



Comhairle LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE na hÉireann

An Chomhsháil Bhliantúil
2001





President Mary McAleese presents the Purcell Cup to Michael 'Duxie' Walsh, Cill Chainnigh, following his record 15th All-Ireland Senior Softball Singles victory over Kenneth Kane, Ceatharlach, on 9 Meán Fómhair, 2000.



John Foley, Chief Executive Waterford Crystal and Peadar Mac Artúir, Uachtarán C.L.L.E, pictured with Fiona McKenna, Naomh Pól, Aontroim after the Waterford Crystal Ladies Open final at Páirc an Chrócaigh on Sunday 30 Aibreán 2000.

Tionólfar Comhdháil Bhliantúil 2001 Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

ar

AN DOMHNACH, 25 MÁRTA

san

CUSACK CLUB, PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAIGH, ag 10.30 r.n.

CLÁR OIBRE

1. Fáiltiú
2. Adoption of Standing Orders
3. Minutes of Congress 2000
4. Report of Riathóir Náisiúnta 2000
5. Annual Accounts 2000
6. Oráid an Uachtaráin
7. Addresses of invited guests
8. Elections
 - Uachtarán
 - Cisteoir
 - Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle C.L.G.
9. Motions
10. Close of Congress

AINMNIÚCHÁIN 2001

Uachtarán Tofa: Tomás Breathnach (Chill Mhantáin, Cill Chainnigh, Uibh Fháilí, Ceatharlach, Loch Garman)
Antóin Ó hAodha (An Clár, Corcaigh).

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí (Tiobraid Árann, Cill Mhantáin, Cill Chainnigh, Uibh Fháilí, An Clár,
Ceatharlach, Corcaigh, Loch Garman).

Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle CLG:

Tomás Breathnach (Cill Mhantáin)

Seosamh Mac an Mháistir (Uibh Fháilí, Loch Garman)

Conchubhar Ó Mórdha (Cill Chainnigh, Tiobraid Árann)

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 Riathóir'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 entitled to vote 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 entitled to vote and voting.
9. The Chairman may change the order of items on the agenda with the support of a simple majority of those present entitled to vote and voting.

TUARASCÁIL AN RIARTHÓRA NÁISIÚNTA

RÉAMHRA

Bhí bliain ana ghnóthach agus torthúil ag Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann i 2000. Chomh maith leis na gnáth comórtaisí, bhí na Cluichí Domhanda againn i Chicago i Mí Deire Fómhair agus bhí roinnt comórtaisí nua anseo freisin. Cuireadh an Bliainiris ar fáil don cúigiú uair, reachtáil an Coiste Oiliúna roinnt cúrsaí timpeall na tíre agus chabhraigh na himreoirí agus na contaethe go mór chun clár na bliana a chríochnú.

Cé go bhfuil alán obair le déanamh ag gach leibhéal den eagraíocht, tá dul chun cinn in alán clubanna agus contaethe ag leibhéal na nógánach.

Caithfidimid ár struchtúr a neartú, cúrsaí riarcháin a chur ar siúl agus níos mó poiblíocht a fháil do liathróid láimhe. Tá sár chluiche againn agus tá dualgas mór ar gach ball agus ar gach aonad den eagraíocht tabhairt faoi gach rud idir ballraíocht, riarchán agus áiseanna a fheabhsú as seo amach. Ag an bpointe seo tá an iomarca oibre á dhéanamh ag roinnt daoine: ní maith an rud é seo agus caithfidimid i bhfad níos mó daoine a mhealladh isteach i liathróid láimhe chun ár gluiche agus an eagraíocht i gcoitinne a fheabhsú.

With the staging of an increased number of national competitions and the participation of 170 Irish players as well as the official national team in the Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships in Chicago, 2000 was a very busy year for Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann.

Among the highlights of the year were:

- ★ Some excellent performances in the World Championships including ten titles in various grades and age groups.
- ★ The achievement of Michael 'Duxie' Walsh of Kilkenny in winning his 15th All-Ireland Senior Softball Singles title and his 37th Senior medal in all.
- ★ The attendance of President Mary McAleese at the All-Ireland Softball Singles final.
- ★ The retention of their Senior Singles 40 x 20 titles by Tony Healy (Corcaigh) and Fiona McKenna (Aontroim)
- ★ The exceptional performances of Dessie Keegan (Muigheo) in winning All-Ireland titles in 40 x 20, 60 x 30, hardball and one-wall codes as well as a World 19 & Under title.
- ★ The extension of the GAA Player Injury Scheme to include handball for the first time.
- ★ The continued success of the Waterford Crystal Handball Awards and Irish Nationals and
- ★ The increasing popularity of the One Wall Nationals and the Provincial Open Tournaments.

On the negative side it must be noted that

- The softball code has declined in popularity in what has been a very packed calendar of events for several years.
- There were insufficient entries to hold the All-Ireland Minor and Senior Singles and Doubles Hardball Championships.
- Some ladies championship semi-finals and finals were not held due to withdrawals for injuries and other reasons.
- There was again a low number of entries for the 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Club Championships.
- It is becoming more difficult to attract younger people to become involved in administration and
- Handball has lost out very much in recent years in the post-primary sector.

National Competitions and Ranking Tournaments 2000

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann was responsible for 179 competitions in 2000, an increase of 100 or 126% since 1989 while the three Ranking Tournaments run at provincial level and the Naomh Pól Golden Gloves event accounted for another 26 competitions as indicated in the following table.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND RANKING TOURNAMENTS

Competition	MALE		FEMALE		MIXED	Total
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Juvenile	
60 x 30	32	8	6	8	-	54
40 x 20	32	8	6	8	-	54
Hardball	2	-	-	-	-	2
Team	6	4	-	1	-	11
Gael Linn	-	-	-	-	1	1
Féile na nGael	-	4	-	2	-	6
Second Level	-	8	-	12	-	20
Third Level	4	-	2	-	-	6
Irish Nationals	8	3	2	3	-	16
One Wall	5	2	-	2	-	9
Provincial Opens	16	4	3	3	-	26
TOTAL	105	41	19	39	1	205

The large number of competitions for males reflects the wide range of ages and grades which are now catered for from Under 14 to Over 60. With the success of juvenile girls provincial championships, the introduction of adult ladies provincial competitions will enhance ladies handball in general in the coming years. The full integration of the former Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan structure with the Irish Handball Council will support this development as each club, county and provincial unit—as well as the national body—is now responsible for the promotion and organisation of ladies handball.

60 x 30 Championships

Despite the falling numbers taking part in the Provincial 60 x 30 Championships and number of byes at All-Ireland semi-final level, the broad range of championships provided some excellent fare with thrilling encounters in some marvellous games which provided exhibition-style Softball.

Once again, pride of place on the individual front must go to Michael 'Duxie' Walsh of Kilkenny who won his fifteenth All-Ireland Senior Softball Singles title in sixteen years. This is truly a remarkable achievement but he must be eternally grateful to Congress 2000 which passed a motion giving a second chance in the All-Ireland Championships to the loser of the Leinster final. Kenneth Kane of Carlow had defeated the Kilkennyman at provincial level but the tables were turned on September 9, 2000, when 'Duxie' reversed the Leinster final decision on a 15-21, 21-15, 21-11 scoreline in front of a packed gallery at Páirc an Chrócaigh where the game was witnessed by President Mary McAleese, her husband Martin and their family. It was a truly memorable occasion.

WEXFORD CELEBRATIONS

Wexford handball had great reason to celebrate in 2000 when the county won eight All-Ireland Softball titles. There were jubilant scenes at Ceannaras on 23 Meán Fómhair when the model county took the Minor and Senior Doubles titles as well as the Intermediate Singles crown. Tommy Hynes and Colin Keeling reversed their Leinster final decision against Walter O'Connor and Tom Sheridan of Meath in Senior Doubles when they ran out very deserving winners on a 21-19, 21-17 scoreline in the All-Ireland final. Barry Goff from the Castlebridge Club had a very convincing win over Vincent Moran of Mayo in the Intermediate Singles event while Jimmy Goggins and Terry Gainfort achieved success at Minor level defeating Patrick Finnegan and Lorcan Sheenan of Cavan 12-21, 21-19, 21-9. Barry Goff won a second All-Ireland medal when he partnered Gavin Buggy to victory over Mayo's Vincent Moran and Campbell Brennan in Intermediate Doubles. Wexford took four titles at Masters level with Pat Cleary and Seamus O'Connor showing the way against Mickey Walsh and Martin Bruen from Roscommon in Masters 'A' Doubles, winning 16-21, 21-15, 21-14. Benny Doyle defeated Sligo's Vincent McKeon 21-8, 21-9 in Masters 'B' Singles while Har Lacey had a nice double defeating Mayo's John Kenny 21-19, 21-5 in Golden Masters 'B' Singles and partnering Tom Donohue to a 21-13, 21-18 victory over John Kenny and Seán Ryder of Mayo.

SUCSESSES FOR MAYO AND SLIGO

Dessie Keegan from the Ballaghaderreen Club chalked up an excellent double at Under 21 level, defeating Carl Browne from Meath 21-5, 21-18 in Singles. He partnered Barry Hough to victory over Carl Browne and Peter Reilly in the Doubles final running out very narrow winners 10-21, 21-15, 21-20 coming from 15-20 down in the final game.

Francis McCann from Sligo showed true grit in achieving a 12-21, 21-13, 21-20 victory over Robbie McCarthy from Westmeath in the Masters 'A' Singles final. Sligo players made a clean sweep in Diamond Masters with Paddy Walsh defeating Frank Dooley of Kildare 21-9, 21-16 in the Diamond Masters 'A' Singles final. He partnered Michael Kelly to victory over Dublin's Len Ahern and Liam Ferguson 21-14, 21-4 in Doubles. Paraic Maye had a fine double in the 'B' section defeating Johnny O'Meara of Kilkenny 9-21, 21-11, 21-13 in Singles and partnering Seamus O'Donnell to victory over Michael Hogan and Willie Maher of Tipperary in Doubles.

FOUR ULSTER VICTORIES

Ulster players achieved four victories in the Softball Championships. Patrick Finnegan put on an excellent display in winning the Minor Singles title when he defeated Brian Manogue of Kilkenny 21-10, 21-9. Tyrone achieved success with Niall Kerr defeating Eddie Burke of Kilkenny in the Junior Singles final 18-21, 21-11, 21-19 in a very close encounter. Tyrone's John McCullagh had a good double winning the Silver Masters 'B' Singles final against Martin Sandford of Waterford 21-15, 14-21, 21-12 and partnering Peter O'Brien to victory over Michael O'Dea and Chris Hurley of Cork 15-21, 21-16, 21-14 in Doubles.

SIX TITLES FOR MUNSTER

Munster counties took six Softball titles, Tipperary winning three and Limerick, Clare and Waterford taking one each. Tipperary's Paul and Jimmy Mullins had a fine victory over Paul Flynn and Pádraig Gaffney of Mayo 19-21, 21-9, 21-13 in Junior Doubles while in Golden Masters 'A' Doubles Seán Doyle and Pakie Mullins had a comfortable victory over Tom Derrig and Matt

Coady of Mayo. In Emerald Masters 'B' Singles Eddie Sheerin from the premier county defeated Brendan Carey of Sligo 21-6, 21-6. The Junior 'B' Doubles title went to Anthony Burke and Michael Roche of Limerick who defeated Ger Walsh and Cormac O'Brien of Roscommon 16-21, 21-11, 21-5 in the final. Clare's only victory in Softball came through Mike Kelly and Pat Coughlan who defeated John Staunton and Patrick Geraghty of Mayo 21-6, 21-7 in Masters 'B' Doubles while Mossy Butler took Waterford's lone title in Emerald Masters 'A' Singles defeating Mayo's Seán Heaney 21-7, 21-8.

FIRST FOR LAOIS

Shane Dormer from the St Brigid's Club in Laois became the first player from that county to win an adult All-Ireland title. He had a very good 21-7, 21-7 victory over Tom Savage of Down in Junior 'B' Singles. Seán Ryan from Carlow had an excellent double in Silver Masters 'A' winning the Singles title against Seamus Hussey of Tyrone 21-4, 21-7 and partnering his brother Andy to victory over Martin Cronin and John McCormack of Mayo in Doubles 21-10, 21-7. Paddy Hope of Offaly won yet another All-Ireland title defeating Tom Derrig of Mayo 21-13, 21-8 in Golden Masters 'A' Singles. Kildare's John Browne, making a welcome return after injury, partnered Eamon Deegan to victory in Emerald Masters 'A' Doubles against Seamus Clarke and Seán Heaney of Mayo in a tight game 11-21, 21-16, 21-18. Seán Fitzgerald and Seánie Curran won Kilkenny's second All-Ireland Softball title defeating Vinnie Dowd and Frank Daly from Roscommon 7-21, 21-6, 21-10 in Emerald Masters 'B' Doubles.

In summary, 14 counties shared the 32 All-Ireland Softball titles. Leinster led the way with six counties taking fifteen titles between them. Four Munster counties shared six while in Connacht Mayo and Sligo won seven championships between them. Two Ulster counties, Cavan and Tyrone, took four All-Ireland titles.

Softball STANDARDS

Notwithstanding the fact that we had some excellent All-Ireland finals last year, the state of the softball code is a matter for serious concern at present. The following indications point strongly to the fact that all is not well with the Irish game:

- Only three Clubs took part in 60 x 30 in Féile na nGael 2000
- The Community Games Organisation no longer holds 60 x 30 competitions – perhaps this reflects the state of the game vis a vis 40 x 20?
- There are several byes in adult (Masters grades) All-Ireland semi-finals every year
- The game has not been as popular as 40 x 20 for ladies
- Very few Clubs take part in the 60 x 30 Club championships
- We have far fewer good 60 x 30 courts than 40 x 20 courts
- Because of their age, the condition of some 60 x 30 courts is less than inviting for players and spectators
- The 40 x 20 code has far greater appeal for younger players because of the smaller size of the court, the opportunities to play and the possibility of playing in international competition.

In addition, the 60 x 30 code is played in the summer months during which time, especially over the past decade, family holidays, Gaeltacht and other courses and many other activities have continued to reduce the time available for softball and, consequently, the numbers playing the game have fallen.

If the softball code is to survive, let alone prosper, it must be given a major boost over the next few years. Otherwise, it runs the risk of going in the same direction as hardball. We must act now before it is too late to save softball for the future.

40 x 20 Championships

In the 40 x 20 court no county matched the success of Wexford in Softball but Cork and Meath players achieved splendid successes at Senior and other levels. Tony Healy once again showed the way in Senior Singles retaining his title at the expense of Cavan's Paul Brady in a game in which the 21-3, 11-21, 21-7 scoreline did not do justice to the standard of play from both players. Steven Palmer added the Intermediate Singles title for the rebel county when he defeated Dessie Keegan of Mayo 21-5, 9-21, 21-15 in the final. Cork had further successes in Silver Masters Doubles with Pat Morris and Paul Hayes teaming up to defeat John McCullagh and Peter O'Brien of Tyrone 21-8, 21-12 in the 'A' final while Paddy Buckley and Chris Hurley defeated Monaghan's John Eoghan and John McClave 21-8, 21-17 in the 'B' event.

