

COMMUNITY Newsletter

Across the 2024 season there was a real focus, via the development team of Chris Heron and Tegan Brady, on community and outreach programmes that would enable new people and inclusive groups to engage in our fantastic sports. We have really enjoyed working in partnership and joined-up with various organisations as part of this. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to all projects, whether that be volunteering their time, donating sets or taking part.



BACKYARD SERIES

The Backyard Slalom Series aims to bring together water skiers of all abilities to take part in some light-hearted and fun-focused competition in a sociable environment. Events take place using a backyard format designed to create a level playing field and see participants receive points based on the number of gates and buoys achieved regardless of the speed, rope length or even if you run the half or full course.

This year saw another highly successful series with over 40 participants across the 4 stops. Overall series results:-

- 1 - Matthew Malcolm
- 2 - Cilleán Morrison
- 3 - Ellie Morrison

Thanks to the teams at the Town Loch National Training Site & Kyle Waterski and Wakeboard for hosting the events and to Friends of Tournament for supporting.

Christmas Meal

On the 13th December we hosted a Christmas meal, open to all members across sites and clubs from all over Scotland. This was a fantastic evening bringing together members and loved ones for some festive cheer.



The night consisted of some fantastic food and a bountiful raffle. Thank you to the fantastic staff at Fabric restaurant in Dunfermline for hosting us. Keep your eyes peeled for 2025's Christmas meal, with plans to make this annual event bigger and better!

🏆 2024 ANNUAL AWARDS 🏆

As part of our AGM held on the 27th October we were thrilled to hand out our annual awards. Congratulations to all the recipients:

Volunteer of the Year - Alisdair Rodger
Performance of the Year (Wake) - Debi McKay
Performance of the Year (Waterski) - Cilleán Morrison
Service Award - Fraser Robb



FAIRWAY FIFE

Fairway Fife is a peer mentoring charity working with young adults (from 16) with learning disabilities. We have been working with groups of these young adults to teach them about our sports and getting them out on the water both waterskiing and kneeboarding.

This was made possible through the support of the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, via a generous grant, and the donation of sets from members at Town Loch NTS. We are really excited to welcome them back in 2025.



HIVE

The Hive is an LGBT+ community hub based in Kirkcaldy, Fife. They provide vital support services along with a safe and affirmative community for their service users. We were delighted to offer this project in partnership with funding from BWSW.

The project saw The Hive bring a group of service users weekly for a 6-week block to get out on the water and learn a new sport within a supportive and safe space.



STUDENT SOCIETY

September 2024 saw the launch of the WWS Student Society. During this time we have engaged with over eleven universities such as Edinburgh, Glasgow and University of Highlands and Islands to provide taster sessions at sites including the National Training Site at Town Loch, Loch Earn Wake School and Loch Lomond Wake School.

Since the launch we have now got 40 signed up members to the newly created society from 7 different universities. Being part of the society will enable the members to participate in society only activity days, training sessions and competitions.

We are really excited to see the society grow over the coming years and introduce new people to our sports. The society is open to all current university/college students across Scotland. To get involved contact Tegan - tegan.brady@wws.org.uk



BRAG

BRAG (Benarty Regeneration Action Group) Enterprises works across the region helping disadvantaged communities achieve a more prosperous future.

Spearheaded by the organisation's Activities Co-ordinator we were delighted to welcome the group of all ages along for 6-weeks of waterskiing as the participants built their confidence and resilience through their engagement in our sports.



BBQ PARTY

At the early stage of the season Town Loch National Training Site hosted their annual BBQ Party, which is open to members and affiliated club members.

As ever this was a day filled with great food, chat and of course skiing. A special thanks to the fantastic Glenn Campbell as our special guest.

Details of the 2025 BBQ Party will be released soon, keep an eye on social media for this 👁️