



SCOTTISH HANDBALL  
ASSOCIATION

# PURPOSEFUL GROWTH

OUR OUTLINE  
STRATEGY FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
HANDBALL ACROSS  
SCOTLAND

2025-2037

Subheading

# HANDBALL, SCOTLAND'S HIDDEN GEM

Handball is a hidden gem in the Scottish Sporting landscape. Internationally, this full-contact Olympic sport is one of the most popular team sports in the world with 27 million registered players and hundreds of millions more viewers. The game is fast, action packed, high scoring and a great workout for the mind and body. It is also fantastic for teaching children physical literacy. As catching, running, throwing and jumping are the essence of the game, it is perfect for teaching key physical and mental skills. It is also brilliantly accessible and with limited equipment needed, easy to set up and go!

## WHO ARE WE & WHAT IS THE PLAN?

The Scottish Handball Association is the governing body for the sport of handball in Scotland. As a staff team of eight people (4.5 posts), plus a Board of seven people and a large number of dedicated volunteers, we host multiple youth and senior leagues and competitions, National Team programmes, as well as a range of targeted development programmes, such as refereeing & coach development. Not only this, our Development Team also deliver introductory coaching courses to schools, further and higher education institutions in Scotland. In season 23/24, we delivered a record of over 150 courses meaning that more than 16,500 children across the country, with over 60,000 participant sessions, experienced structured handball.

- We will deliver this strategy in three, 4-year phases
- Each phase will be accompanied by a robust operational plan
- We are unapologetic about the level of ambition we have for the development and growth of the Handball community across Scotland







# **OUR PURPOSE**

**WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF SPORT AND PEOPLE TO CHANGE LIVES FOR THE BETTER.**

**WE WILL WORK TO ENABLE THAT POSITIVE CHANGE BY GROWING AND PROMOTING HANDBALL ACROSS SCOTLAND THROUGH:**

- **NURTURING GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION**
- **PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY TRAINING AND COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES, AND;**
- **FOSTERING A PASSIONATE, DIVERSE COMMUNITY**



# OUR VISION

By the end of this full strategic cycle in 2037, we are aiming for:

- The realisation of a plan to maximise our opportunities, create a fully sustainable handball community across Scotland, ensure that what we do has real and genuine impact, and deliver a legacy that will see Handball continue to thrive long into the future

This will be noted by the visibility of the following outcomes:

- A pathway for everyone in society through whatever route is best for them into being part of our community throughout life - very much in keeping with the European Handball Federation's "Circle of a Handball life" (see next page)
- Positive impact on all our Communities which will be measured by a significant increase in representation, in particular, from Women and Girls, Older players and disabled athletes
- A minimum number of fully accredited Clubs, each with sustainable youth development programmes who participate in all available competitive opportunities
- A strong Senior Women's League
- A strong Senior Men's League
- A vibrant Scottish National Academy that creates opportunities for the most talented and ambitious players to play international handball
- Significant growth in numbers participating in the Referee Academy resulting in a sustainable, healthy and engaged Official workforce
- Increased media coverage of Handball across all platforms







# CIRCLE OF A HANDBALL LIFE



\* the age categories given are only a guide and depend on various factors such as gender, competence and physical development.

# OUR VALUES



Hand**D**ball  
Communit**Y**  
**I**nclusion  
Te**A**mwork  
Develop**M**ent  
Enthus**I**asm  
Respe**C**tful

