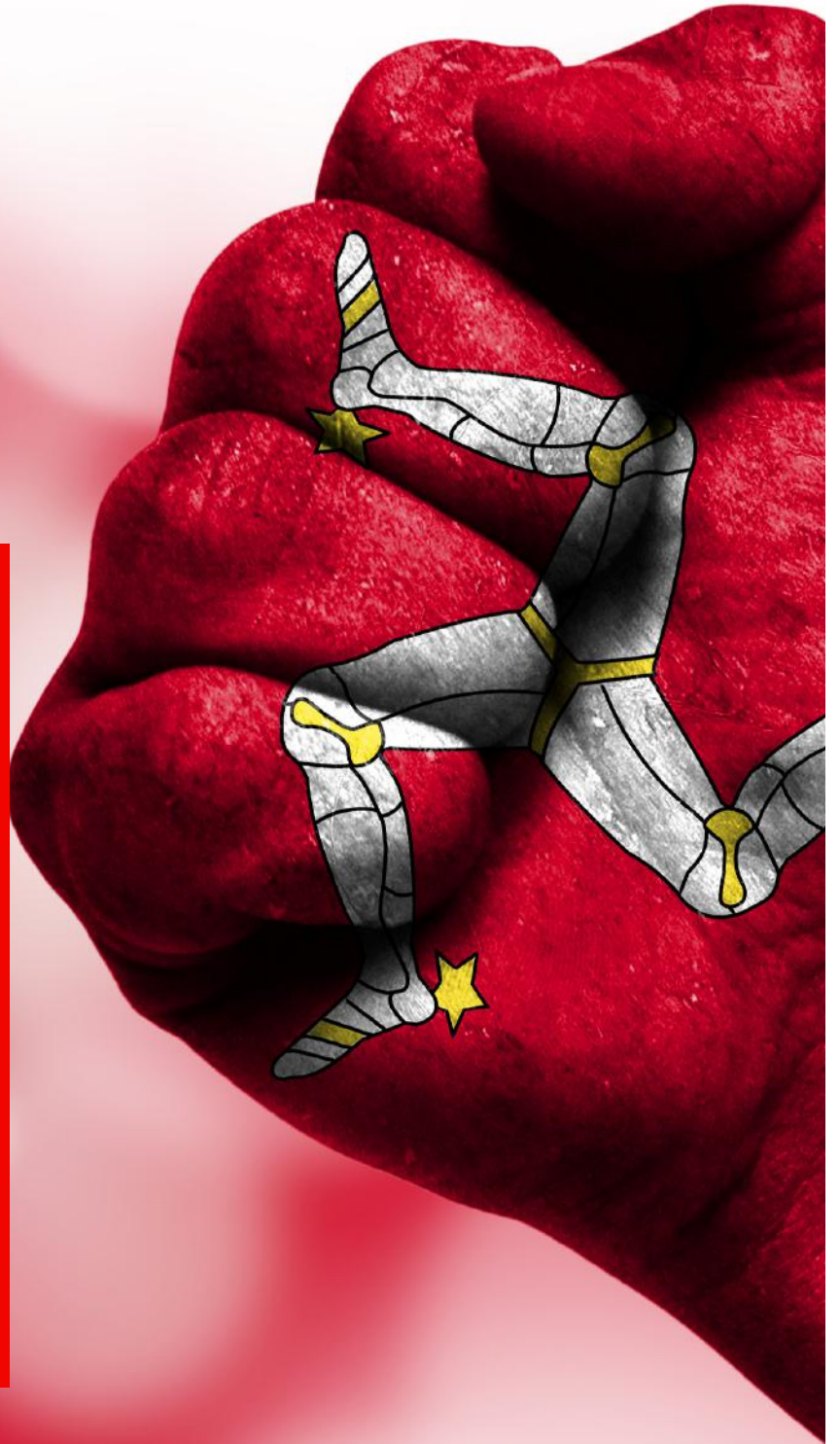




# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024



Website:

[www.isleofmansport.com](http://www.isleofmansport.com)

Address:

National Sports Centre  
Groves Road, Douglas  
Isle of Man, IM2 1RB

Contact:

[sportsliaison@gov.im](mailto:sportsliaison@gov.im)

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LAWN BOWLS ISLE OF MAN



# ISLE OF MAN SPORTS AWARDS



Standard Bank



SUNTERA  
GLOBAL



Crowe



mEZZO



The Isle of Man Sports Awards is an inspirational evening where the Island's top athletes and officials gather at the Villa Marina to celebrate the sporting achievements and success stories of the year!

