



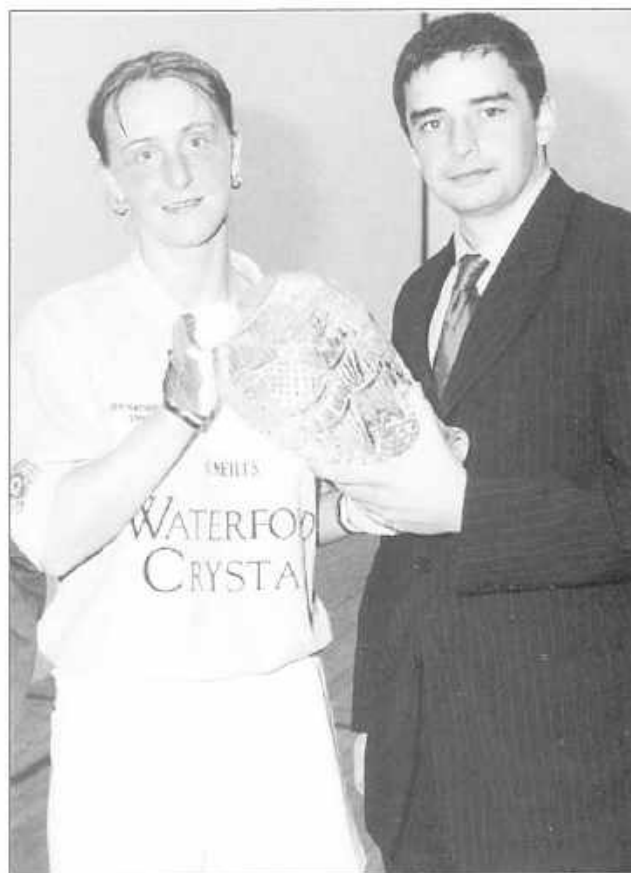
# Comhairle LIATHRÓID LÁimhe na hÉireann

An Chomhtháil Bhliantúil  
1999





*Double champion Walter O'Connor (Meath) is congratulated by his niece Sarah Moynihan after he and Tom Sheridan won the All-Ireland 60 x 30 Doubles final.*



*Barry Nolan, Brand Manager, Waterford Crystal presents the Waterford Crystal Irish Nationals Ladies Open Singles trophy to Fiona McKenna, St. Paul's, Belfast.*



*The Irish team who won an historic five titles at the USHA Junior Championships in Chicago in December 1999.*

*Back row:* Con Moore, Uachtarán CLLE, Richard Willoughby, Team Manager; Lydia Doolan, 15 & Under; Anne Naughton, Assistant Manager; Julie Long 17/19 & Under; Jimmy King and Seán McEntee, National Coach Tutors; Joe Edge, Director of Sales and Marketing, O'Neills Irish Sports Company Ltd.

*Front row:* Paul Brady, 19 & Under; Dessie Keegan, 17 & Under; Joseph McCann, 15 & Under.

# Tionólfar Comhdháil Bhliantúil 1999

## Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

ar AN DOMHNACH, 28 MÁRTA, ag 10.30 r.n.  
san Traveller's Friend Hotel, Caisleán an Bharraigh

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### CLÁR OIBRE

1. Fáiltiú
2. Adoption of Standing Orders
3. Minutes of Congress 1998
4. Report of Riarthóir Náisiúnta 1998
5. Annual Accounts 1998
6. Oráid an Uachtaráin
7. Inauguration of Uachtarán Tofa
8. Oráid an Uachtaráin Nua
9. Oráid Uachtaráin C.L.G.
10. Elections
  - Cisteoir
  - Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle C.L.G.
11. Motions
12. Close of Congress

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### AINMNIÚCHÁIN 1999

**Cisteoir:** Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí, Outgoing (Aontroim, Ceatharlach, Cill Chainnigh, Cill Mhantáin, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe mBan, Tiobraid Árann).

**Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle CLG:**

Tomás Breathnach (Cill Chainnigh, Cill Mhantáin).

Seán Mac an tSaoi, Outgoing (Aontroim, Ceatharlach, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan, Tiobraid Árann).

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### STANDING ORDERS

In order that the proceedings of the Congress be carried out expeditiously, the following Standing Orders will be observed:

1. The proposer of a Resolution or an Amendment thereto may speak for 5 minutes, but not more than 5 minutes.
2. A delegate speaking to a Resolution or an Amendment must not exceed 3 minutes. A maximum of two delegates from any one county shall speak on any one motion.
3. The proposer of a Resolution or Amendment may speak a second time for 3 minutes before a vote is taken, but no other Delegate may speak a second time to the same Resolution or Amendment.
4. The Chairman may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed call on the Proposer for a reply, and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
5. A delegate may, with the consent of the Chairman, move "that the question be now put", after which, when the Proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. A speaker to the Riarthóir's report or to any other general discussion shall not exceed 3 minutes on any one topic.
7. Any motion seeking to amend a rule in Fo-Rialacha (CLLE) must have a majority equal to two-thirds of those present and voting.
8. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Agenda, except by the consent of a majority equal to two-thirds of those present and voting.

# Tuarascáil an Riarthóra Náisiúnta

## AG FÉACHAINT SIAR

Bhi bliain an ghnóthach ag Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann i 1998 agus is féidir linn bheith dóchasach faoin cluiche agus faoin eagraíocht i gcoinne. Tá alán daoine ag obair chun liathróid láimhe a fhorbair timpeall na tíre. Tá structúr réasúnta maith ag gach leibhéal agus tá daoine níos dóchasai ná mar a bhí le blianta gur féidir an cluiche a leathnú in Éirinn agus san Eoraip.

The year under review was a notable one for handball in many respects with activities ranging from Cumann na mBunscol promotions, All-Ireland championships, the Waterford Crystal Nationals and Awards and the new Provincial Open Tournaments to the USHA Junior Championships.

One of the highlights of the year was Walter O'Connor's victory in the All-Ireland Softball Singles final over Michael 'Duxie' Walsh who reigned supreme from 1985 to 1997 when he amassed a record thirteen successive Singles titles. The Meathman also won the Senior Hardball Singles title and partnered Tom Sheridan to victory in the Senior Softball and Hardball Doubles and was named Eircell Handballer of the Year in recognition of his achievements. 'Duxie' won the 40 x 20 Senior Singles title in fine style and, with D J Carey, took the Doubles title for the second successive year.

A very welcome development during the year was the establishment by the Irish Sports Council of the International Player Athlete Carding Scheme. Five handballers benefited from this, namely Tony Healy, Fiona McKenna, Paul Brady, Julie Long and Kenneth Kane. Each of these received a grant of £1,200 towards the cost of participation in both national and international competitions. The grant is also intended to cover major expenses involved in training and preparation for competition.

## 75th ANNIVERSARY

The 75th anniversary of the foundation of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann on 27 Eanáir 1924 was marked by a special meeting of Ard Chomhairle CLLE and a commemorative event on the anniversary date. This event which included a Mass of thanksgiving and remembrance, historical readings, formal speeches and the unveiling of a plaque listing the names of all handball Presidents was attended by CLG officers, surviving Presidents, relations of deceased Presidents and representatives of the Rugby Fives and Welsh Handball Associations.

The anniversary year will also be marked by special competitions including Team of Ten Juvenile and adult events in both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. It will also be marked in a special way at the Waterford Crystal Handball Awards banquet in May 1999. Further events, including a National Handball Day on 17 October, will be held during the year. All provinces, counties and Clubs are being asked to mark the anniversary in significant ways.

The National Handball Day on which all Clubs are asked to organise a special series of events should certainly be the most important occasion during the year. This will be an opportunity for every Club to remember its past, to recognise its achievements and to honour those who have contributed to the development of the Club in any way over the years. Clubs will be asked to make a particular effort to produce a souvenir booklet for the occasion to include a historical review, achievements of its players and

officials and its plans for the future. Every Club should have an appropriate social occasion at which those who contributed to its development will be honoured. Likewise, every Club should review the state of its physical facilities and carry out whatever developments are necessary.

The 75th anniversary year affords all units the opportunity to evaluate their own performances and achievements. There have been many great successes over the past 75 years and great players and personalities have graced the game, many of these becoming legends in their own lifetime. The game has progressed from being a one-wall and three-wall outdoor sport to a largely indoor game in very well equipped, modern handball facilities.

In the early years handball was included in the GAA Charter in 1884 as one of the sports to be promoted by the new Association. The Council was established on 27 January 1924 to promote, develop and organise the game and the following year the first All-Ireland Congress was held together with the commencement of the All-Ireland Senior Softball and Hardball Championships. The Provincial Handball Councils were revived in the early 1950s. This led to much development at provincial level. A number of international promotions were held in the 1950s and 60s and in the latter decade several new competitions including the National League and Juvenile Championships were introduced.

The international 40 x 20 game was introduced to Ireland at the end of the 1960s and the first 40 x 20 court was built at Oldtown in Dublin in 1969. Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan was founded in 1971 and from 1973 to 1984 RTE gave extensive television coverage to handball particularly through the RTE Top Ace series.

Since the early 1970s there have been massive developments of new courts, particularly for 40 x 20. These developments are still continuing, although the pace has slackened off. The standard requirement now is to upgrade existing facilities.

Ireland has also made a major impact on the development of **international handball** over the past forty years. The late Joe Lynch who was Riarthóir from 1954 to 1989 pioneered the introduction and then the re-introduction of the World Championships providing a major stage on which all handball playing countries can participate in meaningful world championships both in 40 x 20 and one-wall handball. The growth of one-wall handball and contacts with European handball Federations under the guidance of Tom O'Connor, International Officer, over the past ten years has been most remarkable. This development has encouraged international contacts and new competition – six countries will participate in the European One-Wall Championships at Dungarvan at Easter 1999.

In saluting the men and women who have served handball so well over the years and particularly those who had the vision and foresight to plan facilities, develop the game and organise competition at national and international level we must recognise readily that the present custodians of handball in all its forms must equally dedicate their efforts and give the time, energy and commitment to the development of handball which the game and its players and supporters richly deserve. For centuries handball has been part of Irish life, particularly in rural areas.



With the increasing urbanisation of modern Ireland it is essential that Clubs in our towns and cities renew their efforts to promote the game and establish handball as one of the strong Irish sports, even though a minority one. We have a very proud and noble tradition and it is our responsibility to value and cherish this tradition and make the commitment necessary to ensure that the game survives and prospers as an integral part of GAA, community and Irish life for future generations.

## NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Ard Chomhairle was responsible for 176 competitions in 1998, an increase of 97, or 123%, over a ten year period while four new Ranking Tournaments run at provincial level and the Naomh Pól Golden Gloves event accounted for another 30 competitions as indicated in the accompanying table:

**NATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND RANKING TOURNAMENTS**

Competition	MALE		FEMALE		MIXED	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Juvenile	Total
60 x 30	32	8	2	6	-	48
40 x 20	32	8	5	8	-	53
Hardball	6	-	-	-	-	6
Team	6	4	-	2	-	12
Gael Linn	-	-	-	-	1	1
Féile na nGael	-	5	-	2	-	7
40 x 20 Nat.Lge	1	-	-	-	-	1
Second Level	-	8	-	12	-	20
Third Level	4	-	2	-	-	6
Irish Nationals	8	3	2	3	-	16
One-Wall	2	2	1	1	-	6
Opens	15	6	5	4	-	30
TOTAL	106	44	17	38	1	206

This level of competition provides a wide range of activity and opportunities for players from Under 12/13 team events to Singles and Doubles championships for players over 60 years. However, it has also put a major strain on personnel and resources generally. One of the difficulties is that national competitions have taken over from Club and county events and provide competition which should be organised at other levels of the organisation. A Structures Review Committee was established during the year to examine the matter with a view to rationalising the situation and its report will be available in 1999.

It is impossible to sustain this level of national competition on an ongoing basis and give proper attention to all other aspects of the organisation which need to be developed and progressed. On the one hand this is obvious to everybody but on the other hand a huge number of people want to be involved in national competition.

We must work towards restoring pride in representing one's Club and county in a meaningful way and this cannot be done where Club members enter competitions on an individual basis without any regard or support for their Clubs. If handball Clubs, like football and hurling Clubs, are to play their full part in local

communities and to maintain the ideals of fostering community spirit and development we will have to get back to a situation where players are proud to represent their Clubs and where Clubs take part in a meaningful way in county and other competitions.

## SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A total of sixteen counties shared the 32 Softball titles in 1998. Carlow led the field taking six titles with Meath, Dublin and Roscommon winning three each. Cork, Waterford, Kilkenny, Wicklow and Kildare each won two while seven other counties took one title each.

Walter O'Connor of Meath finally achieved his ambition of taking the 60 x 30 Senior Singles title in a titanic clash with Michael 'Duxie' Walsh of Kilkenny who had been undisputed champion from 1985 to 1997. There were jubilant scenes at Croke Park when the Meathman won 21-14, 21-17 in the best final seen at headquarters for many years. The new champion was gracious in victory and complimented 'Duxie' on his contribution to a marvellous contest and on the standards he set over the years. Walter partnered Tom Sheridan to victory over 'Duxie' and Eugene Downey in a 21-14, 16-21, 21-10 scoreline to take the Senior Softball Doubles title in another excellent exhibition of all that is best in handball.

There was joy for Tony Healy of Cork in the Intermediate Singles final when he defeated his old foe Kenneth Kane from Carlow, 21-16, 21-17. The Carlowman had compensation in the Doubles event when he partnered his father Tom to victory over brothers Tom and Billy O'Brien from Limerick 21-9, 21-18. Dominic Lynch from the Glenbeigh Club in Kerry continued to progress winning the Junior Singles event at the expense of David King of Carlow on a 21-12, 21-9 scoreline. David partnered Sean Ryan from Garryhill to victory over Tyrone brothers Conor and Niall Kerr 21-16, 21-10 in Junior Doubles. Dessie Keegan continued to show excellent form winning the Minor Singles title with a comfortable victory over Seamus Lawlor of Clare. The Munsterman was unlucky again in Doubles partnering Brian Marrinan against Carl Browne and Peter Reilly from Meath who were victorious 21-17, 21-12. Eoin Kennedy and Paul Brady from Cavan who have progressed through the underage ranks contested the Under 21 Singles final with the Dubliner coming out on top on this occasion 20-21, 21-3, 21-11 in a marvellous and absorbing contest. Wexford's Barry Goff and Colin Keeling took the Under 21 Doubles title defeating Aidan Supple and Paul Coleman from Tipperary 21-11, 21-9 in the final. The Novice events were won by Leinster players, Eddie Bourke from Kilkenny defeating Tipperary's John Ryan 21-11, 20-21, 21-14 in Singles and Fergal Ó Riain and John Ward having the better of Pat Madden and Pat Coughlan of Clare 21-19, 21-15 in Doubles.