GOOD YEAR FOR MEATH

Walter O'Connor and Tom Sheridan of Meath set the headlines for the royal county in an enthralling encounter against Paul Brady and Michael Finnegan of Cavan which kept the audience on the edge of their seats before they came out on top 21-15, 9-21, 21-18 in the Senior Doubles final. This was one of the best games seen at headquarters for many years keeping the audience spellbound at the speed and intensity of the play. Carl Browne from the Kells Club showed up well at Under 21 level with a fine 21-12, 21-6 win over Ciarán Meenagh of Tyrone. He partnered his clubmate Joe Cummins to victory in Doubles over James Brady and Pádraig Kiernan of Cavan 21-10, 21-8. Meath's other success came through Francis Carroll in Masters 'B' Singles who defeated Thomas Maguire of Antrim 21-10, 2-21, 21-16.

SEVEN TITLES FOR ULSTER

Four Ulster counties took seven 40x20 titles with Patrick Finnegan setting up the first leg of his Minor Singles double when he defeated Michael Gregan of Wicklow in a delayed final 6-21, 21-8, 21-11. Greg Sheridan and Patsy Hand took Cavan's second 40 x 20 title when they defeated Anthony Campbell and Declan Howard of Kildare 21-8, 21-11 in the Golden Masters 'A' Doubles final. Antrim had an excellent Intermediate Doubles victory through Seán Devine and Seánus Ó Túama who outscored Wexford's Gavin Buggy and Barry Goff 21-7, 21-18 with a marvellous display of handball. Seán McEntee from the St Paul's Club in Belfast achieved victory in Diamond Masters 'B' Singles defeating Michael Hogan from Tipperary 21-7, 21-16. Tom Savage took Down's only title, this at Junior Singles level, defeating John Kiersey from Cork 21-13, 21-16. Monaghan had two victories at Masters level, Cathal Higgins and Michael Todd defeating Tom Rossiter and Har Lacey of Wexford 21-16, 13-21, 21-6 in Golden Masters 'B' Doubles while Cathal Earley and Peter Cassidy in Emerald Masters 'B' Doubles defeated Eddie Sheerin and David Slattery of Tipperary 21-18, 21-11.

WEXFORD MASTERS DOUBLE

Pat Cleary and John Fleming who won three successive All-Ireland Senior 40 x 20 titles won the Masters 'A' Doubles final against Billy Silcock and Seán Mac Corraídh of Antrim running out victors on a 21-6, 21-10 scoreline. Pat Cleary defeated Francis McCann in an enthralling Singles final 15-21, 21-15, 21-20 to deny the Sligoman what would have been the first leg of a Masters 'A' Singles double in 2000. Gary Somers won the model county's third title defeating Noel Rigney of Galway 15-21, 21-8, 21-9 in Golden Masters 'B' Singles. Seán Ryan from the Garryhill Club set up the first of his Silver Masters 'A' Singles double when he defeated Dominic Sheridan of Cavan 21-9, 18-21, 21-8. Michael

Gregan and Robert Willoughby from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow took the Minor Doubles title at the expense of Ryan Daly and Mark McCullagh of Tyrone 21-11, 21-8 while in Emerald Masters 'A' Doubles Paddy Lennon and Dick Doyle from the garden county defeated Seán Heaney and Michael Reilly of Mayo 21-16, 14-21, 21-11.

Dublin won two All-Ireland 40 x 20 titles, Alan Kenny and Ian Griffin defeating Tyrone's Stephen Clarke and Barney Corcoran 17-21, 21-14, 21-19 in Junior Doubles. Eugene Kennedy won another Golden Masters 'A' Singles title defeating Noel Raftery of Roscommon 21-6, 21-12. Kilkenny players won two Singles titles, Eddie Burke winning out in Junior 'B' against Martin Campbell from Antrim 21-2, 21-7 and Gerry Murphy defeating Peter Mulryan of Galway 21-10, 21-7 in Emerald Masters 'B'.

Apart from Cork's four victories, Clare and Tipperary secured other victories for Munster. Seamus Lawlor and Tommy Stack from the banner county had a good 18-21, 21-17, 21-10 win over Tony Wilson and Paul Girvan of Down in Junior 'B' Doubles. Pat Griffin and Tony Flaherty from Tipperary defeated Thomas Maguire and Ambrose Tohill of Antrim 21-5, 21-10 in Masters 'B' Doubles while in the Diamond Masters 'B' Doubles final Michael Hogan and Pat Cleary from the premier county defeated Roscommon's Frank Maughan and Brian Kilcommis 21-13, 21-3.

FOUR CONNACHT VICTORIES

P.J. Moran of Roscommon made a return to the All-Ireland winners rostrum when he defeated Pat Buckley of Cork 21-3, 21-10 in Silver Masters 'B' Singles. Nicholas Clancy of Galway took the Emerald Masters 'A' Singles medal at the expense of Jimmy Walsh of Clare 21-20, 21-14, while in Diamond Masters 'A' Singles the evergreen Mick Lally defeated Kilkenny's Eddie Leahy 21-12, 21-6. Connacht's other title went to Paddy Walsh and Mick Kelly who defeated Eddie Leahy and Pat O'Keeffe, Kilkenny, in Diamond Masters 'A' Doubles 21-5, 19-21, 21-12 to set up the first leg of their Diamond double for 2000.

In summary, sixteen counties shared the thirty two All-Ireland 40 x 20 titles between them with eleven counties winning two or more championships and a further five winning one title each.

Hardball

A motion to discontinue the All-Ireland Minor, Junior and Senior Hardball Championships was defeated by a substantial majority at Comhdháil 2000. Pleas were made not to do away with the traditional Irish game and there were several impassioned speeches on the subject. The participation in the Hardball Championships had been such over the past decade that the Competition Structure Review Committee considered that it was not worthwhile and inappropriate to continue competitions that did not attract player support.

The fact that hardball is not played at Club, county or provincial level means that there is no effective method of practising the game or having any meaningful competition outside of the national championships. In addition, the increase in 40 x 20 and Softball competitions has meant that the hardball season is very confined and that there is little opportunity to play the game. The lack of a standard type hardball is also a disincentive to regular practice and competition.

Despite the impassioned pleadings at Congress to retain the game and not to disband any of the championships, the level of entries for the 2000 hardball championships was very disappointing with the result that no Minor or Senior Championships were played. The Junior events were dominated

by the Ballaghaderreen Club with Dessie Keegan winning the Singles title over clubmate Paul Flynn in two straight games while he partnered Barry Hough to victory over Paul Flynn and Pádraig Gaffney in Doubles on a 21-13, 21-14 scoreline.

If the ancient code of handball is to have any future there must be a serious increase in entries for the 2001 championships. In recent years entries have been confined to a small number of counties. If the situation does not improve the question of the continuation of the championships will have to be revisited.

Ladies Championships

It was another very successful year for ladies handball in Antrim. Fiona McKenna retained her Senior Singles title at the expense of Berni Hennessy of Limerick, 21-11, 21-7, while she and her sister Sibeal were awarded the Senior Doubles title by An Coiste Gnámh. Gráinne O'Reilly and Róisín Gamble of Antrim won the Junior Doubles final defeating Ethna Mee and Leonore Coyle, Roscommon, 21-16, 21-15 in the final. The 40 x 20 Junior Singles title went to Rachel Kelly from Clare with a good 21-13, 13-21, 21-9 victory over Wexford's Martina Walsh. The Wexford player had compensation in 60 x 30 when she partnered Ailish Howley to victory in Junior 'B' Doubles against Rachel Kelly and Edel McGuane with a 21-10, 21-4 result.

DOUBLES FOR ROSCOMMON AND KERRY

Roscommon and Kerry players had doubles in Minor Singles and Doubles in 2000. Lydia Doolan took both Minor Singles titles with good victories over Kerry's Tracy Buckley in both codes. The Kerry player had lots of compensation in Doubles when she partnered Sharon Daly to victory over Galway's Claire Connaughton and Yvonne McHugh 21-6, 21-14 in Softball and Aine and Patrice Lennon of Laois 21-13, 21-5 in 40 x 20.

It was unfortunate that a number of games in both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 did not take place due to injury and for other reasons. It may take some time before the effect of the introduction of Provincial 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Championships at Minor, Junior B and Junior level will have an impact on ladies handball in general. The possibility of representing one's county in Provincial Championships should be an attraction for many players. Every county will have to get behind the promotion of ladies handball and make a genuine effort to introduce more ladies to the game. We are still far too reliant on a relatively small number of Clubs in ladies handball: if the game is to improve, Clubs and counties will have to take the promotion of ladies handball much more seriously. The enjoyment and satisfaction which so many young people get from playing handball should be an attraction and incentive for many more players to take up the game both as a source of physical recreation and social involvement.

Juvenile Boys

A total of eleven counties shared the sixteen Juvenile boys titles during the past year. Only three counties, Tyrone, Galway and Roscommon won titles in both courts and it was remarkable that the eight 40 x 20 championships were won by eight different counties.

The most notable achievement in the premier grades was Noel McHugh's double at Under 16 Singles. He had an easy victory over Kilkenny's T J Comerford in 60 x 30 and defeated Richard Walshe of Wicklow 21-11, 21-9 in 40 x 20 to set a standard which he followed through to World Championship level. Tyrone's Patrick McCullagh and Martin Grugan were the only partnership to achieve a double in 2000 at Juvenile level winning Under 15 titles over Kilkenny's Thomas Hughes and Paul Byrne in 40 x

20, 19-21, 21-13, 11-10 and against Dermot Smyth and Kevin Murphy of Wexford 21-14, 9-21, 11-4 in 60 x 30. Tyrone's Gary McRory had a fine win over Tomás Lennon of Laois in Under 15 Softball Singles 21-15, 18-21, 11-8.

UNDER 14 TITLE FOR WESTMEATH

Westmeath's Robert McCarthy and John O'Shaughnessy achieved a unique success by winning the Under 14 Softball Doubles title 15-8, 15-5 over Harry Doherty and Stephen Mannion from Roscommon to take the county's first All-Ireland in that grade. Ger Coonan from the Ballina Club in Tipperary had a fine win over Chris Doolan of Roscommon in the Under 14 Softball Singles final while Brian Carroll of Meath defeated Gary McRory, Tyrone 15-10, 15-10 in Under 14 40 x 20 Singles. The Kilkenny pairing of Maurice Nolan and Brian Mulhall won the Under 14 40 x 20 Doubles title defeating Paul Connaughton and Ali Pickett of Cavan 15-0, 14-15, 15-14 in an excellent game. The Under 16 60 x 30 Doubles title went to Damian Martin and Ricky O'Gara of Roscommon who had a narrow but well earned victory over Thomas Hughes and Sean Maher, Kilkenny, 21-15, 8-21, 11-9. Clare's only Juvenile title was in Under 16 40 x 20 Doubles where Eanna Torpey and Adrian Lynch had better of Fintan Gamble and Gerard McGrath of Antrim 21-11, 11-21, 11-7. Roscommon's Patrick Coyle was too good for Donnacha O'Dea of Cork in Under 17 40 x 20 Singles while Cavan's Conor Rabbitte and Conor Downes defeated C J Delaney and Diarmuid Burke, Kilkenny, in Under 17 40 x 20 Doubles winning on a scoreline of 11-21, 21-14, 11-5. Wexford won both Under 17 60 x 30 titles, Roscommon players being the victims in both games. Felix Doran from the model county defeated Dessie Dowd 21-15, 21-11 in Singles while Myles Cash and Cormac Smyth were too good for Niall McGrath and David Hannon in Doubles. Paul Moran from the Naomh Mhuire Club in Leixlip who has progressed well through Juvenile ranks defeated Monaghan's Seán Downey 15-7, 15-11 in the 40 x 20 Under 15 Singles final.

Juvenile Girls Championships

There was a reasonable level of entry in most provinces in the Juvenile Girls 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Championships. Like in the boys championships, a number of girls reached All-Ireland finals in both codes. Lisa McAleer and Nadine Kelly from Tyrone had a unique double winning both U14 Doubles titles. They defeated Carlow's Miriam Ryan and Deirdre O'Brien in 60 x 30 and overcame the challenge of Anne Marie Hawe and Emer Skehan of Kilkenny 15-9, 15-7 in 40 x 20. Noelle Casey from Limerick took Under 16 medals defeating Rachel Casey of Roscommon in 60x 30 Singles and partnering Aine Twomey to a 19-21, 21-12, 11-10 victory over Emer Coyle and Aifric Naughton of Roscommon in U16 40 x 20 Doubles. Nicola Kelly from the St Coman's Club in Roscommon was particularly unlucky going down in both U14 Singles finals against Sandy McSwiney of Kerry 15-8, 15-8 in 60 x 30 and Emer Fallon of Kildare 15-11, 13-15, 15-12 in the 40 x 20 event.

Tanya Farrell from Westmeath, a newcomer to the game, won both U17 Singles titles, defeating Nicola Conneely of Galway in both courts. The U17 Doubles finals were between Donegal's Nora Stapleton and Tracy Floyd and Grainne Hughes and Grainne Brennan from Kilkenny. Donegal were victorious in 40 x 20, 21-4, 21-5 while Kilkenny reversed the decision in 60 x 30 on a 21-17, 21-19 scoreline. Patricia Doyle from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow had an excellent victory over Rachel Casey of Roscommon in the U16 40 x 20 Singles final while in U16 Doubles Joy Smith and Sinéad Tevlin of Meath defeated Emer

Coyle and Aifric Naughton, Roscommon 21-18, 21-14, Maria Daly from Ballymacelligott in Kerry had an easy victory over Edel Egan of Leitrim in the U15 Singles 60 x 30 final. The 40 x 20 title in the same grade went to Teresa McGuane of Clare who defeated Paula McIllduff from Tyrone. Aideen Ní Dhonnacha from Roscommon won two U15 Doubles medals. She partnered Deiredre Healy to victory over Edel Jordan and Amanada Canavan of Carlow in 60 x 30 and teamed up with Karen Hynes to defeat Marian Coleman and Danielle O'Connell of Tipperary 6-21, 21-18, 11-9 in the 40 x 20 court.

A very encouraging feature of juvenile girls handball is the level of commitment and interest shown by the players and their coaches and families. They are very dedicated to the game and get tremendous satisfaction and enjoyment from playing. This should be a major selling point in introducing and promoting handball at juvenile level. The fact that eleven counties won a total of sixteen juvenile girls titles between shows that there is a good spread of handball for girls. However, several counties have made no effort to promote the game and this is a great pity considering the fitness and social benefits of the game as well as the fact that as an injury free sport handball is an ideal game for young girls.

Juvenile Team Events

The Juvenile Team events, both boys and girls, continue to attract widespread support. These competitions have been very successful and provide a great opportunity for young players who might not otherwise do so to represent their counties. Most counties take the competition very seriously to the extent of having trials to select the county teams. This is just as it should be and helps to instill in young players a pride in representing their county and wearing the county colours. As in many other areas of handball, the work done by individual Clubs in promoting the game can be seen in their representation on county teams.

Kilkenny won both Under 12/13 team events with six players involved in the panel on both occasions. They defeated Roscommon 86-47 in Softball and overcame the challenge of Tyrone in 40 x 20, 84-49. Waterford contested both Under 14/15 finals winning the 40 x 20 event over Mayo opposition 90-45 and going down to Wexford in 60 x 30, 90-34. In the Girls Under 16 Club team event St Coman's of Roscommon had a good win over Naomh Mhuire of Leixlip.

