

# DONALD DINNIE DAY, THE GATHERING VI

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022 @ Potarch

## Running order and lifting schedule

### **Session 1 – 12 noon – 12.30pm**

Welcome and opening remarks by Malcolm Nicol, Ballogie Estate Manager followed by Event 1 of the Donald Dinnie Games.

The confirmed athletes competing (numbers 3-12 listed in alphabetical order) are:

1. Conor Curran (1<sup>st</sup> Place in the 2021 DD Games) – Glasgow, Scotland
2. Chris Beetham (2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the 2021 DD Games) - Alloa, Scotland
3. Chris Barnes - Ayr, Scotland
4. David Brodlie - Troon, Scotland
5. Andy Crawford - Fraserburgh, Scotland
6. Davie McNeillie - Inverurie, Scotland
7. Ben Crook – Birmingham, England
8. Tim Meadows - Edinburgh, Scotland
9. Henry Mullens – Oxfordshire, England
10. Alex Shepherd – Edinburgh, Scotland
11. John Taylor – Bolton, England
12. Ronald Young - Inverurie, Scotland

### **Event 1 of the Donald Dinnie Games The Gordon Dinnie Magoo Stone Challenge:**

(Stone provided by Stevie Shanks)

Named after our friend and Dinnie Stones historian Gordon Dinnie, this event is designed to showcase what is probably the most common modern form of natural stone lifting in Scotland, the stone to shoulder lift. The stone weighs 102KG and is simply called 'Magoo'. Athletes will have 75 seconds to complete as many legitimate reps as possible. For a rep to be counted, the stone must be lifted from the ground to the shoulder and held motionless with one hand while the free hand is removed from the stone. The stone may only be lowered once the 'down' signal is received from the referee. The stone must be lowered under control. Athletes must remove their hands from the stone after each rep. Athletes may not use any substance to aid lifting other than chalk.

Athletes will be drawn in random order for Event 1 and in ascending points order for the remaining events. 12 points will be awarded to the winning athlete in each event, 11 points to the second placed athlete and so on down to 1 point for 12<sup>th</sup> place.

### **Session 2 – 12.30pm – 1pm**

**Group 1 of Dinnie Steen attempts. All Dinnie Stone lifting / carrying attempts will take place on the main platform:**

- 1/ Chloe Brennan – Tamworth, England
- 2/ Dr. Bill Crawford – Newhampshire, USA
- 3/ Billy Crawford (Son of Dr Bill Crawford) – Newhampshire, USA
- 4/ Red Wiard – Queensland, Australia
- 5/ Grant Bigley - USA
- 6/ Tom Barber – Gainsborough, England

### **Session 3 – 1pm – 1.30pm**

#### **Event 2 of the Donald Dinnie Games – The Terry Todd Sword and the Stone Challenge:**

(Stones provided by Stevie Shanks & Brett Nicol).

This event (named after Dr Terry Todd) features a 15kg natural smooth stone which is oval in shape with no embedded ring or hand holds. The event is related to a feat of strength for which Donald Dinnie was credited at many exhibition events over the years. It is said that he could hold a 56lb weight at arm's length with his palm facing up for times around one minute. For this event lifters will face off in pairs. Each lifter will hold the stone in both hands with palms facing up or inwards and suspend it horizontally at arm's length 6" above the pommel of a Claymore sword which will be placed in the ground directly under the stone. The lifter will stand upright and maintain the horizontal position with the stone. This is a timed event and the clock will stop when the stone touches the pommel of the sword or if the athlete breaks the upright or horizontal starting position. The lifter may not lift the stone above the horizontal position, nor may he bend his arms, back or legs.

### **Session 4 – 1.30pm – 2pm**

Group 2 of Dinnie Steen attempts on the main platform

- 1/ Dave Phillips – Dundee, Scotland
- 2/ Patrick Watson – Minnesota, USA
- 3/ Eric Mattson – Minnesota, USA
- 4/ Travis McKinley – Topeka, USA
- 5/ Calum Elder – Kirkwall, Scotland

### **Session 5 – 2pm – 2.30pm**

#### **Event 3 of the Donald Dinnie Games – The Nicol Walking Stones Challenge:**

(Stones provided by Brett Nicol).

