



Newsletter July 2025

The summer is here and in some clubs, it means there is a break before the new season starts again in August or Septembre. No breaks for our programs, where things keep moving. We have received great news from Madagascar where the sport complex has started to be built. We dream to be able to host amazing camps there next summer, with a mix of high level badminton coaching in a great infrastructure, but also working with the street children in the Village.

In the mean time, have a great summer and a good read of this newsletter!

Raphaël

HEADLINE – The Village Des Sourires becomes a reality



The last few weeks have been a real turning point for one of our most symbolic projects: the "Village des Sourires" (Village of smiles) in Madagascar. After two years of problems, twists and turns, floods, and endless administrative procedures, the project is finally entering its concrete phase. And we won't hide our excitement.

Thanks to the technical support of the partner of our local Association 2400 Sourires, the Entreprise COLAS, work on the sports center has finally begun. This facility will eventually host many sports, including climbing and, of course, badminton.

But above all, it is a place designed for the children of the village, all former street children, who will be able to practice regularly, improve their skills, and dream.

It will also be a space for coaching courses, international exchanges, and perhaps even... sports and solidarity trips combining badminton and field activities.

And that's not all: the heart of the village is also taking shape.

Four children's houses are already ready: freshly painted, beds installed, doors fitted. The other four will follow by the end of August, ready to welcome the next children in the best possible conditions.

This project is moving forward thanks to the tenacity and incredible energy of our local partners, the association 2400 Sourires. A committed, persevering, and deeply human team to whom we owe a great deal.

It's a great collective victory... and it's only the beginning.

NEWS FROM OTHER PROGRAMS

Rwanda – Concrete progress for vulnerable children in Rilima

Following the lunch meeting organized on June 27 in Rilima by our partner YOMADO, as part of the "Rays of Hope for Orphans and Vulnerable Children" project supported by Solibad, a new step has been taken in the collaboration between local actors and the association.

The meeting, which brought together representatives from local communities, education, and health, laid the foundations for more structured work on children's rights, current protection policies, and the central role that sport, particularly badminton, can play in supporting vulnerable children.



The discussions highlighted the need to raise awareness among families, particularly around the issues of positive parenting. Several participants expressed the wish that YOMADO and Solibad could organize a larger-scale workshop to support parents in their educational and protective role.

In addition, the discussions provided an opportunity to officially announce the acquisition of a plot of land, financed by Solibad, on which a welcoming house dedicated to children participating in the program will be built. This project marks an important step toward more sustainable support, focused on creating a safe, suitable, and forward-looking space.



Indonesia – A look at a young artist

We continue this newsletter with a beautiful image from Indonesia: Julia Ika, 13, who has Down syndrome, and her father, our head badminton coach in Yogyakarta.

Ika is part of our Solibad program in Indonesia, in which she has been involved in since she was very young. Recently, she had the opportunity to participate in a local art exhibition, marking a new milestone in her journey. Her father, who is actively involved with us on the ground, embodies the Solibad spirit: passing on knowledge, providing support, and pushing boundaries. We are delighted to be able to share this powerful and heartwarming story.

Mayotte – Build relationships before laying the groundwork

On July 5, Arnaud Genin visited one of the slums participating in the program to meet with the families receiving support and spend some time with the children. During their conversations, several children expressed a desire to play badminton, despite the lack of suitable space. A small group then joined Arnaud to explore the surrounding area in search of a suitable location. While conditions are far from ideal, a dirt soccer field seems to offer a first possibility, still to be confirmed.



The day was also an opportunity to help the children with their homework, catch up with the families, and distribute food to some of them.

The welcome we received was particularly warm, once again demonstrating the

strength of the bonds that have been forged over time and the importance of these shared moments in the field.

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to our ambassadors !



Three-time French champion!

Our ambassador **Myriam Enmer** has once again won the French Racketlon Championships, for the third consecutive year.

Following victories in 2023 and 2024, this win in 2025 confirms her talent and consistency. 🏆

Michelle Li puts in a strong performance, reaching the semifinals in the women's singles at the 2025 YONEX Canada Open! 🥉



Nguyen Thuy Linh delivers a strong performance, finishing second in the women's singles at the 2025 YONEX Canada Open! 🥈

Christo Popov continues his rise to prominence and now ranks 16th in the world in men's singles.

At the 2025 DAIHATSU Japan Open in men's singles, he ended his incredible run in the semifinals against Yu Qi Shi after an exceptional match! 🏆



Alex Lanier confirms his incredible potential by reaching the final of the DAIHATSU Japan Open 2025 for the second time in two years in the men's singles! 🏆

Thinaah Muralitharan put in a magnificent performance with TAN Pearly in the women's doubles, reaching the final of the DAIHATSU Japan Open 2025! 🏆



News from our Instagram account

A few weeks ago, our Instagram account **@solibad_charity** was unexpectedly deleted.

Despite our attempts to recover it, we had to resort to creating a new one.

We have therefore recreated an account with the same name: **@solibad_charity**. It will now become our new international account, where all Solibad news from around the world will be shared in English.

Please feel free to follow us again and share it with your friends and family to help us build momentum.

Thank you for your support!

ACTION OF THE MONTH

Start the discussion on the Solibad charter!

The new season is approaching: now is the perfect time to start discussing it with your club's board members. The Solibad charter is a concrete way to affirm your values of solidarity and commitment through badminton. Don't hesitate to float the idea now so that the charter can be signed under the best conditions when the season resumes.

And of course, we are available if you have any questions!

THANK YOU

This month, we would like to thank...

Racket group.dk, our friends at Forza, who sent several hundred rackets with a minor defect to our programs in Africa, thank you so much!

Don't forget to tell us about your actions by filling in this form:

Fill in the form

Don't forget! For clubs, committees and leagues, we've created a page with all our downloadable logos and program images. It's easy to remember: **solibad.fr/logo**

Our logos

A big thank you to Levallois Sporting Club (France), Badminton Javené-Billé (France), and Redhill and Reigate Badminton Club (United Kingdom) for joining Solibad this month!



Calendar

August 25 to 30, 2025 : World Championships (we'll probably be there in one way or another to celebrate with our ambassadors)

October 21 to 26, 2025 : Visit us at the Yonex Internationaux de France, Rennes

April 20 to 28, 2026 : Solibad Days 2026!

SOLIBAD



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