Club Championships

The Provincial and All-Ireland Club Championships which should really show the strength of Club handball continue to attract far fewer entries than the game deserves in both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. It appears as if Clubs in general do not consider it worthwhile to enter the provincial championships unless they see themselves as having a reasonable chance of success at that level and beyond. However, pride in playing for one's Club should certainly be a factor and one must question the interest of players in representing their Club in a team competition when there are so few entries for the Championships. It is a great pity that these competitions do not get the attention they deserve and that Clubs and counties do not think it worth their while to get involved in promoting the competitions and in creating the interest among players in playing. When one considers the level of support among local communities for county, provincial and All-Ireland Club championships in hurling and football, the viability of continuing the handball championships must be considered again. Comhdháil 2000 decided to retain the Club Championships and it is now up to Clubs and counties to provide the evidence that they are interested in them as a means of promoting the game and providing

opportunities for Club members to represent their Club in worthwhile competition. If the level of participation does not improve this is another area that will have to be reviewed as a matter of urgency.

SUCCESS FOR WEXFORD CLUBS

The St Mary's Clubs in Wexford town and New Ross took three of the six Club titles between them. St Mary's, Wexford powered by Tommy Hynes, Paul Carty, Colin Keeling, Gavin Buggy and Terry Byrne overcame the challenge of Ballyporeen in the Open 60 x 30 final, 105-67. The same team was defeated in the 40 x 20 Open final by Kingscourt's Patrick Finnegan, Michael Finnegan, Jimmy McKeon and Paul Brady on a 102-58 scoreline.

St Mary's, New Ross took both Junior B titles defeating Celtic of Galway in 60 x 30 on a 105-36 scoreline and overcoming the challenge of Brackey in 40 x 20 by the narrowest of margins 88-87 in a nailbiting, tense and most exciting encounter. Both Junior titles went to Ulster Clubs. Brackey were awarded the 60 x 30 title when Youghalarra, their opponents, were unable to fulfil the fixture while the Eugene Quinn Club in Armagh defeated Na Fianna of Dublin in 40 x 20, 105-82.

Third Level Colleges

It was a very successful year for Third Level Colleges handball. Paul Brady became the second Irish player to win the USHA Collegiates Open Singles title, following in the footsteps of 1999 winner, Tony Healy from U.C.C. Paul teamed up with Pádraig Gaffney and finished runners-up in the Men's Open Doubles final. The D.I.T. team finished in fourth place overall in the team placings while Bernie O'Reilly, also of D.I.T., finished seventh in the Ladies Championships.

The participation of Irish Colleges and players in increasing numbers in the USHA Collegiates is a major attraction for our Third Level students who play handball. It is also welcomed by the USHA adding an extra international dimension to their competitions. Irish College teams who travel to these championships make a huge effort to do so both in terms of organising their time and in fund raising. It is a tremendous opportunity for them to broaden their horizons and to meet their counterparts in the U.S.A. Colleges. This is a trend which has grown over the past few years and is much more likely become part of the scene for Irish Colleges handballers in the future.

INTERVARSITIES 2000

The Irish Intervarsities Championships 2000 took on a new dimension with the introduction of a new drop down format to give the weaker players some extra games. This was a great success where first round losers in each grade dropped down to the next level of competition.

D.I.T. were very successful in winning the A Team Championship with Darragh O'Gara, Paul Brady, Pádraig Gaffney and Stephen McCormack defeating Eoin Kennedy, Paul Foley, Derek Henry, Colm Devine and David McAndrew of D.C.U. in the final. Paul Brady also won the Open Singles event defeating Eoin Kennedy 18-13. N.U.I.G. defeated U.C.C. 112-93 in the B Team final while Micheál O'Neill of U.C.D. defeated Glen Raftery from G.M.I.T. in the B Singles event. Anthony O'Sullivan from D.I.T. defeated his colleague Darren McArdle 33-28 in the C Singles final. D.I.T. also won the Women's B Singles event when Bernie O'Reilly was awarded the title. Fiona Healy representing Crumlin College had a 34-31 victory over Fionnuala Mee, U.C.D., in the Ladies A final.

The level of interest and participation in the Third Level Colleges Championships is very heartening. It has become a

major event in the handballing calendar with over 100 students taking part. Because of the increased participation it may be necessary to hold the championships over a full three day period in future years. Additional Colleges handball tournaments should be held at provincial level to cater for the playing needs of more students. Each province could hold its own championship in the autumn which could be organised between the Colleges themselves in their respective provinces with help from the Colleges GAA Development Officers. College Clubs should also register and take part in county championships as quite a number of Colleges players do not belong to a home Club and should avail of the opportunity to take part in county championships through their College Clubs.

All-Ireland Colleges

Once again the provincial and All-Ireland Colleges championships depended on the co-operation of parents and Clubs in looking after the players who represented their colleges both in boys and girls handball. Very few Colleges promote handball as a school sport and merely avail of the ability and talents of players from local Clubs who attend their schools. This is a great pity as the Colleges themselves lose out by not promoting the game as a means of recreation and participation in an excellent sport for their students.

There were victories for St Patrick's, Lacken Cross and Coláiste Sheosaimh, Glenamaddy in First Year Girls Singles and Doubles respectively in 60 x 30 while Presentation College, Tralee and Convent of Mercy, Roscommon won the corresponding titles in 40 x 20. Lydia Doolan won both U18 Singles events defeating Una Byrne from Gorey C.S. 21-5, 21-5 in 60 x 30 and Joy Smith of Eureka College, Kells 15-4, 15-6 in 40 x 20. Nicola Kelly of Convent of Mercy, Roscommon, was unlucky in U15 Singles going down to Maria Daly of Presentation Convent, Castleisland in 60 x 30 and to Patricia Doyle, Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew 15-7, 15-12 in 40 x 20. Emer Coyle from Convent of Mercy, Roscommon won two U15 Doubles titles. She partnered Elaine Healy to victory over Ciara Mullins and Mary Murphy of St Brigid's, Goresbridge in 60 x 30 and Aideen Ní Dhonnacha in their 40 x 20 win over Miriam Ryan and Deirdre O'Brien from Muine Bheag C.S. Joy Smith and Sinéad Tevlin from Eureka College, Kells defeated Helen Cooney and Lorraine McHale, St Patrick's, Lacken Cross 21-8, 21-6 in the U18 Softball Doubles final. Victory in the U18 Doubles 40 x 20 event went to Claire Connaughton and Yvonne McHugh, St Joseph's, Glenamaddy with a tie-break victory over Susan Keegan and Elizabeth Martin from Coolmine Community College in Dublin.

BOYS CHAMPIONSHIPS

St Mary's Christian Brothers Grammar School from Belfast won both Junior titles in 40 x 20. Michael Herron defeated Seán Maher of Castlecomer Community School in two straight games to take the Singles while Fintan Gamble and Gerard McGrath had a 21-11, 21-16 win over Eanna Torpey and Aidan Lynch from St Joseph's College, Tulla in Doubles. Brendan Herron from St Mary's C.B.G.S. went down 21-12, 21-15 to Patrick Finnegan representing Ability College, Navan in the Senior 40 x 20 Singles final. St Augustine's College, Dungarvan recorded an historic victory when Kenny Keane and Barry McAndrew defeated Ryan Daly and Mark McCullagh from Omagh C.B.S. 21-17, 21-10 to take the Boys 40 x 20 Senior Doubles title to the College for the first time.

Damian Martin from Roscommon C.B.S. had a very good win in Junior Softball Singles defeating Gary McRory from Omagh C.B.S. 21-9, 21-9. Omagh C.B.S. represented by Mark

McCullagh and Darren McRory, had a very good 17-21, 21-17, 21-17 win over Cormac Smyth and Ronan Greene from St Peter's College, Wexford in Senior Doubles. The Senior Singles title went to Joseph McCann, St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen who overcame the challenge of Michael Brennan from St Augustine's College, Dungarvan. The Waterford College was also unlucky when Michael Browne and Tristan Hickey went down to Thomas Moore and Eamon Smith of St Peter's College, Wexford on a 21-8, 13-21, 21-11 scoreline in Junior Doubles.

Bunscoileanna

Twenty one counties participated in the ninth national programme for Primary Schools which is organised by Cumann na mBunscol at county level and by Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and Cumann na mBunscol at national level. This promotion has tremendous potential but, unfortunately, has not made the impact it should have made so far at county level. Counites and Clubs need to become involved with the promotion of handball in Primary Schools. The Cumann na mBunscol promotion is an excellent vehicle for introducing the game at Primary School level and every effort should be made to support the work of the teachers in bringing handball back to the children of Ireland.

It is vital that Clubs offer their facilities to schools and help them in any way possible by introducing the game and coaching the pupils who are, after all, potential members of their local Clubs.

There is always great excitement and enthusiasm among the children who reach the National Skills Day at Croke Park. It is a pity that some counties are reluctant to become involved in the promotion and I would ask Cumann na mBunscol to make every effort to ensure that all 32 counties are involved in the scheme so that the National Handball Day is a truly national event for Primary Schools.

Despite the fact that some counties do not participate in the Cumann na mBunscol promotion it has been very successful. We are very grateful to the executive of Cumann na mBunscol and the various units throughout the country for promoting the game and running off the events at county and regional level as well as participating in the national event. It is noteworthy that a number of pupils who have emerged over the years at national level have gone on to become some of our top male and female juvenile players. This should be a great source of encouragement to the organisers. Perhaps the time has come to review the Cumann na mBunscol promotion with the National Executive and to see how the game can be developed in all areas.

Féile na nGael

Féile na nGael was held in Ulster for the first time and was hosted by eight of the nine counties in the province. The local organising committees did an excellent job in hosting and catering for the visiting teams and great credit is due to everybody concerned. The main organising committee did everything possible to ensure the success of Féile and, no doubt, are looking forward to hosting Féile 2001.

The distance between venues and the travel involved in going from venues in the province to Belfast for the concluding stages of the 40 x 20 competitions on the Saturday morning proved to be a major difficulty in a number of cases. Some teams were late in arriving at Belfast with the result that finals had to be delayed with the knock on effect that a number of teams missed the Féile parade. Once again, handball did not have the profile it should have had in the parade and we have a lot of work to do to reach the standard required by the organising committee. Every

participating Club should have its own banner and county flag and be attired in full playing gear.

One of the main attractions of Féile is that it provides the opportunity for players from all over the country to come together where they meet in a competitive and social atmosphere. Many long and worthwhile friendships are forged over these weekends and several Clubs exchange visits as a result. Féile also offers the opportunity to Clubs to see their involvement in the broader scheme of things within Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. However, this is not as effective when the handball, hurling and camogie events take place over such a wide area.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The outstanding achievement of Féile 2000 was that of Ger Coonan from Ballina in Tipperary who won the 60 x 30 Division I Skills title for the third successive year, the only player to do so since handball was introduced in Féile in 1983. The only other player to win three successive titles was Ciarán Curran from Loughmacrory in Tyrone who took the 40 x 20 Division I Skills title on three occasions from 1986 to 1988. Ballina retained the 60 x 30 Division I team trophy by virtue of a 42-31 victory over Mothel from Kilkenny in a tie-break after the teams finished on 21 points each.

It was very disappointing that only three teams took part in the 60 x 30 competition and for the first time since 1983 there was no Division II Softball competition.

The Boys 40 x 20 Division I title went to Carrickmore of Tyrone with a good victory over Coolboy. Gary McRory from the winning Club also took the skills medal. Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty from Waterford collected the Division II 40 x 20 gold medals with a comfortable win over Ballyhogue from Wexford. The Division III 40 x 20 final was an all Down affair in which the Saval Club defeated Downpatrick by 37-35.

The Naomh Mhuire Club from Leixlip in Kildare retained the Girls 40 x 20 Division I title defeating Loughmacrory 33-27 in the final while Naomh Mhichíl from Derry also retained the Girls 40 x 20 Division II title defeating near neighbours Buncrana in the final.

SUPPORT FOR FÉILE

I would like to make a very strong appeal to all counties to take the entry process for Féile na nGael much more seriously. Very few counties have qualifying competitions and in many cases the same Club attends the Féile weekend on a regular basis without any opposition in their own counties. Every Coiste Contae should see to it that a qualifying competition is held and that the county is represented by the best possible Club in Féile every year. This annual event is the highlight of the juvenile careers of many young players and every Club should be given the opportunity of taking part in a county competition to ensure that the best Club qualifies.

PROVINCIAL OPENS

The 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Provincial Opens were established as a means of providing additional opportunities for players to take part in top level competitions outside of the normal provincial and All-Ireland championships. While they are very attractive in themselves they have yet to attract the level of entry and interest which was expected at the initial stage. In general the level of entries for the Leinster 60 x 30 and Munster 40 x 20 Opens were quite good. However, it was very disappointing that the Ulster 40 x 20 Open planned for December 2000, did not go ahead because of some local difficulties in organising the schedule.

It is also disappointing that a number of our top players do

not have the interest in taking part in Provincial Opens on a regular basis. It was expected at the outset that the attractiveness of the ranking system, based on the results of the Men's and Ladies Open Singles competitions, would have ensured a much better and more consistent level of entries.

On behalf of all the players who took part in the Provincial Tournaments and their supporters who attended the games and social events and on behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann I wish to thank and congratulate all of the organisers on the excellent arrangements for the tournaments. It takes a lot of time, planning and organisation to ensure that each tournament is the success it deserves to be. The involvement and support of sponsors for the individual competitions in the Provincial Opens is very worthwhile and suffice it to say that the standard of trophies now reflects the status of the competitions.

WATERFORD CRYSTAL NATIONALS

The Waterford Crystal Irish Nationals once again proved a very successful event. Over 200 entries were received for the sixth successive year and the co-operation of venues and officials was outstanding in completing a very hectic schedule of games over three weekends. Once again, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and all our players, members and supporters are very appreciative of the provision of such splendid trophies by Waterford Crystal for the winners and finalists in all events, together with their financial support. Our thanks and appreciation also go to the excellent work carried out by the Organising Committee and those who stewarded the venues over the finals weekend. Credit is also due to TG4 and TV3 for featuring the launch of the Nationals. Because of the fact that games earlier on the day of the major finals overran the schedule it was not possible for TV3 to record the event and so we lost out on a major opportunity for exposure of the game. This matter will certainly be rectified for future years as we must not risk departing from the schedule of games. It was regrettable that RTE did not cover the Nationals and we may need the support of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in securing coverage for the Nationals in future.

The 2000 Nationals had an added bonus for the winners of the Men's and Ladies Open events and all Junior events as these players went on to represent Ireland in the Waterford Crystal World Championships in Chicago. For the record the winners of the 2000 Nationals were:

Men's Open:	Tony Healy, Cork
Ladies Open:	Fiona McKenna, Antrim
Men's B:	David King, Carlow
Women's B:	Gráinne O'Reilly, Antrim
Men's C:	Eddie Burke, Kilkenny
Masters A:	Pat Cleary, Wexford
Masters B:	Tony Flaherty, Tipperary
Golden Masters A:	Eugene Kennedy, Dublin
Golden Masters B:	Mervyn McCann, Armagh
Diamond Masters:	Paddy Walsh, Sligo
Boys 19 & Under:	Michael Gregan, Wicklow
Girls 19 & Under:	Fiona Healy, Kildare
Boys 17 & Under:	Charlie Shanks, Armagh
Girls 17 & Under:	Lydia Doolan, Roscommon
Boys 15 & Under:	Damian Martin, Roscommon
Girls 15 & Under:	Patricia Doyle, Wicklow

ONE-WALL NATIONALS

The fourth One Wall Nationals were hosted again by Sligo County Committee who made a major success of the event. This has now become a definite fixture in the handball calendar and over

150 entries were received for the 2000 Championships. Great credit is due to the Organising Committee in general and to the host committees in each of the venues for ensuring that everything went according to clockwork.