## CONNACHT SUCCESS IN MASTERS

Mickey Walsh from Roscommon won a further Masters 'A' Singles title defeating Limerick's Joe Roche 21-11, 21-15 and partnered Martin Bruen to victory over Joe Roche and Francis O'Toole 21-15, 6-21, 21-19 to make it a double. Stephen French, Roscommon, took the Silver Masters 'B' Singles medal at the expense of Martin Sandford, Waterford. Sean McKeon, Leitrim, won his second All-Ireland title of 1998 in Emerald Masters 'B' Singles with a very comfortable win over Declan Ryan of Kerry in the final.

## DOUBLES FOR LEINSTER COUNTIES

Four Leinster counties achieved doubles in various grades with John Rossiter, Carlow, setting the pace in Silver Masters 'A' Singles in an excellent victory over Pakie Mullins of Tipperary. He then partnered Andy Ryan to victory over Mullins and Sean Doyle 16-21, 21-18, 21-12 in Doubles. Anthony Campbell from the Ballymore Eustace Club led the way for Kildare in Golden Masters 'B' Singles defeating Cork's Dan O'Brien 21-14, 21-13. He partnered Dermot Howard to victory over Dan O'Brien and Tony Buckley in Doubles 21-17, 21-11. Another Leinsterman to complete the double was Paddy Lennon from Wicklow defeating Mossy Butler of Waterford 21-12, 21-20 in the Emerald Masters 'A' Singles final. He and Michael Dwyer defeated Pat O'Brien and Tim Healy from Cork in the Doubles event. John O'Keeffe of Carlow who has been trying for a number of years to achieve All-Ireland success finally did so in the Emerald Masters 'B' Singles grade with an easy win over Tipperary's Pat Maher. He later partnered John Fleming to victory over Pat Maher and Michael Hogan in Doubles. Other Leinster players to perform well were Eugene Kennedy in Golden Masters 'A' Singles where he defeated Vincent O'Shea of Tipperary 21-19, 21-12 and Bernie Mahon and Frank Manogue of Kilkenny in Emerald Masters 'B' Doubles when they defeated Declan Ryan and Carl Burckett of Kerry.

## MUNSTER AND ULSTER SUCCESSES

Munster counties had successes in Masters 'B' Doubles where Michael Gleeson and Michael Collins, Tipperary, defeated Carlow's Martin Clancy and John Connolly 21-16, 10-21, 21-19 in an excellent game. In Silver Masters 'B' Doubles Dave O'Riordan and Pat Buckley of Cork had the better of Damian Donovan and Harry Lacey from Wexford 21-9, 21-19. Declan Mulcahy from Waterford had another excellent season winning the Diamond Masters 'A' Singles final with a 21-16, 21-18 win over Michael Naughton, Roscommon. He partnered Br Finbar Spring to victory over Eddie Leahy and Pat O'Keeffe in Diamond Masters 'A' Doubles winning 21-16, 21-15. Ulster's two titles went to Patsy Hand and Greg Sheridan of Cavan in Golden Masters 'A' Doubles who defeated Mayo's Michael Corbett and Seamus Clarke 21-14, 21-9 and Joe Shortt of Armagh who won his first Softball title defeating Vincent McKeon of Sligo 9-21, 21-17, 21-17 in Masters 'B' Singles.

## 40 X 20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 32 All-Ireland titles in 40x20 went to seventeen counties. Kilkenny topped the list with five wins followed by Clare, Wicklow and Carlow with three each. Roscommon, Kildare, Wexford, Dublin and Cork each won two while a further eight counties had one victory each.

## SENIOR DOUBLE FOR KILKENNY

Kilkenny achieved a double at Senior level with Michael 'Duxie' Walsh defeating Ciarán Curran from Tyrone 21-13, 21-13 in Singles and partnering D J Carey to victory over Paddy Crothers and John McGarry, Antrim, in Doubles 21-4, 21-11 in the new O'Loughlin's court at Kilkenny. Cork's Tony Healy achieved a notable win in Intermediate Singles defeating Kenneth Kane, Carlow, 21-8, 21-16 in another marvellous game of

handball. The Carlow player had compensation in Doubles partnering his father Tom to win the title at the expense of Seán Devine and Séamus Ó Tuama of Antrim on a 21-10, 15-21, 21-18 scoreline. The Junior Singles title went to Gavin Buggy of Wexford who defeated Niall Kerr, Tyrone, 12-21, 21-18, 21-16. The Tyrone player partnered his brother Conor to victory in Doubles over Tom King and Brendan MacNeela in an excellent game at the Inverin venue in Galway 21-19, 21-16. At Minor level Paul Brady from Cavan took the Singles title defeating Eoin Kennedy 21-18, 9-21, 21-19 in a titanic struggle. The Dubliner turned the tables when he partnered his fourteen year old brother Brian to win the Doubles title at the expense of Paul and James Brady 21-18, 21-12.

Ricky McCann took Antrim's second title at Under 21 Singles level defeating Paul Flynn from Mayo 21-12, 21-16. The Mayoman, partnered by Vincent Moran, went down to Colm Jordan and Jerh Healy from Cork 21-20, 4-21, 21-10 in Doubles. At Novice level Carlow's Jimmy King took the Singles title at the expense of Paul Graham from Antrim while Adrian Marrinan and Pat Custy from Clare defeated David Mulaniff and Liam Cassidy of Westmeath 21-18, 21-10 in Novice Doubles.

## ANOTHER RECORD FOR MICKEY WALSH

Mickey Walsh from the St Coman's Club in Roscommon extended his record to win a sixth successive Masters 'A' Singles title at the expense of Dominic Sheridan, Cavan, 21-17, 21-3. Roscommon's other 40 x 20 title came to Noel Raftery who defeated Armagh's James McCann 21-12, 21-14 in the final. Sean McKeon created his own piece of history when he won Leitrim's first ever adult title defeating Sean McEntee, Antrim, 21-9, 13-21, 21-11 in the Emerald Masters 'B' Singles final. Pádraig Maye and Seamus O'Donnell from Sligo achieved a further victory for Connacht winning the Emerald Masters 'B' Doubles title defeating Carl Burckett and Declan Ryan, Kerry 21-4, 21-11. Ulster players who did well in 40 x 20 were Joe Shortt and George Cullen from Armagh who defeated Dublin's Seamus Ahern and John Ward in an excellent Masters 'B' Doubles final and Michael McCarron from Monaghan who had the better of Martin Cronin, Mayo, in Silver Masters 'B' Singles.

John Kirby from Clare achieved another notable double in Golden Masters 'A' defeating Jim Doyle of Wexford 21-19, 21-12 in Singles and partnering Jimmy Walsh to victory over Tom Derrig and Sean Heaney from Mayo 21-11, 21-14 in Doubles.

## TWELVE TITLES FOR LEINSTER

Leinster counties won a total of twelve Masters titles. Paddy Hope and Billy Mullins from Offaly defeated Jimmy Dobbyn and Larry Rainey, Antrim, 21-10, 21-12 in Masters 'A' Doubles. The Silver Masters 'A' Doubles title went to Richard Willoughby and Pat Doyle from Wicklow who were too good for Jim McClean and Peter Campbell, Antrim, 21-16, 21-11. Wicklow took a further two titles in Emerald Masters 'A' with Paddy Lennon winning Singles against Sam Tanner of Cork 21-8, 21-12 and then partnering Michael Dwyer to victory over Pat O'Brien and Tim Healy, also of Cork, 21-10, 21-19 in Doubles.

## SUCCESSES FOR KILKENNY

Kilkenny had double success in the Diamond Masters 'A' grade with Eddie Leahy winning the Singles at the expense of Declan



Mulcahy and partnering Pat O'Keeffe to victory in Doubles, also over Waterford represented by Declan Mulcahy and John Kiely. President Con Moore had the honour of achieving victory during his term of office when he partnered Pat Gardiner to win the Silver Masters 'B' Doubles title at the expense of Billy McCarthy and Martin Maher of Tipperary 21-10, 11-21, 21-12. The Masters 'B' Singles championship was won by Wexford's Tony Breen who had the better of Tony O'Flaherty of Tipperary 21-18, 21-11. Dublin's Vinny Farrelly won the Silver Masters 'A' Singles medal when he defeated Jim McClean of Antrim 21-8, 21-12. Kildare's Anthony Campbell and Dermot Howard defeated Joe Collins and Tony Buckley from Cork 21-7, 21-11 in Golden Masters 'B' Doubles and Frank Dooley scored a further victory for Kildare beating Br Finbar Spring from Waterford 21-11, 21-20 in Diamond Masters 'B' Singles. John O'Keeffe and John Fleming took the first of their two titles of 1998 when they defeated Michael Hogan and Jack King, Tipperary, rather easily in the Diamond Masters 'B' Doubles final.

## HARDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

From an entry of eight players, the Senior Hardball Singles final was contested by Walter O'Connor of Meath and Vincent Moran of Mayo with the Meathman coming out on top 21-17, 21-10. Walter partnered Tom Sheridan to win the Senior Hardball Doubles final over Egin Jensen and John Boy Molloy, also from Meath, on a 21-8, 21-11 scoreline. Only six entries were received for the Senior Doubles, the same number as in 1984, '85 and '87. It is worth noting that the Senior Hardball Doubles championship attracted more than six entries on only five occasions since 1982.

Nineteen players entered for the Junior Hardball Singles championship which was won by Kenneth Kane from Carlow who had a 21-9, 21-11 victory over Paul Flynn from the Ballaghaderreen Club in Mayo in the final. The Carlow player partnered his father Tom to win the Doubles title in which they defeated Eamon O'Neill and Joe Roche of Limerick 21-13, 21-8. It was disappointing, however, that only seven pairs entered in the Doubles Championship.

For the first time ever the Minor Hardball Singles and Doubles championships were not held due to lack of entries. Only three players entered in Singles and one pair in Doubles but this can be accounted for by the fact that players did not anticipate the change of age for Minor level from under 19 to under 18 and had not prepared in advance for the possibility of entering the Championships. It may well be that the reduction in the Minor age limit will result in fewer entries at Minor level in the foreseeable future unless something is done to promote the game at that level. There is far less enthusiasm for hardball than in previous decades and one must wonder at the wisdom of promoting and organising All-Ireland Championships for the small number of players who are interested in taking part. Perhaps this matter could be addressed by Provincial Councils and County Committees to establish if there is any additional interest among players in taking up hardball if competitions were organised at provincial or regional levels.

## JUVENILE CHAMPIONSHIPS

There were some excellent displays throughout the All-Ireland 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Juvenile championships with a number of

players excelling in their grades. Noel McHugh achieved a marvellous double at Under 14 Singles level keeping Michael Herron of Antrim to single figures in 40 x 20 and repeating his performance against Stephen Shanahan of Limerick in the 60 x 30. Darragh Lyons and Michael John Meaney, Tipperary, were victorious in both courts winning the 40 x 20 Doubles title against Jason Doyle and Richard Walsh of Wicklow 15-10, 15-11 and Thomas Campion and Thomas Hughes of Kilkenny 15-5, 15-12 in 60 x 30. Another player to achieve the double was Michael Grogan from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow. He had a 21-11, 21-15 win over Brendan Fleming from Cork in 40 x 20 and outscored Patrick Finnegan of Cavan 21-20, 21-11 in 60 x 30. The Under 16 Doubles titles were won by Kilkenny with Shem Kelly and Donal Kelly defeating Mark McCullagh and Brian Daly of Tyrone 21-5, 8-21, 11-3 in 40 x 20 and Brian Manogue and Andrew Hosey outpointing Shane Grogan and Ciarán McCullagh of Tyrone in two straight games in 60 x 30.

Antrim's Brendan Herron defeated Liam Goff of Wexford 21-6, 21-13 in Under 15 40 x 20 Singles while Wexford won the Doubles title with David Walsh and Felix Doran defeating Patrick Angland and Shane O'Brien of Cork 21-13, 21-14. The 60 x 30 Under 15 Singles title went to C J Delaney of Kilkenny with a 21-9, 21-11 victory over Niall Fleming of Cork.

Waterford's John Wall and Alan Linnane were awarded the Under 15 Doubles 60 x 30 title following an investigation after the final. Waterford also won the Under 17 Doubles 40 x 20 championship with Ciaran Shields and Kenny Keane defeating Wayne Kinsella and Derek Walsh from Wexford 21-4, 21-6. The Wexford pair had compensation in the 60 x 30 court when Wayne Kinsella defeated Neville Carolan of Cavan 21-19, 21-2 in Under 17 Singles and Derek Walsh partnered Noel Holohan to victory over Kenny Keane and Barry McAndrew of Waterford 21-16, 21-12. The Under 17 40 x 20 Singles title was won by Seamus Lawlor of Clare with a 21-6, 21-7 victory over P J Hawe from Kilkenny.

The fact that eight counties shared the eight Juvenile 40 x 20 titles and with six of those counties dividing the 60 x 30 spoils is an indication that there is a reasonably good spread of top class handball throughout the country at juvenile level. While it is not surprising to see that a number of counties won titles in both courts, one would wish to see a wider spread of success among a larger number of counties in the future.

## JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Under 12/13 and Under 14/15 Juvenile Team Championships have proven a major success despite the fact that not all counties participate in the provincial series. It is very evident that counties which do not place great emphasis on juvenile development or do not have an adequate juvenile structure within the county are those which do not take part. The possibility of introducing a 'B' Championship at provincial level should be examined as a way of encouraging the non-participating counties to develop juvenile handball and provide competitive outlets for their players.

The concept of team handball must be developed much more at juvenile level particularly within Clubs and counties. Development at this level is essential if team competitions at adult level are to continue in the future. The performance of every team member is vital to the success of their team in these



championships. It is important that weaker players be encouraged by their coaches and mentors to continue with their game and to play at all times in the interests of their team.

The success of Kerry in winning the Under 12/13 60 x 30 Juvenile Championship with an 80-73 victory over Roscommon in the final was very pleasing in that it demonstrated that within a few years coaching and promotion at juvenile level can achieve success, not alone at county and provincial but at national level as well. Roscommon defeated Tipperary 90-55 in the Under 12/13 40 x 20 Championship. Kilkenny won both Under 14/15 titles defeating Kerry 83-57 in 60 x 30 and overcoming the challenge of Cork 80-71 in 40 x 20.

## JUVENILE GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

It was pleasing to see the emergence of some new counties in the Juvenile girls championships, Kerry, Leitrim and Galway in particular. Four Connacht counties achieved All-Ireland success in 40 x 20 with Roscommon taking three titles and Galway, Mayo and Leitrim one each. Limerick won titles in both courts while Tipperary and Mayo with two, Roscommon and Carlow shared the rest of the spoils in Softball.

