

Solibaad

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025

Hello everyone and happy new year!

We wish you a happy, light and gentle New Year. For you and your loved ones. The end of last year was a difficult one, especially for French citizens of the Island of Mayotte who was devastated by a tropical storm. Nearly €15,000 was raised, with effective help from the very first days, literally saving lives. That's what Solibaad is also all about - providing emergency help when it's needed, and above all, when we know exactly where the funds we send are going.

The end of 2024 was also marked by other sad news, with the passing of our main ally and friend, the instigator of the YOMADO program in Rwanda Emmanuel, who died of diabetes on the evening of December 31... We pay tribute to him and think of him and his family.

But we have to keep up the good work, for his program as well as for others, in Madagascar, Indonesia, in our home of Bry sur merne, France, which we talk about in this newsletter, and others. Our aim is always to do the best we can, without taking ourselves too seriously, and to encourage the badminton community - of which you are often a part - to continue helping us. In a few weeks' time, the Solibaad Days will be held from May 8 to 18. We encourage you to start organizing - time flies. With two main goals for this event : raise funds, but also have fun. Enjoy doing good. You'll see, it's the best way to get the year off to a good start.

Raphaël

HEADLINE - OUR NEW PROGRAM IN FRANCE

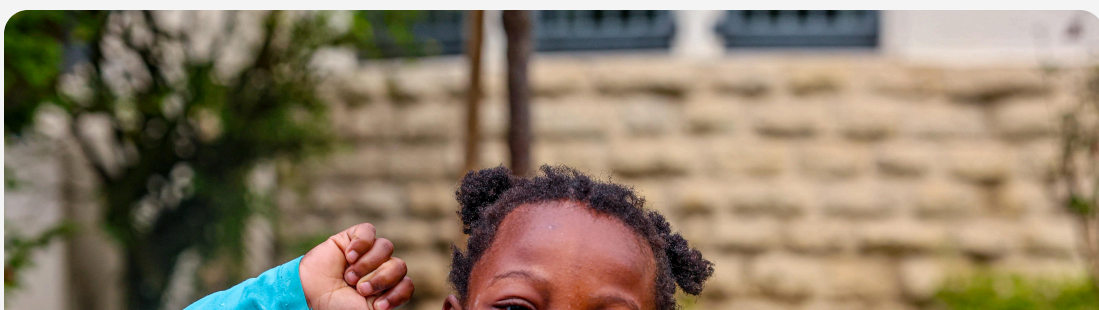
Today we present the "Feathers of Hope" program launched in France in 2022

Today, we present the "Feathers of Hope" program, launched in France in 2023 with the badminton club of Bry-sur-Marne as the pilot project. The aim is to offer sports coaching to young people living in care or foster homes, thanks to Solibad's partner clubs. We cover the cost of membership fees, licenses and sports equipment. These children, from complex family situations and often marked by social difficulties, violence and traumas, find in badminton a way of building themselves and blossoming.

In 2023, Bouchra, a young girl from the Léopold Bellan children's home, was the first beneficiary of this project. Her personal development through sport has been a real inspiration, prompting us to extend the initiative to two other girls, Anaïs and Anna (photos below), who now play once a week in Bry.

Badminton offers them much more than just a moment's play: it's a powerful tool for developing their self-confidence, autonomy and social integration, while promoting their physical and mental well-being. "Since they started this activity, it's all they've talked about, and they've really blossomed on a daily basis," explains one of their educators.

This project is just the beginning: our ambition is to extend it to other clubs in France and abroad from next season, with homes close to them - and we're appealing to clubs wishing to make it a project next season.





NEWS FROM OUR OTHER PROGRAMS

Tribute to Emmanuel Nshimiyimana

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Emmanuel Nshimiyimana, Executive Director of YOMADO, Solibad's partner association in Rwanda, within the framework of the Rays of Hope for Orphans and Vulnerable Children program.

The Rwandan community gathered to honor his memory and share his life story at the beginning of January.

The entire Solibad team is deeply touched by this loss. We share the grief of the Rwandan community and extend our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones. We remain in contact with the other directors of Yomado to ensure that our partnership continues, also in memory of Emmanuel.

In Loving Memory of:



GAHUNDA YO GUHEREKEZA UMUVANDIMWE N'INSHUTI YACU
N S H I M I Y I M A N A E M M A N U E L
WATABARUTSE KUWA 31/12/2024

Kuwagatanu tariki 03/01/2025

17h00-20h00 umugoroba wo kwizihiza ubuzima bwa n yakwigendera Bugesera i Rilima

Kuwagatandatu tariki 04/01/2025

Saa 07h00 gufata umubiri ku bitaro bya Kacyiru

Saa 10h00-13h:00 Amasengesho yo gusabira nyakwigendera no kumusezeraho bwa nyuma Bugesera-Rilima (Byimana)

Saa14h00 Gushyingura mu irimbi rya Mbyo

NSHIMIYIMANA Emmanuel
Born 25/03/1988 Died 31/12/2024

A look back at our actions in Mayotte after Cyclone Chido

One week after tropical storm Chido hit Mayotte with devastating violence, Solibad responded to the appeal of Arnaud Génin, a former top-level badminton player, who called for help online, to help the families affected.