## ***Sports Awards nominations opened on 18th November 2024...***

The Isle of Man Sports Awards is an inspirational evening where the Island's top athletes and officials gather at the Villa Marina to celebrate the sporting achievements and success stories of the year.

This year's Isle of Man Sports Awards will be held on Thursday 27th February 2025 at 8pm. Awards will be presented for the following categories on the night:

- Sportsman of the Year
- Sportswoman of the Year
- Under 21 Sportswoman of the Year
- Under 21 Sportsman of the Year
- Disability Sportsperson of the Year
- Sports Team of the Year
- Sports Administrator of the Year
- Ambassador of the Year
- Sports Coach of the Year
- Veteran Sportsperson of the Year
- The Leonie Cooil 'Courage & Inspiration' Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Sports Leader of the Year

## **How can I attend the event?**

Tickets can be purchased from the VillaGaiety from 20th January 2025.

## **How can I nominate someone?**

Go to the Sports Awards page of the Isle of Man Sport website to find the online nomination form: <https://www.isleofmansport.com/sports-awards/>

**Nominations close on 16th December 2024.**

## **Know a volunteer who should be recognised?**

Nominate them to attend our Volunteer Celebration and Acknowledgement event at the Sports Awards! If you would like to nominate someone to attend this event to celebrate their commitment as a volunteer to their sport, please email [sportsliaison@gov.im](mailto:sportsliaison@gov.im) with your nomination, their contact details and reasons for nomination.



[@isleofmansport8995](https://www.youtube.com/@isleofmansport8995)



[@isleofmansportsawards](https://www.facebook.com/@isleofmansportsawards)



[@iomsportsawards](https://www.twitter.com/@iomsportsawards)



[@iom\\_sport](https://www.instagram.com/@iom_sport)

# PARIS 2024: THIRD OLYMPICS FOR MANX OFFICIAL!



In August this year, at the Paris 2024 Olympics a local Race Walking judge, Steve Taylor, officiated at his third Olympic Games! No stranger to the international stage, Steve represented the Isle of Man in the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada and has been Chief Judge at World and European Championships.

We caught up with Steve and Isle of Man Athletics to find out more about his experiences, what got him into the sport and how anyone can get involved in officiating!

## **So, how did you get involved as a Race Walking Judge?**

I started as a runner and was asked if I would make up a team for the Merseyside Schools' race walking championships in 1982. I competed in a 5km race and came last, but was hooked after receiving compliments on my technique.

My three children have all tried race walking and it was when my eldest son competed off-Island for the first time and was disqualified, I decided to become an official. There were no active race walk judges on the island at the time, so I decided then and there that I wanted to become a race walking judge - mainly to help athletes prepare for when they compete away from the Isle of Man.

## **What does a Race Walk official do?**

There are two key aspects to race walking. Firstly, the athlete must maintain contact with the ground at all times and secondly, the lead leg must be straight on first contact with the ground until in the vertically upright position.

Judgement is made solely by the human eye which can lead to controversy when still frames and slow-motion videos can show a loss of contact which is undetectable by the human eye.



Whilst we do issue red cards for disqualification at times, I see the role of a judge not to disqualify but, with the judicial use of the yellow caution paddle, to assist as many athletes and competitors to get to the finish in the fairest way possible.

## **What's the difference between officiating at grass roots level and at an Olympics?**

The Olympics is something else - it's on another level! Many sports men and women say it's the pinnacle of their sporting careers and it's no different for officials.

Preparation for the Games is the same as any level of event and when on duty I will watch, caution and issue red disqualification cards as required. However, at some grassroots events, encouragement and development are much more important and as such strong words of caution tend to be used more often.



## What do you enjoy most about officiating?

Through officiating, I have made friends all over the world but my greatest enjoyment is at grassroots and local levels when athletes set a new personal best or win medals and I hope that in some small way my encouragement and feedback has helped them achieve that.

Knowing that you have witnessed something special also brings great joy. Two great examples are that I was officiating when Yohann Diniz set both his track and road world records for 50km in Riems and Zurich respectively. The atmosphere on both the track and roads was something special and the experiences will live with me forever.

## What advice would you give to someone just starting out on their officiating journey?

The adage goes that there is no event without the officials. Whilst this is true the event is about the competitor and not the official, so don't expect to receive recognition and reward, even a simple thank you can be hard to come by.

However, all sports need officials and if you are interested then take it seriously and learn the rules. I recommend that you get yourself a mentor who you can listen to and learn from. Most importantly get as much experience as possible!

