collectively made within the sport. It's also an opportunity to support, with a renewed focus, other strategic priorities where there is opportunity for growth and development over the next two years. Our direction as an Association is provided by our vision, to be a vibrant part of our national culture and recognised as Scotland's community sport. However, our values and behaviours will ultimately help us deliver the many benefits of shinty.





We continue to be guided by five key operating principles to do that: community, safety, respect, improvement and responsibility.

We will continue to prioritise participation across our communities with a clear focus on diversifying participation in our sport. We want to continue to break down barriers to participation and grow the diversity across our sport at all levels. It is pleasing to see continued and sustained development in the women and girls' game, youth participation and our disability offer.

We've worked closely with The National Lottery Heritage Fund to secure funding that will boost development support and plans for a permanent exhibition telling the story of Shinty and its history, culture and people. 'Shinty's Story – Sgeul na Camanachd', a bilingual exhibition set to celebrate the rich history of Scotland's community sport will be housed at Bught Park, in the new pavilion set to be completed by The Highland Council in 2025.

The Mowi Awards 2024 presented us with a great opportunity to profile, celebrate and recognise the huge contribution our coaches, volunteers, referees, clubs, schools and players have made within their respective communities during the year. The breadth and depth of their reach and impact was significant across all parts of our sport.

The Shinty Hurling International, held at Cusack Park, Ennis, was a huge success and showcased and celebrated the very best of two ancient and culturally significant sports. Our partnership with the GAA continues to develop with an ambition from both Associations to collaborate more strategically to profile the International at the redeveloped Bught Park in 2025.

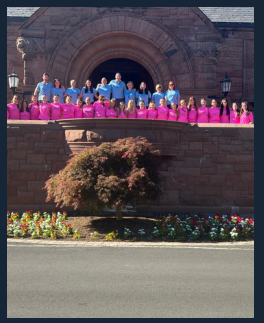
As an organisation we are grateful for the ongoing and generous support of all our partners, sponsors and stakeholders who have invested in supporting shinty during the year. Finally a huge thank you to our brilliant staff team. Their commitment and dedication to supporting the shinty community is significant and a huge factor behind our collective success. I look forward to working closer with them, and you, during the year ahead.















WOMEN AND GIRLS

GIRL ONLY TRAINING

8 girl only training camps were delivered in 2024 with over 210 girls taking part.

GIRL ONLY PRIMARY COMPETITION

10 Primary schools and over 80 girls took part in girl only primary school competition in 2024.

RESIDENTIAL CAMPS

The Association and partners continue to offer unique experiences in sport with the ever popular residential camps providing first class coaching for youngsters.

Girls camp - 40
Boys camp - 65
Disability camp - 95
USA Girls - 43



COMPETITIONS

SENIOR FIXTURES

This year we organised 621 adult fixtures including recruiting and deploying officials to each of these games.

U17S SCOTLAND SQUAD

The 2024 U17 RiCruden Scotland tour saw 19 Players from 11 clubs secure two wins in Dublin and Wexford, Ireland.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

The Association is proud to report an increase in youth membership from 2023-2024, a positive reflection on the efforts from both staff and volunteers across shinty. Youth male membership stands at 1,478. Female participation is up at 478.



HEALTH & SAFETY



CHILD PROTECTION

New PVG Policy & Procedures have been finalised and put in place following Disclosure Scotland's request to all Sport Governing Bodies to further develop the procedures currently used in the application of PVG.

Child Wellbeing & Protection Policies are being reviewed and updated in partnership with Children 1st to ensure all our policies and procedures are in line and up to date with current guidelines.

The new policies will be published to clubs & CPOs Child Protection Officers.



GROWING THE SUPPORT NETWORK

TEACHER TRAINING

The Camanachd Association trained up 136 teachers in 2024. Our Partnership with UHI is key to this with teaching students delivering the sport in primary schools. In addition, 6 School based CPD sessions were also provided, upskilling teachers/teacher specialists in their delivery of shinty.

13 SCHOOLS OF SHINTY

Greenfaulds and Dunoon are the latest Secondary Schools of Shinty giving a national total of 13.

MOWI YOUNG PERSONS DEVELOPMENT FUND

11 Clubs received a share of £5000 to support their respective projects.

WELLBEING



The Association continues to work closely with key partners, Mikeysline, Scottish Counselling services and SAMH to provide education and support for players, clubs, staff and volunteers.

