

**LEON CHAN
PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026**

I am pleased to present my President's Report for the past year and highlight the key developments and achievements across NESTA.

Year in Review

- **SportMember Implementation:** This was our first full year using the new membership platform. While implementation has not been without challenges and some housekeeping remains, functionality continues to improve and additional improvements are being introduced.
- **Tournaments and Leagues:** We hosted the Solstice Touch Tournament, which provided valuable preparation for the national youth teams competing at the 2025 Atlantic Youth Touch Cup in Limerick. This summer, the league at Woodside was hosted by Leopards as ATR begins to wind down. Although team numbers have declined, it was encouraging to see former players return, demonstrating that there remains a strong appetite for organised competition.
- **Youth Promotion:** Youth taster sessions were organised by the STA/Robin, including a successful session at Aberdeen Wanderers. Attendance was excellent and the event was well supported by our coaches and volunteers.
- **Regional Training:** Winter training sessions at ASV averaged more than 30+ players per session, with a peak attendance of 42. This represents a significant increase on previous years, driven largely by new youth participants. My thanks go to our coaches for continuing to provide valuable development opportunities for players of all abilities.
- **International Competition:** Regional representation at international level continues to grow. Youth player involvement increased from 14 players at the 2025 Atlantic Youth Touch Cup in Limerick to 20 players at the 2026 Euros in Coventry. Senior representation also increased from 24 to 35 players from the 2025 Seniors Cup in Stirling to the 2026 Euros in Vichy. These highlight the important contribution the North East continues to make to Touch in Scotland.

Financial Overview

Our financial position remains stable, with no new funding sources secured during the year. Income continues to come primarily from member contributions towards partially covering ASV training costs. The largest expenditure remains the facility hire, alongside investment in new equipment, including cones, balls, and referee shirts. Looking ahead, we have successfully negotiated a reduced facility rate at ASV, which will help slow the drawdown of existing funds. Full financial details will be presented by the Treasurer.

Challenges and Looking Ahead

Our key priorities for the coming year remain:

- Increasing participation levels
- Continuing youth development initiatives
- Securing additional funding and sponsorship

Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks to the committee, volunteers, clubs, officials, and the wider touch community for their continued support and hard work throughout the year. A special thank you to our youth players. Your energy, commitment, and progress this year have been fantastic to see, and we look forward to supporting your continued development.