Two girls in particular stood out in the championships. Noelle Casey of Limerick won both Under 14 Singles titles defeating Joy Smith of Meath 14-15, 15-5, 15-4 in 60 x 30 and taking the title against Rachel Casey of Roscommon in 40 x 20 15-7, 15-9. Lydia Doolan again produced excellent form in taking both Under 16 Singles titles defeating Tracy Buckley of Kerry in Softball and Colette Healy of Antrim in 40 x 20 to add to her host of All-Ireland titles at underage level. In Under 14 60 x 30 Doubles Tracey Coonan and Aisling Horan of Tipperary had the measure of Rachel Casey and Aifric Naughton, Roscommon, winning in the best of three games while Tipperary's Tracey Coonan and Aisling Horan were defeated by Aifric Naughton and Emer Coyle of Roscommon in the Under 14 40 x 20 Doubles final. The Under 16 Doubles in 60 x 30 went to Clare Kane and Sharon Kane of Carlow who had an easy victory over Carol Meere and Marie Culliney of Clare while in 40 x 20 Jackie Doyle and Jennifer Bracken of Roscommon defeated Clare's Noelle McGuane and Marie Culliney 21-10, 21-6 in the final. Emer Tansey of Mayo took the Under 15 Singles 60 x 30 medal with a good victory over Sarah Dunne from Kerry but Kerry's Sharon Daly made up for this disappointment by taking the Under 15 40 x 20 Singles medal with a 15-10, 15-6 win over Liz Martin from Dublin. Kerry also reached the final of the Under 15 60 x 30 Doubles Championship in which Sharon Daly and Mary Sugrue were defeated by Rachel Taheney and Lorraine McHale of Mayo 15-3, 15-8. The Under 15 Doubles title went to Galway's Claire Connaughton and Yvonne McHugh who had an easy win over Annette and Fiona Gildea of Donegal. Donegal also suffered defeat in Under 17 40 x 20 Singles when Catriona Collieran of Mayo defeated Sonia Hardy from the Ulster county. One of the most notable and welcome achievements of the year was the victory of Mary Shanley and Aisling Carey of Leitrim who won a first All-Ireland for the county at Under 17 40 x 20 Doubles when they defeated Una Ryan and Maura O'Doherty of Tipperary 21-5, 21-12 amid scenes of tremendous excitement at the final at Croke Park.

St Coman's from Roscommon dominated the girls Under 16

Team Championships winning both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 titles thus emphasising the strength of juvenile handball in that Club.

The standard of Juvenile girls handball continues to improve and while some Clubs may be less prominent than in the past there is no doubt but that the emergence of new Clubs and strong players has impacted on the girls handball scene in general. It is very evident that where coaching and development take place success follows. This is particularly true in Clubs which have undertaken the promotion and development of girls handball over the past few years. However, the number of Clubs which have seriously promoted juvenile girls handball are few indeed but those which have done so have proven that where coaching and training are available girls can be attracted to the game as an enjoyable, social and challenging sport.

## LADIES 40 X 20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ladies 40 x 20 championships were held in five grades with Berni Hennessy of Limerick increasing her record number of titles with a 21-10, 21-15 win over Fiona McKenna of Antrim in the final. Fiona partnered Brid MacCorraidh to victory in the Doubles final over Mary Lindsay and Sinéad Sherry from Antrim 21-7, 21-5. Ethna Mee from Roscommon had the better of Annette Farrell from Leitrim in the Novice Singles final while the Minor Singles title went to Fiona Healy of Kildare who defeated Bernadette McCarthy of Cork in two straight games. The Cork girl was also unlucky in Softball Singles going down to Claire Heneghan of Roscommon in the final. Roscommon collected both Minor Doubles titles with Clodagh O'Connor and Marie Finneran defeating Grainne O'Reilly and Claire Broderick of Antrim in 40 x 20 Doubles on a 21-4, 21-8 scoreline. Lorraine Noone and Sinéad Gannon represented Roscommon in the 60 x 30 Minor Doubles final in which they defeated sisters Rachel and Rebecca Kelly of Clare in two straight games.

One must comment on the relatively small number of entries for Ladies Championships with most of these coming from the traditional areas in which ladies handball has flourished. However, the upsurge of interest in ladies handball and promotion of the game at juvenile level for girls should certainly bring about an increase in juvenile activity and at Colleges level over the next five years or so.

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Interest in the 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Club Championships has been declining for several years. There are very few entries for the championships at provincial level and it is even difficult to generate interest in the championships at All-Ireland stage although the Club is the bedrock of the organisation both within Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in general and in handball. The evidence to support this claim is certainly weakening. One might speculate as to the various reasons for this but I believe it would be worth considering a change in the composition of teams for the event. Perhaps one meaningful Club Championship embracing, for example, Novice, Junior and Senior or Open grades in a team of six competition might be more worthwhile than the present Novice, Junior and Open Championships.

The Open 60 x 30 title was won by Templeudigan who defeated Glenbeigh 90-68 in the final. Ballaghaderreen of Mayo



took the Junior 60 x 30 title with an easy victory over Liscarroll while Arklow outscored Cloughfin from Tyrone in the Novice 60 x 30 final. Gort na Mona of Antrim won the Open 40 x 20 championship while Loughmacrory defeated Coolboy 97-89 in Junior. Ballyhogue from Wexford took the Novice 40 x 20 championship defeating Newmarket-on-Fergus of Clare 89-79 in an excellent final.

### THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES

The level of interest in the Third Level Colleges Championships continues to increase and there was an excellent entry for the 1998 events which were held in Galway. The host Club took the 'A' Team Championship through Campbell Brennan, Gene Kelleher, Tomás Reilly and Pat Custy who defeated DIT 132-91 in the final. The 'B' Championship was won by Sligo RTC represented by Kevin Meehan, Michael Shields, Gerard Quirke, Noel Gill and Gerry Feehily.

The Men's Open Singles final was a titanic battle in which Paul Brady of DIT defeated Tony Healy, UCC, 27-25. Brid MacCorraigh of Queen's University, Belfast, had a relatively easy victory over Leonore Coyle DIT in the Ladies 'A' Singles final. James Brady, representing Inchicore College, had no trouble in defeating John Dorgan of CIT in the 'B' Singles event while the Ladies 'B' Singles title was won by Evelyn Tangney, Tralee RTC who defeated Annette Farrell of UCD in the final.

Apart from the Colleges which participate in the Championships, handballers in many other Third Level Colleges do not take part simply because there is no handball Club in any of them. This is another area for development which could be examined by each Provincial Council together with the GAA Development Officers in the Colleges. Every county in which there is a Third Level College should promote the game there and give the opportunity to the College to take part in county competitions. It is in the interest of the future handball that we encourage as many students as possible to take part in our competitions and support them in their involvement in the administration of handball.

### 40 X 20 NATIONAL LEAGUE

The entry of only eight teams from seven counties in the 1998 National League was most disappointing. No Connacht or Ulster teams participated at all and in fact there no entries north of a line from Dublin to Galway. This must be of serious concern to handball members generally and to the Council in particular. Some counties feel that they do not have a realistic chance of reasonable success in the League and the travel involved in a National League is also a consideration. The introduction of regional groupings where travel would be confined to reasonable distances might be a way of attracting more entries from counties which do not participate at present.

Clare retained the title they won in 1997 but a very disappointing feature was the fact that the final did not take place.

### WATERFORD CRYSTAL IRISH NATIONALS

Once again there was an excellent level of entry for the

Waterford Crystal Irish Nationals which took place over three weekends. 215 players took part in the fifteen categories on offer from Boys and Girls 15 & Under levels to Men's and Ladies Open Singles events. The Nationals have now become a very popular feature of Irish handball and the concept of weekend handball is here to stay. The Nationals series again produced some marvellous contests and provided a chance for players to take part in a national tournament who might not otherwise have the opportunity to do so.

In addition to David Chapman from California who won the Men's Open Singles title ten Irish counties shared the fourteen remaining titles. A feature of the Men's Open Championship was the performance of the younger players such as Tony Healy and Kenneth Kane who are now making their mark at Senior level.

On behalf of the Council and of all players who took part I wish to thank and congratulate the host Clubs on doing an excellent job in catering for such a concentrated programme of matches during the Nationals. We are very grateful to the Clubs for the use of their facilities and to the officials who ensured that all games were played according to plan. Our thanks, too, to the referees and those who provided hospitality for everybody. We also express our appreciation for the work of the main Nationals/Awards Committee who did an enormous amount of work over a short period of time in planning the Nationals and Awards.

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann would like to express its thanks in particular to our main sponsors, Waterford Crystal, who have been tremendous supporters of handball over the years. Without their financial assistance it would not have been possible to organise the Nationals or the Awards and we thank John Foley, Director of Sales and Marketing at Waterford Crystal, for his help in so many ways. Nick Flynn, Public Relations Manager of Waterford Crystal has also been most supportive of our endeavours to promote handball through the Nationals and Awards and to achieve the standards of excellence which are expected in a partnership with such a prestigious Irish company.

### EUROPEAN REPORT

Our outreach to Britain and the continent continues apace concentrating on the One-Wall game which has been adopted so eagerly by the Belgians, French and Welsh. But the Spanish and English, with their own traditional codes of Pelota and Fives, are, like many of our own players, reluctant to try anything 'new'. However, one-wall was the original game both in Ireland and all the other hand ball-playing lands. The Fives game is played in a small concrete floored court using a hardball and the two principal forms, Eton and Rugby Fives, are quite different from each other.

In October we were invited to take part in the English Schools Championship and our Minor All-Ireland winners, Dessie Keegan, Carl Browne and Peter Reilly, accompanied by Con Moore, Uachtarán and Tom O'Connor, International Officer, travelled to Blackpool to take part. The visit proved very satisfactory with Dessie going to the final and the Meath pair reaching the semi-final in Doubles. The Championship will again be held on October 16/17, 1999 and the organisers hope that more Irish players will take part.

After the successful visit of the Roscommon team to the European One-Wall Youth Tournament in Belgium in March it was decided to hold this year's competition in Ireland. St Augustine's College, Dungarvan, will host a greatly increased

entry at Easter weekend. Wales, England and Holland will now join the original trio showing how quickly the game is taking off in Europe. All the above countries now hold championships and tournaments both in their own code and in one-wall handball and welcome Irish players to take part. Also, many of their Clubs and schools are interested in reciprocal visits with similar bodies in Ireland and hopefully these will continue in the future.

Over the past few years a group of University students in Finland have been playing squash-court handball as have also students at Warwick University in the west of England. The latter have formed a national organisation to promote the game in schools and colleges. They hope to make a trip to Ireland in 1999 and to participate in our Third Level Colleges Championships in 2000.

## VENUES AND REFEREEING

As can be understood from the level of national competitions and the extent of our tournament structure a huge number of national fixtures must be catered for. These are very well accommodated and managed by Clubs throughout the country who put their facilities at the disposal of the Council and supply officials and referees to officiate at the games. We greatly appreciate their help and co-operation. Without this it would certainly not be possible to organise and carry out such a comprehensive and extensive programme of matches. Our sincere thanks to all referees who helped out during the year: they provide an invaluable service and while they may not always get the credit which is due to them they deserve the thanks and appreciation of players, spectators and officials alike for their tremendous commitment to refereeing.

A number of provinces have held refereeing courses during the past year and it is imperative that this trend be continued. Additional personnel, both male and female, must be attracted to refereeing and encouraged and supported in their efforts to do so. Refereeing is not always an easy task, although it can be a very pleasant and rewarding one, particularly when players co-operate by accepting the referee's decisions in a sporting manner.

The completion of new courts at the provincial centres at O'Loughlin's, Kilkenny and Cappagh, Co. Limerick together with the further development of the new three-court complex at Kingscourt will be of immense benefit to handball. These Clubs have set new standards for both player and spectator comfort which other units must follow. As we face into the new millennium every Club should review the standards of its own facilities and embark on a development programme where necessary to bring their standards up to the expectations of players and spectators of the modern era.

## BUNSCOILEANNA

Twenty four counties took part in the seventh National Programme for primary schools organised by Cumann na mBunscol and Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. This promotion was again very successful and on behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to thank the executive of Cumann na mBunscol and the various units throughout the country for promoting and organising handball in primary schools where such is the case. However, much remains to be done. It is

time for handball units at every level to take the introduction of the game at primary school level very seriously indeed. The absence of juvenile players from Club registration lists in so many Clubs is an indication of the fact that these Clubs do not promote handball at Club level let alone in their local schools. If the game is to prosper in the future the introduction of the game at primary school level is vital. It is very important to offer the use of our facilities to schools and to assist teachers and Cumann na mBunscol at county level in any way possible in introducing the game and in coaching young players. One such example has been the introduction by Cumann na mBunscol in Dublin of coaching clinics at Croke Park whereby fifth and sixth class pupils are introduced to the game. This is something which could be promoted by every county and there is an onus on County Committees to encourage Clubs to introduce the game to primary school pupils.

## FÉILE NA nGAEL

Féile na nGael 1998 was hosted by Coiste Liathróid Láimhe Loch Garman. A record 54 teams took part and the now standard seven competitions were held, five for boys and two for girls.

The winners were as follows:

<u>60 x 30 Boys</u>	<i>Roinn I</i>	Team Skills	St Coman's Roscommon Gerald Coonan, Ballina, Tipperary
	<i>Roinn II</i>	Team Skills	Kingscourt, Cavan Sean Gargan, Kingscourt, Cavan
<u>40 x 20 Girls</u>	<i>Roinn I</i>	Team Skills	Toonagh, Clare Eilish Hanson, Toonagh, Clare
	<i>Roinn II</i>	Team Skills	Ballymacelligott, Kerry Maria Daly, Ballymacelligott, Kerry
<u>40 x 20 Boys</u>	<i>Roinn I</i>	Team Skills	Williamstown, Galway Noel McHugh, Williamstown, Galway
	<i>Roinn II</i>	Team Skills	Cavan Gaels, Cavan Patrick Clerkin, Cavan Gaels, Cavan
	<i>Roinn III</i>	Team Skills	St Brigid's, Laois Mark Lennon, St Brigid's, Laois

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to congratulate and thank all Clubs which took part in Féile '98. We are deeply indebted to Coiste Liathróid Láimhe Loch Garman and the very enthusiastic organising committee which made all the arrangements for the competitions in Wexford. The host Clubs did an excellent job in looking after the various competitions and their visitors, many of whom have expressed their thanks and appreciation in writing to the hosts and to the Handball Council.

The one disappointing note about Féile na nGael is the fact that many counties do not hold qualifying competitions or trials



to decide on the county representatives at Féile. This GAA Youth Festival is a marvellous shop window for our games. Every Club should have the opportunity of taking part in trials to represent their county at Féile. In some cases the entries from various counties are very predictable but great credit is due to those Clubs who do take part every year. However, it is a great pity that others do not have the opportunity to do so. Perhaps it is time for the Council to review the entry qualifications for Féile and to encourage new Clubs to take part. One way of doing so would be to restrict a player's involvement in Féile to one year.