## Been inspired by Steve and want to give officiating a go?

There are lots of opportunities to get involved as an official, be that in track and field, race walking, endurance, timekeeping or even as a Race Director! You can view all officiating qualifications here: <https://www.englandathletics.org/coaches-and-officials/officials-qualifications/>

Alternatively, contact your local Athletics club or the Isle of Man Athletics Development Officer, Ollie Lockley for more information on local opportunities:

 [iomado@hotmail.com](mailto:iomado@hotmail.com)

 [Facebook - Isle of Man Athletics](#)

 <http://www.iomathletics.com/>



## Helen Thompson, Chair of Isle of Man Athletics said:

“ At all levels of athletics, the sport relies on officials. Without them, events simply would not happen, and here on the Island we are lucky enough to have a dedicated, hard-working group of qualified officials. Steve is a great example of someone who has started their officiating journey at local level here on the Island, and through many years of experience and study, have attained the highest possible international level.

We are all proud of Steve's achievements and I know he is a great asset to the race walkers here - regularly advising on technique and judging in local races. ”

## Steve Partington, Isle of Man Athletics Head of Performance said:

“ Manx race walking coaches and athletes are so lucky to have someone of Steve's level on the Island. His presence brings kudos to our races, but beyond that, he is generous with his time and technical expertise. His input helps prepare juniors for off-island competition, and his technical knowledge is invaluable.

It says a lot about his character that a week after he was Chief Judge at the Olympics, he was back at the NSC judging an under 11 400m walk. He's a modest man and doesn't make a fuss about his achievements, but we are all really proud of him. ”



# ISLE OF MAN SPORT AID: KEY DEVELOPMENTS



As one of Isle of Man Sport's key partners, we caught up with Isle of Man Sport Aid to find out about some of their recent developments and key changes within the Charity, as well as how they are working with us at Isle of Man Sport!

## NEW BRAND AND SOCIALS!

There's been a few changes for Isle of Man Sport Aid recently, tell us about the latest updates.

We hope, like us, you feel our new look is modern, youthful, and approachable - designed to inspire athletes, attract sponsors, and engage our community.

As part of our Isle of Man Sport Aid vision for the Island to become the world's best athlete identification and development community by 2029, we plan to be much more active on our new social media and channels. Please follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram!

In the near future, as part of the Charity's rebrand, the Isle of Man Sport Aid website will move to a new address: [www.iomsporaaid.im](http://www.iomsporaaid.im) and you can also contact us on [admin@iomsporaaid.im](mailto:admin@iomsporaaid.im).

With Isle of Man Sport Aid being a registered charity and a separate legal entity to Isle of Man Sport, this move to a stand-alone website is appropriate as we embark on the next stage of Isle of Man Sport Aid's work on-Island.

## PERFORMANCE ATHLETE GRANT (PAG) RECIPIENTS 2024/25

The current PAG criteria can be found [here](#). Should your Governing Body of Sport believe there is an individual from your sport who both currently meets the criteria AND is not currently receiving support within the Academy or PDP programmes, please do contact the Sport Aid Secretary in the first instance using [admin@iomsporaaid.im](mailto:admin@iomsporaaid.im)

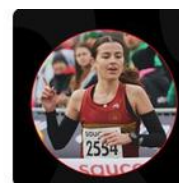
A huge thank you to all [our sponsors!](#)



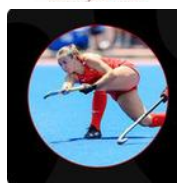
Kaytlyn Adshead  
Motorcycle Trials



Peter Allen  
Swimming



Sarah Astin  
Athletics



Sienna Dunn  
Hockey



Rachael Franklin  
Athletics



Yasmin Ingham  
Equestrian



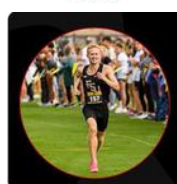
Sean Jackson  
Football



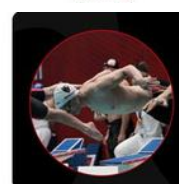
Laura Kinley  
Swimming



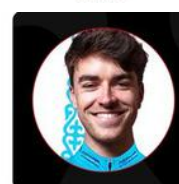
Ollie Lockley  
Athletics



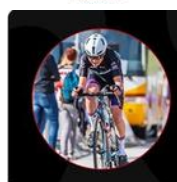
David Mullarkey  
Athletics



Harry Robinson  
Swimming



Max Walker  
Cycling



Zac Walker  
Cycling



Joel Watterson  
Swimming



Sarah Webster  
Athletics



# PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMMES WITH ISLE OF MAN SPORT

Isle of Man Sport are proud to partner with the Isle of Man Sport Aid charity on two key programmes: the Sport Aid Academy (SAA) and the Performance Development Programme (PDP). In both programmes, Isle of Man Sport provide performance service support and education via the Isle of Man Sport Performance Services Team and Isle of Man Sport Aid provides funds to enhance programme delivery (SAA) or the opportunity to access grant funding for individuals within the programme (PDP).

