

Presidents Report 2025

I have now completed my third year as President of Leinster Badminton and it is with great pride; I wear the customary green jacket and the chain of office. I have attempted to officiate at all Leinster Tournaments and apologise for the events that I could not attend. It has been a great pleasure to meet all players and their coaches.

As President, I am tasked with promoting the sport in the province, and I try to carry this out with the diligence that my position deserves.

Since last year, we lost one of the most famous stalwarts of the Branch. Mary Dinan was a true legend in Badminton circles and passed away last November. We offer our condolences to Mary's family and to anyone in Leinster who lost a loved one during the year.

Our sub-committees have had another excellent year (see website for reports), in particular, the back-to-back success of our victorious U14 Celtic challenge team, the Leinster A team who won the Interprovincials. Sian Willians (singles) and Jennie King/Ruth Kilkenny (doubles) who won Silver at the All Englands. The standard of our juveniles is extraordinary, and we know that Leinster Badminton will continue to shine at National and International level as they come through the ranks. (see YAC's report).

The revitalisation of County committees and activity in Counties continues to thrive under Steven Corrigan's work which will pay even more dividends in the coming years.

Regarding Schools Badminton, there has been immense work done in this area and I cannot thank enough the people who are driving this, especially Brian Kelly, Lynn McCrave, Hazel Bird and those who volunteer on the Finals dates in Baldoyle.

On behalf of all our committees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Leinster Volunteers without whom the branch could not operate (these are too numerous to mention).

Also, I would like to thank our umpires, referees, match control and coaches, whose tireless work is beyond belief.

One volunteer who stands out and must be commended is Philip McKeown, who through his great efforts and innovative approach has upgraded the technology in both halls and now all key Badminton events can be streamed so the game is accessible to more and more people through Utube.

I want to acknowledge the ongoing support received from Badminton Ireland.

Finally, on a more personal note, I would like to thank all our Leinster staff who look after both centres, in particular Betty our General Secretary, whose support and help is boundless.

I would like to wish everyone the best of luck in the season ahead and be assured they will have my support in all their endeavours and allow me again to misquote from the Leinster Branch Strategic Plan- our aim for the coming season is:

'To provide more and better badminton for more people'

David Murphy
President
April 2025