The Shinty Chaplaincy Programme continues to play an important role in supporting clubs. 3 new Chaplains were appointed this year at: Kingussie, Newtonmore and Kinlochshiel. This brings the current total of club chaplains to 16 nationally.

EDUCATION

28 YOUNG SHINTY AMBASSADORS TRAINED

Engaged and trained 20 schools with 42 ambassadors involved in the Shinty Young Ambassador Programme.

75 NEW SHINTY COACHES

In 2024 we ran a total of 8 courses with 75 new coaches being trained and a split of 55 (73%) males and 20 (27%) females.

70 TRAINED REFEREES

Four referee courses were delivered throughout the year with 70 attending. The majority of these referees have supported the youth game however, 7 have gone on to regularly officiate in the senior game. 44 referees were used in senior shinty with 30 of them taking charge of 5 or more matches.

FACILITIES

BUGHT PARK REDEVELOPMENT

The redevelopment is due to be completed in early 2025. The Association has continued to work on the plans for the development of a Shinty Exhibition. which will showcase the rich heritage and culture of our sport and leave visitors with an unforgettable experience.



FACILTIES STRATEGY

In-line with the strategic plan the Association's Facilities strategy is being refreshed. An audit was carried out to identify the needs for club facilities and Regional and National priorities. The data collected will feed into the overall national strategy for shinty.

INCLUSION

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI)

A new working group has been set -up and we are currently working on the new EDI framework "moving to inclusion"

RECORD 95 ATHLETES ATTEND DISABILITY FESTIVAL

114 teams took part in our annual residential shinty camp with 95 athletes taking part including new teams from Dunoon, Tain and Dingwall. In addition Lochaber & Highland Disability Festivals were also supported, reaching 82 people from across the Fort William and Inverness Areas..

THE BEST OF THE REST



NEW CAMANACHD CUP

The Association collaborated with original crafters Hamilton & Inches to create an exact replica of the Camanachd Cup, with the original trophy being retired to Inverness Castle.



GROWTH

The Association continues to work with Active Schools and local volunteers to bring shinty to new areas including, Arran, Perth, Stirling and Angus.



140,000+ VIEWS

Growth in YouTube views due to financial support from Highland Industrial Supplies & Mowi, delivering high quality footage to the shinty community in collaboration with Alasdair Maclean.



USA GIRLS CAMP

43 girls embarked on the first overseas girl's camp. Following 18 months of commitment from the girls, schools and staff, the camp was a great success, and provided the girls with many memorable experiences & new opportunities.



NEW POSITION

Thanks to securing funding from HIE, a Graduate Digital Officer has been employed to enhance the association's digital presence and further promote the sport.



UKAD

Strathspey Camanachd continue to employ a part-time Development Officer through the Sportscotland Direct Club Investment programme, which has seen shinty being developed in new areas like Speyside and Nairn.
Fort William, who were the first shinty club to receive direct club investment and due to the success of the initiative they are now self-funding their own Development Officer to increase membership at all levels.



RESOURCE PACKS

New teacher resource packs have been developed to supports teachers with the delivery of shinty in schools. The innovative coaching cards featuring scannable QR codes. Each card unlocks access to videos showcasing drills/games and essential teaching points.

CHECK IT OUT

SOCIALS

Camanachd Association
ShintyCamanachd
camanachd
www.shinty.com
shinty_do
shinty.com

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS



- The CA are working closely with partner organisations in Argyll & Bute and in Highlands looking to generate employment opportunities. Rural participation in shinty will be supported where organisations creating and sustaining high quality employment opportunities encourage more people to stay in shinty playing communities.
- Cost of living crisis continues to impact the cost of vehicles and fuel and material.
- Environmental responsibility to find cleaner and greener solutions to help the planet is an area we are looking to make contributions to.
- Supporting Mental Health & Wellbeing across communities and extending this support and care for hard working volunteers and staff.
- Equality and Inclusion remain central to our objectives as a community sport. Prioritisation and promotion of women and girls within shinty leadership roles is vital to ensure we progress as a modern sport fit for purpose.
- The Camanachd Association will continue to use our resources to meet the needs of our members and will do this strategically through the game changing priorities identified and endorsed by members in our strategy