## SPORT AID ACADEMY

For Year 2 (September '24 - June '25) and following an application and selection process with opportunities for all Governing Bodies of Sport to engage, support is now being provided to 77 young people across 17 different sports since the start of the new school year. To find out more about the Year 2 selection process, the format of the Academy during this school year and the content we will be covering with the young people involved, click [here](#). The full list of Sport Aid Academy Year 2 participants listed by the sport they have self-identified as their main sport can be found [here](#).

## PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (PDP)

Ahead of the TASS Dual Career accreditation announcement we reviewed the cohort of young people in Full-Time (FT) education on the IOM that were receiving support from us. This review was required to ensure we were supporting the most appropriate people possible for the 2025-26 school year, with each Governing Body of Sport asked to identify any individuals that might have been missing as part of this review. You can find more information about the PDP and the selection process for those in FT education on the IOM [here](#).

It is worth noting that 2 different cohorts of PDP support exist, with both cohorts being capped in terms of the maximum numbers that can be effectively supported. The first cohort is those in PT or FT education on the Isle of Man with the support being provided over the school year and reviews taking place in June / July each year. The second cohort is for those in work or education off-Island. Support decisions for those in FT education off-Island will be the same as above whereas we will be moving towards review at the end of the competitive season for those not in education and/or the end of each Sport Aid financial year (March) if deemed more appropriate.

Isle of Man Sport staff will work with PDP recipients towards them applying for PAG status at the most appropriate time possible for them based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to, their performance plan and how well they work with people to make good progress towards their goals.

The list of athletes being offered support as part of the PDP, as of 1st November 2024, can be found [here](#). Please note support is contingent upon the receipt of signed agreements following their induction event.



[www.iomsporaaid.im](http://www.iomsporaaid.im)



[@iomsporaaid](https://www.facebook.com/iomsporaaid)



[@isle\\_of\\_man\\_sport\\_aid](https://www.linkedin.com/company/isle_of_man_sport_aid)



[@isleofmansporaaid](https://www.instagram.com/isleofmansporaaid)

# TASS: DUAL CAREER ACCREDITATION



**The Isle of Man achieves unique status of supporting young athletes in education! The Isle of Man is now the only place in the British Isles where all publicly funded secondary schools and University College Isle of Man are accredited by Sport England's Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS) Dual Career programme!**

The news comes after all publicly funded secondary schools and University College Isle of Man (UCM) successfully applied to Sport England's Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS) Dual Career Accreditation programme. The innovative programme supports young people to gain qualifications alongside pursuing their sporting dreams, following other interests, and furthering their own personal development.

Guy Taylor, TASS National Director, said:

'This accreditation formally recognises the Island's commitment to helping student-athletes reach their potential in both their sport and education.'

Daphne Caine MHK, Minister for Education Sport and Culture, said:

'The potentially transformative project will mean the next generation's sporting successes will not come at the expense of their education. This exciting development will without doubt enhance the great work that already goes on in our schools and at UCM.'

Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson DBE, a supporter of the TASS Dual Career Accreditation Scheme, added:

'I believe we have a duty to help young people to achieve their potential, whilst prioritising their welfare, wellbeing and education. For me it's a vitally important measure to ensuring all athletes have the chance to pursue an education and enjoy a more well-rounded approach to life.'

All the schools were supported with their applications by Isle of Man Sport and the Department of Education, Sport and Culture (DESC) to ensure no additional work was required by teachers. During this process, 33 potential sport stars have been receiving support through a pilot scheme, receiving mentoring and access to elite facilities, performance services and workshops that fit around their studies.

All five secondary schools and UCM will now join a network of educational institutions across the British Isles that deliver the dual career programme. The dual career structure and academic flexibility policies are central to the help available to athletes based at an accredited site, with each institution having lead members of staff who will be delivering the programme.

In the 2024-25 school year IOM Sport have provided support to the schools to help them identified appropriate dual-career athletes. From the 2025-26 school year onwards, the schools will take ownership of all aspects of the dual-career support.

It is important to note that a young person aged 16+ can be provided dual-career status within school and access the support associated with this within school, even if they are not on an IOM Sport or Sport Aid programme. Young people in FT education and who are part of the PDP cohort will be automatically granted dual-career status.