There was a major increase in the number of girls taking part with 25 entries in the two juvenile competitions. The introduction of the Men's C grade attracted 24 entries while there were 11 players in the Open. There was an international dimension as well with several Welsh players taking part and Steve Kraft being the first U.S. player to take part in the One Wall Nationals. The event received some welcome coverage on RTE's Breaking Ball programme while publicity in the local media was excellent.

The excellent weather over the weekend meant that all of the finals were held at the outdoor court in Ballisodare on the Sunday in front of a huge crowd. Four of the six men's finals went to a tie-break. The Men's Open final was an excellent game in which Dessie Keegan came from behind to defeat defending champion David King of Carlow and become the first winner of the Paddy Hall Memorial Trophy kindly donated by his son Pat. Further winners were as follows:

Masters A:	Michael Porter, Sligo
Golden Masters:	Steve Kraft, U.S.A.
Masters B:	Kerry Wilde, Wales
Men's B:	Barry Hough, Mayo
Girls U17:	Patricia Doyle, Wicklow
Boys U17:	Michael Gregan, Wicklow
Girls U14:	Nicola Kelly, Roscommon
Boys U14:	Brian Carroll, Meath

A special tribute must be paid to Connell Cannon who undertook the major administrative and organisational task together with John McLoughlin in co-ordinating all of the events and ensuring that the full programme including the social events was completed to schedule over the weekend. Sligo will again host the games in 2001 and we look forward to another marvellous weekend's handball which has attracted record-breaking entries every year so far.

World Championships

There were some top-class performances from Irish players, particularly our Juniors and Open contestants, in the Waterford Crystal World Championships held in Chicago in October 2000. The expectations of the Irish team were not realised, particularly where players did not perform to their potential. Tony Healy made an excellent showing in the Open Singles event winning his earlier matches before going out 21-15, 21-17 to David Chapman who had accounted for Michael Finnegan, 21-11, 21-13 at the quarter-final stage. Paul Brady pushed John Bike all the way in his semi-final before going down 18-21, 21-12, 11-8. In the Ladies Open Fiona Shannon defeated Jennifer Schmitt, U.S.A. 21-10, 14-21, 11-4 in a quarter-final clash before going out to eventual winner Priscilla Schumate 21-13, 21-4 in the semi-final. There was disappointment for Michael 'Duxie' Walsh and Kenneth Kane in the Men's Open Doubles when they went down to Walter O'Connor and Tom Sheridan 21-17, 21-11 in the quarter-final. The Meath pair then lost to John Bike and Kendall Lewis 21-13, 1-21, 11-6 in the semi-final. Suzanne Gartland and Elizabeth Campbell lost their opening game 21-20, 21-19 to Roisín Faulkner of Cavan and Amber Rounseville from South Dakota.

JUNIOR EVENTS

Michael Gregan who represented Ireland in the 19 & Under Championships was defeated at the semi-final stage by Bill Mehilos who then lost to Dessie Keegan in a nailbiting final clash 16-21, 21-20, 11-8. In Girls 19 & Under Fiona Healy had a good

quarter-final victory but lost at the semi-final stage to Megan Mehilos, 21-9, 21-7. In what was always going to be a very keenly contested Boys Championship, Charles Shanks lost his semi-final to Joseph McCann 21-16, 17-21, 11-6. Noel McHugh from Williamstown then defeated McCann 21-6, 21-8 in convincing style in the final. Lydia Doolan waltzed through all opposition to take the Girls 17 & Under title winning the final against Courtney Piexoto, Illinois 21-1, 21-3. Both Irish team 15 & Under players reached their finals, Patricia Doyle defeating Maria Daly in a very tense final 20-21, 21-16, 11-8 and Damian Martin losing out to Sean Lenning of Washington.

OTHER IRISH VICTORIES

There was some marvellous victories for other Irish players in various grades. Stephen Palmer showed true grit in winning the Men's B Championship while Ian Griffin from Dublin delighted the Irish followers by taking the Men's C Singles title. Gerry O'Neill, Antrim and Richard Willoughby, Jnr., Wicklow, teamed up and performed heroics to win the C Doubles Championship while Robert McCarthy, Jnr., from Westmeath outshone all other opponents at 13 & Under level winning the four-wall and one-wall titles, Christopher Doyle from Coolboy losing out on both occasions. In summary, our Junior players won seven finals, five of which were all Irish affairs. Irish Juniors also took second place in four more events while our adult players contested nine finals, winning three.

STANDARDS

While Irish players have some way to go in catching up on the top American opposition the performances overall were very heartening at that level of competition. The main advantage that the Americans possess is their participation in the USHA Pro Tour which provides them with regular and intense competition over a few days where they become accustomed to the skill and stamina requirements on an ongoing basis. Because of this they can pitch their performances to the requirements of any match, whereas most of their Irish counterparts must perform or up to or near their level of ability very early in the competition. Our Junior players again showed why they are so well respected in US handball circles. Their attitude to competing was very positive and we will have to build on this for the future. Perhaps the time is right to provide our players with the best level of coaching available to them in Ireland. This would mean co-operation between national coaches and the players' individual coaches within their Clubs and counties. It is certainly something which should be examined as a means of bridging the gap in standards between Irish and American players as they progress to senior level.

In all, 300 Irish people, including 180 players, travelled to Chicago for the World Championships which were by far the biggest ever held. The local organising committee got through a mammoth task in scheduling games. It was a pity that so many games involving Irish players overlapped at the final stages of the Championships but credit must be given to the organisers on catering for such a huge number of games and competitors. One of the main disadvantages for the Irish was that the hotel where most of the group stayed was quite a distance from the three court locations. Apart from the travel and time involved in getting to the courts and the cost involved, the hotel facilities were very limited, particularly for our Juniors. We would need to look at this and other aspects of any future tour much more closely. In particular, there was a very long lead in time before our Junior players were scheduled to play. It is critical that in future the tour schedule is adjusted accordingly.

BUÍOCHAS

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and the official team I wish to thank and congratulate Jimmy King and Seán McEntee on the coaching and preparation of the team. Our thanks and appreciation are also due in great measure to Seán McEntee and Mary Lindsay who coached the players during the Championships and to Con Moore who acted as Team Manager for the whole party. They all did an excellent job and contributed greatly to making the tour as successful as possible given the disadvantages and some negative circumstances which prevailed at the hotel.

2003 World Championships

The World Handball Council has requested Ireland to host the Waterford Crystal World Championships in 2003. This will be a major challenge for Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and all of those involved in organising the event. Due to the increase in numbers taking part in the Championships on every occasion since 1988 we may be faced with the prospect of catering for approximately 1,000 players in 2003. We certainly have the personnel and expertise to take on the task of organising the next Championships. We will have to upgrade many of our facilities to cater for the events and we know we can rely on the goodwill of huge numbers of people at Club and county level to ensure the Championships will be an unqualified success.

Caimin Jones was re-elected as President of the World Handball Council for a second term of three years which will see him conclude his presidency at the Championships in Ireland. The conferring of this prestigious office on an Irish official is testament to the regard in which Irish handball is held at international level, particularly in relation to our role in developing international handball.

INTERNATIONAL

Our international efforts during the year were focused mainly on the World Championships in the U.S. We have been to the fore in efforts to extend the number of countries taking part. Our initial contact with the Welsh has resulted in their becoming regular competitors at the Championships. They also make great efforts to attend our events, last year playing in Abbeylara and at our One Wall Nationals in Sligo. We hope to return the compliment this year as a large number of handballers have expressed interest in playing in the 2001 Welsh Championships.

In January six winners of our Colleges Senior titles played in the deferred 2000 English Schools Championships in Blackpool. The prospect of representing their country should give a boost to schools handball. Hopefully, consideration will be given to including the Vocational winners in the next event in October. Our players again did us proud, two of them reaching the semi-finals in Singles and Patrick Finnegan and Joseph McCann teaming up to reach the Doubles final. For the third year running we were to fail at the final hurdle going down to the Rugby Fives champions from Highgate School in London. Interestingly, all the winners were ethnic Indians who showed a natural aptitude for handball. The Irish party also made contact with the Scottish players and they were keen to learn about our codes of handball. The English game is played with a hardball and would seem to offer an international outlet for players of our beleaguered code if in some way they could engage with the Fives players. Our handballers are always welcome at the Fives courts in the YMCA in Manchester, the home court of Wayne Enstone twenty-three times English National Singles champion. The one oasis of our game in England, at the Irish Centre in Kilburn, seems to have

gone without trace. This is a great pity as it was going so well in the 1980's and early 1990's.

Our relations with the continental Federations have become problematic. The French after the European Championships in Dungarvan had undertaken to host the European Games this year but failed to come through. To maintain the contact, we had hoped that a county or club team would take up the challenge of travelling to France and play in their Tournament but this didn't happen. We need, possibly through the Development Committee, to take a long hard look at where we are going in our relations with the European Federations. The attendance of the Dutch, the French and the Finns at the 1994 World Championships in Ireland was great publicity for our game. We need to plan how we can attract them and the other countries such as Spain and Belgium when we next host the World Championships.

We are now part of the G.A.A. International Dimension Committee whose remit it is to make our games better known abroad. Hopefully, our parent body will see how far we have come in spreading our game to other lands and how much more we could achieve if we become fully participant in their promotion. A case in point is the annual Australasia Gaelic Festival where football and hurling form the central themes. Handball, too, should be on show.

Venues & Refereeing

The Handball Council appreciates greatly the availability of Club venues for the smooth running of our national competitions. The doubling of the number of these competitions over the past decade has meant a lot of extra games and programmes in numerous venues throughout the country. Without the help and assistance of so many dedicated officials at Club level it would not be possible to complete our very extensive programme of fixtures.

I wish to thank all of our venue officials, and particularly the referees, who have the onerous task of officiating at games. In general, the level of sportsmanship among players assists the referee greatly in performing his duties as everybody appreciates the role of the referee is vital in the proper presentation of games. As official in charge he has the responsibility to know and implement the rules fully and properly. There is some variation in the application of rules which can impact on players and spectators alike. Referees should apply all rules consistently, including breaches of some simple technical rules. Where this is not done the task of the referee may be made more difficult where players take advantage of his leniency.

Great credit is due to our referees who give a lot of time, dedication and commitment to looking after the games and it is right and fitting that we should pay tribute to them for their invaluable contribution to handball. The job of the referee would be much more pleasant if players and spectators accepted his decisions but, inevitably, because of the speed of the game the referee is under constant pressure in making split second decisions which can affect the outcome of the game. A referee must always have our full support and encouragement in carrying out his or her role.

While the rate of court construction and development has fallen from the peak of the 1970's and '80s it is very heartening that some new facilities have been built over the past few years and that others are in the course of construction. We certainly look forward to the completion of the three court 40 x 20 complex at Kingscourt which in addition to its existing 60 x 30 court will be a major centre for handball competition in the future.

Many of the courts which were built over the past 30 to 40 years are now in need of major repair. Every County Committee

and Provincial Council should encourage its Clubs to examine their own facilities and to bring them into line with the standards expected within the game today, both for players and spectators. If handball is to retain its membership and to attract new players and members we must upgrade our facilities on a regular basis so that they are comfortable and attractive for players and also act as focal centres where people can meet in a friendly and social atmosphere.

Coaching

Richard Willoughby from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow completed his Coach Tutor course at the National Coaching and Training Centre in Limerick, graduating in September 2000. Tony Healy, our top 40 x 20 Singles player from Ballydesmond will be completing the same course this year and will also qualify as a Coach Tutor to augment the services already provided by Jimmy King and Sean McEntee. With a team of four Coach Tutors available, the demand for any number of coaching courses can be met throughout the year. The demand for courses during 2000 was very disappointing with only five taking place throughout the country. It was a major disappointment that there was very little demand for the National Coaching Camp which was to have been held at Gormanston College. If every Club and county were to realise the centrality of coaching to the development of the game any National Coaching Camp would be oversubscribed. All units have a responsibility to promote coaching and to ensure that every Club has at least two or three qualified coaches to introduce juveniles and adult beginners to the game and give them a grounding in the basic skills of handball.

The National Coaching Council must do more to harness the potential for coaching throughout the country and in particular it should consider establishing Provincial Coaching Committees with responsibility for introducing and promoting coaching throughout each province. The Coaching Council must also take on the production of coaching literature as a major priority to support and supplement the work of Clubs and counties and, in particular, the coaches who are dealing with the individual players.

handballs

Having experienced some difficulties over the years in maintaining the supply of top quality 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 balls Gerry Mac Cormac of SRC has, through meticulous research, succeeded in manufacturing very satisfactory balls. He has researched various components, developed new production methods, invested greatly in modern technology and used additional staff in a huge effort to produce the best possible handballs.

SRC now manufacture a range of seven top quality handballs from one wall through to international level ensuring that we now have adequate supplies of Irish made balls for all levels of ability and competition.

As many people will realise, the price of handballs has been maintained at the same level for several years— despite increases in the wholesale price. However, it has not been possible for the Irish Handball Council to absorb these increases any longer and with recent substantial increases in the price of all balls we had no alternative but to increase the prices all around. The reasons for the increased costs include the reduction in the number of handballs produced annually, the fact that raw materials are purchased in sterling, the production of smaller batches of balls thus ensuring regular fresh supplies and general increases in overheads.

Handball Yearbook

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann published its fifth Yearbook which featured all major national and international events as well as news from counties and provinces and a number of historical articles. The Yearbook also featured tributes to departed officials and included a full record of all national results as well as details of the participation of Irish players in the World Championships.

While there was an excellent spread of articles in the Yearbook it was disappointing that a few counties didn't consider it worthwhile to forward articles for the publication. All counties and provinces deserve to have a review of their activities included in the Yearbook and the least the people responsible could do is to ensure that somebody or a small group would be appointed at the beginning of the year to prepare material and submit an article for the Yearbook.

I wish to sincerely thank the Editorial Committee of Mick Dunne, Owen McCann and Tom O'Connor under the Chairmanship and guidance of Tommy O'Brien for their diligence and excellent work in researching, writing and editing articles to ensure that the publications did justice to and was worthy of the sport of handball.

We also wish to thank those who supported the Yearbook in various ways, particularly Ard Chomhairle, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and the four Provincial GAA Councils in addition to a number of companies and individuals who supported the Yearbook by means of advertising, thus ensuring that the publication was self financing.

Waterford Crystal Awards

The sixth Waterford Crystal Handball Awards Scheme was very well supported with a good level of entries in most categories and some very good presentations on behalf of nominees. However, the Scheme could be much more actively promoted and encouraged at county level to ensure that any person or Club deserving of consideration should be nominated for the Awards.

Speaking at the Awards Banquet at the Cusack Club, Páirc an Chrócaigh, Dr James McDaid, T.D., Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, said he was very pleased to be associated with such a prestigious event. He recommended the contribution of handball to all-round fitness and well-being and encouraged people to continue playing the game as a lifelong sport.