This event (designed by Brett Nicol) replicates the side-by-side technique used in carrying the Dinnie Stones. It requires the athlete to pick up two ringed stones similar to but lighter than the Dinnie Stones and walk with them as far as possible. The stones are approximately the same height as the Dinnie Stones from the ground to the top of each ring at its highest point and weigh 138kg & 114kg. Each rings is made from different diameter steel. Athletes are allowed a maximum of 2 pickups. Once either of the stones touches the ground the first pickup is over and the athlete will have 10 seconds to commence their second pickup from that point. Following the second pickup once either of the stones touches the ground or if the lifter fails the second pickup the attempt is over and the distance will be measured from the starting line to the front of the stone farthest from the starting line.

### **Session 6 – 2.30pm – 3pm**

This session will feature Dinnie Stones carry attempt(s) and hold attempts and will be followed by an Inver Stone display by Martin Jancsics. Will there be new Guinness World records set for the carry and hold attempts?

## **Session 7 – 3pm – 3.30pm**

### **Event 4 of the Donald Dinnie Games – Rock the Kaz Bar:**

(Original Stones Provided by Simon Truesdale)

Everyone loves the spectacle of the weight over the bar challenge. This is a slightly different take on the event commonly used in highland games the world over and is named after Bill Kazmaier who broke the weight over the bar world record on his first time trying it.. Instead of the normal 56lb ringed cast iron weight we have 2 ringed stones weighing 15KG and 19KG which must be thrown over an 11ft bar. This is a timed event where athletes have 60 seconds to make as many throws as possible. It's a game of strategy though as 1 rep with the heavier 19KG stone beats any amount of reps with the lighter 15KG stone. Athletes may use one or two hands to throw the weight. The referee will give the start signal. Not for the feint hearted this event will test every competitor's skill and energy.

## **Session 8 – 3.30pm – 4pm**

### **Group 3 of Dinnie Steen attempts on the main platform.**

1/ Hector Van Smirren – Rutland, England

2/ James Snowden – Altrincham, England

3/ William Reed – Los Angeles, USA

4/ Aron Hegedus – Budapest, Hungary

5/ Brett Bracken – Charleston, USA

6/ Darrin Plank – Topeka, Kansas

## **Session 9 – 4.30pm – 5pm**

### **Event 5 of the Donald Dinnie Games – The June Richard Stone Wall Challenge**

(Stones Provided by Brett Nicol, Barrels Provided by Mark Sherriffs).

This event (named after Inver Stone keeper June Richard) replicates the original historical challenge of loading a heavy stone onto a wall at waist height. It will feature 5 progressively heavier natural stones (98kg, 114kg, 123kg, 137kg & 154kg) which have to be loaded onto barrels at waist height. The first and lightest stone will be placed 5 feet from the barrel, the second stone will be placed 4 feet away and so on until the final heaviest stone which will be placed 1 foot from the barrel. This is a timed event and will be an exciting final event of the games. The time for each stone will be recorded from when the athlete removes his hands from the stone.

## **5pm – 5.30pm prize giving and event close**

## Organising Body

David Webster OBE – Event Chieftain

Jack Shanks – Guest of Honour

Malcolm Nicol – Ballogie Estate Manager

Stevie Shanks – Event Manager / MC

Brett Nicol – Dinnie Stones and Events Co-Ordinator

Jim Splaine - Photography

Rosemary Splaine – Photography

Jan Todd – Head Referee

Chloe Brennan – Guest Referee

Matt Jones – Guest Referee

Mark Sherriffs – Dinnie Games Events Co-ordinator

James Grahame – Dinnie Games Events Co-ordinator

Mark Haydock – Dinnie Games Events Co-ordinator

Jamie Duncan – Dinnie Games Events Co-ordinator

Gordon Ingram – Kindly Provided Portable WCs for the event

John Gibb – Dinnie Games Events Co-ordinator

Martin Jancsics – Inver Stone Display

Helen Knowles – Ballogie Estate Team

Christina Nicol – Ballogie Estate Team

Lydia Nicol – Ballogie Estate Team

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