## ONE-WALL NATIONALS

The One-Wall Nationals held in Roscommon (1997) and Meath (1998) attempted to put handball back in public view and to show how readily handball could be established in new areas and in places where the game has faded away. Also, it gives a stage for the new countries, who may not have many chances to participate in tournaments, to meet and play against our handballers. What is disappointing is that most of our top players have shown little enthusiasm for the code. But in America active participation by top players such as David Chapman, John Bike and Naty Alvarado in their One-Wall Nationals has raised the profile of handball in general. The USHA has adopted one-wall as the central plank in their strategy of bringing handball to new areas and schools. Last year alone this youth development programme exposed 14,000 children to the game for the first time and that in only three cities - Chicago, Phoenix and New York. The Irish Handball Council has set aside a special grant to enable Clubs or counties to host these One-Wall Nationals each year.

Robbie McCarthy of the Mullingar Club in Westmeath was winner of the Men's Open Singles title in which he defeated Pat Hall in a very tight game 15-14, 15-14. Lydia Doolan added another title to her long list of achievements defeating Sinéad Mac Cormack of Longford 15-1, 15-3 in the Ladies Open final. The Men's 'B' title went to Shane Dormer of Laois who had a comfortable win over Ashley Lloyd of Wales while Dessie Keegan of Ballaghaderreen won the Boys Under 17 title. The girls Under 14 title went to Angela Lyons from the Naomh Mhuire Club in Leixlip who defeated Erin McGuane of Kells in the final and the Under 14 Boys championship was won by Alan McDermott from Ballintubber who defeated another Meath player, Alan Tormey, 15-4, 15-5 in the final.

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to thank Michael McGee, Rúnaí, Coiste Liathróid Láimhe na Mí and his committee on their magnificent organisation of the One-Wall championships. They certainly put in a huge effort to ensure that the event would be a major success. Our thanks also go to the host Clubs and to the officials at the various venues as well as the referees who took charge of the games.

Apart from the aforementioned points regarding the value of one-wall handball both in promoting the game and in providing competition, it is worth pointing out that the inclusion of One-Wall Championships with the Waterford Crystal World Championships on a regular basis should certainly provide an incentive for players to develop their one-wall skills and take the opportunity to prove themselves on the world stage.

## USHA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The success of the Irish team at the USHA Junior Championships in Chicago in December last was certainly one of the high points of the year. Never before has the entire Irish team of boys and girls won all the championships in which they took part. This follows on the marvellous success of the Irish Junior teams over the years since Michael 'Duxie' Walsh took our first title at 15 and Under level in 1981. In addition to the official team, Patricia Doyle from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow won the Girls 13 and Under championship.

The Irish team successes were as follows:

Girls 15 and Under	Lydia Doolan, St Coman's, Roscommon
Boys 15 and Under	Joseph McCann, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo
Boys 17 and Under	Dessie Keegan, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo
Girls 17/19 and Under	Julie Long, St Brigid's, Dublin
Boys 19 and Under	Paul Brady, Mullahoran, Cavan

Great credit is certainly due to the Clubs which foster and develop handball and produce juvenile players capable of winning USHA and World Championship titles. It takes a lot of time, commitment, effort, dedication and, above all, interest in young people, to coach and develop them to international standard. Our American counterparts have taken particular note of the Irish successes, especially over recent years since the Junior ladies first took part in the Championships and have reviewed their methods of developing handball at underage level in both Clubs and schools.

Our sincere thanks are due to Team Manager, Richard Willoughby, who did a magnificent job in looking after the team and their interests for the entire duration of the trip. He was very ably supported by Assistant Manager Anne Naughton who, in keeping with the standard requirement to have a female adult with the team, did a magnificent job in looking after the interests of all players during the trip.

Our thanks and congratulations are also due to our National Coach/Tutors, Seán Mac an tSaoi and Jimmy King, who gave of their time and professional expertise in preparing the team for the U.S. Juniors.

Congratulations are due in great measure to Br Finbar Spring of St Augustine's College, Dungarvan, on his initiative in bringing 15 young players to take part in the Championships. The Coolboy Club are also to be congratulated on taking a party of male and female players to Chicago and, all in all, the Irish players did themselves and Irish handball proud over the entire tournament. Finally, our thanks to O'Neill's Sports Company for providing playing gear and track suits for the Irish team for the USHA Juniors.

## COMHAIRLE NA mBAN

The integration of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan and Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann progressed further during the year with the objective of introducing ladies handball fully into the mainstream of handball. Both bodies have now

accepted the proposal that ladies handball will have the same status as Provincial Councils in the overall structure and organisation of handball. This has been facilitated by the involvement of ladies in various competitions such as the new Provincial Open Tournaments, Féile na nGael, the Primary Schools Promotions and the inclusion of Ladies Senior finals with the Men's finals in 40 x 20. These events and opportunities are an ideal way of bringing ladies handball to the attention of the wider handball public where they can see the level of skill involved and recognise that ladies handball has a major part to play in the overall development of handball.

Much progress has been made in rationalising the administration of ladies handball at provincial level. Each province is much more aware of its responsibilities in accommodating ladies representatives on the Provincial Council. Ladies handball should always be an important item on every agenda and must be given adequate time and discussion if we are to make progress in promoting the game among ladies.

On behalf of the Handball Council I wish to thank and congratulate the small band of very dedicated officials and coaches who have contributed enormously to the development of ladies handball over the past thirty years. Their knowledge and experience should be put to good use in introducing the game in many more Clubs. However, the development of ladies handball must be taken on a much broader basis. All units must play their part in this and it must be no longer left to the small band of people who have brought ladies handball to its present state with relatively little real support until recent years.

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to thank Bridín Uí Mhaolagáin, Uachtarán, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan, Sinéad Uí Shearraigh, Rúnaí, Susan Carey, Cisteoir and Aodan Ó Maolagáin, PRO, for their marvellous work for and tremendous commitment to ladies handball. As national officers they have administered the affairs of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan in an exemplary manner. The full integration of both organisations will be beneficial to everybody concerned in the future. The challenge for everybody now is to build on the good work of the pioneers of ladies handball and to take seriously the task of introducing the game at Club level and providing coaching and training sessions for girls as well as boys.

## **WATERFORD CRYSTAL AWARDS**

The Waterford Crystal Awards for 1997 were shared by seven counties and John Bike from the USA who was rewarded for his excellent achievement in bringing off the double at the World Championships in Canada.

It was marvellous occasion for the St Paul's Club in Antrim with three of its members being honoured in the Awards ceremony. Mary Lindsay who has been involved for several decades in the sport as player, referee, coach and administrator received the Masters Player of the Year Award in recognition of her World 'B' Doubles victory in Canada and reaching the All-Ireland Doubles final. One of Mary's protégés, Fiona McKenna who received the Female Player of the Year Award was the 1997 World champion at 19 and Under level and a winner at the Waterford Crystal Nationals for the past three years. The Coach of the Year Award went to Seán Mac an tSaoi from the St Paul's Club who had a tremendous input into the preparation of the Irish players for the World Championships.

## **YOUNG PLAYER AWARDS**

Lydia Doolan from the St Coman's Club in Roscommon received the Female Young Player of the Year Award for the second year in succession having won All-Ireland 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 championships as well as Colleges titles and the World 15 and Under Championship in 1997. Paul Brady from the Mullahoran Club in Cavan received the Male Young Player Award following his One-Wall National title and helping DIT to capture the Third Level Team Championship before going on to Canada where he won the Boys 17 and Under World title. Peter McAuley from the O'Raghallaigh's Club in Drogheda fully merited the accolade of Male Player of the Year for his efforts in winning the All-Ireland 40 x 20 Senior Singles title, the Waterford Crystal Nationals Singles and his sixth Senior Hardball Singles title.

## **OFFICIALS RECOGNISED**

Joe Jennings from the Cumann na Naomh Club in Dublin was the only official to be elected for a fourth year as President of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and was a very worthy recipient of the Hall of Fame Award. Official of the Year, Jim Mackey, has been Secretary of the Wexford Handball Board for ten years and also acts as the county PRO contributing a weekly column to the provincial papers in Wexford. Coolboy received the Club of the Year Award in recognition of their juvenile development, games programme and the provision of extra facilities at the Club.

Presenting the Awards Joe Jacob, T.D., Minister of State, congratulated all recipients and recommended handball as an ideal sport for life. He paid particular tribute to Waterford Crystal for their sponsorship of the Nationals and the Awards scheme. Mr John Foley, Director of Sales and Marketing at Waterford Crystal, said his company was delighted to be associated with such a successful Awards Scheme and also the Irish Nationals which had brought a new dimension to the game in Ireland.

## **COACHING**

There was less activity on the coaching front in 1998 than in 1997 and there was less demand for courses. Fewer people (50) attended the courses which were organised in Kildare, Kerry, Armagh, Kilkenny and Meath. To date 150 Foundation Level Coaches have qualified with certification from the Coaching Council and the National Coaching and Training Centre in Limerick.

The next phase of coaching courses will take place in spring and summer of 1999. This will see the introduction of Level I courses for those who have previously qualified as Foundation Level coaches. A further step will be the integration and assimilation into the new structure of coaches who qualified under the Gormanston system.

At present the Council has two coach tutors, Seán Mac an tSaoi and Jimmy King, who direct and conduct our coaching courses. We have the opportunity in 1999 to avail of the training programme to qualify two further coaches at this level and at the time of writing applications are being invited from counties and provinces for this course.

The Level One course syllabus is being finalised and will be the basis for courses in the future. Additional Foundation Level courses will also be organised and counties which have not yet



participated in these are urged to avail of such courses during the year.

The importance of having qualified coaches, especially for juveniles, cannot be overstated. This is particularly so in view of the care and respect children are entitled to in their dealings with adults in a sporting context. They must neither be neglected nor pushed too hard in their efforts to learn the game and to develop the skills required for handball. In addition, they must be fully respected as individuals with their own rights and responsibilities. Attendance of juvenile coaches at coaching courses and progression through the coaching ranks must be a pre-requisite for involvement with juveniles.

## PROVINCIAL OPENS

The introduction of new Provincial Open Tournaments has provided a major impetus for the development of handball. The concept of wall-to-wall weekend handball has been widely accepted and welcomed and players have voted in numbers to participate in these tournaments.

The organisers of the very successful Munster and Connacht Open 60 x 30 Tournaments had an initial difficulty in attracting sufficient players to take part in the tournaments. However, the success of both events most certainly augurs well for their continuation in the future. Over 100 players participated in each of the Leinster and Ulster 40 x 20 Opens. There was a particularly good level of entry for the Men's and Ladies Open Singles in each case, proving the attraction of the opportunity for players of competing at the highest level. This can only be for the betterment of handball. Apart from attracting players of various grades to compete at the highest level the tournaments also afford players the opportunity of taking part in intensive handball competition over a number of weekends throughout the year, thus bringing our players another step closer to what it takes to take part in international tournaments and the USHA Nationals.

On behalf of the players who took part in the Provincial Opens and of their supporters who attended the various events and, also, on behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to thank and congratulate the organisers of the Provincial Opens on the excellent arrangements for all of the events and on the success achieved in the first year of the tournaments. All venues were very well prepared for the games, hospitality was in place and local organising committees did a marvellous job in catering for everybody.

It would be remiss of me in reviewing the Provincial Opens not to pay tribute to the initiative and enthusiasm of Uachtarán Conchubhar Ó Mórdha in introducing the idea of Provincial Opens. They have certainly been one of the major success stories of the past decade and look set to increase in popularity in the years ahead.

## CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

The annual grant of £25,000 was again made available by Cumann Lúthchleas Gael to the Handball Council in 1998. The Council certainly appreciates this substantial grant which is being matched and enhanced by a similar grant from our parent body for our 75th anniversary celebrations.

The Provincial GAA Councils have also been very supportive of handball at provincial level and also support Ard Chomhairle by means of advertising in the Handball Yearbook and through

special grants towards the cost of the participation of the Irish team in the USHA Junior Championships.

Gabhann Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann buíochas le hArd Chomhairle agus le Coiste Bainistí CLG as ucht a dtacaíocht do liathróid láimhe. Ár mbuíochas go speisialta don Uachtarán, Seosamh Mac Donncha a thóg súil mhór i gcúrsaí liathróid láimhe agus a bhí i láthair go minic ar ócáidí speisialta i rith na bliana.

Gabhamid buíochas mór, freisin, le Liam Ó Maolmhichíl, Árd Stiúrthóir, as ucht a chabhair agus a chomhairle go minic i ribh na bliana agus le foireann na h-árd oifige as ucht a dtacaíocht.

Séamus Ó Béara retires in 1999 as the Coiste Bainistí representative on Ard Chomhairle of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and we thank him sincerely for his personal interest in and commitment to handball affairs over the past three years.

The Council also thanks all GAA units and personnel who assist in promoting handball in any way at Club, county or provincial level. We appreciate, in particular, the financial support given to handball units where such is the case and look forward to further co-operation and development in 1999.

## HANDBALL YEARBOOK

The Council published its third Yearbook in December 1998. This has now become a standard publication of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and includes a review of activities throughout the previous year, plans and events for the following year, features on European and other international matters, features on players and officials and reports from counties and provinces.

Because of many factors including the late receipt of a number of county articles it was not possible to publish the book in time to distribute it widely before Christmas. It was most disappointing that a number of counties did not feel it worthwhile to contribute articles for the Yearbook. This reflects poorly on the game in those counties. Surely it is not beyond the possibility of any county in modern times to keep an accurate record of events throughout the year and to supply this information with a couple of photographs to the Editorial Committee by October. This committee has set a deadline of 18 October 1999 for receipt of material for Yearbook 2000 and it is expected that every county will meet this requirement. This will be more important than in the past as the Yearbook will be distributed to all registered adult members from next year onwards.

On behalf of the Handball Council, and of members generally, I wish to thank and compliment the members of the Editorial Committee on their very professional input to the publication of the Yearbook. We are very fortunate to have the services of such distinguished writers as Mick Dunne, Owen McCann and Martin Kiely and these are very ably supported by the work of Tom O'Connor and Cathaoirleach Tomás Ó Briain. Without their tremendous dedication and commitment it certainly would not be possible to produce the publication of which we are now justifiably proud.

## PUBLICITY

It has always been a struggle to gain adequate publicity for handball at national level. There is much better success at local and regional level where local radios and provincial papers are much more amenable to publicising our game than their

counterparts at national level. Publicity at national level, however, did improve during the year with the re-introduction of the weekly handball column by Mick Dunne in the Irish Independent. This is a very positive and welcome move but it is not always supplemented and indeed can be hampered by the lack of information supplied to Mick and the lack of an adequate supply of results from venues after weekend matches.