# COMMONWEALTH GAMES: GLASGOW 2026



Following the withdrawal of Victoria, Australia as hosts for 2026 last summer, it was confirmed that the Scottish Government has backed a deal to host the Games in Glasgow in just under two years' time.

The 23rd edition of the Commonwealth Games will take place in Glasgow from Thursday 23rd July to Sunday 2nd August 2026 and will feature a 10-sport programme concentrated across four venues, with six Para sports included.

The sports programme includes:

- Athletics and Para Athletics (Track & Field)
- Swimming and Para Swimming
- Artistic Gymnastics
- Track Cycling and Para Track Cycling
- Netball
- Weightlifting and Para Powerlifting
- Boxing
- Judo
- Bowls and Para Bowls
- 3x3 Basketball and 3x3 Wheelchair Basketball

The Isle of Man has participated in the Games since 1958, bringing home 12 medals during this time, including three golds. At the last Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in 2022, the Isle of Man took its largest ever Commonwealth team with 34 athletes representing the Island across eight different sports.

The Isle of Man Commonwealth Games Association (IOMCGA) says the announcement is a huge relief for Manx athletes; however, the upcoming occasion will be a 'scaled-down' games involving seven less sports than when Glasgow last welcomed the event in 2014.

Following the initial announcement that Glasgow would be hosting the 2026 Commonwealth Games, hear the reaction and full interview with the Isle of Man CGA's Chef de Mission, Erica Bellhouse. Double click the image or click on the link below to watch the full interview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojqaeVfw9A>



**Want to know more about Commonwealth Games Isle of Man or get in touch?**


**Contact us:**

 [www.cga.im](http://www.cga.im)

 [iomcga@outlook.com](mailto:iomcga@outlook.com)

 [www.facebook.com/IOMCGA](https://www.facebook.com/IOMCGA)

 <https://x.com/IOMCGA>

 01624 617435



# MTC HOSTS NEW SUPER SPRINT TRIATHLON EVENT!



In July this year, the Manx Tri Club hosted the first ever Super Sprint Triathlon Relay Event on the Isle of Man!

Isle of Man Sport was pleased to provide some financial support to the Manx Tri Club (MTC) via their Governing Body of Sport, the Isle of Man Triathlon Association, to help get this event started and provide a new entry route into the sport to increase participation.

We caught up with some of the Manx Tri Club and Isle of Man Triathlon Committee members to find out a bit more about the Super Sprint Relay and how people can get involved in Triathlon on the Island!

## **So, what is a Super Sprint Relay?**

It's a shorter format event comprising all the triathlon disciplines with teams of three completing a 400-metre swim, 6km bike route and 2.2km run each. Each team member completes their mini triathlon before tagging the next member of the team to start their leg of the relay!

This year, the event was held with a short swim in the Mooragh Lake, followed by a flat closed-roads circuit cycle route up and down the Mooragh Promenade and finished with a run around the Mooragh Park.

## **How did the inaugural event go?**

Triathletes of all ages and abilities gathered at Mooragh Park to compete and the shortened format was a perfect introduction to triathlon, with a good number of individuals giving the sport a go for the first time!

We had 69 individuals taking part in 23 teams with many invaluable marshals assisting around the course.

This event is not only about competition, it's about celebrating the spirit of athleticism, teamwork and having fun. We are so pleased this event was a success from a competitors and organisation point of view and are really looking forward to hosting this event again next year!

We would also like to extend our thanks to sponsor 1886, along with all the participants, volunteers and supporters who made this event possible. In addition, a special thank you to charity Heroes on The Water for their help with equipment for the event.

## **What did people say about it?**

"The event was great! Really good distance for the two youngsters I had with me (one already saying that he is definitely doing that again!). Thanks to everyone for organising the event."



*One of the Super Sprint Relay teams!*

*Credit: DKPhotography*

"We had a group of us that entered three teams. All not taken part in any triathlon event beforehand and we were pretty unsure before starting. Everyone had a great time and thought the atmosphere, people and organisation were all fantastic and supportive. Already all looking at signing up for the next sprint tri in September. Massive thanks to everyone involved in organising the event and to everyone helping out and taking part on the day!"

"The event today was fantastic. Loads of fun and really well organised as usual. Great addition to the schedule and looking forward to it again next year!"

"The event was amazing. I've never done anything like that before and I really enjoyed it and everyone was super friendly!"

### **So, when's the next Super Sprint Relay and how can I get involved more in Triathlon?**

The date of the Super Sprint Relay for 2025 and all the other events has just been announced!!

