

Ballater Highland Games

Scotland · Charity number SC051450

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	Company (the charity is registered with Companies House)
Registered	2021-12-13
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address
Park House
Anderson Road
Ballater
Aberdeenshire
AB35 5QW

Website <https://www.ballaterhighlandgames.com/>

Activities

Activities: 'It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of citizenship or community development', 'the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science', 'the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended'

What the charity does: The charity organises and holds the Highland Games in Ballater on the second Thursday of August each year. This is achieved by a group of Convenors in charge of over 70 programme events including heavy, light and track competitions, and contracted attendee facilities including catering and trade stands for the benefit of residents and visitors.

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: The Charitable Purposes of Ballater Highland Games shall be: a) To advance the heritage and culture of Scotland by staging, managing, operating and promoting the annual Ballater Highland Games. b) To advance public participation in sport through the organisation of professional events and non-professional events open to all comers. c) To provide recreational facilities or assist in the organisation of recreational facilities for the benefit of the general public, without distinction of gender, orientation, racial, political, religious or other opinions. and d) To support other related community activities or projects that also further the charitable purposes at a) to c) hereof and benefit the community of Ballater and District.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** Aberdeenshire
- **Geographical spread:** Wider, but within one local authority area

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-10-31	£115,370	£88,229	-	0
2024-10-31	£95,780	£96,814	-	0
2023-10-31	£99,748	£88,504	-	0
2022-10-31	£74,105	£64,650	-	0

Ballater Highland Games

Scotland - Charity number SC051450

Accounts

Charity registration number SC051450 (Scotland)

Company registration number SC188241 (Scotland)

**BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr G Riddler Mr J Sinclair Mr N Bannister Mr D Cobban Mrs K Buchan Mr I Henderson Ms S Russell	(Appointed 30 May 2025)
Secretary	Mr G Riddler	
Company number	SC188241	
Registered office	Park House Anderson Road Ballater Aberdeenshire United Kingdom AB35 5QW	
Independent examiner	Azets 37 Albyn Place Aberdeen United Kingdom AB10 1YN	

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

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BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Articles of Association, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The Charitable Purposes are:

- to advance the heritage and culture of Scotland by staging, managing, operating and promoting the annual Ballater Highland Games;
- to advance public participation in sport through the organisation of professional events and non-professional events open to all comers;
- to provide recreational facilities or assist in the organisation of recreational facilities for the benefit of the general public, without distinction of gender, orientation, racial, political, religious or other opinions; and
- to support other related community activities or projects that also further the charitable purposes listed above hereof and benefit the community of Ballater and District.

Achievements and performance

The performance of Ballater Highland Games in the year ended 31st October 2025 was very successful financially. The Games Day was held on Thursday 14th August 2025, and the field events were completed successfully until 1.30pm, and then the event had to be abandoned due to an extreme thunderstorm and torrential rain. The events that were successfully completed up to that point were contested competitively, and there were an exceptionally high crowd of around 7,500 in attendance by 1pm. This high level of attendance ensured that we made a healthy surplus for the year, which is essential for the continued success of Ballater Highland Games. We also retained in excess of £8,000 of un-allocated prize money, and that will be used for bolstering the prize fund in 2026. Future plans for Ballater Highland Games includes plans for the continued enhancement of the Monaltrie Park Games Arena, although there may be some future impact on this due to the potential housing development earmarked for the neighbouring land adjacent to the arena. Future enhancements include improvements in seating, improved accessibility for disabled persons, replacement of Games Day equipment and improved publicity.

Financial review

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, including cancellation of events at short-notice, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Structure, governance and management

The structure of the company comprises:

- Members - who have the right to attend the AGM (and any General Meeting) and have important powers under these Articles and the Companies Act, particularly in relation to attending and voting at General Meetings, electing people to serve as Elected Trustees and taking decisions in relation to any changes to these Articles; and
- Trustees - who hold regular meetings between each General Meeting, set the strategy and policy of the Company, generally control and supervise the activities of the Company and, in particular, are responsible for monitoring its financial position and, where there are no employees or managers appointed, are responsible also for the day-to-day management of the Company.