The Examiner and Irish News also carry regular features on handball and our thanks are due to Peter Dennehy and Tony Magee respectively for their contributions in these papers as well as to Mick Dunne for his excellent work. Many of our county PROs do a great job in providing information for the local media. This is an excellent service to their members and we acknowledge the time, effort and commitment which they give to this task.

Following six years of excellent coverage of handball by Network 2 of the Waterford Crystal Irish Nationals this channel now only covers live events and decided not to include handball in its schedule of sports coverage in 1998. This is very disappointing and very much regretted. RTE Sports coverage is influenced in a major way by several other channels including the Sports Channels which set the pace in sports coverage, but it is very unfair and unjust that minority sports, including handball which is a national sport, are totally excluded from national coverage.

Teilifís na Gaeilge covered a number of handball events throughout the year and this was a very welcome development. At the time of writing negotiations are under way with that station and TV3 in an effort to secure some T.V. coverage for handball in 1999.

## UACHTARÁN

As Conchubhar Ó Mórdha comes to the end of his term of office as Uachtarán of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I would like to place on record my thanks and appreciation for his support during a very busy three years. He led by example and introduced a number of initiatives to handball which have already been very successful. Con proposed the idea of publishing the Handball Yearbook which has now become a regular issue. He also pioneered the introduction of the Provincial Opens which, as noted elsewhere, have been very successful. Coupled with this was the introduction of the ranking system which over time will prove to be of great benefit to the game, providing encouragement for the top players to maintain and improve their placings and for the challengers to make a major impact on the ranking system.

The Uachtarán brought many excellent personal qualities to bear on his presidency including his communication skills, his interest in Club affairs, including visiting many, many Clubs throughout the country over the past three years and his open and honest relationship with players and officials. Apart from travelling extensively throughout the country the Uachtarán also represented Irish handball in England and Wales and also led the Irish party for the World Championships in Winnipeg in 1997.

On behalf of everybody with whom Con came into contact I wish to thank him for his tremendous enthusiasm and leadership over the past three years. We also extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Con's wife Mary and to their family who supported him fully in his role as President. Without this tangible support it would not have been possible for him to devote as

much time and energy to handball as he did, nor would it have been possible for him to realise the ambitions he had for his presidency.

Finally, we wish Con a long and happy retirement with his family and trust that he will always be actively involved in the sport of handball which he has served so well.

## UACHTARÁN NUA

Cuirim fíor fáilte roimh ár Uachtarán nua, Peadar Mac Artúir ó Chontae Mhuigheo. Táim cinnte go ndéanfaidh sé sár-obair le linn a thréimhse agus go mbeidh an cluiche ag dul i bhfeabhas i gcónaí faoin a chinnireacht.

As a former Rúnaí Contae and Rúnaí Cuige and having served as Cathaoirleach of Coiste Gnímh, Peadar Mac Artúir has served handball exceptionally well for many, many years. He has also been a member of several central committees and will certainly bring the fruits of his experience to bear on his work as Uachtarán. We greatly look forward to his presidency and hope that all he wishes to achieve will come to fruition over the next three years.

## HANDBALL TRUST FUND

After a decade of long and protracted negotiations the Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann Trust Fund of £150,000 has been finally established for the development of handball in the capital as an alternative to the provision of a 60 x 30 court which was originally intended to replace the old 60 x 30 court which was demolished for the development of Hill 16 in 1988.

Five trustees have been appointed by Cumann Lúthchleas Gael (2), Coiste Liathróid Láimhe Atha Cliath (2) and Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann (1), to assess and decide on all applications for Trust Fund monies and to advise Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann of their decisions.

The establishment of the Trust Fund should provide a marvellous opportunity for the development of handball in Dublin. It is vital that existing Clubs draw up realistic proposals for consideration by the trustees. This major input of cash into Dublin handball has the potential to totally revitalise the game in the capital city. The Fund will certainly be well managed and well controlled but it is even more important that the benefits at grass roots level be very real and very substantial in terms of promoting the game in the city, particularly at schools level and in existing Clubs. Indeed, it is imperative that all handball Clubs in Dublin immediately establish a policy of developing juvenile handball and promoting the game at local level. Many of them do not have juvenile sections at present and the promotion and development of juvenile handball in Dublin has been left to too few for too long.

## NA MAIRBH

During the year a number of handball members, officials and players went to their eternal reward. The death took place in September of Tom McElligott, who was Secretary of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann from 1949 to 1954. Aged 84, he was a secondary teacher, historian and author who wrote 'Handball', a comprehensive history of the game, in 1984. He was handball columnist for the Irish Independent and Sunday



Independent for over twenty years. As a player he held Munster and All-Ireland titles in the 1940s and represented his province on the Handball Council for many years before being elected Secretary in 1949.

Joe Collins from the Liscarroll Club in Cork died suddenly at the end of August. He represented his county on numerous occasions at provincial and All-Ireland levels and was to have played with Cork on the first weekend of September in the Golden Masters 'B' Doubles final against Kildare. He was a dedicated Clubman and is sorely missed by his colleagues at both Club and county level. We extend sympathy to his wife, Colette, and his extended family.

Dick McMullen who had been Caretaker of the Ceannaras Handball Centre for twenty one years, retiring from that position in 1997, died in June 1998. He gave excellent service to the Centre during those years and it was sad that he did not live to enjoy his retirement to the full.

Several handball families were affected by the terrible tragedy of the Omagh bombing on 15 August 1999. The families of the late Gareth Conway, Brenda Logue and Brian McCrory were inextricably linked with handball in Tyrone and throughout Ulster. I hope that the sympathy and prayers of all handball personnel are of some consolation to the bereaved and to the families which were affected by this terrible tragedy.

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to extend our sympathies to the families, friends and Clubs of all our deceased members and supporters who went to their eternal reward during the past year. They were specially remembered at the 75th Anniversary commemorative event in January 1999 which included a Mass of thanksgiving and remembrance. May the souls of all our departed rest in eternal peace.

## BUÍOCHAS

On behalf of Ard Comhairle, and on a personal note, I wish to thank and congratulate the hundreds of voluntary members of our organisation who devote so much of their time and energies

to the promotion and organisation of handball. I would like to pay a special tribute to the coaches and officials who look after the vital area of juvenile handball. They perform a major service for the game and, quite often, their work goes unseen and unacclaimed. However, these people are the real custodians of the future of handball as they pass on their skills and dedication to the younger generation.

Our thanks are due, also, to all county officers, especially the Rúnaithí Contae who carry out a major role in the organisation of handball. I also thank the Provincial Secretaries on organising their programme and for their co-operation and help in forwarding information to the office. I would also like to thank all members of our central Coistí for their help in the administration of national handball affairs. They give a tremendous commitment to handball and I value their advice and assistance on many issues.

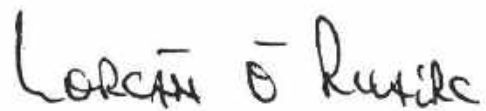
Special tribute is also due to Cionnaith Ó Chonbhui in carrying out his duties so well as Cisteoir of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. He brings a very professional approach to his role which is of great benefit to Ard Chomhairle and to the organisation as a whole.

I thank all our players, coaches and referees without whom the game could not prosper. Their help and co-operation is always forthcoming and is very much appreciated.

Many thanks are due to the GAA central office staff for their advice and support in very many ways throughout the year.

On behalf of all members, players and units, and on a personal note, I wish to express my thanks to Aingeal Nic Lochlainn for her dedication to her work for Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann.

Finally, may I wish everybody involved in handball a very successful year in 1999.



LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta



# NA RÚIN

## ADMINISTRATION

1. That the words "...on behalf of the Central Council" be added to Fo-Riail 2.  
(*Tiobraid Árann*)
2. That the words "...on behalf of the Central Council" be added to Fo-Riail 31(G).  
(*Tiobraid Árann*)
3. That the word Rule be substituted by "Bye-Law" where it occurs in Fo-Riail 34(E).  
(*Tiobraid Árann*)

## CHAMPIONSHIPS/GRADING

4. That Provincial and All-Ireland Masters Singles and Doubles hardball championships be introduced. Amend Fo-Riail 47 accordingly.  
(*Cill Mhantáin*)
5. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann organise championships for players over 65 in 60 x 30 and 40 x 20. Amend Fo-Riail 47 accordingly.  
(*An Clár*)
6. Amend Fo-Riail 47G(ii) as follows:  
Masters 'B'. Confined to players over 40 years of age who have not won Novice, Junior, Intermediate, Senior or Masters 'A' or 'B' Provincial or All-Ireland titles.  
(*An Clár*)
7. Amend Fo-Riail 47(H)(ii) as follows:  
Silver Masters 'B'. Confined to players over 45 years of age who have not won Novice, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Masters 'A' or 'B' or Silver Masters 'A' or 'B' Provincial or All-Ireland titles.  
(*An Clár*)
8. Amend Fo-Riail 47 I(ii) as follows:  
Golden Masters 'B'. Confined to players over 50 years of age who have not won Novice, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Masters 'A' or 'B', Silver Masters 'A' or 'B' or Golden Masters 'A' or 'B' Provincial or All-Ireland titles.  
(*An Clár*)
9. Amend Fo-Riail 47J(ii) as follows:  
Emerald Masters 'B'. Confined to players over 55 years of age who have not won Novice, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Masters 'A' or 'B', Silver Masters 'A' or 'B', Golden Masters 'A' or 'B' or Emerald Masters 'A' or 'B' Provincial or All-Ireland titles.  
(*An Clár*)
10. Amend Fo-Riail K(ii) as follows:  
Diamond Masters 'B'. Confined to players over 60 years of age who have not won Novice, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Masters 'A' or 'B', Silver Masters 'A' or 'B', Golden Masters 'A' or 'B', Emerald Masters 'A' or 'B' or Diamond Masters 'A' or 'B' Provincial or All-Ireland titles.  
(*An Clár*)
11. That All-Ireland Under 12 and Under 13 Singles and Doubles Championships be introduced in 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. Amend Fo-Riail 47 (O)(i).  
(*Cill Mhantáin*)
12. That the following clause be added to Fo-Rialacha 49(e) and 52(a). Any player over 18 may elect to play in the Senior All-Ireland Championships.  
(*Aontroim*)
13. Amend Fo-Riail 52(a) as follows:  
The Senior Championships shall be open to all players who have won at least:

- (i) A Minor Provincial or All-Ireland title.
- (ii) An Under 21 Provincial or All-Ireland title
- (iii) A Junior Provincial or All-Ireland title

Fo-Riail 49E to be amended accordingly.

(*An Clár*)

14. That the following be added to Fo-Riail 54:  
Seedings shall also take account of the results of Provincial Open 60 x 30 Tournaments  
(*Cill Chainnigh*)
15. That Silver Masters 'B' and Golden Masters 'B' All-Ireland winners should continue to be eligible for Novice competitions. Amend Fo-Riail 49(B)(ii).  
(*Baile Atha Cliath*)
16. That the grade of "Novice" be called "Junior 2". Amend Fo-Rialacha 47F, 47G(ii), 47H(ii), 47I(ii), 47J(ii), 47K(ii), 47L, 47P(i), 49B(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), (vii), 49C(ii), 49C(iv), 49F(i) accordingly.  
(*Baile Atha Cliath*)

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

17. That a county participating in either the 40x20 or 60x30 National League be allowed to field their 6 best players. Amend Playing Rules Part V(B) Regulations for National League games. Fo-Riail 47(M) refers.  
(*An Clár*)

## PLAYING RULES

18. That Fo-Riail 31(C) be changed to read:  
"Motions to revise playing rules may be tabled only in years divisible by 2 and in such years they shall take precedence in Motions on annual Congress agenda."  
(*Aontroim*)
19. That the "Dark Blue" ball be used for U13, U14 and U15 competitions on the 40x20 court. Playing Rules Part V(H) (Playing Equipment) to be amended. Fo-Riail 47O(i) refers.  
(*Aontroim*)
20. That the "Dark Blue" ball be used in the Under 15 and Under 16 Grades Boys 40 x 20 - Playing Rules Part V(H) (Playing Equipment) to be amended. Fo-Riail 47O(i) refers.  
(*Cill Mhantáin*)
21. That a two minute break be introduced between the first and second games in 60 x 30 softball and hardball for one year on a trial basis. Amend Playing Rules - Rest Periods 2 (a).  
(*Cill Mhantáin*)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

22. That Congress introduce a grading system 'A', 'B', & 'C' along the lines originally proposed to Congress by Dublin.  
(*Baile Atha Cliath*)
23. That medals be restored to the quality required by rule.  
(*Baile Atha Cliath*)
24. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann investigate the possibility of re-introducing a Player Injury Scheme.  
(*Tiobraid Árann*)
25. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann circulate an information leaflet on all aspects of insurance to all units of the organisation.  
(*Tiobraid Árann*)



# Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15 March 1999

The President and members of  
Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

A Cháirde

We have examined the records of an Chomhairle for the year ended 31 December 1997.

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to IR£126,721. Expenditure came to IR£130,041 leaving an Operating Deficit of IR£3,320. In the preceding year there was a surplus of IR£8,069. As compared with that year the following were the principal variations in Income and Expenditure:

	Increase IR£	Decrease IR£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Gate Receipts	2,622	
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants		10,000
Government Grants		3,328
European Union Grants		3,158
Marathon		4,460
Sundry Sales	2,026	
Yearbook Surplus	2,196	

### EXPENDITURE

	Increase IR£	Decrease IR£
Competition Expenses	2,045	
Provincial Open Tournament Grants	2,600	
World Championship Expenses		13,661
Meetings and Officials' Travel	3,880	
Administration and General	4,345	

### BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of an Chomhairle at 31 December 1998 including outlay on Ceannáras IR£304,200 had a book value of IR£380,847. Liabilities at the same date including Bank Overdraft IR£175,461 came to IR£193,516. Assets exceeded Liabilities by IR£187,331.

As in previous years Interest on Bank Borrowings has been avoided by arrangement with Central Council C.L.G.

