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Newsletter September 2025

It's back to school time!

That's it, summer is over, and the new season has already begun. The World Championships were a time for sharing and reuniting with part of the Solibad volunteer team - including those we don't see very often. Now we're rolling up our sleeves for this new season, which we hope will be one of solidarity. Of course, we need to start thinking about Solibad Days (18 to 26 April 2026). This needs to be prepared in advance...

Finally, the other big news, after 15 years, is that we are offering our friends and supporters, individuals, the opportunity to become official members of SOLIBAD. This is a real mark of support, not just financial, but much more. It is an essential mark of trust for us. You can become a member whenever you want, for a year (€60) or on a monthly basis (€5)

We are really counting on you to help our programmes in Madagascar, Indonesia, Congo and Rwanda, the latest news on which you will find in this newsletter.

Raphaël

HEADLINE – A LOOK BACK AT THE 2025 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN PARIS



Photo credits: Solibad & Badmintonphoto

The week of August 25–31, 2025 will remain in our memories with a lively and colorful Solibad stand filled with laughter, encounters, and solidarity. We had the pleasure of welcoming some of our ambassadors, such as Alicia, Myriam, and Bryan, for short interviews, as well as Lucas, Charles, and Faustine, who came to share a moment with us, and foreign superstars Busanan, Beiwen, Gregoria, and Pitha, Bert, the President of the Belgian Federation, and a delegation from Badminton England. Their presence was a great source of energy and inspiration for all those who joined us.

Thanks to our colorful presence, the badminton village became a lively place for sharing, where promises to sign charters, purchases of goodies, bursts of laughter, and unforgettable encounters took place.

A special thank you to Catherine, Patrick, and the entire BDE team for Yonex, who were particularly generous, to our friends at Larde Sport, to the ever-creative teams at Victor and Forza, and to the incredible Alexandre from Boite à p'art and his two apprentices, who created a magnificent nomadic box for Solibad. Thanks also to the Federation teams, with Océane at the forefront of this event, who made it possible for this village to exist and shine despite the constraints of a demanding site.

Throughout the week, we received numerous donations from clubs, individuals, and even our equipment supplier neighbors.

These World Championships remind us once again that badminton is much more than just a sport—it is a family, a passion, and a tremendous force for solidarity. Thank you all for your energy, your smiles, and your commitment.

NEWS FROM OTHER PROGRAMS

Congo – Meeting with Dr Jobo

During the World Championships, we had the opportunity to talk to Joe Borel, aka “Dr. Jobo,” our Solibad program manager in Congo. In five solidarity clubs located in different areas, he introduces badminton to children, most of whom live in precarious conditions and are unfamiliar with the sport and its benefits. Thanks to donations, they have rackets, shuttlecocks, nets, and other equipment, and can also provide clothing for the children. This will soon be the case with a large shipment of everything that was collected during the World Championships, including 180 pairs of new shoes generously donated by our partner Yonex/BDE.



But Solibad's work doesn't stop at sports. More than twenty children receive support with their schooling, including school supplies and individualized tutoring. Five or six young people have already learned trades such as welding and electrical work. A project to build a health center in a very disadvantaged area is also under discussion, to meet the basic needs of the local population.

And here's a fun fact: the children have adopted the expression “playing Solibad” to refer to badminton, in tribute to our association, which introduced the sport to Congo-Brazzaville. This is a wonderful testament to the impact of the program on the ground!

Photo credits: Solibad & Badmintonphoto

Indonesia – Grace and BSI on the rise



We have received some wonderful news from Bintang Solibad Indonesia, the program we support in Indonesia. Since its creation, BSI has been supporting young talents in their athletic and personal development, and the last few weeks have been particularly exciting and successful.

Grace, one of our young players, continues to achieve remarkable milestones. She recently won a silver medal at the ASEAN Deaf Games, a major competition that brings together the best deaf athletes in Southeast Asia. Shortly after, she won the Paralympic Jakarta DKI selection in the Greater Jakarta area, which has a population of over 30 million. This performance confirms her talent and determination.

But Grace isn't the only one to shine. The entire BSI team excelled in various tournaments: three medals were won at the PBSI West Sumatra Provincial Championships and six more at the PBSI Regional Championships in Yogyakarta. Added to this are the two international and regional medals won by Grace, further enriching an already impressive list of achievements.

Beyond sporting performance, these results enable young athletes from very disadvantaged backgrounds to flourish, gain confidence, and nurture their ambitions –life lessons that will serve them well beyond the courts.

Photo credits: Solibad & Badmintonphoto

Rwanda – Solibad and Yomado are landowners!

Solibad and YOMADO are joining forces to bring to fruition a promising project: the creation of a home for vulnerable children in Rwanda. The first step has just been taken with the acquisition of a plot of land that will soon be home to this unique facility.

The home will offer a safe and caring environment, with educational and social support designed to meet the children's needs. More than just a building, it will be a place of hope, where everyone can grow and flourish in the best possible conditions.



This project is the result of strong collaboration and shared commitment between our two organizations. It illustrates our belief that, together, we can build concrete and sustainable solutions to the difficulties faced by many children.

Photo credits: Solibad & Badmintonphoto

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to our ambassadors !



Photo credits: Solibad & Badmintonphoto

What an exceptional week for our players! **Chirag Shetty** and **Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy** distinguished themselves in Hong Kong by winning the silver medal in men's doubles, just a few weeks after their bronze medal at the 2025 World

Championships in Paris.