Promoting the Awards Scheme, Martin McGuire, Marketing Manager of Waterford Crystal said his company has been proud to be associated with handball and all the important events of the handball calendar, particularly the World Championships in Chicago and the Waterford Crystal Irish Handball Awards. He added that his company was particularly pleased that those who receive Awards include not just the contemporary stars of the game but, also, in the young people, the future stars and in the Hall of Fame Award, the stars of yesteryear. The winners of the 1999 Waterford Crystal Handball Awards were:

Young Player – Female	Maria Daly, Kerry
Young Player – Male	Michael Gregan, Wicklow
Player of the Year – Female	Fiona McKenna, Antrim
Player of the Year – Male	Tony Healy, Cork
Masters Player of the Year	Mickey Walsh, Roscommon
International Player	Eoin Kennedy, Dublin
Hall of Fame	Mickey Walsh, Mayo
Coach of the Year	John Gaffney, Mayo
Special Achievement	Seamus O'Reilly, Dublin
Official of the Year	Anne Naughton, Roscommon
Club of the Year	Liscarroll, Cork

It is worth noting that Fiona McKenna received her fifth Award in six years, the first being as Juvenile Female Player in 1994 and four others as Female Player of the Year.

The continuing development and growth of handball depends greatly on people who are working at Club level – coaches, administrators and mentors. We are fortunate that there are so many of them who have fostered the game with dedication and commitment over the years. These, too, are recognised in the Awards and they are all deserving of the highest praise for their work and achievements. Not everybody can win the Waterford Crystal Awards but there are many special people who should be nominated every year.

As we look back on the year 2000 we must be particularly grateful that the Awards Scheme was instituted, recognising as it did Mossy Hennessy of Limerick as Official of Year in 1995, JJ Jennings for the Hall of Fame Award in 1997 and Seamus O'Reilly for a Special Achievement Award in 1999. It is very gratifying that these three people who gave so much time, energy and devotion to the development of handball in Ireland were honoured in their lifetime.

Publicity

Most of our counties are in the fortunate position where they get a great deal of publicity in the local media, both radio and newspapers. This does not happen by accident and entails a lot of hard work and the provision of information on a regular basis to local correspondents. Some counties are in the fortunate position to have regular slots in radio sports programmes and most have a regular column in their provincial newspapers.

The Irish Examiner and Irish News also carry features on handball and thanks are due to Peter Dennehy and Tony Magee respectively for their contributions to those two papers.

Our thanks and appreciation are due to Mick Dunne for his excellent work in regular contributions to the Irish Independent. However, his work can be hampered by the lack of information available to him before games and an inadequate flow of results from venues after matches.

Mick also writes a regular feature in the Highball magazine while Michael McGee, Meath, has been very successful in getting major coverage for handball in the Hogan Stand magazine.

Our thanks are due to TG4 and TV3 for some limited coverage of handball during the year. We were unfortunate that TV3 were unable to cover the Open Singles finals in the Nationals due to the fact that games were delayed when we overran with the semi-finals. Again, RTE did not cover the Nationals and their recording of the launch for the Six One News was not shown because of the breaking news of John Carty's tragic death. However, the Breaking Ball programme featured the One Wall Nationals and the Leargas documentary on handball was well received. At the time of writing the Council, with the support of the GAA, is seeking better coverage for the game in 2001 and, hopefully, these efforts will be successful.

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

The development of closer links with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and the major increase in the grant by the Association at national level for the year 2001 is very welcome. The financial, administrative and moral support of the broader GAA is essential in supporting the work of handball personnel at all levels of our organisation. On the one hand, we expect that support and co-operation but on the other we must examine our own role in relation to our involvement with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael from Club to national level. All handball units must work in closer co-

operation and liaison with our parent body and if any units or personnel feel isolated in any way they should take steps to rectify the situation. Handball units are entitled to be represented on various strata of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael committees and our counties and provinces in particular must see to it that their representatives attend the relevant county and provincial meetings. It is also important that handball is a regular item on every county and provincial agenda.

BUIÓCHAS

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

Gabhaimid buíochas le Liam Ó Maolmhichíl, Ard Stiúrthóir, as ucht a chabhair agus a chomhairle go minic i rith na bliana agus le foireann na h-árd oifige as ucht a dtacaíocht.

On behalf of the Council I wish to thank Séamus Ó Aldrí, GAA Management Committee representative on Ard Chomhairle for his personal interest in and commitment to handball affairs over the past two 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 we look forward to further co-operation and development in the future.

Player Injury Scheme

The inclusion of handball in the GAA Player Injury Scheme was a very welcome development in the year 2000. Congress decided that the Scheme would be compulsory for all Clubs but by the end of the year 80% of our Clubs had contributed to the Scheme. While this was a very significant percentage it was very disappointing that so many Clubs decided not to join the Scheme.

It must be pointed out that the Player Injury Scheme was developed in response to requests and demands from players for such an initiative and that it is of great benefit to players and their Clubs. Already, several players have benefited from the terms of the Scheme which provides a wide range of benefits including cover for disablement, loss of eye/s or limbs, death, medical and dental expenses and loss of wages.

It should be noted that a number of players who were injured during the year were not able to benefit from the Scheme because their Clubs had not joined. It is imperative that every Club joins for the year 2001 and that the benefits of the Scheme are available to all our players who are injured. The benefits of the Scheme also apply to coaches or officials who may be injured during the course of training or an official game.

Handball Trust Fund

The Handball Trust Fund of £150,000 which has been in place since 1999 has the potential to revolutionise and revitalise the game in Dublin and to re-establish handball to its rightful place in the capital city. It is very important at this stage that Coiste Liathróid Láimhe Atha Cliath would draw up realistic proposals for the consideration and approval of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann in seeking monies from the Trust Fund. The Fund can be used to assist handball or GAA Clubs to refurbish or develop handball facilities and grants can be provided for promotional work at schools and juvenile levels. Special emphasis should be given to developing handball in traditional handball areas. A number of trustees have asked that plans be brought

forward as soon as possible and this should be treated as a matter of urgency.

CEANNARAS

Following a number of years in which the membership of the Ceannaras Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann declined it is heartening that there has been an increased level of activity and interest and further membership applications over the past two years. The introduction of pool and other social activities, as well as the long established music nights and table quizzes have helped attract more people to the Centre.

The accounts for the year ended 30 September 2000 show a much better situation than in the past. During the period 1997 to 2000 the gross bar sales increased from £111,354 to £219,505, while profits increased from £45,045 to £95,925. Repayments are still being made on a £50,000 loan which was taken out in 1997. This should be fully serviced by August 2001.

Ongoing repairs and maintenance have cost a great deal of money in the past five years. In addition, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael provided a grant of £19,600 for essential works which were carried out at the Centre in September 2000. At present a number of essential facilities including ladies and men's changing rooms, showers and toilets and the 40 x 20 court are in need of urgent attention. This matter is being addressed as a priority by the Ceannaras Management Committee and Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and proposals will be put to Cumann Lúthchleas Gael on the matter.

On behalf of the members of Ceannaras and of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann in general I wish to thank and congratulate Uinsíonn Ó Fairceallaigh and the Ceannaras Management Committee on the improved management of the Centre over the past couple of years. I also wish to compliment them on the amount of time, effort and expertise they devote to ensuring that the Centre and its operations are well managed and administered. Our thanks are also due to the bar staff for their commitment to ensuring a good service for the members and for handball personnel in general who use the Centre.

Irish Sports Council

Over the past few years and, in particular, since the Irish Sports Council was put on a statutory basis in 1999 some very important policy documents have been introduced which will have a major impact on sport in Ireland. A New Era for Sport was published in 2000 which outlines the broad parameters for the future development of sport in the country. In a reaction and response to a number of high profile child abuse cases the Sports Council over a two year period researched and produced a Code of Ethics for Children's Sport. While this is very welcome in general it has major implications for every sporting organisation and sets out guidelines and principles for dealing with children in sport. Some of the guidelines and requirements will put additional demands on voluntary officials and their Clubs: it is, nevertheless, in the interests of all Clubs that the principles of the guidelines be followed. Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann will be taking advice on the implementation of the Code from our parent body when the document has been analysed and discussed by the Association.

The introduction by the Irish Sports Council of drug testing means that our top players will be liable to be tested. It is in the interests of players and the Handball Council that we co-operate with the Irish Sports Council in the introduction of testing for handball players. It should be noted that the banned substances will be the official International Olympic Council list and that

testing within the GAA will be applied to senior inter-county players only. The GAA has agreed with the Sports Council that testing will be applied directly after competition or training sessions but not at one's workplace.

The Handball Council is fortunate in that the GAA has agreed that their expertise will be available to handball units and personnel in the introduction and implementation of drug testing. In addition, the disciplinary and appeals procedures which apply to players charged with any offence will not be the same as the normal GAA procedures. Those sitting on disciplinary and appeals committees will have a background in medical, pharmaceutical and legal fields.

The question of the adoption of the GAA Anti-Doping Code will be put to Comhhdháil 2001. It is a requirement of the Sports Council that we adopt an anti-doping policy. We will then have to provide information for our units on the numerous issues arising from this.

Strategic Development Plan

A further requirement of the Irish Sports Council is that each National Governing Body must produce a strategic plan for the development of its sport for a three to five year period. Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann has appointed an eight person committee under the chairmanship of Conchubhar Ó Mórdha, Iar Uachtarán, to examine all aspects of the workings of the handball organisation in general and to draw up a report and recommendations. The Team's initial efforts are being concentrated on a deep examination of the present handball structures, together with the range of activities and their attendant requirements in relation to planning, development, fund-raising, coaching, publicity and many other areas of operation.

The Team will be consulting widely with individuals and various units throughout the organisation. There will be meetings at provincial level where people will be invited to give their views on the present state of handball and to outline proposals for the future. Provided that resources are available to implement the Team's plans over a four to five year period, their efforts will have far reaching effects for the development of handball in the early years of the 21st century.

NA MAIRBH

All members and friends of Irish Handball were saddened by the loss in autumn 2000 of three great men who gave a lifetime of service to the game they loved so well. Joe Jennings who was born in July 1905 and died on 2 November last was President of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann from 1971 to 1975. He took an active interest in handball throughout his whole life. He was an able player in his early years, playing the game in Sligo and also in England and then in Dublin on his return to Ireland in 1947. As a building contractor and a friend he provided expert advice to numerous Clubs throughout the country on the construction of new handball facilities and the development of older ones. Joe continued his interest in handball in later life and attended numerous All-Ireland finals at Croke Park. He also travelled with the Irish party for the 1997 World Championships in Winnipeg where his stamina in exploring the city and its environs and his ability to entertain people in story or music was a source of amazement and encouragement to all.

Ladies handball was dealt a cruel blow in September when two of its greatest servants, Shay O'Reilly and Mossy Hennessy, died within three days of each other. Shay, from the St Brigid's Club in Dublin died suddenly on Sunday September 24. He was Leinster representative to Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan

for twelve years and represented the ladies on Leinster Council for over a decade. Despite being in ill health for a number of years, Shay continued his interest in and commitment to handball, particularly with the juvenile girls whom he coached three nights a week. He brought these girls to tournaments all over the country, be it Féile na nGael, Community Games or Club tournaments. He also had a major interest in international handball and did a tremendous amount of fund-raising to ensure that several of his protégés had the opportunity to take part in USHA and World Championships.

Mossy Hennessy was a native of Cappagh in Limerick where he lived all his life and handball was only one of the many facets of life of this rural parish to which Mossy gave total commitment. He was deeply involved in the coaching and promotion of juvenile girls handball and, like Shay O'Reilly, represented his county at provincial level and also made his mark at national level. He was devoted to Féile na nGael and Community Games and gave every opportunity to young players to take part in county, provincial and national competitions. He was Secretary of the Cappagh Club from 1965 until his death and served as Secretary of the Limerick Handball Board from 1967 to 1971 and as Chairman from 1972 to 1997. Mossy was Chairman of the Munster Ladies Handball Council and represented ladies on county, provincial and national committees for over fifteen years. He was involved in the construction of two courts during his lifetime and had the pleasure of seeing the new 40 x 20 facility opened on 9 May 1999.

It was very fitting, as mentioned elsewhere in this report that Joe, Shay and Mossy were all honoured with Waterford Crystal Handball Awards during their lifetime. There is an old African saying that nobody dies until they are forgotten. We must ensure that the memories of Joe, Shay and Mossy are never forgotten and that the game will live on through the people they influenced and the facilities they helped to provide. We owe them a great debt of gratitude for their contribution to our sport. May they rest in peace and may their families and friends take comfort from the major contributions that they made to handball in Ireland.

Special mention must be made of John Carty, a member of the Abbeylara Club in Longford, who was killed so tragically on Holy Thursday, 2000. He was a very active Committee member and player who gave service to his Club. John is sadly missed by his family, Club colleagues and the Abbeylara community. May he rest in peace.

We also extend our sincere sympathies to any other members, friends and supporters of handball who were bereaved during the year.

Buíochas

On behalf of Ard Comhairle, and on a personal note, I wish to thank and congratulate the hundreds of voluntary members 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 very important service for the game and, quite often, their work goes unseen and unacclaimed. However, these are the real custodians of the future of handball as they pass on their skills and dedication to the younger generation. Let us hope that many more younger people will follow their example and commitment to handball.

A special word of thanks is due to all our county officers, especially the Rúnaíthe Contae who are essential to the workings of the organisation and provide the vital county link with provincial and central levels. I also want to thank our very committed and hard-working Provincial Secretaries on organising and administering a very extensive and increasing number of

games and competitions. Their help in forwarding results and general information to the office is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank all members of our central Coistí for their help in the administration of national handball affairs. They give tremendous commitment to handball and I value their advice and assistance on many issues.

Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí has given a very considerable amount of time and commitment to his duties as Cisteoir of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann over the past ten years and I wish to thank him sincerely for his help and guidance on an ongoing basis throughout that time. His professional input in finance and accounts greatly benefits the whole organisation.

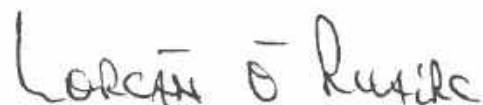
Peadar Mac Artúir, Uachtarán, has had an extremely busy two year period of office to date attending meetings, games and presentation events throughout the country. He has always been available to people seeking advice on a wide range of issues and concerns. I thank him for his personal interest in the operation and administration of handball at central level and for his advice and guidance on an almost daily basis throughout the year.

I thank all 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. My thanks are also due to Tomás Beathnach for his very valuable assistance on many occasions during 2000, especially in our preparations and arrangements for the World Championships.

Finally, may I wish all handball units and personnel a very active and successful year.



LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta

NA RÚIN

1. That the following be added to Fo-Riail 13© after Section (ii) "Delegate to County GAA Committee".
(Ard Chomhairle)
2. That the following be deleted from Fo-Riail (14(A) "...and two representatives of the Ladies County Handball Committee (where such exists) ... and the sentence "If, however, there is only one Ladies Club it affiliates directly to the County Committee".
(Ard Chomhairle)
3. That the past Presidents of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann be entitled to attend Congress, with voting rights. Amend Fo-Riail 26 accordingly. *(Ard Chomhairle)*
4. That All-Ireland Over 70 Singles and Doubles competitions be introduced in 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. Amend Fo-Riail 47 accordingly.
(Cill Chainnigh)
5. That Masters 'A' Singles and Doubles handball championships be introduced. Amend Fo-Riail 47 accordingly. *(Cill Mhantáin)*
6. That a national Public Relations Officer be elected at Congress.
(Cill Mhantáin)
7. That the following be added to Playing Rules Part II, Court and equipment:
Blood Rule:
Subject to the terms of Play Regulations Part IV F3, a player who is bleeding or has blood on any part of his/her body, playing attire or playing equipment as a result of an injury sustained during play, shall, on the instruction of the referee, immediately leave the court to receive medical and/or other attention. He/she shall not be allowed to return to the court until the bleeding has stopped, all blood has been cleaned off, and where possible, the injured area has been covered, any bloodstained playing attire has been replaced and any bloodstained playing equipment has been fully cleaned.
(Ard Chomhairle)
8. That the following be added to Playing Rules, Part IIIB, Officials and Officiating:
Subject to the terms of Play Regulations Part IV, F3 and F4, the referee shall instruct a player with a blood injury to leave the court for medical and/or other attention and ensure that any bloodstained playing attire is replaced and that any bloodstained playing equipment is fully cleaned before play resumes.
(Ard Chomhairle)
9. That the following GAA Anti-Doping Code be adopted:
THE GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION ANTI-DOPING CODE: The GAA is dedicated to the ideals that in its games the spirit of fair play prevails, the health of players is paramount and that doping can have no place in Gaelic games. The GAA is committed to cooperate with the Irish Sports Council (ISC) to advance these ideals. The GAA also recognises that in enforcing this Anti-Doping Code the constitutional and legal rights of the individual must always be respected.
The GAA realises that any finding of a breach of the Code has the potential to damage the good name of the

person involved. Therefore, where a doping infraction is alleged, the case must be proved beyond reasonable doubt. All practicable steps must be taken to avoid the identification of any person under investigation for any alleged infraction of the Code.

CHAPTER I

Article 1 – Definitions

"Participant" means any player, coach, trainer, official, advisor, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating players participating in or preparing for any Senior Intercounty Championship and National League games.

"Prohibited Substance" and "Prohibited Method" have the meanings set forth in Appendix A to this Code.

"I.O.C Classification" means as set forth by the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code of the International Olympic Committee as published from time to time.

"Positive Test Result" means the result of a test on a sample provided by a player pursuant to this Code, which reveals the presence of a substance or use of a method prohibited under this Code.

"GAA Administrative Officer" means the person appointed as such by the GAA to oversee the implementation of the Anti-Doping programme and shall include anyone duly authorised by him to act in his place at any particular venue.

"DCO" means the person appointed by ISC to act as Doping Control Officer.

Reference to: the singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular; and one gender includes the other gender.

ARTICLE 2

This Code applies to all participants competing in or concerned with Senior Football and Hurling Intercounty Championship and National League Games.

Article 3

Notwithstanding the obligations of other participants to comply with the provisions of this Code, it is the personal responsibility of every player, subject to the provisions of this Code, to ensure that he does not use any prohibited substance or any prohibited method.

It shall be a defence for any player to show that a duly qualified medical practitioner had prescribed the substance in question to alleviate a particular ailment and not so as to enhance playing performance.

CHAPTER II

Article 1

Doping is prohibited. Recommending or proposing or authorising or condoning or facilitating the use of any prohibited substance or prohibited method is prohibited, also.

Article 2

Doping is the use of an expedient (substance or method) which is potentially harmful to a player's health and/or capable of enhancing his performance, or the presence in

the player's body of a prohibited substance or evidence of the use thereof or evidence of the use of a prohibited method as described in the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code (refer Appendix A).

CHAPTER III

Article 1

The GAA, in co-operation with the ISC, will facilitate the carrying out of tests at any of its venues agreed with the ISC.

Article 2

The GAA Disciplinary Committee and Appeal Committee (set up under this Code) shall accept the result of any test carried out by a laboratory currently accredited and authorised by the ISC for testing. The onus of proof, on the balance of probabilities, is on the person who claims the GAA Disciplinary Committee or Appeal Committee, as the case may be, should not accept the result. Any certificate, notice or form of the laboratory carrying out the testing shall, until the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence of the contents thereof.

A certificate purporting to be signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the ISC that a particular laboratory is an accredited laboratory shall be accepted, until the contrary is shown, that it is so accredited.

TESTING FOR DOPING

Article 1

Sampling and testing of players must be conducted substantially in conformity with the procedures described in Appendix B. Minor irregularities, which cannot reasonably be considered to have affected the results of otherwise valid tests, will not invalidate such results.

Article 2

Testing will consist of sample collection, separation of the sample into two parts and analysis thereof. If the test on the first part of the sample (the "A" sample) does not indicate the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method, the second part of the sample (the "B" sample) will be disposed of and no further action will be taken.

If analysis to the "A" sample indicates the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method, the GAA will then inform the person who was tested of the test result and that it believes that an infraction may have been committed. The player will be asked for an explanation.

Article 3

The player may request that the "B" sample be tested. If no request for a test on the "B" sample is received by the GAA within 14 days of notification of the person, the person shall be deemed to have accepted the result of the "A" sample analysis.

If an analysis of the "B" sample is requested, the person who was tested and the representative of his choice are entitled to be present when the "B" sample analysis is carried out. A representative of the GAA may also be present. The "B" sample analysis result will be notified to the GAA who will then inform the person who was tested.

Ineligibility Pending Determination of Disciplinary Process

A player shall be ineligible to play in any GAA competition

from the date of the notification to him of a positive test result of the "A" sample until there is a finding in his favour:—as a result of the analysis of the "B" sample;—by the Disciplinary Committee, or;—by the Appeal Committee.

CHAPTER IV

Article 1 – Disciplinary Committee

A panel of individuals shall be maintained who, from time to time, may be invited to form a Disciplinary Committee, which will hear cases where the ISC has provided evidence that a doping infraction has taken place. The Committee, three in number, shall comprise persons who are expert in medical, legal, and pharmacological matters relevant to Anti-Doping issues.

Article 2 – Disciplinary Process

The Disciplinary Committee hearing shall normally be convened within fourteen days of notification to the player of a positive test result unless the player indicates that he wants the "B" sample tested. If the test result of the "B" sample confirms the original positive test result, the Disciplinary hearing will be conducted as soon as possible thereafter. In order to allow time for the Player to prepare his case, the hearing may be adjourned to seek further information at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.

The Disciplinary Committee will have the power to receive written submissions as well as any other relevant information from the Player, (and/or Player's representatives), and the GAA Administrative Officer.

Following the hearing, the Disciplinary Committee will notify the Committee's decision in writing to the Player and the GAA Administrative Officer. The Disciplinary Committee shall provide written reasons for reaching its decision.

Sanctions – Article 1

Any person suspended for a breach of the Code will be:

- (1) suspended from all functions, privileges and competitions under the GAA's control;
- (2) suspended from holding office with any Unit of the GAA for the period determined by the Disciplinary Committee.

Article 2

The penalty for a breach of the Code is:

- (1) where the breach of the Code involves:
 - (a) prohibited anabolic agents;
 - (b) peptide and glycoprotein hormones and analogues;
 - (c) a prohibited method; or
 - (d) a refusal to provide a sample;then:
 - (i) a maximum of one year for the first such breach of the Code; and
 - (ii) a maximum of two years for a second such breach of the Code.

In the case of any other breach of the Code the penalty is:

- (i) a caution; or,
- (ii) a maximum of one year for the first such breach; and,
- (iii) a maximum of two years for a second such breach.

Article 3

In any hearing concerning:

a Positive Test Result for a substance prohibited under this Code; or, the use of a method prohibited under this Code

through the administration of substances, the Disciplinary Committee shall have regard for reasonable therapeutic activities undertaken at the prescription and direction of a duly qualified medical practitioner.

Article 4 – Appeal Committee

An independent Appeal Committee, comprising three in number, will hear any appeal against the Disciplinary Committee's decision. The membership will be drawn from the panel of individuals who are expert in the medical, legal, and pharmacological issues involved and were not concerned with the Disciplinary Committee proceedings.

A party wishing to dispute the findings of the Disciplinary Committee shall by written notice state the grounds of appeal to the Appeal Committee.

The appeal shall be by way of re-hearing of all relevant evidence and material.

Following the hearing, the Appeal Committee will notify the Committee's decision in writing to the Player and the GAA Administrative Officer. The Appeal Committee shall provide written reasons for reaching its decision.

The Appeal Committee may reverse any finding and reduce the penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Committee, but may not increase it.

Hearings of the Disciplinary Committee and Appeal Committee shall be conducted in accordance with natural and constitutional justice.

CHAPTER V

Article 1

1. These rules may be amended by resolution of the Annual GAA Congress or Special Congress.
2. These rules are governed by the laws of Ireland.

APPENDIX A

OLYMPIC MOVEMENT ANTI-DOPING CODE

PROHIBITED CLASSES OF SUBSTANCES AND PROHIBITED METHODS – 1st April 2000

1. PROHIBITED CLASSES OF SUBSTANCES

A. Stimulants

Prohibited substances in class (A) include the following examples: amineptine, amiphenazole, amphetamines, bromantan, caffeine*, carphedon, cocaine, ephedrine**, fencamfamin, mesocarb, pentetrazol, pipradrol, salbutamol***, salmeterol***, terbutaline***, and related substances.

* For caffeine the definition of a positive is a concentration in urine greater than 12 micrograms per millilitre.

** For cathine, the definition of a positive is a concentration in urine greater than 5 micrograms per millilitre. For ephedrine and methylephedrine, the definition of a positive is a concentration in urine greater than 10 micrograms per millilitre. For phenylpropanolamine and pseudoephedrine, the definition of a positive is a concentration in urine greater than 25 micrograms per millilitre.

*** Permitted by inhaler only to prevent and/or treat asthma and exercise-induced asthma.

Written notification of asthma and/or exercise-induced asthma by a respiratory or team physician is necessary to the relevant

medical authority.

NOTE: All imidazole preparations are acceptable for topical use. Vasoconstrictors may be administered with local anaesthetic agents. Topical preparations (e.g. nasal, ophthalmological, rectal) of adrenaline and phenylephrine are permitted.

B. Narcotics

Prohibited substances in class (B) include the following examples: buprenorphine, dextromoramide, diamorphine (heroin), methadone, morphine, pentazocine, pethidine, and related substances.

NOTE: codeine, dextromethorphan, dextropropoxyphene, dihydrocodeine, diphenoxylate, ethylmorphine, pholcodine, propoxyphene and tramadol are permitted.

C. Anabolic agents

Prohibited substances in class (C) include the following examples:

1. Anabolic androgenic steroids
 - a. clostebol, fluoxymesterone, metandienone, metenolone, nandrolone, 19-norandrostenediol, 19-norandrostenedione, oxandrolone, stanozolol, and related substances.
 - b. androstenediol, androstenedione, dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA), dihydrotestosterone, testosterone*, and related substances.

Evidence obtained from metabolic profiles and/or isotopic ratio measurements may be used to draw definitive conclusions.

* The presence of a testosterone (T) to epitestosterone (E) ratio greater than six (6) to one (1) in the urine of a competitor constitutes an offence unless there is evidence that this ratio is due to a physiological or pathological condition, e.g. low epitestosterone excretion, androgen producing tumour, enzyme deficiencies.

In the case of T/E greater than 6, it is mandatory that the relevant medical authority conducts an investigation before the sample is declared positive. A full report will be written and will include a review of previous tests, subsequent tests and any results of endocrine investigations. In the event that previous tests are not available, the athlete should be tested unannounced at least once per month for three months. The results of these investigations should be included in the report. Failure to co-operate in the investigations will result in declaring the sample positive.

2. Beta-2 agonists

bambuterol, clenbuterol, fenoterol, formoterol, reproterol, salbutamol*, salmeterol*, terbutaline*, and related substances.

* Authorized by inhalation as described in Article (I.A.).

For salbutamol the definition of a positive under the anabolic agent category is a concentration in urine greater than 1000 nanograms per millilitre.

D. Diuretics

Prohibited substances in class (D) include the following examples: acetazolamide, bumetanide, chlorthalidone, etacrynic acid, furosemide, hydrochlorothiazide, mannitol*, mersalyl, spironolactone, triamterene, and related substances.

* Prohibited by intravenous injection.

E. Peptide hormones, mimetics and analogues

Prohibited substances in class (E) include the following examples and their analogues and mimetics:

1. Chorionic Gonadotrophin (hCG) prohibited in males only;
2. Pituitary and synthetic gonadotrophins (LH) prohibited in males only;
3. Corticotrophins (ACTH, tetracosactide);
4. Growth hormone (hGH);
5. Insulin-like Growth Factor (IGF-1); and all the respective releasing factors and their analogues;
6. Erythropoietin (EPO);
7. Insulin; permitted only to treat athletes with certified insulin-dependent diabetes. Written certification of insulin-dependent diabetes must be obtained from an endocrinologist or team physician.

The presence of an abnormal concentration of an endogenous hormone in class (E) or its diagnostic marker(s) in the urine of a competitor constitutes an offence unless it has been proven to be due to a physiological or pathological condition.

II. PROHIBITED METHODS

The following procedures are prohibited:

1. Blood doping;
2. Administering artificial oxygen carriers or plasma expanders;
3. Pharmacological, chemical and physical manipulation.

III. CLASSES OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

A. Alcohol

Where the rules of a responsible authority so provide, tests will be conducted for ethanol.

B. Cannabinoids

Where the rules of a responsible authority so provide, tests will be conducted for cannabinoids (e.g. Marijuana, Hashish). At the Olympic Games, tests will be conducted for cannabinoids. A concentration in urine of 11-nor- Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid (carboxy-THC) greater than 15 nanograms per millilitre constitutes doping.

C. Local anaesthetics

Injectable local anaesthetics are permitted under the following conditions:

- a. bupivacaine, lidocaine, mepivacaine, procaine, and related substances, can be used but not cocaine. Vasoconstrictor agents may be used in conjunction with local anaesthetics;
- b. only local or intra-articular injections may be administered;
- c. only when medically justified.

Where the rules of a responsible authority so provide, notification of administration may be necessary.

D. Glucocorticosteroids

The systemic use of glucocorticosteroids is prohibited when administered orally, rectally, or by intravenous or intramuscular injection.

E. Beta-blockers

Prohibited substances in class (E) include the following examples: acebutolol, alprenolol, atenolol, labetalol, metoprolol, nadolol, oxprenolol, propranolol, sotalol, and related substances.

Where the rules of a responsible authority so provide, tests will be conducted for beta-blockers.

SUMMARY OF URINARY CONCENTRATIONS ABOVE WHICH IOC ACCREDITED LABORATORIES MUST REPORT FINDINGS FOR SPECIFIC SUBSTANCES

caffeine > 12 micrograms/millilitre
 carboxy-THC > 15 nanograms/millilitre
 cathine > 5 micrograms / millilitre
 ephedrine > 10 micrograms / millilitre
 epitestosterone > 200 nanograms / millilitre
 methylephedrine > 10 micrograms / millilitre
 morphine > 1 microgram / millilitre
 19-norandrosterone > 2 nanograms / millilitre in males
 19-norandrosterone > 5 nanograms/millilitre in females
 phenylpropanolamine > 25 micrograms / millilitre
 pseudoephedrine > 25 micrograms / millilitre
 salbutamol (as stimulant) > 100 nanograms/millilitre
 salbutamol (as anabolic agent) > 1000 nanograms/millilitre
 T/E ratio > 6

IV. OUT-OF-COMPETITION TESTING

Unless specifically requested by the responsible authority, out-of-competition testing is directed solely at prohibited substances in class I.C. (Anabolic Agents), I.D. (Diuretics), I.E. (Peptide Hormones, Mimetics and Analogues), and II (Prohibited Methods).