Is sinne le meas

D. O'CONNOR & CO., Chartered Accountants

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1998

	Schedule	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
<b>INCOME</b>			
County Committee and Members		13,714	12,782
Gate Receipts		6,638	3,976
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants		25,000	35,000
National League Grant		4,000	4,000
Government Grants net	1	59,212	62,540
European Union Grant		—	3,158
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		6,937	6,416
Marathon		—	4,460
Advertising		1,000	—
Sundry Sales		4,058	2,032
Yearbook Surplus		5,431	3,235
Other Income		731	653
		<u>126,721</u>	<u>138,252</u>

### EXPENDITURE

Competition Expenses		14,157	12,112
International		6,138	5,985
Provincial Open Tournament Grants		2,600	—
3rd Level Grants		400	—
World Championship Expenses		—	13,661
Juvenile		2,147	1,948
Promotional Materials		3,695	3,043
Trophies		10,151	9,880
Meetings and Officials' Travel		19,480	15,600
Administration Grants	2	2,600	2,600
Coaching, Leadership and Development		1,939	2,008
Administration and General	3	64,920	60,575
Depreciation		1,814	2,771
		<u>130,041</u>	<u>130,183</u>

### OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS

	(3,320)	(8,069)
Balance at beginning of year	190,651	182,582
Balance at end of year	<u>187,331</u>	<u>190,651</u>

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1998

	Note	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	2	304,550	305,927
Loan – Galway County Board		18,000	18,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stocks		2,111	2,131
C.L.G. Development Scheme		100	100
Loans to Clubs		450	450
Debtors and Prepayments		18,367	16,542
Cash and Bank Balances		37,269	37,699
		<u>58,297</u>	<u>56,922</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Court Construction Grants		2,500	2,500
Grants to Underprivileged Areas		1,491	1,491
Creditors		14,064	10,661
Bank Overdraft		175,461	175,546
		<u>193,516</u>	<u>190,198</u>
<b>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		(135,219)	(133,276)
		<u>187,331</u>	<u>190,651</u>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>			
Accumulated Fund		<u>187,331</u>	<u>190,651</u>

### To the Members of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

We have prepared the foregoing Accounts and Balance Sheet from the books and records of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and from information supplied and we confirm that they are correctly drawn up in accordance with such books, records and information.

1 Christchurch Square,  
Dublin 8  
15 March 1999

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES  
Chartered Accountants  
Registered Auditors

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1998**

**1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

- (A) The accounts are prepared under the historic cost convention.
- (B) Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets other than Outlay on Ceannáras in equal annual instalments over their expected useful lives. The rates applied are as follows:
- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Gymnasium Equipment | – 20% Straight line |
| Office Equipment    | – 20% Straight line |
- (C) Assets held under leasing arrangements that transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the Council are capitalised. The capital element of the related rental obligations is included in creditors. The interest element of the rental obligations is charged to the Profit and Loss Account so as to produce a periodic rate of charge.

**2. FIXED ASSETS**

	Outlay on Ceannáras IR£	Gymnasium Equipment IR£	Office Equipment IR£	Total IR£
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 January 1998	304,200	4,494	13,853	322,547
Additions in Year	—	—	437	437
At 31 December 1998	<u>304,200</u>	<u>4,494</u>	<u>14,290</u>	<u>322,984</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
At 1 January 1998	—	4,494	12,126	16,620
Charge for year	—	—	1,814	1,814
At 31 December 1998	—	<u>4,494</u>	<u>13,940</u>	<u>18,434</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	<u>304,200</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>304,550</u>

**3. ACCUMULATED FUND**

	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
Balance at beginning of year	190,651	182,582
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	(3,320)	8,069
Balance at date	<u>187,331</u>	<u>190,651</u>

**SCHEDULES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1998**

	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
<b>SCHEDULE 1:</b>		
<b>Government Grants</b>		
Annual Grant	58,840	53,040
Irish Nationals	—	1,500
World Championships	—	4,000
International	372	3,000
Outstanding Sportspersons	6,000	4,000
Equipment Grant	—	8,000
Coaching Grant	—	1,000
	<u>65,212</u>	<u>74,540</u>
Less: Distributable	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(12,000)</u>
	<u>59,212</u>	<u>62,540</u>

**SCHEDULE 2:**

**Administration Grants**

Connaught Council	500	500
Leinster Council	500	500
Munster Council	500	500
Ulster Council	500	500
Ladies Council	600	600
	<u>2,600</u>	<u>2,600</u>

**SCHEDULE 3:**

**Administration and General Expenses**

Staff Costs	51,327	47,558
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	4,783	4,804
Postage and Telephone	6,227	5,735
Accountancy Fees	2,030	1,965
World Affiliation Fees	225	—
All-Ireland Tickets	250	385
Miscellaneous	78	128
	<u>64,920</u>	<u>60,575</u>

Ba mhaith le Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe  
na hÉireann buíochas a ghabháil leis

# An Chomhairle Spóirt

as ucht deontasaí a chur ar fáil  
d'ár gcluiche



# Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

## CEANNÁRAS CLUB

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS — for the year ended 30th September 1998.

	IR£	IR£	1997 IR£
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership Fees .....	3,024		2,835
Court Booking Fees .....	1,728		2,476
		4,752	5,311
Shop Sales .....	4,160		6,202
Opening Stock .....	350		2,878
Purchases .....	3,793		2,622
Closing Stock .....	(384)		(350)
		401	1,052
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>		5,153	6,363
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Premises .....	3,531		4,725
Administration .....	733		1,352
Financial .....	149		72
Selling .....	-		2,020
Staff Costs .....	6,268		6,637
		10,681	14,806
Net Loss		(5,528)	(8,443)
Subsidy by Club Lounge .....		5,879	9,604
Opening Deficit .....		(1,584)	(2,745)
Closing Deficit .....		(1,233)	(1,584)

### BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 1998

	IR£	IR£	1997 IR£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock on Hand .....	364		350
Cash at bank and in hand .....	-		364
	384		714
<b>CREDITORS</b> (Amounts falling due within one year) .....	1,617		2,298
<b>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> .....		(1,233)	(1,584)
Represented by:			
<b>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</b>			
Accumulated Deficit to date .....	(1,233)		(1,584)
		(1,233)	(1,584)

### ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

In accordance with the instructions given to us, we have prepared and reviewed, without carrying out an audit, the accounts of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann — Ceannaras Club set out on pages 1 to 3 for the year ended 30th September 1998.

Our review consisted primarily of enquiry, comparison and discussion of these statements and of the information and explanations. The statements are in agreement with the accounting records and are consistent with the information and explanations supplied to us.

GORMAN QUIGLEY & COMPANY, Chartered Accountants.

32 Greenmount Office Park, Harolds Cross Bridge, Dublin 6W.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information relating to the income and expenditure of the Club for the year ended 30th September 1998 and to the assets and liabilities of the Club at 30th September 1998.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riathóir Náisiúnta

# Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

## CEANNÁRAS CLUB LOUNGE

### TRADING, PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 30th September 1998

	IR£	IR£	1997 IR£
<b>SALES</b> .....		147,171	111,354
<b>COST OF SALES</b> .....		82,438	66,309
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b> .....		64,733	45,045
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Premises .....	14,961		47,697
Administration .....	8,162		5,827
Financial .....	6,350		-
Selling .....	707		93
Staff Costs .....	43,959		28,355
		74,139	81,972
Net Operating Profit/(Loss) .....		(9,406)	(36,927)
Club Subsidy .....		(5,879)	(9,604)
<b>NET PROFIT / (LOSS)</b> .....		(15,285)	(46,531)
Balance at Beginning of Year .....		(39,649)	6,882
<b>CLOSING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b> .....		(54,934)	(39,649)

### BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 1998

	IR£	IR£	1997 IR£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stocks .....	7,322		5,826
Debtors .....	3,784		976
Cash at bank and in hand .....	-		19,044
	11,106		25,846
<b>CREDITORS</b> (Amount falling due within one year) .....	47,747		45,009
<b>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> .....		(33,641)	(19,163)

Represented by:

<b>CREDITORS</b> (Amount falling due after more than one year) ...	21,293	20,486	
<b>CAPITAL ACCOUNTS</b>			
Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit) to date .....	(54,934)		(39,649)
		(54,934)	(39,649)
		(33,641)	(19,163)

### ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

In accordance with the instructions given to us, we have prepared and reviewed, without carrying out an audit, the accounts of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann — Ceannaras Club set out on pages 1 to 3 for the year ended 30th September 1998.

Our review consisted primarily of enquiry, comparison and discussion of these statements and of the information and explanations. The statements are in agreement with the accounting records and are consistent with the information and explanations supplied to us.

GORMAN QUIGLEY & COMPANY, Chartered Accountants,

32 Greenmount Office Park, Harolds Cross Bridge, Dublin 6W.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information relating to the income and expenditure of the Club for the year ended 30th September 1998 and to the assets and liabilities of the Club at 30th September 1998.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riathóir Náisiúnta



# ALL-IRELAND HANDBALL CHAMPIONS 1998

## 60 x 30

S.S.	Ualtar Ó Conchubhair
S.D.	Ualtar Ó Conchubhair, Tomás Ó Sioradáin
I.S.	Antóin Ó hÉalaithe
I.D.	Cionnaith Ó Catháin, Tomás Ó Catháin
J.S.	Dominic Ó Loingsigh
J.D.	Daithí Mac Conraoi, Seán Ó Riain
M.S.	Deasún Mac Aogáin
M.D.	Carl de Brún, Peadar Ó Raghallaigh
U21S	Eoin Ó Cinnéide
U21D	Barra Mac Eochaidh, Cóilin Ó Céileacháin
N.S.	Eadbhard de Búrca
N.D.	Feargal Ó Riain, Seán Mac a'Bhaird
MAS	Micheál Breathnach
MAD	Micheál Breathnach, Máirtín Ó Braoin
MBS	Seosamh Mac an Gheairr
MBD	Micheál Ó Gliasáin, Micheál Ó Coileáin
SMAS	Seán Rosaitear
SMAD	Aindriú Ó Riain, Seán Rosaitear
SMBS	Stiofán Frinse
SMBD	Daithí Ó Riordáin, Pádraig Ó Buachalla
GMAS	Eoghan Ó Cinnéide
GMAD	Pádraig Mag Laithimh, Greagóir Ó Sioradáin
GMBS	Antóin Mac Cathmhaoil
GMBD	Antóin Mac Cathmhaoil, Diarmuid Ó hIomhair
EMAS	Pádraig Ó Leannáin
EMAD	Pádraig Ó Leannáin, Micheál Ó Duibhir
EMBS	Seán Mac Eoin
EMBD	Bearnard Ó Mathúna, Proinsias Manóg
DMAS	Deaglán Ó Maolchathaigh
DMAD	Deaglán Ó Maolchathaigh, An Br Fionbarra Spring
DMBS	Seán Ó Caoimh
DMBD	Seán Ó Caoimh, Seán Pléimeann

Walter O'Connor
Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan
Tony Healy
Kenneth Kane, Tom Kane
Dominic Lynch
David King, Seán Ryan
Dessie Keegan
Carl Browne, Peter Reilly
Eoin Kennedy
Barry Goff, Colin Keeling
Eddie Bourke
Fergal Ó Riain, John Ward
Mickey Walsh
Mickey Walsh, Martin Bruen
Joe Shortt
Michael Gleeson, Michael Collins
John Rossiter
Andy Ryan, John Rossiter
Stephen French
Dave O'Riordan, Paddy Buckley
Eugene Kennedy
Patsy Hand, Greg Sheridan
Anthony Campbell
Anthony Campbell, Dermot Howard
Paddy Lennon
Paddy Lennon, Michael Dwyer
Seán McKeon
Bernie Mahon, Frank Manogue
Declan Mulcahy
Declan Mulcahy, Br Finbar Spring
John O'Keeffe
John O'Keeffe, John Fleming

An Mhi
An Mhi
Corcaigh
Ceatharlach
Ciarrai
Ceatharlach
Muigheo
An Mhi
Baile Átha Cliath
Loch Garman
Cill Chainnigh
Baile Átha Cliath
Ros Comáin
Ros Comáin
Ard Mhacha
Tiobraid Árann
Ceatharlach
Ceatharlach
Ros Comáin
Corcaigh
Baile Átha Cliath
An Cabhán
Cill Dara
Cill Dara
Cill Mhantáin
Cill Mhantáin
Liatroim
Cill Chainnigh
Port Láirge
Port Láirge
Ceatharlach
Ceatharlach

## HARDBALL

SHS	Ualtar Ó Conchubhair
SHD	Ualtar Ó Conchubhair, Tomás Ó Sioradáin
JHS	Cionnaith Ó Catháin
JHD	Cionnaith Ó Catháin, Tomás Ó Catháin
MHS	No Championship
MHD	No Championship

Walter O'Connor
Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan
Kenneth Kane
Kenneth Kane, Tom Kane

An Mhi
An Mhi
Ceatharlach
Ceatharlach

## 40 x 20

SS	Micheál Breathnach
SD	Micheál Breathnach, D S Ó Ciardha
IS	Antóin Ó hÉalaithe
ID	Cionnaith Ó Catháin, Tomás Ó Catháin
JS	Gaibhin Ó Bogaidh
JD	Conor Mac Giolla Cheara, Néill Mac Giolla Cheara
MS	Pól Ó Brádaigh
MD	Eoin Ó Cinnéide, Briain Ó Cinnéide
U21S	Risteárd Mac Cana
U21D	Colm Mac Shiúrtáin, Diarmuid Ó hÉalaithe
NS	Séamus Mac Conraoi
ND	Aidrian Ó Marranáin, Pádraig Mac Ostai
MAS	Micheál Breathnach
MAD	Pádraig Hob, Liam Ó Maoláin
MBS	Antóin Ó Briain
MBD	Seosamh Mac an Ghearr, Seoirse Mac Cuilín
SMAS	Uinsionn Ó Faircheallaigh
SMAD	Risteárd de Bhilbhi, Pádraig Ó Dúill
SMBS	Micheál Mac Cearáin
SMBD	Conchubhar Ó Mórdha, Pádraig Gairnéir
GMAS	Seán Ó Ciarba
GMAD	Seán Ó Ciarba, Séamus Breathnach
GMBS	Nollaig Ó Raiftearaigh
GMBD	Antóin Mac Cathmhaoil, Diarmuid Ó hIomhair

Michael Walsh
Michael Walsh, D J Carey
Tony Healy
Kenneth Kane, Tom Kane
Gavin Buggy
Conor Kerr, Niall Kerr
Paul Brady
Eoin Kennedy, Brian Kennedy
Ricky McCann
Colm Jordan, Jerh Healy
Jimmy King
Adrian Marrinan, Pat Custy
Mickey Walsh
Paddy Hope, Billy Mullins
Tony Breen
Joe Shortt, George Cullen
Vincent Farrelly
Richard Willoughby, Pat Doyle
Michael McCarron
Con Moore, Pat Gardiner
John Kirby
John Kirby, Jimmy Walsh
Noel Raftery
Anthony Campbell, Dermot Howard

Cill Chainnigh
Cill Chainnigh
Corcaigh
Ceatharlach
Loch Garman
Tír Eoghain
An Cabhán
Baile Átha Cliath
Aontroim
Corcaigh
Ceatharlach
An Clár
Ros Comáin
Uibh Fáilí
Loch Garman
Ard Mhacha
Baile Átha Cliath
Cill Mhantáin
Muineachán
Cill Chainnigh
An Clár
An Clár
Ros Comáin
Cill Dara