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of the company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr J Sinclair
Mr N Bannister
Mr D Cobban
Mrs K Buchan
Mr G Riddler
Mr I Henderson
Ms S Russell (Appointed 30 May 2025)

The strategy and affairs of the Company shall be directed and managed by a Board of Trustees elected. The Board may exercise all such powers of the Company, and do on behalf of the Company all acts as may be exercised and done by the Company, other than those required to be exercised or done by the members in General Meeting, and subject always to the Articles of Association and to the provisions of the Companies Act.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Ballater Highland Games for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr. D G Cobban
Trustee and Treasurer

10 April 2026

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2025, which are set out on pages 4 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees, who are also the directors of Ballater Highland Games for the purposes of company law, 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 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 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, 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 financial statements.

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.



Greg Houston FCCA
On behalf of Azets
Chartered Accountants
37 Albyn Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1YN

Dated: 10 April 2026

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
	Notes		
<u>Income from:</u>			
Donations and legacies	3	610	1,225
Charitable activities	4	105,310	85,317
Other trading activities	5	8,395	7,885
Investments	6	1,055	1,353
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		115,370	95,780
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Raising funds	7	5,777	7,809
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Charitable activities	8	82,452	89,005
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure		88,229	96,814
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds		27,141	(1,034)
Fund balances at 1 November 2024		128,904	129,938
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 October 2025		156,045	128,904
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		13,368		14,314
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		154,677		127,815	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(12,000)		(13,225)	
Net current assets			142,677		114,590
Total assets less current liabilities			156,045		128,904
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds	14		156,045		128,904
			156,045		128,904

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 October 2025.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 10 April 2026



Mr. D G Cobban
Trustee and Treasurer

Company registration number SC188241 (Scotland)

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Ballater Highland Games is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Scotland. The registered office is Park House, Anderson Road, Ballater, Aberdeenshire, United Kingdom, AB35 5QW.

The company applied for charitable status which was granted by OSCR on 13 December 2021.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	Reducing balance - 7.7%
Fixtures and fittings	Reducing balance - 25%

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Membership fees	610	1,225

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

4 Charitable activities

	Admission & programme sales		Patrons		Trade stands		Annual dinner		Total	
	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	£	2025	2024
Sales within charitable activities	73,667		18,129		12,164		1,350		105,310	85,317

For the year ended 31 October 2024

	Admission & programme sales		Patrons		Trade stands		Annual dinner		Total	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	2024	£
Sales within charitable activities	56,640		15,525		11,752		1,400		85,317	

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Sponsorships and social lotteries	8,395	7,885

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	1,055	1,353

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Advertising	5,777	7,809

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

8 Charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation and impairment	1,990	2,081
Field construction	40,735	42,683
Rent, rates and insurance	758	705
Printing and stationery	329	265
Hospitality	14,528	12,838
Sundry expenses	4,205	2,270
Judges, officials, bands	2,610	2,435
Security costs	2,928	2,928
Charitable donations	2,000	750
Honoraria	700	700
Prize monies	2,178	12,469
Annual dinner	6,845	6,361
	<u>79,806</u>	<u>86,485</u>
Share of governance costs (see note)	2,646	2,520
	<u>82,452</u>	<u>89,005</u>

Governance costs of £2,646 (2024 - £2,520) relate to Independent Examination fees.

9 Trustees

Secretary & Treasurer received £350 each during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
	7	6
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 November 2024	28,052	5,950	34,002
Additions	-	1,044	1,044
At 31 October 2025	28,052	6,994	35,046
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 November 2024	17,870	1,818	19,688
Depreciation charged in the year	783	1,207	1,990
At 31 October 2025	18,653	3,025	21,678
Carrying amount			
At 31 October 2025	9,399	3,969	13,368
At 31 October 2024	10,182	4,132	14,314

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	-	1,225
Other creditors	12,000	12,000
	12,000	13,225

14 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 November 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 October 2025 £
General funds	128,904	115,370	(88,229)	156,045
Previous year:	At 1 November 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 October 2024 £
General funds	129,938	95,780	(96,814)	128,904

BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £
At 31 October 2025:	
Tangible assets	13,368
Current assets/(liabilities)	142,677
	<hr/>
	156,045
	<hr/> <hr/>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
At 31 October 2024:	
Tangible assets	14,314
Current assets/(liabilities)	114,590
	<hr/>
	128,904
	<hr/> <hr/>

16 Members Liability

Ballater Highland Games is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The members' liability in the event of winding up is limited by guarantee not exceeding £1 per member to the property of the company, while still a member or one year after they cease to be a member.

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the current year or prior year.