LIST OF EXAMPLES OF PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

CAUTION: This is not an exhaustive list of prohibited substances. Many substances that do not appear on this list are considered prohibited under the term "and related substances". Athletes must ensure that any medicine, supplement, over-the-counter preparation or any other substance they use does not contain any Prohibited Substance.

STIMULANTS: amineptine, amfepramone, amiphenazole, amphetamine, bambuterol, bromantan, caffeine, carphedon, cathine, cocaine, cropropamide, crotethamide, ephedrine, etamivan, etilamphetamine, etilefrine, fencamfamin, fenetylline, fenfluramine, formoterol, heptaminol, mefenorex, mephentermine, mesocarb, methamphetamine, methoxyphenamine, methylenedioxymphetamine, methylephedrine, methylphenidate, nikethamide, norfenfluramine, parahydroxyamphetamine, pemoline, pentetrazol, phendimetrazine, phentermine, phenylephrine, phenylpropanolamine, pholedrine, pipradrol, prolintane, propylhexedrine, pseudoephedrine, reproterol, salbutamol, salmeterol, selegiline, strychnine, terbutaline.

NARCOTICS: buprenorphine, dextromoramide, diamorphine (heroin), hydrocodone, methadone, morphine, pentazocine, pethidine.

ANABOLIC AGENTS: androstenediol, androstenedione, bambuterol, boldenone, clenbuterol, clostebol, danazol, dehydrochlormethyltestosterone, dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA), dihydrotestosterone, drostanolone, fenoterol, fluoxymesterone, formebolone, formoterol, gestrinone, mesterolone, metandienone, metenolone, methandriol, methyltestosterone, mibolerone, nandrolone, 19-norandrosterone, 19-norandrosterone, norethandrolone, oxandrolone, oxymesterone, oxymetholone, reproterol, salbutamol, salmeterol, stanozolol, terbutaline, testosterone, trenbolone,

DIURETICS: acetazolamide, bendroflumethiazide, bumetanide, canrenone, chlortalidone, ethacrynic acid, furosemide, hydrochlorothiazide, indapamide, mannitol (by intravenous injection), mersalyl, spironolactone, triamterene.

MASKING AGENTS: bromantan, diuretics (see above), epitestosterone, probenecid.

PEPTIDE HORMONES, MIMETICS AND ANALOGUES: ACTH, erythropoietin (EPO), hCG*, hGH, insulin, LH*, clomiphene*, cyclofenil*, tamoxifen*,

* prohibited in males only

BETA BLOCKERS: acebutolol, alprenolol, atenolol, betaxolol, bisoprolol, bunolol, carteolol, celiprolol, esmolol, labetalol, levobunolol, metipranolol, metoprolol, nadolol, oxprenolol, pindolol, propranolol, sotalol, timolol.

APPENDIX B

SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURE

1. Notification of Selection for Testing

At any particular venue specified by the ISC, players will be notified in writing that they have been selected for testing by means of an official Sample Collection Form.

2. Reporting for Testing

The player must report to the Doping Control Station as quickly as possible. However, where a player is required

- (i) to receive medical attention;
- (ii) to attend a presentation ceremony;
- (iii) to fulfil media engagements; or,
- (iv) to perform a warm down;
- (v) he shall be allowed a reasonable time for any such eventuality, provided that he presents himself at the Doping Control Station not later than ninety minutes from the conclusion of the game. A player who fails to arrive at the Sampling Room within the specified period, or refuses to provide a sample shall be deemed to be in breach of the Anti-Doping Code.

A representative may accompany the player at the testing session.

Sealed drinks will be available at the Doping Control Station.

3. Selecting a Collection Vessel

When the player is ready to provide a sample, the player will be asked to select a sealed sample collection vessel and go to the toilet area with the Doping Control Officer (DCO).

4. Providing a Sample

The player must ensure that the collection vessel remains in the sight of the DCO while sample is being provided. In order for the DCO to have an unobstructed view the player will be required to be undressed from mid-waist to mid-thigh. When the required amount of urine has been provided (min. 75ml) the player must return to the Doping Control Station administration room with the DCO. Only the player should handle the sample.

5. Selecting a Sampling Kit

The player will be asked to select a sampling kit and ensure that the seal is intact.

6. Dividing the Sample

Using the sampling kit, the player will divide his sample between the "A" & "B" sample bottles, putting a minimum

of 30ml into the "B" bottle and the remainder in the "A" bottle. A few drops of urine should be left in the collection vessel to allow the DCO to assess the suitability of the sample for testing.

7. Sealing the Sample

The player will be invited to seal the two bottles and ensure there is no leakage.

8. Testing the Suitability of the Sample

The PH and the Specific Gravity of the sample will be tested by the DCO. The reading is recorded on the Sample Collection Form. If the readings are below those recommended the player will be asked to provide another sample.

9. Recording the Information

The DCO records the "A" & "B" sample numbers on the Sample Collection Form. The player should check that this is correct and declare any medication he has taken during the past seven days. The player may also record any comments that he may have on the testing session.

10. Certifying the Information

The DCO will then ask the player and the player's representative (if any) to check the information on the form and sign it if the player is satisfied that it is accurate. The DCO will also check and sign the form. The player will be given a copy of the form and the player will then be free to leave the Doping Control Station.

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

14 March 2001

A Cháirde

We have examined the records of an Chomhairle for the year ended 31 December 2000.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to IR£162,280. Expenditure came to IR£155,864 leaving an Operating Surplus of IR£6,416. In the preceding year there was a surplus of IR£8,670. As compared with that year the following were the principal variations in Income and Expenditure:

INCOME	Increase IR£	Decrease IR£
County Committee and Members		3,600
Government Grants	3,970	
Other Income	2,174	
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		3,352
EXPENDITURE	Increase IR£	Decrease IR£
International	4,612	
Meetings and Officials' Travel		2,964
Coaching, Leadership and Development		4,876
Administration and General	5,919	

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of an Chomhairle at 31 December 2000 including outlay on Ceannáras IR£304,200 had a book value of IR£444,299. Liabilities at the same date including Bank Overdraft IR£175,461 came to IR£241,882. Assets exceeded Liabilities by IR£202,417.

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 & ASSOCIATES, Chartered Accountants

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Management is required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of an Chomhairle and of the surplus or deficit of an Chomhairle and in preparing those financial statements, management is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that an Chomhairle will continue in business.

Management is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of an Chomhairle. Management is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of an Chomhairle and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhui.
Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

14 March 2001.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

To the Members of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

We have audited the financial statements which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out.

Respective Responsibilities of Officers and Auditors

As described on this page Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and on the accounting policies selected by Management and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the officers in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements, read in conjunction with the Accounting Policies, give a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs as at 31 December 2000 and of its surplus for the year then ended and have been properly prepared.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Council. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

1 Christchurch Square,
Dublin 8
14 March 2001

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2000

	Schedule	2000 IR£	1999 IR£
INCOME			
County Committee and Members		16,006	19,606
Gate Receipts		5,844	6,265
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants		50,000	50,000
National League Grant		5,000	4,000
Government Grants Net	1	66,360	62,390
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		6,370	9,722
Advertising		400	400
Sundry Sales		4,640	3,785
Yearbook Surplus		4,459	6,223
Other Income		3,201	1,027
		<u>162,280</u>	<u>163,418</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Competition Expenses		11,884	13,832
International		22,742	18,130
Provincial Open Tournament Grants		2,500	2,500
3rd Level Grants		461	354
Juvenile		3,812	2,126
Promotional Materials		4,593	5,555
Trophies		10,795	10,984
Meetings and Officials' Travel		21,975	24,939
Administration Grants	2	2,000	2,600
Coaching, Leadership and Development		1,298	6,174
Administration and General	3	73,362	67,443
Depreciation		442	111
		<u>155,864</u>	<u>154,748</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS			
Balance at beginning of year		199,001	187,331
Balance at end of year		<u>202,417</u>	<u>196,001</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhúí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Loreán Ó Ruairc.

14 March 2001.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2000

	Note	2000 IR£	1999 IR£
FIXED ASSETS			
	2	305,774	304,559
Loan – Galway County Board		18,000	18,000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		1,838	1,613
C.L.G. Development Scheme		100	100
Loans to Clubs		450	450
Debtors and Prepayments		17,113	22,111
Cash and Bank Balances		101,024	89,797
		<u>120,525</u>	<u>114,071</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Court Construction Grants		2,500	2,500
Grants to Underprivileged Areas		1,491	1,491
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Development Grant		50,000	50,000
Creditors		12,430	11,177
Bank Overdraft		175,461	175,461
		<u>241,882</u>	<u>240,629</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		(121,357)	(126,558)
		<u>202,417</u>	<u>196,001</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund		<u>202,417</u>	<u>196,001</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhúí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Loreán Ó Ruairc.

14 March 2001.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2000

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

2. FIXED ASSETS

	Outlay on Ceannáras IR£	Gymnasium Equipment IR£	Office Equipment IR£	Total IR£
COST				
At 1 January 2000	304,200	4,494	14,409	323,103
Additions in Year	—	—	11,157	11,157
State Grants	—	—	(9,500)	(9,500)
At 31 December 2000	<u>304,200</u>	<u>4,494</u>	<u>16,066</u>	<u>324,760</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2000	—	4,494	14,050	18,544
Charge for year	—	—	442	442
At 31 December 2000	<u>—</u>	<u>4,494</u>	<u>14,492</u>	<u>18,986</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	<u>304,200</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,574</u>	<u>305,774</u>

3. ACCUMULATED FUND

	2000 IR£	1999 IR£
Balance at beginning of year	196,001	187,331
Surplus for year	6,416	8,670
Balance at date	<u>202,417</u>	<u>196,001</u>

SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2000

	2000 IR£	1999 IR£
SCHEDULE 1:		
Government Grants		
Annual Grant	53,040	53,040
Organisational Development	7,850	5,200
International	5,470	4,150
Outstanding Sportspersons	4,400	3,200
Equipment Grant	1,500	—
	<u>72,260</u>	<u>65,590</u>
Less: Distributable	(5,900)	(3,200)
	<u>66,360</u>	<u>62,390</u>

SCHEDULE 2:

Administration Grants

Connaught Council	500	500
Leinster Council	500	500
Munster Council	500	500
Ulster Council	500	500
Ladies Council	—	600
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,600</u>

SCHEDULE 3:

Administration and General Expenses

Staff Costs	57,119	52,112
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	6,146	5,697
Postage and Telephone	5,673	6,232
Audit and Accountancy Fees	2,822	2,482
All-Ireland Tickets	1,231	586
Miscellaneous	371	334
	<u>73,362</u>	<u>67,443</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

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT — for the year ended 30th September 2000.

	2000	1999
IR£	IR£	IR£
INCOME		
Membership Fees	3,908	4,260
Court Booking Fees	3,231	2,878
	<u>7,139</u>	<u>7,138</u>
Shop Sales	2,751	3,987
Cost of Sales	<u>2,758</u>	<u>3,208</u>
	(7)	779
GROSS PROFIT	<u>7,132</u>	<u>7,917</u>
EXPENSES		
Administration	1,581	681
Staff Costs	300	4,580
Premises	3,730	4,292
Financial	<u>164</u>	<u>98</u>
	5,712	9,651
Net Operating Profit/(Loss)	<u>1,420</u>	<u>(1,734)</u>
Club Lounge Subsidy	<u>(1,027)</u>	<u>604</u>
Net Profit/(Loss)	<u>393</u>	<u>(1,130)</u>
Opening Deficit	<u>(2,363)</u>	<u>(1,233)</u>
Closing Deficit	<u>(1,970)</u>	<u>(2,363)</u>

BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 2000

	2000	1999
IR£	IR£	IR£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	—	71
Debtors	<u>14,266</u>	<u>—</u>
	14,266	71
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade creditors	—	608
Bank loans and overdrafts	966	—
Accruals	<u>15,270</u>	<u>1,826</u>
	<u>16,236</u>	<u>2,434</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(2,363)</u>	<u>(1,233)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(1,970)</u>	<u>(2,363)</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	<u>(1,970)</u>	<u>(2,363)</u>

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 for the year ended 30th September 2000.

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

GORMAN QUIGLEY PENROSE, Chartered Accountants.

31-32 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 2000 and to the assets and liabilities of the Club at 30th September 2000.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta.
VINCENT FARRELLY 13-02-01

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

CEANNÁRAS CLUB LOUNGE

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 30th September 2000

	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
SALES	219,505	177,748
COST OF SALES	123,580	102,209
GROSS PROFIT	<u>95,925</u>	<u>75,539</u>
EXPENSES		
Administration	13,158	10,233
Staff Costs	38,275	34,136
Selling	392	391
Premises	14,615	15,312
Financial	<u>2,862</u>	<u>3,597</u>
	69,302	63,669
NET OPERATING PROFIT	26,623	11,870
Club Subsidy	1,026	(604)
NET PROFIT	27,649	11,266
OPENING DEFICIT	(43,668)	(54,934)
CLOSING DEFICIT	<u>(16,019)</u>	<u>(43,668)</u>

BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 2000

	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	9,040	6,715
Debtors	6,473	2,132
Cash at bank and in hand	17,569	—
	<u>33,082</u>	<u>8,847</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade creditors	23,129	16,326
Bank loans and overdrafts	8,058	9,640
Other creditors	9,000	—
Accruals	<u>2,200</u>	<u>13,313</u>
	42,387	39,279
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(9,305)</u>	<u>(30,432)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(9,305)</u>	<u>(30,432)</u>
Long-term liabilities	<u>(6,714)</u>	<u>(13,236)</u>
DEFICIENCY OF ASSETS	<u>(16,019)</u>	<u>(43,668)</u>
Represented by:		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	<u>(16,019)</u>	<u>(43,668)</u>

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 Lounge for the year ended 30th September 2000.

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

GORMAN QUIGLEY PENROSE, Chartered Accountants.

