

Fife Schools Gymnastics Festival 2010

Fife Institute of Physical and Recreational Education was host to this years' Fife Schools Gymnastics Festival.

The 4th festival of its kind in Fife - celebration of fun and enjoyment, a time for pupils and club gymnasts to perform in front of a well entertained audience - over 200 participants were involved in making the event the success it was.

The festival, open to both primary and secondary pupils, aims to encourage school pupils to take part in a sport accessible to all. It not only promotes gymnastics in an extra curricular setting but begins to show the link between schools and gymnastics clubs within their local neighbourhood.

A jam packed programme of performers tumbled their way through an exciting line up. School pupils from P1 to S6, individuals from local clubs, Fife, Levenmouth, Balwearie and Auchterarder as well as invited display teams: Acrobay, Spartans and Ballistix took part.

Eleven primary schools from across Fife brought their youngsters and did themselves proud. Routines based on class room projects, inspiration from pop artists and films past and present were expertly put together and performed in front of a large audience.

Four high schools added to the abundance of energetic, cheerful and explosive upbeat imaginative routines. One primary school further demonstrated a group routine as performed at a Scottish Schools Competition as an example of the route many of the festival's performers could follow. Local clubs supported eight individual school pupils to perform their latest floor routines. This was continued by two routines from a sports acro trio who are members of Acrobay and who had recently competed at the British Championships.

Performances took many forms and are all a credit to those who not only performed them but created and choreographed them: teachers, coaches and /or parents. Not an easy task but well worth the effort.

The festival has grown from last year with many new faces being seen for the first time including Scottish Gymnastics' Marvin the Monkey, which of course the pupils loved to see enjoying the fantastic atmosphere.

On a more serious side, a few new schools groups performed for the first year with their teachers having just completed a CPD teacher's award for primary gymnastics and being inspired to come and join in the fun.

None of this could have happened without the support from the many people who work hard to promote the sport in Fife: Scottish Gymnastics, **Sport Tayside & Fife** Regional Sporting Partnership, Fife Sport and Leisure Trust as well as Fife Council's Sports Development and Active Schools' teams.

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