STRATEGIC PLAN - GAME CHANGERS

1. Support for the inclusion, safety and wellbeing in our sport
2. Delivering competitions and opportunities in the shinty participation pathway
3. Growing girls and women's shinty
4. Enhancing the support network for shinty
5. Building capability through coach, official and volunteer education
6. Champion the need for modern shinty facilities
7. Support the provision of camans and safety equipment for shinty
8. Continue to support the promotion of shinty

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT

GROWING WOMEN AND GIRLS SHINTY

In line with our strategy, the Camanachd Association & Women's Camanachd Association have made elevating women's and girls' shinty across Scotland a priority this year, focusing on competition, training, and international exposure. With tailored events and strategic partnerships, the Association has significantly expanded opportunities for young female athletes.

A highlight has been the expansion of competitive fixtures, headlined by the Donella Crawford tournament, which took place in November with 130 secondary girls from 16 teams across the region. Likewise, the North Primary Girls Shinty Tournament, sponsored by BR Plumbing and Heating, brought together 80 primary girls from ten clubs and schools, with Kinlochshiel emerging victorious. In total, these competitions attracted 210 participants, underscoring the growing engagement in women's and girls' shinty.

A landmark event in 2024 was the USA Girls Performance Camp, held from 24th June to 2nd July in New Jersey. Supported by Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport, this nine-day camp saw 43 secondary school girls immerse themselves in high-level training and cultural exchange. This initiative, the first of its kind, marked an inspiring achievement following 18 months of planning, shinty, and fundraising activities by the schools. The camp not only sharpened shinty skills but also fostered confidence, new friendships, and an unforgettable sense of unity and achievement among the participants.







USA Girls Trip Survey Responses

Involved in Shinty Volunteering	71%	Reported increased confidence	100%
Interested in completeing a foundation coaching course	87%	Are more confident in talking to others and making friends	75%
Interested in completeing a refereeing course	57%	Are still in touch with their new friends from other schools	57%

All of the participants stated that if the opportunity came again they would all like to take part in a similar trip

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT

"I'm looking forward to the growth and development of our second team, with the High School girls America trip, we have had an increase in younger girls at training. Which is brilliant for the 2nd team. I'm looking forward to playing shinty almost every weekend again and seeing everyone from all the other teams." – Ruby MacLeod, Skye II Captain

MEMBERSHIP

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023	2024
Adult Male	1330	1408	1437	1306	1332	1341	1440	1126	1293
Youth Male	1200	1078	1157	1220 *	1375 *	1056	1202	1413	1097
Adult Female	224	399	423	394	480	351	362	422	371
Youth Female	122	267	337	528 *	450 *	367	390	379	409
Totals	2876	3152	3354	3448	3637	3115	3394	3340	3170



*Indicates Primary School participation was included.
Participation in the senior leagues was at 77 at the start of the campaign, however, Oban Celtic had to pull their women's team and a men's team out of the leagues mid campaign, and Aberdour had to withdraw their women's team taking us to 74.

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT



2023 FINANCE REPORT

Income £682,204

Income totalled £682,204, an increase of £63,708 from 2022. This includes membership income, income from services to clubs, sponsorship, grants, competition, and development.

Expenditure £649,365

Expenditure totalled £649,365, increasing £58,783 from 2022. This includes services to clubs, competitions, development staff wages, travel and subsistence and general office costs. Development costs have increased by £19,899 from 2022 to £67,666, competition costs have increased by £19,877 to £81,840.

Reserves £264,732

We are delighted to report a profit this year of £24,735 up £2,528 from 2022. The Company's reserves have therefore increased from £239,997 to £264,732.

Staff 9 Full Time

Income sourced by staff is used to deliver competitions, camps, coach education and a wide range of projects to support the game. Staff costs have also increased by £20,665.

Sponsorship £180,173

Sponsorship income increased by £34,069 to £180,173 in 2023. sportscotland continue to be our largest contributor, and we have funding secured through to 2026.