EMAS Pádraig Ó Leannáin  
 EMAD Pádraig Ó Leannáin, Micheál Ó Duibhir  
 EMBS Seán Mac Eoin  
 EMBD Pádraig Ó Miadhaigh, Séamus Ó Domhnaill  
 DMAS Eamonn Ó Laochdha  
 DMAD Pádraig Ó Caoimh, Eamonn Ó Laochdha  
 DMBS Proinsias Ó Dubhlaigh  
 DMBD Seán Ó Caoimh, Seán Pléimeann

Paddy Lennon  
 Paddy Lennon, Michael Dwyer  
 Seán McKeon  
 Padraig Maye, Séamus O'Donnell  
 Eddie Leahy  
 Pat O'Keeffe, Eddie Leahy  
 Frank Dooley  
 John O'Keeffe, John Fleming

Cill Mhantáin  
 Cill Mhantáin  
 Liatroim  
 Sligeach  
 Cill Chainnigh  
 Cill Chainnigh  
 Cill Dara  
 Ceatharlach

### LADIES 40 x 20

SS Beamaidín Nic Aonasa  
 SD Brid Mac Giolla Chearra-MacCorraidh, Fiona Nic Cionnaith  
 NS Eithne Ní Mhiadhaigh  
 MS Fiona Ní hÉalaithe  
 MD Clóda Ní Chonchubhair, Máire Ní Fhinnthírm

Berni Hennessy  
 Brid Kerr-MacCorraidh, Fiona McKenna  
 Ethna Mee  
 Fiona Healy  
 Clodagh O'Connor, Marie Finneran

Luimneach  
 Aontroim  
 Ros Comáin  
 Cill Dara  
 Ros Comáin

### LADIES 60 x 30

MS Clár Nic Éineacháin  
 MD Lorraine Ní Nuáin, Sinéad Mag Fhionnáin

Claire Heneghan  
 Lorraine Noone, Sinéad Gannon

Ros Comáin  
 Ros Comáin

### ÓGÁNAIGH 60 x 30

U14S Nollaig Mac Aodha  
 U14D Darach Ó Liatháin, Micheál Seán Ó Maonaigh  
 U15S C S Ó Dubhshláine  
 U15D Seán de Bháil, Ailéin Ó Linneáin  
 U16S Micheál Ó Greacháin  
 U16D Brian Manóg, Aindriú Ó hEosa  
 U17S Wayne Ó Cinsealach  
 U17D Derec Breathnach, Nollaig Ó hUallacháin

Noel McHugh  
 Darragh Lyons, Michael John Meaney  
 C J Delaney  
 John Wall, Alan Linnane  
 Michael Gregan  
 Brian Manogue, Andrew Hosey  
 Wayne Kinsella  
 Derek Walsh, Noel Holohan

Gaillimh  
 Tiobraid Árann  
 Cill Chainnigh  
 Port Láirge  
 Cill Mhantáin  
 Cill Chainnigh  
 Loch Garman  
 Loch Garman

### ÓGÁNAIGH 40 x 20

U14S Nollaig Mac Aodha  
 U14D Darach Ó Liatháin, Micheál Seán Ó Maonaigh  
 U15S Breandán Ó hEaráin  
 U15D Daithí Breathnach, Feilimí Ó Deoráin  
 U16S Micheál Ó Greacháin  
 U16D Séamus Ó Ceallaigh, Dónal Ó Ceallaigh  
 U17S Séamus Ó Leathlobhair  
 U17D Ciarán Ó Séaol, Cionnaith Ó Catháin

Noel McHugh  
 Darragh Lyons, Michael John Meaney  
 Brendan Herron  
 David Walsh, Felix Doran  
 Michael Gregan  
 Shem Kelly, Donal Kelly  
 Séamus Lawlor  
 Ciarán Shiels, Kenny Keane

Gaillimh  
 Tiobraid Árann  
 Aontroim  
 Loch Garman  
 Cill Mhantáin  
 Cill Chainnigh  
 An Clár  
 Port Láirge

### CAILÍNÍ 60 x 30

U14S Nollaig Ní Chathasaigh  
 U14D Treasa Ní Chuanáin, Aisling Ní Chuanáin  
 U15S Eimhear Nic an Táiniste  
 U15D Rachel Ní Theitheacháin, Lorraine Nic Héil  
 U16S Lidia Ní Dhulainn  
 U16D Clár Ní Chatháin, Sharon Ní Chatháin

Noelle Casey  
 Teresa Coonan, Aisling Coonan  
 Emer Tansey  
 Rachel Taheney, Lorraine McHale  
 Lydia Doolan  
 Claire Kane, Sharon Kane

Luimneach  
 Tiobraid Árann  
 Muigheo  
 Muigheo  
 Ros Comáin  
 Ceatharlach

### CAILÍNÍ 40 x 20

U14S Nollaig Ní Chathasaigh  
 U14D Aifric Ní Neachtáin, Eimhear Nic Giolla Chomhaill  
 U15S Sharon Ní Dhálaigh  
 U15D Clár Ní hÉineacháin, Aoibheann Nic Aodha  
 U16S Lidia Ní Dhulainn  
 U16D Seacaóilin Ní Dhúill, Sinéad Ní Bhreacháin  
 U17S Caitriona Ní Challaráin  
 U17D Máire Ní Seanlaóich, Aisling Ní Chiardha

Noelle Casey  
 Aifric Naughton, Emer Coyle  
 Sharon Daly  
 Calire Heneghan, Yvonne McHugh  
 Lydia Doolan  
 Jackie Doyle, Jennifer Bracken  
 Cathriona Colleran  
 Mary Shanley, Aisling Carey

Luimneach  
 Ros Comáin  
 Ciarráí  
 Gaillimh  
 Ros Comáin  
 Ros Comáin  
 Muigheo  
 Liatroim

## JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

### **BOYS U12/13: CIARRAÍ**

Garai Ó Conchubhair, Donncha Ó Catháin, Tadhg de Prionnbhiol, Pól Mac Cárthaigh, Seán Ó Tuama, Eoghan Mac Grifín, Liam Mac Tomás  
 Gary O'Connor, Denis Keane, Tim Prenderville, Paul McCarthy, Shane Twomey, Gene Griffin, Liam Thompson

### **BOYS U14/15 60 x 30: CILL CHAINNIGH**

Séamus Ó hEachach, Tomás Ó Lonargáin, Seán Ó Meachair, Seosamh Ó Nualláin, Seán Ó Dúda, Seán Ó Sé, Breandán de Barra  
 Jamie Hawe, Thomas Lonergan, Seán Maher, Joe Nolan, Seán O'Dowd, Seán O'Shea, Brendan Barry



**BOYS U12/13 40 x 20: ROS COMÁIN**

Damian Ó Máirtín, Risteárd Ó Gadhra, Anraí Ó Dochartaigh, Brian Ó Luachra, Barra Ó Nualláin, Pádraig Ó Searcaigh  
 Damien Martin, Ricky O'Gara, Harry Doherty, Brian Rushe, Barry Nolan, Paraic Sharkey

**BOYS U14/15 40 x 20: CILL CHAINNIGH**

C S Ó Dubhshláine, Seán Ó Meachair, T.S. Mac Cumascaigh, Tomás Caimpion, Breandán de Barra, Seán Ó Sé  
 C. J. Delaney, Seán Maher, T J Comerford, Thomas Campion, Brendan Barry, Seán O'Shea

**CAILÍNÍ U16 60 x 30: ST COMAN'S 'A'**

Seacailín Ní Dhúill, Lidia Ní Dhulainn, Aifric Ní Neachtáin, Rachel Ní Chathasaigh, Sinéad Ní Bhreacháin  
 Jackie Doyle, Lydia Doolan, Aifric Naughton, Rachel Casey, Jennifer Bracken

**CAILÍNÍ U16 40 x 20: ST COMAN'S 'A'**

Lidia Ní Dhulainn, Sinéad Ní Bhreacháin, Aifric Ní Neachtáin, Rachel Ní Chathasaigh, Lára Mac Lannchaidh  
 Lydia Doolan, Jennifer Bracken, Aifric Naughton, Rachel Casey, Laura Clancy

**GAEL LINN MIXED DOUBLES**

Pádraigin Ní Dhúill, Risteárd Breathnach

Patricia Doyle, Richard Walsh

Coolboy, Cill Mhantáin

**FÉILE NA nGAEL****40 x 20 ROINN I BUACHAILLÍ – WILLIAMSTOWN, GAILLIMH**

Nollaig Mac Aodha, Stiofán Mac Sheoinín, Tomás Ó Connachtáin, Roibeárd Ó Fionnagáin  
 Noel McHugh, Stephen Jennings, Thomas Connaughton, Robert Finnegan

SKILLS: Nollaig Mac Aodha, Noel McHugh, Williamstown, Gaillimh

**40 x 20 ROINN II BUACHAILLÍ – CAVAN GAELS, AN CABHÁN**

Seán Mac Seáin, Pádraig Ó Cathail, Pádraig Cléirchin, Pól Mac Giolla Phádraig  
 Seán Johnson, Pádraig Cahill, Patrick Clerkin, Paul Fitzpatrick

SKILLS: Pádraig Cléirchin, Patrick Clerkin, Cavan Gaels, An Cabhán

**40 x 20 ROINN III – BUACHAILLÍ – ST BRIGID'S, LAOIS**

Marc Ó Leannáin, Tomás Ó Leannáin, Brian Ó Faoláin, Tomás Ó Braonáin, Cormac Pléimeann  
 Mark Lennon, Thomas Lennon, Brian Whelan, Thomas Brennan, Cormac Fleming

SKILLS: Marc Ó Leannáin Mark Lennon, St Brigid's, Laois

**40 x 20 ROINN I CAILÍNÍ – TOONAGH, AN CLÁR**

Eilís Nic Amhsaigh, Rebecca Ní Cheallaigh, Clár Ní Challanáin, Treasa Ní Dhuáin  
 Ailish Hanson, Rebecca Kelly, Clare Callinan, Teresa McGuane

SKILLS: Eilís Nic Amhsaigh Ailish Hanson, Toonagh, An Clár

**40 x 20 ROINN II CAILÍNÍ – BALLYMACCELLIGOTT, CIARRAÍ**

Máire Ní Dhálaigh, Sandraí Nic Suibhne, Caitriona Ní Riada, Caren Ní Chollata, Amanda Ní Chollata  
 Maria Daly, Sandy McSwiney, Catherine Reidy, Karen Culloty, Amanda Culloty

SKILLS: Máire Ní Dhálaigh, Maria Daly, Ballymacelligott, Ciarraí

**60 x 30 ROINN I BUACHAILLÍ – ST COMAN'S ROS COMÁIN**

Damian Ó Madáin, Brian Ó Luachra, Risteárd Ó Gadhra, Néill Mac Craith, Brian Ó Braonáin  
 Damien Madden, Brian Rushe, Ricky O'Gara, Niall McGrath, Brian Brennan

SKILLS: Gearóid Ó Cuanáin Gerard Coonan, Ballina, Tiobraid Árann

**60 x 30 ROINN II BUACHAILLÍ – KINGSCOURT, AN CABHÁN**

Micheál Ó Sionáin, Seán Ó Geargáin, Marc Mac Samhráin, Rónán Ó Scarlóg, Lorcán Ó Sionáin  
 Michael Sheenan, Seán Gargan, Mark McGovern, Ronan Sherlock, Lorcán Sheenan

SKILLS: Seán Ó Geargáin Seán Gargan Kingscourt, An Cabhán

**COLÁISTÍ 60 x 30 – BUACHAILLÍ**

JS Seosamh Mac Cana  
 JD Aindriú Ó Móráin, Peadar Ó Flannabhra  
 SS Pádraig Ó Fionnagáin  
 SD Barra Ó hEachach, Deaglán Ó hEachach

Joseph McCann  
 Andrew Moran, Peter Flannery  
 Patrick Finnegan  
 Barry Hough, Declan Hough

St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen  
 St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen  
 St Patrick's College, Cavan  
 St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen

**COLÁISTÍ 40 x 20 – BUACHAILLÍ**

JS Pádraig Ó Fionnagáin  
 JD Néill Ó Deoráin, Eamonn Ó hEachach  
 SS Carl de Brún  
 SD Ciarán Muíneach, Adhamhnán Ó Ceallagih

Patrick Finnegan  
 Niall Doran, Eamon Hawe  
 Carl Browne  
 Ciarán Meenagh, Eunan Kelly

St Patrick's College, Cavan  
 Coláiste Eamon Ris, Callan  
 Kells C.S.  
 Omagh CBS

## COLÁISTÍ 60 x 30 – CAILÍNÍ

U13S	Máire Ní Dhálaigh	Maria Daly	St Joseph's , Castleisland
U13D	Karen Ní Chollata, Gráinne de Laitheasa	Karen Culloty, Gráinne DeLacey	Presentation, Tralee
U15S	Joy Nic Gabhann	Joy Smith	Kells
U15D	Eilís Nic Amhsaigh, Nollaig Ní Dhuáin	Ailish Hansen, Noelle McGuane	Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis
U18S	Lidia Ní Dhulainn	Lydia Doolan	Mercy Convent, Roscommon
U18D	Seacailín Ní Dhúill, Sinéad Ní Bhreacháin	Jackie Doyle, Jennifer Bracken	Mercy Convent, Roscommon

## COLÁISTÍ 40 x 20 – CAILÍNÍ

U13S	Nollaig Ní Chathasaigh	Noelle Casey	Limerick
U13D	Aoife Ní hIci, Muireann Ní Cholmáin	Eva Hickey, Marian Coleman	St Anne's Killaloe
U15S	Lidia Ní Dhulainn	Lydia Doolan	Mercy Convent, Roscommon
U15D	Eilís Nic Amhsaigh, Nollaig Ní Dhuáin	Ailish Hanson, Noelle McGuane	Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis
U18S	Fiona Ní hÉalaithe	Fiona Healy	Coláiste Chiaráin, Leixlip
U18D	Sinéad Nic Fhionnáin, Lorraine Ní Nuáin	Sinéad Gannon, Lorraine Noone	Mercy Convent, Roscommon

## COMHAIRLE ARD OIDEACHAIS

### **'A' TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP – NUIG**

Cathmhaoil Ó Braonáin, Eoghan Ó Céilleachair, Tomás Ó Raghallaigh, Pádraig Mac Ostáil  
Campbell Brennan, Gene Kelliher, Tomás Reilly, Pat Custy

### **'B' TEAM – SRTC**

Caoimhín Ó Míocháin, Micheál Ó Siadhail, Gearóid Ó Cuire, Nollaig Mac an Ghaill, Gearóid Ó Fícheallaigh  
Kevin Meehan, Michael Shields, Gerard Quirke, Noel Gill, Gerry Feehily

### **OPEN SINGLES**

Pól Ó Brádaigh, Paul Brady, D.I.T.