The event will take place on 27th July 2025 and details of all our events are published on our website and Facebook pages in the links to the right.

### **Do you run beginners sessions or regular training?**

We have a variety of training sessions/blocks running at different times throughout the year for both beginners and for more experienced triathletes looking to improve certain aspects of their performance. Details of next courses are to be announced shortly.

There are always people heading out to train aspects of triathlon together in groups and the best way to connect with new people and find out what might be going on is via our Facebook Page and Community Group.



Credit: DKPhotography

### **Where can I find out more information or get in touch with Manx Tri Club?**

More information can be found on our website, Facebook or you can contact Rich George (Secretary) by phone or email:



[manxtriclub@outlook.com](mailto:manxtriclub@outlook.com)



[www.facebook.com/manxtriclub](http://www.facebook.com/manxtriclub)



<https://manxtriclub.com>



07624 492716

### **Juan Kinley, Chair of the Isle of Man Triathlon Association said:**



*We are really pleased not only by the success of the 1886 Super Sprint Relay but all the events in 2024. We are looking forward to another action-packed season in 2025 which will include Manx triathletes competing at the Island Games in Orkney in July.*

*Thank you Support for Sport for your continued assistance.*



# MANX RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION: PATHWAYS



Following the appointment of Kris Hattam as Rugby Development Officer for the Manx Rugby Football Union (MRFU) in August 2023, we caught up with him a year into his post to find out more about the various different pathways within rugby and how people can get involved in the sport!

## PLAYER PATHWAY

**Tell us about the recent changes that have affected the Player Pathway for aspiring representative Rugby players?**

With England Rugby changing its structure due to the changes of the PGP (Professional Game Partnership), Premiership Clubs were left with a decision to make around their Developing Player Pathway (DPP). Our link previously was to Sale Sharks as one of their many regions but unfortunately when this was pulled, we were left, like many regions across the UK, without a pathway or link to a Premiership club.

Player pathways were forced to revert back to their old structure where the DPP would be under the banner of counties rather than clubs. With our Constituent Body being Cheshire that would be our link to the player pathways.

The decision was made to create the IOM Rugby Academy in its place. With the DPP pathways in the UK only open to the U15 & U16 age groups, we decided to widen the age brackets to provide more time for development.



### So, what is the Isle of Man Academy?

The academy is a place where all our players from the age groups U14 – U18 can come down for 3 training blocks of 6 week periods. During the 3 training blocks we aim to develop players against our MANX STARS model, looking at **M**anaging development in order to increase **A**thletic potential, **N**urturing players to have the **X**-Factor. Allowing them to become more **S**killful, **T**tactical, **A**ware, **R**esilient, **S**portsmen.

We have links to the pathway through our links to Cheshire and we enter teams into Centre vs Centre games where scouts from Sale Sharks can look at players and offer them the opportunity to join the PDG (Player Development Group). This can lead on to academy contracts and through to international honours - similar to that of the pathways of Pateece Bell and Harry Thompson.

### Can anyone be involved in the Academy?

Anyone is welcome to come and develop their skillset within the Academy. We don't have a selection process for training, but we do select our best possible squad for our Cheshire Centre vs Centre games.

For anyone wanting to get involved they can contact Kris via email on [manxrdo@gmail.com](mailto:manxrdo@gmail.com) for more information.

# WOMEN AND GIRLS PATHWAY

## What pathways are there for Women and Girls wanting to play rugby?

We start our pathway for girls at grassroots level, from as young as U6's where they can be involved and mix with the boys up until the U12's age group. From there they can join any of our girls sections at Ramsey, Vagabonds and Western Vikings Rugby clubs.

From the ages of Year 7 to Year 11 they can also be involved in our girls' rugby Manx Youth Games programmes. Our future aims are also to develop U14 and U16 IOM girls rugby teams, as well as set up a region in the south with southern nomads and CRHS.

The pathway for the women and girls selection is quite different from the boys and mens. Cheshire hold open training sessions on a trial basis for U16, U18 and Senior women. We have had a number of the U16's girls from Ramsey travel across for trials and have had three Vagabonds Ladies (Leona McGovern, Sophie Henry and Maylyn Campbell) all selected to represent Cheshire at county level.

From this pathway we have Manx women progressing further than this and playing in the Women's Premiership. For example, Isla Curphey who played for Vagabonds Ladies is now playing for Loughborough Lightning and featured on the Powered Differently campaign for Premiership Rugby!