WINNERS



Kingussie - Camanachd Cup



Kingussie - Premiership



Lochaber - WCA Camanachd Cup



Badenoch - WCA National

COMPETITIONS



Shinty's Grand Slam was won by Kingussie when they defeated Lovat by three goals to two to retain the **Tulloch Homes Camanachd Cup.** The 2024 Cup Final which was branded "Shinty's BIG Day Out", was played at An Aird, Fort William and attracted a crowd of 3,000 spectators, it was broadcast live on BBC Scotland and Radio Nan Gaidheal, with match highlights on BBC ALBA that evening. Kingussie star Ruaridh Anderson won the Albert Smith Medal for Man of the Match.

Kingussie regained the **Artemis Macaulay Cup** Final defeating holders Oban Camanachd by four goals to one, the final was broadcast live on BBC ALBA and Radio Nan Gaidheal.

In the cottages.com **MacTavish Cup Final**, played at the Eilan, Newtonmore, Kingussie overcame Fort William, from the National Division by three goals to one in a match which was broadcast live on BBC ALBA.

The **Glasgow Celtic Society Cup** Final was also broadcast live on BBC ALBA and was won by Oban Camanachd who defeated Kyles Athletic three to one at Peterson Park, Yoker.

The **Ferguson Transport & Shipping Balliemore Cup Final** was held at Spean Bridge where Glasgow Mid Argyll defeated Fort William with the only goal of the game.
The Highland Industrial Supplies Sutherland Cup Final was won by Kingussie who defeated Skye from a league above by three goals to two.

In a repeat of the previous year's Cup Final, Glengarry retained The **Single Team Cup** after extra time with a five goals to two triumph over Kilmory in an exciting Final at The Jubilee, Ballachulish.

Lochside Rovers defeated Bute by two goals to nil to win the **Bullough Cup** Final at Yoker. In the Strathdearn Cup Final Newtonmore triumphed over Skye by five goals to nil. Despite these matches being scheduled for Mid-August, the weather intervened with the Strathdearn Cup Final being transferred to Balgate, Kiltarlity as Craigard, Invergarry was unplayable as was The Winterton, Inveraray. With no other suitable venue available, the Bullough Cup Final had to be rescheduled for three weeks.

In a score reversal of 2023, South defeated their North counterparts by three goals to one to win the **Caol Cup**, the annual Under 21 North v South match, which was played at Balgate, Kiltarlity.

The **Women's Cup Finals Day** again took place at The Eilan, Newtonmore. Badenoch contested both finals, unfortunately they were Runners Up in them. Lochaber were victorious in the **Mowi Valerie Fraser Camanachd Cup** winning by one goal to nil whilst Inverness triumphed in the **Mowi Challenge Cup** by three goals to one. The Finals Day was once again an excellent occasion, with a large crowd and some exciting shinty being played. The Mowi VF Camanachd Cup was also broadcast live on BBC ALBA.



Inverness II - WCA Challenge Cup



Glengarry - Single Team Cup



Oban Camanachd - Glasgow Celtic Cup



Lochside Rovers - Bullough Cup



Kingussie II - Sutherland Winners



Kingussie - MacTavish Cup



Kingussie - Macaulay Cup



Newtonmore II - Strathdearn Cup

COMPETITIONS



Participation in the senior leagues dropped to 52 teams in 2024. Unfortunately lack of players resulted in the withdrawal of Oban Celtic from the **Mowi National Division** at the start of August. As detailed in the Byelaws the results of the matches which they had participated in were stripped out of the League.

At the start of November there were a number of games still to take place but with all promotion and relegation matters decided it was agreed that the points would be shared in these matches.

Kingussie retained the **Mowi Premiership** title for a fourth year only dropping one point and finishing eleven points clear of the runners up, both Lochaber and Glenurquhart, having finished in the bottom two positions of the Mowi Premiership, are relegated and both will play in the Mowi National Division in 2025.

Fort William won the **Mowi National Division** in their last fixture. Going into the game Beauly were one point ahead and with a better goal difference, Inveraray defeated Beauly which meant Fort William, who were playing slightly later in the day, required a victory to take the title and a five goals to two victory ensured they finished top. Both teams will play in the Mowi Premiership next Season. As Oban Celtic failed to complete the season there will be no other team relegated and they will play in Mowi South Div 1 in 2025.