Solibad quickly released €2,000 of its own funds. Thanks to your donations, a further €13,000 has now been raised and used directly on the ground. This money has been transferred to Arnaud and his team of volunteers, enabling the purchase and distribution of basic necessities: rice, water, medicines and nutritious food.

The team took over the high school "Lycée des Lumières" (photo below), where dozens of families and children had taken refuge, and set up an efficient structure to manage waste, cleanliness and food distribution. This model initially inspired other centers in the region. Also, thanks to your contributions, a distribution of small gifts was organized on Christmas Day, for the children staying there, offering them a little happiness in this trying time.

In recent days, the inhabitants have returned to their homes - often in shantytowns where tin shacks have been recreated despite the insalubrious conditions. Arnaud and his friends have continued to distribute food and medicines in the shantytowns. The rest of the money collected is being kept for the time being, to be used in the event of a more permanent operation, following the emergency, with local associations, to benefit the families in the long term.





When Solibad program coordinators meet...

Dominique and Tri (from the Bintang Kidul association in Indonesia) went to meet Véronique (from the Taramana association) during their vacation in Phnom Penh. They got to know each other and exchanged best practices on their respective programs. A convivial moment (and a quick video to say hello to the Solibad teams in France).

OTHER NEWS

In December, we raised funds through a number of actions. First, there was the **auction** of the Samsung galaxy z flip Olympic Games edition phone kindly donated by **Kirsty Gilmour**. Well done to Rémi, a Frenchman, who won the auction at US\$960! Then there was the lucky draw, which raised over €4,200, as well as our generous donors who wished to give a boost to our actions at the end of the year. Many thanks to all.



DIGITAL CAMPUS CHALLENGE

A new partnership between Solibad and the Digital Campus school in Paris whose managers kindly invited their Master 1 students to work on an auction platform created from scratch for our Association. The group of Loris, Elana, Jamal and Arnaud won the Challenge with a Web-App that we can't wait to try out! Thanks to them.

On the Ambassadors' side

Chinese player **Huang Yaqiong** announced her retirement a few days ago. She has been a great help by donating 1% of her income to Solibad, bringing in no less than €7,000 to our association over the years!

Hendra Setiawan, 2008 Olympic gold medallist and four-time world

champion, is also retiring

We'll be announcing the names of our new ambassadors for the Olympic period starting this year in our next newsletter!



ACTION OF THE MONTH

For clubs, committees, Academies and National Federations, this month we're encouraging you to get ready for **Solibad Days**. This event takes place just once a year, this year from **May 8 to 18**. It's a time to have fun in a unique way, while raising as much money as possible. It can be an opportunity to organize a fun tournament, for example, but also to get out of the gym and do something fun that brings together other sports sections. We'll help you prepare for Solibad days. Be creative! In particular, you can propose an action to companies close to your clubs (or to which your members belong). [Here's more information on this action in particular](#)

REMINDER

NEW ACCOUNT: Please note that has changed his account. The IBAN to use is [this one](#).

And don't forget to fill in [this form](#) every time you collect materials or money!

ON THE PEOPLE SIDE :)

This month, we'd like to wish a happy birthday to **Marc**, our HR Manager, **Sandrine**, Vice-Treasurer, both members of the Executive Council, and **Emily-Rose**, our civic service!

THANK YOU !



This month, we'd like to thank...

The **Hortons Club** (Spain) for their generous donation! Muchas Gracias! (photo above!)

Thanks also to the **Noisy club** for its tournament on December 21.

Many thanks to the **Centre val de Loire league** for the tombola on January 11!

Many thanks to the **Montgeron club** for its generous donation following its tournament!

Many thanks to the **Gien club** for hosting the parabadminton tournament, and to the Badmintonphoto agency, which will be donating 50% of the profits from photo sales at all French championships from now on (see [HERE](#)).

And thanks to **Adam Hall, our Scottish ambassador**, for sending his parents, Alistair and Roselind, who drove from Glasgow to Paris with a trunk full of badminton equipment to send to our programs.

Many thanks to the following structures that have signed the new Solibad charter since December 10, 2024

Leagues :

Ligue Badminton Centre - Val de Loire, Ligue Île-de-France de Badminton

Clubs :

La Vitréenne Badminton, Association Sportive Collège Bienheureux Charles de Foucauld, Entente Sportive Montgeron BADMINTON Montgeron (France)

National federations :

Badminton Australia



CALENDAR

May 8 to 18, 2025: Solibad Days



SOLIBAD

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