Congratulations also to **Thinaah Muralitharan** and Tan Pearly, silver medalists in women's doubles at the World Championships and semifinalists at the Hong Kong Open, to **Christo Popov**, who played a memorable semifinal after an epic match against Loh Kean Yew, and to **Michelle Li**, also a semifinalist in Hong Kong!

Want to become a Solibad member?

Now you can!

Anyone can join the Solibad adventure on an individual basis by becoming a member of the association. Membership is easy to sign up for, with a choice of a €5 monthly or €60 annual membership fee.

In just a few secure clicks, you can become part of the Solibad family and contribute directly to changing lives. We are committed to ensuring that 100% of membership fees are used in the field, as close as possible to the projects we support.

Good news: this membership fee is tax deductible. In concrete terms, after tax deduction, your commitment will only cost you €1.70 per month, which is less than a cup of coffee!

Each new membership is much more than financial support (which is also essential). It is a sign of your support and trust, your desire to be part of this extraordinary human adventure, and that is just as important to us...

We are counting on you to join us on this adventure and together promote the values of Solibad.

Become a Solibad Member

CLUBS, COMMITTEES, LEAGUES – Important information:

We have decided to extend the period for the Solibad 2025 Charter until the end of the year. From 2026 onwards, we will then return to a standard calendar year, with memberships valid from January to December.

This change aims to simplify the monitoring of the Charter, harmonize dates for everyone, and provide greater clarity on our members' commitments.

We will therefore contact all representatives again in October to have them re-sign the charter for 2026 for those who signed it this year or at the end of 2024.

Thank you again for your support and trust: every signature helps strengthen the Solibad community and take our projects even further.

ACTION OF THE MONTH

KEY RINGS AND SHOELACES ON SALE FOR OUR SOLIDARITY PARTNERS

It's back-to-school season, and we've decided to offer you a big promotion on some of our popular accessories: use the code "RENTREE2025" on our online store, and clubs, committees, and leagues can order colorful shoelaces and key rings with an immediate 30% discount. Take advantage of this offer to place orders for your tournaments (welcome packs, prizes), but also to offer all your club members a group purchase (saving you shipping costs). Please note that this promotion is valid until October 15!

To access the store, click [HERE](#).

Volunteer of the Month



Photo credits: Solibad & Badmintonphoto

New section, new story! We are launching a section where we will highlight a person or organization to showcase all the wonderful souls who contribute to our adventure. For this first edition, we are honoring **José Coignard**, who has just made an

exceptional donation of €4,000, the largest individual donation the association has ever received.

We asked him a few questions, and here is his testimony :

«Since Solibad was founded, I have been constantly amazed by the energy and kindness of its volunteers, who bring smiles to the faces of thousands of children around the world.

I was fortunate enough to learn about this humanitarian adventure even before it officially came into being. It was in 2009: my badminton club at Stade Français was organizing a major tournament [...] That's when I met Raphaël and learned about the imminent launch of Solibad. The choice was obvious: we decided to support the project. These funds were among the very first that gave Solibad the momentum it needed to get started.

Since that day, I have never left this wonderful adventure. I have participated in annual events, flash mobs, the association's anniversaries, and I have lent my voice and energy to spread its message.

So how can we go further despite this lack of time? An idea came to me: use my professional expertise. For several years now, I have been the only French person (in France) to be accredited as a professional trainer in what is known as the Kanban strategy [...] So I created a certification training course—the only one of its kind in France—with the idea of donating the profits to Solibad [...] For the past two years, I have been stepping up my efforts to raise awareness of this still little-known field [...] This path is not always easy, but it is guided by a strong conviction: wealth is not measured financially, but in smiles generated and knowledge shared.

Don't take yourself too seriously, move forward with a smile, overcome obstacles with lightness and perseverance [...] Through Solibad, I recognize myself: giving without expecting anything in return, acting without calculation, sowing seeds of hope.

To all the volunteers, to all those who bring projects to life in the field: you are the lights that illuminate this world [...]. And to those of you reading this, if my story resonates with you, why not do the same? [...] Share this journey and become part of the circle of those who are positively transforming the lives of many children.

A big shout-out and best wishes to all those who keep the association and its projects alive in the field. Your generosity is a source of inspiration and motivation to be better every day.

Long live Solibad!»

THANK YOU

This month, we would like to thank...

The **Badminton Club of L'Isle d'Abeau**, who visited us at our stand during the Paris World Championships and generously contributed to our collection by donating a bag of sneakers and clothing during their Lilotdoubles tournament!

The **Mormant Badminton Club** generously donated all their surplus jerseys to start the year.

Boite à p'arts created a magnificent wooden nomadic box for us.

The Yonex team and Catherine, present at the World Championships, for their exceptional donations of equipment throughout the event.

The French Badminton Federation for hosting the World Championships. Franck, Pascal, Martine, Océane, Clément, and everyone else.

CK Yew, who invited Raphael during the World Cup for a live broadcast which featured some of Solibad's work.

Don't forget to report your action by filling out this form:

Fill in the form

For clubs, committees, and leagues, we have a page with all our downloadable logos and program images. It's easy to remember: **solibad.fr/logo**

Our logos

Calendar

October 21-26, 2025: Yonex IFB near Rennes (we will have a booth, come and see us!)

April 18-26, 2026: Solibad Days 2026!

SOLIBAD



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