Wheelchair Rugby sessions at the NSC



## WHEELCHAIR RUGBY AND OTHER INITIATIVES

### What other forms of rugby are available?

There are plenty of forms of rugby people can take part in across the Island - all you have to do is turn up and there will be plenty of friendly faces to welcome you!

- Castletown RUFC run touch rugby sessions on a Monday night at KWC on the Astro at 19:45
- You can also take part in wheelchair rugby at the NSC on a Wednesday night at 19:00
- During the summer we run a touch series at various locations across the island from beaches to rugby clubs

### How can someone get involved in any of these events?

To get involved in the touch rugby, message [Castletown RUFC](#) on Facebook or just turn up to a session.

For wheelchair rugby, you can message [Isle of Man - Wheelchair Rugby League](#) on Facebook or turn up to a session.

Touch rugby series events will be posted on the [Manx Rugby](#) social media pages once dates and venues are sorted for summer 2025. Feel free to just turn up to any of the events and give rugby a try!

# COACHING AND OFFICIATING PATHWAYS

**It's not all about playing rugby though, there's also other avenues and pathways within the sport isn't there?**

We have a variety of different pathways to stay involved in the sport, for example, we run coaching and officiating courses throughout the season.

This year, we have run England Rugby Tag, First Contact and England Rugby Coaching award courses for our coaches within the game. We also have an Introduction to Refereeing course which is free and planned for the future for anyone wanting to understand more about what becoming a match official entails and develop their understanding and skills.

**What recent opportunities have MRFU supported for on-Island coaches and officials?**

We provide various CPD opportunities for coaches to develop their knowledge and skills within a variety of different RFU accredited courses.

For match officials, we have recently been offering support for them to go off island and officiate various games at different levels across in the UK, in association with the Liverpool Referees Society.

Match officials going across get the opportunity to be assessed and graded to progress up the levels of rugby. Joe Quinn and Daryl Richards are

great examples of this with both of them being progressed up the levels. We also have our own Match Official Coach, Joe Phelan, who supports the growth and development of our match officials also heading across to support Liverpool Referees Society with their assessments of match officials.



*Some of the MRFU officials*

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**Where can I find out more information or get in touch with the Manx Rugby Football Union about these pathways?**

You can find more information on any of the individual clubs' social media or more info on Manx Rugby in general through our Manx Rugby social media pages.

Alternatively, you can contact Kris Hattam (MRFU Rugby Development Officer) by email:



[manxrdo@gmail.com](mailto:manxrdo@gmail.com)



[www.facebook.com/manxrugby](http://www.facebook.com/manxrugby)



[www.instagram.com/iom\\_rugby](http://www.instagram.com/iom_rugby)



# THANK YOU: SIR MARK CAVENDISH



Following the announcement of Sir Mark Cavendish’s retirement from professional cycling, Isle of Man Sport would like to acknowledge, celebrate and thank Sir Mark for his contribution to not only the cycling community but the wider sporting and Manx community!

## GREATEST ALL-TIME STAGE WINNER IN THE TOUR DE FRANCE!

Earlier this year, Sir Mark Cavendish became the greatest all-time stage winner in the Tour de France! On 3rd July, in the stage 5 of the 2024 Tour de France, he took victory, winning his 35th Tour de France stage and surpassing the previous joint record of 34 stage wins he held with Eddie Merckx.

Cavendish turned professional in 2005 and has competed in 15 Tour de France’s during his almost 20-year professional career. His glittering career also includes 17 Giro D’Italia stage wins, Olympic silver in Rio 2016, Commonwealth Games gold in Melbourne 2006 and 2011 World Road Race Champion.

## THE SIR MARK CAVENDISH RACEWAY

On 16th August, a special homecoming event was held at the NSC in Douglas to celebrate his achievements, with Sir Mark riding a lap of honour, accompanied by around 100 local children on their bicycles.

At the same event, it was also announced that the raceway where the Manx Missile started cycling as a child would be renamed the ‘Sir Mark Cavendish Raceway’ in 2025.



*Sir Mark Cavendish takes victory in his final professional race at the Tour de France Criterium in Singapore (Credit: Getty Images)*

2024 also saw Sir Mark receive a knighthood in recognition of ‘his outstanding contribution to the sport of cycling, his on-Island and off-Island charity work and as a sporting ambassador for the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man.’ Isle of Man Sport would like to congratulate Sir Mark Cavendish on an incredible career and thank him on behalf of our sporting community for the inspiration he provides to so many on the Isle of Man!

# COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME 2025/26

## Isle of Man Sport Coach Education Programme free to individuals within recognised Governing Bodies of Sport!

In order to reduce administration for sports and to demonstrate our commitment to ensuring sport on the Island is safe for all, for the last three years, we have provided all workshops on our Coach Education Programme at nil cost to coaches, officials and volunteers from recognised Governing Bodies of Sport.

Over 200 individuals have utilised this scheme over the last three years and following the success of this initiative, Isle of Man Sport will be continuing this scheme and hope that more volunteers, coaches and officials can access the essential coach education that they need.

### How do I access these workshops for free?

Anyone involved in coaching, officiating, volunteering or administration who requires these qualifications, please contact your local club or recognised Governing Body of Sport who will be able to provide a promo code to you. This can be entered on the [EventBrite website](#) when booking, to reduce the cost to nil.

Sports whose National Governing Body requires them to attend sport-specific workshops can still access matched funding via the Support for Sport programme should they wish to do so.

Our coach education programme includes:

- UK Coaching Safeguarding and Protecting Children
- Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) Life Support 3 (First Aid)
- Level 2 Welfare Officer training

To book onto a course, please click the below link or contact Sam Caine on [Sam.Caine@gov.im](mailto:Sam.Caine@gov.im) or 688557.

Manx Sport and Recreation  
Coach Education Programme

2025 Courses					
Date	Course/Workshop/Event	Provider	Time	Venue	Booking
14 Jan 2025	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
15 Jan 2025	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
21 Jan 2025	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
22 Jan 2025	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
11 Mar 2025	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
11 Apr 2025	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
12 May 2025	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
14 Jul 2025	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
8 Sep 2025	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
10 Oct 2025	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
18 Oct 2025	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
2026 Courses					
Date	Course/Workshop/Event	Provider	Time	Venue	Booking
12 Jan 2026	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
13 Jan 2026	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
16 Jan 2026	<a href="#">Safeguarding &amp; Protecting Children</a>	MSR	18.30-21.30	Isle of Man Sport High Performance Centre	<a href="#">Book Now</a>
19 Jan 2026	<a href="#">Life Support 3 (First Aid)</a>	RLSS	18.00-21.30	Sports Development Office Training Room	<a href="#">Book Now</a>



<https://msr.gov.im/media/2829/coach-education-programme-2025-26.pdf>

Want to know more about our Support for Sport programme? Please visit our website:

<https://www.isleofmansport.com/sports-liaison/support-for-sport/>



# LAWN BOWLS: ISLE OF MAN FINISH 8TH IN EUROPE!



**Lawn Bowls Isle of Man (LBIOM) members recently represented the Isle of Man at the European Championships in Scotland, finishing in 8th out of 18th nations - the highest ever position achieved in this International event. We caught up with Clive McGreal, LBIOM Treasurer and National Team member, to find out more about the sport and how people can get involved.**

**Tell us a bit more about Lawn Bowls, what the benefits are and why someone should get involved?**

Open to all ages, the sport is acknowledged to be of great benefit towards the promotion of physical and mental health and well-being and is a gentle but challenging alternative to those more aggressive contact sports.

We engage with all newcomers and sectors of the community to offer an opportunity to enjoy participation in the sport, whether it is on a social basis or to compete internationally at World events, such as the Commonwealth Games.



*Lawn Bowls IOM members representing the Isle of Man at the European Championships*

**How can I get involved and give Lawn Bowls a go?**

All you need as a newcomer is a set of flat soled shoes or trainers to get started! Members often have second hand bowls for sale and we also have spare sets of bowls we can lend you in the short term to get you started!

If you want to become a full member, club fees for this year are normally £20; however, new members can enjoy their first season FREE (which includes all competitions!). Additionally, full members will need an annual season ticket from Onchan District Commissioners (bought through LBIOM) which will allow you to use both the flat and crown greens throughout the year. For 2024, Onchan District Commissioners have set the following prices for green fees: Adults: £75, Seniors: £60, Juniors: £20.

If you want to give the sport a go first before committing to becoming a full member, you can pay (one-off green fees payable at Onchan Park) and there are newcomer/open sessions available to join at the beginning of next season starting in early April. During the winter off season period you can check out the indoor bowls facility at the NSC via the following link: [www.iomindoorbowling.org](http://www.iomindoorbowling.org)

**Where can I find out more information or get in touch with Lawn Bowls Isle of Man?**

More information can be found on our website, Facebook and social media (below), or you can contact our Secretary, Win Kewley, by phone or email:



[secretary@lawnbowlsiom.com](mailto:secretary@lawnbowlsiom.com)



07624 499174



[www.lawnbowlsiom.com](http://www.lawnbowlsiom.com)



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