### **LADIES SINGLES**

Brid Mac Giolla Chearra-MacCorraidh, Brid Kerr-MacCorraidh, Queens

### **'B' SINGLES**

Séamus Ó Brádaigh, James Brady, Inchicore

### **LADIES 'B' SINGLES**

Eibhlín Tangney, Evelyn Tangney, TRTC

## SRAITH NÁISIÚNTA 40 x 20

**AN CLÁR:** Brian Ó Marranáin, Adrian Ó Marranáin, Seán Ó Donaláin, Néill Ó Briain, Pól Ó Clamháin, Eohan Mac Pháil, Séamus Ó Cuilleanáin,  
Pádraig Ó Madáin  
Brian Marrinan, Adrian Marrinan, John Donlon, Niall Breen, Paul Clavin, Eugene Faul, Séamus Cullinane, Pat Madden

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

### **60 x 30 OPEN – Templeudigan, Loch Garman**

Antóin Ó Briain, Réamoinn Ó Briain, Pádraig Ó Cléirigh, Pádraig Mac Cana  
Tony Breen, Raymond Breen, Pat Cleary, Paraic McCann

### **60 x 30 JUNIOR – Ballaghaderreen, Muigheo**

Pól Ó Floinn, Deasún Mac Aogáin, Pádraig Ó Gamhna, Barra Ó hEachach, Brian Mac an Tánaiste  
Paul Flynn, Dessie Keegan, Paraic Gaffney, Barry Hough, Brian Tansey

### **60 x 30 NOVICE – Arklow, Cill Mhantáin**

Pádraig Ó Domhnaill, Seán Ó Cuinn, Eamonn de Rís, Eamonn Ó Caolaí, Drew Mac Eochaidh  
Pat O'Donnell, John Quinn, Eamon Rice, Ned Kealy, Drew Keogh

### **40 x 20 OPEN – Gort na Mona, Aontroim**

Pádraig Mac Cruthair, Seán Mag Fhearraigh, Risteárd Mac Cana, Eamonn Ó Mealláin, Roibeárd Mac Mathúna  
Paddy Crothers, John McGarry, Ricky McCann, Eddie Mallon, Robert McMahon

### **40 x 20 JUNIOR – Loughmacrory, Tír Eoghain**

Criostóir Ó Corráin, Stiofán Ó Chonbhuí, Conal Ó Corráin, Ciarán Muineach  
Chris Curran, Stephen Conway, Conal Curran, Ciarán Meenagh

### **40 x 20 NOVICE – Ballyhogue, Loch Garman**

Séamus Ó hUaine, Séamus Ó Briain, Pádraig Breathnach, Antóin Ó hUaine, Nioclás Ó Diompsaigh  
James Green, James Breen, Paddy Walsh, Anthony Green, Nicky Dempsey

## COMÓRTASÁÍ IDIRNÁISIÚNTA

### **WATERFORD CRYSTAL IRISH NATIONALS**

Men's Open	Daithi Chapman
Ladies Open	Fiona Nic Cionnaith
Men's 'B'	Dominic Ó Loingsigh
Ladies 'B'	Leonóra Nic Giolla Chomhail
Men's 'C'	Pádraig Ó Madáin
Mas 'A'	Seán Ó Donaláin
Mas 'B'	Micheál Rosaitear
Golden Masters 'A'	Eoghan Ó Cinnéide
Golden Masters 'B'	Séamus M Mac Cana
Diamond Masters	Micheál Ó Maolalaidh
Boys 15 & Under	Micheál Ó Greacháin
Girls 15 & Under	Lidia Ni Dhulainn
Boys 17 & Under	Carl de Brún
Girls 17 & Under	Sile Ni Longáin
Boys 19 & Under	Eoin Ó Cinnéide

David Chapman
Fiona McKenna
Dominic Lynch
Leonore Coyle
Pat Madden
John Donlon
Michael Rossiter
Eugene Kennedy
James M McCann
Mick Lally
Michael Gregan
Lydia Doolan
Carl Browne
Julie Long
Eoin Kennedy

California, USA
St Paul's, Aontroim
Glenbeigh, Ciarrai
Curraghboy, Ros Comáin
Tulla, An Clár
Newmarket-on-Fergus, An Clár
Ballyhogue, Loch Garman
St Brigid's, Baile Átha Cliath
Clann Eireann, Ard Mhaca
Moycullen, Gaillimh
Coolboy, Cill Mhantáin
St Coman's, Ros Comáin
Kells, An Mhi
St Brigid's, Baile Átha Cliath
St Brigid's, Baile Átha Cliath

### **NATIONAL ONE-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Boys U14	Ailéin Mac Diarmada
Girls U14	Aingel Ni Liatháin
Boys U17	Deasún Mac Aogáin
Men's 'B'	Seán Ó Duidhiorma
Men's Open	Roibeárd Mac Cárthaigh
Ladies Open	Lidia Ni Dhulainn

Alan McDermott
Angela Lyons
Dessie Keegan
Shane Dormer
Robert McCarthy
Lydia Doolan

Ballintubber, Ros Comáin
Naomh Mhuire, Cill Dara
Ballaghaderreen, Muigheo
St Brigid's, Laois
Mullingar, An Iar Mhi
St Coman's, Ros Comáin

### **USHA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Girls 13 & Under	Pádraigín Ni Dhúill
Girls 15 & Under	Lidia Ni Dhulainn
Boys 15 & Under	Seosamh Mac Cana
Boys 17 & Under	Deasún Mac Aogáin
Girls 19 & Under	Sile Ni Longáin
Boys 19 & Under	Pól Ó Brádaigh

Patricia Doyle
Lydia Doolan
Joseph McCann
Dessie Keegan
Julie Long
Paul Brady

Cill Mhantáin
Ros Comáin
Muigheo
Muigheo
Baile Átha Cliath
An Cabhán

## OPEN TOURNAMENTS

### **MUNSTER 60 x 30 OPEN**

Men's Singles	Tomás Ó Sioradáin
Ladies Singles	Beamairdín Nic Aonasa
Novice Doubles	Séamus Ó Riain, Séamus Ó Cinnéide
Mas 'B' Doubles	Micheál Rositear, Seán Ó Ruairc
Girls U17S	Seacailín Ni Dhúill
Boys U17S	Séamus Ó Leathlobhair

Tom Sheridan
Berni Hennessy
Jim Ryan, James Kennedy
Michael Rossiter, John O'Rourke
Jackie Doyle
Seamus Lawlor

An Mhi
Luimneach
Tiobraid Árann
Loch Garman
Ros Comáin
An Clár

### **CONNACHT 60 x 30 OPEN**

Men's Singles	Antóin Ó hÉalaithe
Ladies Singles	Clár Ni hÉineacháin
Novice Doubles	Séamus Ó Riain, C Ó Riain
Girls U15D	Eimhear Nic an Tánaiste, Edel Ni Challaráin
Boys U15D	Seosamh Mac Cana, Aindriú Ó Moráin
Boys U17S	Barra Ó hEachach

Tony Healy
Claire Heneghan
Jim Ryan, C Ryan
Emer Tansey, Edel Collieran
Joseph McCann, Andrew Moran
Barry Hough

Corcaigh
Ros Comáin
Tiobraid Árann
Muigheo
Muigheo
Muigheo

### **LEINSTER 40 x 20 OPEN**

Men's Singles	Micheál Breathnach
Ladies Singles	Fiona Nic Cionnaith
Novice Doubles	Séamus Ó Greacháin, Somhairle de Bhilbhí
Mas D	Micheál Breathnach, Mairtín Ó Braoin
Girls 17 & Under	Lidia Ni Dhulainn
Boys 17 & Under	Micheál Ó Greacháin

Michael Walsh
Fiona McKenna
James Gregan, Sam Willoughby
Mickey Walsh, Martin Bruen
Lydia Doolan
Michael Gregan

Cill Chainnigh
Aontroim
Cill Mhantáin
Ros Comáin
Ros Comáin
Cill Mhantáin

### **ULSTER 40 x 20 OPEN**

Men's Open	Ualtar Ó Conchubhair
Ladies Open	Lidia Ni Dhulainn
Men's A	Pól Ó Gréacháin
Silver Masters	Micheál Breathnach
Boys 17 & Under	Lidia Ni Dhulainn
Girls 17 & Under	Gráinne Ni Raghallaigh

Walter O'Connor
Lydia Doolan
Paul Graham
Mickey Walsh
Patrick Finnegan
Gráinne Ó Reilly

An Mhi
Ros Comáin
Aontroim
Ros Comáin
An Cabhán
Aontroim

### **GOLDEN GLOVES**

Men's Open	Antóin Ó hÉalaithe
Ladies Open	Fiona Nic Cionnaith
I.S.	Deasún Mac Aogáin
Mas Singles	Liam Silcoc
Novice Singles	Pádraig Ó Buachalla
Juvenile Singles	Brian Ó Cinnéide

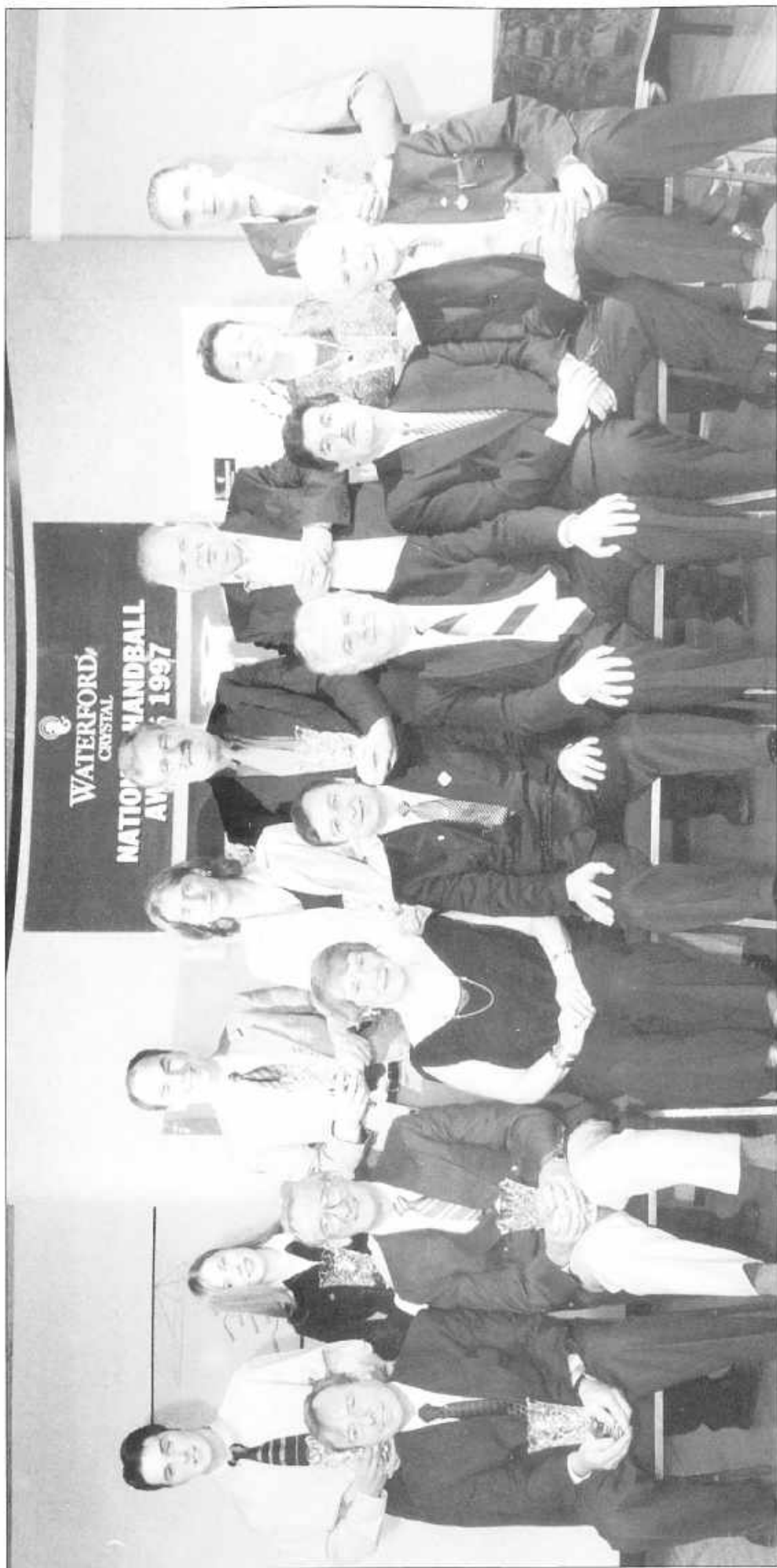
Tony Healy
Fiona McKenna
Dessie Keegan
Billy Silcock
Paddy Buckley
Brian Kennedy

Corcaigh
Aontroim
Muigheo
Aontroim
Corcaigh
Baile Átha Cliath



# Nótaí





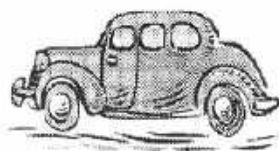
### Award Winners: Pictured at the presentation of the 1997 Waterford Crystal Handball Awards

*Front (l. to r.):*

Seán McEntee (St. Paul's, Antrim) Coach of the Year; Mick Dunne (Cumann na Naomh Club, Dublin) Special Achievement; Bridín Uí Mhaolagáin, President, Ladies Handball Council; Con Moore, President, Irish Handball Council; Joe Jacob T.D. Minister of State at the Department of Public Enterprise; John Foley, Director of Sales and Marketing, Waterford Crystal; Joe Jennings (Cumann na Naomh Club, Dublin) Hall of Fame.

*Back (l. to r.):*

Paul Brady (Mullahoran, Cavan) Young Player of the Year; Lydia Doolan (St. Cornan's, Roscommon) Young Player of the Year; David Chapman (California U.S.A.) International Player of the Year; Fiona McKenna (St Paul's, Antrim) Female Player of the Year; Jim Mackey (St Mary's Enniscorthy) Official of the Year; Michael Lennon (Coolboy, Wicklow) Club of the Year; Mary Lindsay (St Paul's, Antrim) Masters Player of the Year and Sean Devlin who accepted the Player of the Year Award on behalf of Peter McAuley (O'Raghallaigh's, Louth).



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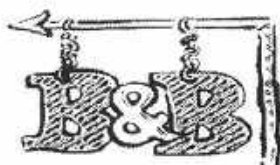
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...our Farm Multiperil policy will have you in clover...



and our retail premiums aren't hard to swallow.



FBD guesthouse cover lets you sleep peacefully...



...and our commercial cover is the business...



...in fact, FBD delivers the complete insurance package.

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