

**BLACKFORD HIGHLAND GAMES
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2026**

Scottish Charity Number: SC046625

BLACKFORD HIGHLAND GAMES
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Stuart Laing (President & treasurer) David Robertson (Secretary) Duncan Shand (Vice president) Andrew Peacock
Charity number (Scotland)	SC046625
Principal address	Kilbride Stirling Street Blackford Perthshire
Independent examiner	Julia Reid ACMA c/o Accountancy Services (Auchterarder) Ltd 4 Excel House Maidenplain Place Aberuthven PH3 1GW

BLACKFORD HIGHLAND GAMES

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Trustees

- Stuart Laing (President & treasurer)
- David Robertson (Secretary)
- Duncan Shand (Vice president)
- Andrew Peacock

Structure, Governance and Management

Blackford Highland Games is a Scottish charitable organisation managed by a committee of volunteer trustees who are responsible for the overall governance and administration of the charity. Trustees and committee members are appointed in accordance with the charity's governing document and meet regularly throughout the year to oversee the planning, organisation and delivery of the annual Highland Games. The charity relies heavily on the commitment of volunteers and the support of local businesses, sponsors and community organisations.

Charitable Purposes

The charity exists to advance Scottish culture and heritage by organising the annual Blackford Highland Games and associated activities for the benefit of the local community and visitors. The Games promote traditional Highland sports, Highland dancing, piping and wider community participation.

Activities and Achievements

The principal activity during the year was the successful organisation and delivery of the 2026 Blackford Highland Games. The weather for the day was pleasant for the majority of the day, with the bad weather coming later in the day, meaning the running of the games was not affected. The online booking system was implemented for the 2026 Blackford Highland Games, which seen an increase in tickets being bought compared to previous years.

The Committee remains grateful for the continued support received from sponsors, grant providers, local businesses and volunteers. Sponsorship continued to play an important role in enabling individual competitions, including Highland Dancing, while grant funding helped support the delivery of the event. The Committee also continued to recognise sponsors through the Games website and promotional activities.

Public Benefit

In carrying out its activities, the trustees have had due regard to the Charity Regulator's guidance on public benefit.

The annual Highland Games provide an accessible community event celebrating Scottish sporting traditions, music, dance and culture. The event benefits residents visitors, local performers, competitors and businesses while helping preserve an

BLACKFORD HIGHLAND GAMES

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

Financial Review

Income for the year totalled £27,315, derived principally from gate receipts, sponsorship, grants, stall income and equipment hire. Expenditure totalled £18,946, resulting in a surplus of £8,370 for the year. The charity finished the year with reconciled bank and cash balances of £33,244.

Thanks to the introduction of the online booking system, more tickets were sold compared to previous years, increasing income. The trustees consider the charity to remain in a sound financial position, with healthy reserves available to support future Games and ongoing investment in equipment and improvements.

During the year expenditure reflected the continued delivery of a high-quality event together with investment in visitor facilities, entertainment and competition infrastructure.

Reserves Policy

The trustees aim to maintain sufficient unrestricted reserves to ensure the annual Games can continue in the event of unforeseen reductions in income or increases in expenditure, and to provide funds for replacement of equipment and future development of the event.

Plans for the Future

The Committee intends to continue developing the Blackford Highland Games by:

- Maintaining the high standard of the traditional sporting and cultural competitions;
- Improvements to the website and social media;
- Live music throughout the afternoon provided by local musicians;
- Increase the capability and awareness for foreign visitors to come to the Blackford Highland Games.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual accounts in accordance with applicable law and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and associated Regulations.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees on behalf of the Committee.


Stuart Laing

Date: 22/9/26

BLACKFORD HIGHLAND GAMES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2025/26		2024/25	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Gate fees		13,131		9,143
Sponsorship		4,970		5,000
Stall fees		1,379		1,744
Track entry fees		335		265
Funfair		250		0
Grants received		4,700		5,500
Donations received		550		0
Equipment hire		2,000		700
		27,315		22,352
Expenditure				
Prize money	5,743		8,538	
Catering	331		1,175	
Toilet hire	876		864	
Marquee hire	1,417		1,931	
Association fees and insurance	991		875	
Pipe band	600		550	
Clan MacCliche	450		0	
Judges & PA	1,750		2,080	
Printing, stationary & advertising	1,856		996	
Security	780		708	
Ground maintenance, mower repairs & equipment	1,022		1,293	
First aid	415		375	
Prize medals and trophies	264		341	
Miscellaneous expenses	461		1,118	
New equipment	398		380	
Honoraria	0		250	
Licenses	398		260	
Dancing deficit	882		704	
Donations	195		200	
Bank charges	117		88	
		(18,946)		(22,726)
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		8,370		(374)
Opening bank & cash		24,875		25,249
Closing bank & cash		33,244		24,875

Stuart Laing
Stuart Laing

Date: 22-9-26

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BLACKFORD HIGHLAND GAMES

I report on the accounts of the Blackford Highland Games for the year ended 31 August 2026, which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trust's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the financial statements as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Trust and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
 - (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations;have not been met or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Julia Reid ACMA
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Dated: 22/09/2026