Lochside Rovers won **Mowi South Div 1** but as a reserve side are not eligible for promotion. Having dropped down from the National Division last season Strathglass have made an instant return, only losing one fixture out of twenty in **Mowi North Div 1.**

Similarly, Kingussie's stay in Mowi North Div 2 was only for one season, they also only tasted defeat on one occasion in the League and are promoted to play in **Mowi North Div 1** in 2025 with Lochcarron who finished bottom of Mowi North Div 1 replacing them. Inveraray won **Mowi South Div 2** dropping 3 points and will be promoted to Mowi South Div 1. Kyles Athletic finished bottom of Mowi South Div 1 will replace them in Mowi South Div 2.

In a thrilling **Mowi Shinty/Hurling International** played at Ennis, Co Clare at end of October the match ebbed and flowed. Scotland raced to an early lead only for the Irish to peg them back and go ahead. Deep in Injury time at the end of the match Scotland looked to have won the game with a goal giving them a single point advantage, before the hurlers responded with a ball over the bar to tie the match and unfortunately in Extra Time the Irish retook the lead and the match finished 3 goals and 16 points (25) to 5 goals and 7 points (22) to ensure the Mowi Quaich stayed in Ireland.

SCOTLAND'S
COMMUNITY SPORT



Strathglass - North Division 1



Kingussie II - North Division 2



Lochside Rovers - South Division 1



Inveraray II - South Division 2



Fort William- National Division



Glasgow Mid Argyll - Ballliemore Cup



Glasgow Mid Argyll - WCA South Div 2



Glenurquhart II - WCA North Division 2



FIXTURES

The league set up commenced with 10 teams in the Mowi Premiership, 8 teams in the Mowi National Div, there were 11 teams in Mowi North Div 1 and 9 teams in Mowi North Div 2, Mowi South Div 1 had 7 teams, with 7 in Mowi South Div 2. In total there have been 609 senior fixtures scheduled in 2024, compared to 669 in 2022. You can delve deeper using the table below:

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT	2024	2023	2022	2019	2018
Fixtures Scheduled	609	621	669	610	655
Played	507	514	521	514	531
Walkovers	15	14	6	11	23
Unplayable Field	64	43	29	63	53
Team Raising	18	35	29	21	29
Bereavements	4	7	6	13	8
Reversed/Transferred	12	13	6	15	12

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT



WCA FIXTURES

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT	Scheduled	Played	Postponed	Walkover	Point Share
WCA National Div	72	68	17	3	2
WCA North Div 2	90	76	19	9	5
WCA South Div 2	21	20	10	2	0
WCA VF Cup	9	8	2	1	0
WCA Challenge Cup	14	13	2	1	0
Total	206	185	50	16	7

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT



YOUTH FIXTURES

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT	Youngsters	Schools/Clubs	Winner
MacKay Cup	370	29	Caol Primary
CA Cup	276	23	Oban Youth
Shinty World Cup (N)	250	32	Kingussie/Newtonmore/Aviemore
Shinty World Cup (S)	144	18	Rockfield/Aberdour
Tulloch Cup	240	24	Caol Primary
UHI Cup	200	20	Caol/Glengarry
First Shinty Finals	144	18	Caol/Hilton
MacBean Cup	100	9	Portree High
Donella Crawford	120	16	Plockton High
Macaulay Sixes	224	28	Inverlochy/Kyles/Park
MacPherson Cup	96	8	Kingussie
MacMaster Cup	220	15	Skye
MacTavish Juvenile	150	10	Newtonmore
MacQuisten Cup	60	4	Glasgow Mid Argyll
WJ Cameron	98	9	Glenurquhart
London Shield	165	11	Glenurquhart
Wade Cup	39	3	Lochaber High

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT

STRATEGIC PLAN - GAME CHANGERS

- Continue to support the promotion of shinty



MEDIA PROFILE

179
News articles with over 200,000 views published on the Shinty website

2000
Online Ticket Sales

23 Press Calls
Ensuring continuted strong coverage of Scotland's Community Sport

8 Live Matches
On BBC Channels + TG4, in addition to140,000 + YouTube Views
Thanks to Highland Industrial Supplies, Mowi and Alasdair MacLean.

23500
Followers across all our Social Media Accounts

620,000+
reached on Facebook with 1,300 new followers.

82000 TikTok Views
with a view to further develop tailored content to engage younger audiences.

£20000+
funding secured with a view to further develop tailored content to engage younger audiences.

SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY SPORT



sport scotland

LOTTERY FUNDED