31-32 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 2000 and to the assets and liabilities of the Club at 30th September 2000.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta. VINCENT FARRELLY 13-02-01

TORTHAÍ 2000

60 x 30

SS	Kilkenny (Michael Walsh) dft Carlow (Kenneth Kane) 15-21, 21-15, 21-11
SD	Wexford (Tommy Hynes, Colin Keeling) dft Meath (Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan) 21-19, 21-17
IS	Wexford (Barry Goff) dft Mayo (Vincent Moran) 21-0, 21-5
ID	Wexford (Gavin Buggy, Barry Goff) dft Mayo (Vincent Moran, Campbell Brennan) 21-2, 21-5
JS	Tyrone (Niall Kerr) dft Kilkenny (Eddie Bourke) 18-21, 21-11, 21-19
JD	Tipperary (Paul Mullins, Jimmy Mullins) dft Mayo (Paul Flynn, Pdraig Gaffney) 19-21, 21-9, 21-13
MS	Cavan (Patrick Finnegan) dft Kilkenny (Brian Manogue) 21-10, 21-9
MD	Wexford (Jimmy Goggins, Terry Gainfort) dft Cavan (Patrick Finnegan, Lorcan Sheenan) 12-21, 21-19, 21-9
U21S	Mayo (Dessie Keegan) dft Meath (Carl Browne) 21-5, 21-18
U21D	Mayo (Dessie Keegan, Barry Hough) dft Meath (Carl Browne, Peter Reilly) 10-21, 21-15, 21-20
JBS	Laois (Shane Dorrner) dft Down (Tom Savage) 21-7, 21-7
JBD	Limerick (Anthony Burke, Michael Roche) dft Roscommon (Ger Walsh, Cormac O'Brien) 16-21, 21-11, 21-5
MAS	Sligo (Francis McCann) dft Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy) 12-21, 21-13, 21-20
MAD	Wexford (Pat Cleary, Seamus O'Connor) dft Roscommon (Mickey Walsh, Martin Bruen) 16-21, 21-15, 21-14
MBS	Wexford (Benny Doyle) dft Sligo (Vincent McKeon) 21-8, 21-9
MBD	Clare (Mike Kelly, Pat Coughlan) dft Mayo (John Staunton, Patrick Geraghty) 21-16, 21-7
SMAS	Carlow (Seán Ryan) dft Tyrone (Seamus Hussey) 21-4, 21-7
SMAD	Carlow (Seán Ryan, Andy Ryan) dft Mayo (Martin Cronin, John McCormack) 21-10, 21-7
SMBS	Tyrone (John McCullagh) dft Waterford (Martin Sandford) 21-15, 14-21, 21-12
SMBD	Tyrone (Peter O'Brien, John McCullagh) dft Cork (Michael O'Dea, Chris Hurley) 15-21, 21-16, 21-14
GMAS	Offaly (Paddy Hope) dft Mayo (Tom Derrig) 21-13, 21-8
GMAD	Tipperary (Seán Doyle, Pakie Mullins) dft Mayo (Tom Derrig, Matt Coady) 21-6, 21-2
GMBS	Wexford (Har Lacey) dft Mayo (John Kenny) 21-19, 21-5
GMBD	Wexford (Har Lacey, Tom Donohue) dft Mayo (John Kenny, Seán Ryder) 21-13, 21-8
EMAS	Waterford (Mossy Butler) dft Mayo (Seán Heaney) 21-7, 21-8
EMAD	Kildare (John Browne, Eamon Deegan) dft Mayo (Seamus Clarke, Sean Heaney) 11-21, 21-16, 21-18
EMBS	Tipperary (Eddie Sheerin) dft Sligo (Brendan Carey) 21-6, 21-6
EMBD	Kilkenny (Seán Fitzgerald, Seanie Curran) dft Roscommon (Vinnie Dowd, Frank Daly) 7-21, 21-6, 21-10
DMAS	Sligo (Paddy Walsh) dft Kildare (Frank Dooley) 21-9, 21-16

DMAD	Sligo (Paddy Walsh, Michael Kelly) dft Dublin (Len Ahern, Liam Ferguson) 21-14, 21-4
DMBS	Sligo (Pdraig Maye) dft Kilkenny (Johnny O'Meara) 9-21, 21-11, 21-13
DMBD	Sligo (Seamus O'Donnell, Pdraig Maye) dft Tipperary (Michael Hogan, Willie Maher) 21-5, 21-3

HARDBALL

MHS	No Championship
MHD	No Championship
JHS	Dessie Keegan (Mayo) dft Paul Flynn (Mayo) 21-11, 21-0
JHD	Dessie Keegan, Barry Hough (Mayo) dft Paul Flynn, Pdraig Gaffney (Mayo) 21-13, 21-14
SHS	No Championship
SHD	No Championship

40 x 20

SS	Cork (Tony Healy) dft Cavan (Paul Brady) 21-3, 11-21, 21-7
SD	Meath (Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan) dft Cavan (Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan) 21-15, 9-21, 21-18
IS	Cork (Stephen Palmer) dft Mayo (Dessie Keegan) 21-5, 9-21, 21-15
ID	Antrim (Sean Devine, Seamus Ó Tuama) dft Wexford (Gavin Buggy, Barry Goff) 21-7, 21-18
JS	Down (Tom Savage) dft Cork (John Kiersey) 21-13, 21-16
JD	Dublin (Alan Kenny, Ian Griffin) dft Tyrone (Stephen Clarke, Barney Corcoran) 17-21, 21-14, 21-19
MS	Cavan (Patrick Finnegan) dft Wicklow (Michael Gregan) 6-21, 21-8, 21-11
MD	Wicklow (Michael Gregan, Robert Willoughby) dft Tyrone (Ryan Daly, Mark McCullagh) 21-11, 21-8
U21S	Meath (Carl Browne) dft Tyrone (Ciarán Meenagh) 21-12, 21-6
U21D	Meath (Carl Browne, Joe Cummins) dft Cavan (James Brady, Pdraig Kiernan) 21-10, 21-8
JBS	Kilkenny (Eddie Burke) dft Antrim (Martin Campbell) 21-2, 21-7
JBD	Clare (Seamus Lawlor, Thomas Stack) dft Down (Tony Wilson, Paul Girvan) 18-21, 21-17, 21-10
MAS	Wexford (Pat Cleary) dft Sligo (Francis McCann) 15-21, 21-15, 21-20
MAD	Wexford (Pat Cleary, John Fleming) dft Antrim (Billy Silcock, Seán MacCorraidh) 21-6, 21-10
MBS	Meath (Francis Carroll) dft Antrim (Thomas Maguire) 21-20, 2-21, 21-16
MBD	Tipperary (Pat Griffin, Tony Flaherty) dft Antrim (Thomas Maguire, Ambrose Tohill) 21-5, 21-10
SMAS	Carlow (John Rossiter) dft Cavan (Dominic Sheridan) 21-9, 18-21, 21-8
SMAD	Cork (Pat Morris, Paul Hayes) dft Tyrone (John McCullagh, Peter O'Brien) 21-8, 21-12
SMBS	Roscommon (P J Moran) dft Cork (Paddy Buckley) 21-3, 21-10
SMBD	Cork (Paddy Buckley, Chris Hurley) dft Monaghan (John Eoghan, Joe McClave) 21-8, 21-17
GMAS	Dublin (Eugene Kennedy) dft Roscommon (Noel Raftery) 21-6, 21-12
GMAD	Cavan (Greg Sheridan, Patsy Hand) dft Kildare (Anthony Campbell, Declan Howard) 21-8, 21-11

TORTHAÍ 2000 (continued)

GMBS	Wexford (Gareth Somers) dft Galway (Noel Rigney) 15-21, 21-8, 21-9
GMBD	Monaghan (Cathal Higgins, Michael Todd) dft Wexford (Tom Rossiter, Har Lacey) 21-16, 13-21, 21-6
EMAS	Galway (Nicholas Clancy) dft Clare (Jimmy Walsh) 21-20, 21-14
EMAD	Wicklow (Paddy Lennon, Dick Doyle) dft Mayo (Sean Heaney, Michael Reilly) 21-16, 13-21, 21-11
EMBS	Kilkenny (Gerry Murphy) dft Galway (Peter Mulryan) 21-10, 21-7
EMBD	Monaghan (Cathal Earley, Peter Cassidy) dft Tipperary (Eddie Sheerin, David Slattery) 21-18, 21-11
DMAS	Galway (Mick Lally) dft Kilkenny (Eddie Leahy) 21-12, 21-6
DMAD	Sligo (Paddy Walsh, Mick Kelly) dft Kilkenny (Eddie Leahy, Pat O'Keeffe) 21-5, 19-21, 21-12
DMBS	Antrim (Sean McEntee) dft Tipperary (Michael Hogan) 21-7, 21-16
DMBD	Tipperary (Michael Hogan, Pat Cleary) dft Roscommon (Frank Maughan, Brian Kilcommins) 21-13, 21-3

LADIES 60 x 30

MS	Roscommon (Lydia Doolan) dft Kerry (Tracy Buckley) 21-2, 21-4
MD	Kerry (Sharon Daly, Tracy Buckley) dft Galway (Claire Connaughton, Yvonne McHugh) 21-6, 21-14
JBS	Kerry (Evelyn Tangney) W.O. Dublin (Anne Murtagh) forfeit
JBD	Wexford (Ailish Owley, Martina Walsh) dft Clare (Rachel Kelly, Edel McGuane) 21-10, 21-4
JS	Roscommon (Ethna Mee) W.O. Wexford (Anne Boylan) Scr. Injury
JD	Galway (Janet Connaughton, Michelle Kennedy) W.O. Wexford (Anne Boylan, Sinead Cowman) Scr. injury

LADIES 40 x 20

MS	Roscommon (Lydia Doolan) dft Kerry (Tracy Buckley) 21-4, 21-1
MD	Kerry (Sharon Daly, Tracy Buckley) dft Laois (Áine Lennon, Patrice Lennon) 21-13, 21-5
JS	Clare (Rachel Kelly) dft Wexford (Martina Walsh) 21-13, 13-21, 21-9
JD	Antrim (Grainne O'Reilly, Roisín Gamble) dft Roscommon (Ethna Mee, Leonore Coyle) 21-16, 21-15
SS	Antrim (Fiona McKenna) dft Limerick (Berni Hennessy) 21-11, 21-7
SD	Antrim (Fiona McKenna, Sibeal McKenna) - awarded title by An Coiste Gnfmh

60 x 30 CLUB

Junior B:	St Mary's, New Ross (Dick Berry, Paddy Berry, Gerry Doran, Gerry Conors, Miley Conors) dft Celtic, Galway (Brendan McNeela, Tom King, Pat Bracken, John Joe Farragher) 125-36
Junior:	Brackey (Niall Kerr, Conor Kerr, Shane O'Neill, Justin McClean) - awarded title by An Coiste Gnfmh
Open:	St Mary's, Wexford (Tommy Hynes, Paul Carty, Colin Keeling, Gavin Buggy, Terry Byrne) dft Ballyporeen (Pat Ryan, Billy McCarthy, Eddie Corbett, John Corbett) 105-67

40 x 20 CLUB

Junior B:	St Mary's, New Ross (Paddy Berry, Gerry Connors, Paddy Dick Berry, Felix Doran, Gerry Doran) dft Brackey (Mark McCartan, Shane O'Neill, Justin McClean, Barry McCartan, Bill Cochrane) 88-87
Junior:	Eugene Quinn (Aidan Devlin, George Cullen, Joe Shortt, Brendan O'Neill, Darren Donnelly) dft Na Fianna (Eanna McCloskey, Vinny Farrelly, Eamon O'Brien, Frank Daly, Christy Donnelly) 105-82
Open:	Kingscourt (Patrick Finnegan, Michael Finnegan, Jimmy McKeon, Paul Brady) dft St Mary's, Wexford (Tommy Hynes, Gavin Buggy, Colin Keeling, Paul Carty) 102-58

JUVENILE 60 x 30

U14 S	Tipperary (Jer Coonan) dft Roscommon (Chris Doolan) 15-3, 15-4
U14 D	Westmeath (John O'Shaughnessy, Robert McCarthy) dft Roscommon (Harry Doherty, Stephen Mannion) 15-8, 15-5
U15 S	Tyrone (Gary McRory) dft Laois (Tomás Lennon) 21-15, 18-21, 11-8
U15 D	Tyrone (Patrick McCullagh, Martin Grugan) dft Wexford (Dermot Smyth, Kevin Murphy) 21-14, 9-21, 11-4
U16 S	Galway (Noel McHugh) dft Kilkenny (T J Comerford) 21-1, 21-4
U16 D	Roscommon (Damian Martin, Ricki O'Gara) dft Kilkenny (Thomas Hughes, Seán Maher) 21-15, 8-21, 11-9
U17 S	Wexford (Felix Doran) dft Roscommon (Dessie Dowd) 21-15, 21-11
U17 D	Wexford (Myles Cash, Cormac Smyth) dft Roscommon (Niall McGrath, David Hannon) 21-2, 21-2

CAILÍNÍ 60 x 30

U14 S	Kerry (Sandy McSwiney) dft Roscommon (Nicola Kelly) 15-8, 15-8
U14 D	Tyrone (Lisa McAleer, Nadine Kelly) dft Carlow (Miriam Ryan, Deirdre O'Brien) 15-2, 15-2
U15 S	Maria Daly (Kerry) dft Edel Egan (Leitrim) 21-0, 21-0
U15 D	Roscommon (Deirdre Healy, Aidín Ní Dhonncha) dft Carlow (Edel Jordan, Amanda Canavan) 21-4, 21-3
U16 S	Limerick (Noelle Casey) dft Roscommon (Rachel Casey) 21-5, 21-1
U16 D	Meath (Joy Smith) Sinéad Tevlin) dft Roscommon (Emer Coyle, Aifric Naughton) 21-8, 21-14
U17 S	Westmeath (Tanya Farrell) dft Galway (Nicola Conneely) 21-4, 21-2
U17 D	Kilkenny (Grainne Hughes, Grainne Brennan) dft Donegal (Nora Stapleton, Tracy Floyd) 21-17, 21-19

JUVENILE 40 x 20

U14S	Meath (Brian Carroll) dft Tyrone (Gary McRory) 15-10, 15-10
U14D	Kilkenny (Maurice Nolan, Brian Mulhall) dft Cavan (Paul Conaty, Ali Pickett) 15-0, 14-15, 15-14
U15S	Kildare (Paul Moran) dft Monaghan (Sean Downey) 15-7, 15-11
U15D	Tyrone (Patrick McCullagh, Martin Grugan) dft Kilkenny (Thomas Hughes, Paul Byrne) 19-21, 21-13, 11-10

TORTHAÍ 2000 (continued)

- U16S Galway (Noel McHugh) dft Wicklow (Richard Walsh) 21-11, 21-9
 U16D Clare (Eanna Torpey, Adrian Lynch) dft Antrim (Fintan Gamble, Gerard McGrath) 21-11, 11-21, 11-7
 U17S Roscommon (Patrick Coyle) dft Cork (Donnacha O'Dea) 21-4, 21-13
 U17D Cavan (Conor Rabbitte, Kevin Downes) dft Kilkenny (C J Delaney, Diarmuid Burke) 11-21, 21-14, 11-5

CAILÍNÍ 40 x 20

- U14S Kildare (Emer Fallon) dft Roscommon (Nicola Kelly) 15-11, 13-15, 15-12
 U14D Tyrone (Lisa McAleer, Nadine Kelly) dft Kilkenny (Anne Marie Hawe, Emer Skehan) 15-9, 15-7
 U15S Clare (Teresa McGuane) dft Tyrone (Paula McIluff) 15-1, 15-0
 U15D Roscommon (Aidín Ní Dhonncha, Karen Hynes) dft Tipperary (Marian Coleman, Danielle O'Connell) 6-21, 21-18, 11-9
 U16S Wicklow (Patricia Doyle) dft Roscommon (Rachel Casey) 21-0, 21-8
 U16D Limerick (Noelle Casey, Aine Twomey) dft Roscommon (Emer Coyle, Aifric Naughton) 19-21, 21-12, 11-10
 U17S Westmeath (Tanya Farrell) dft Galway (Nicola Conneely) 21-2, 21-7
 U17D Donegal (Nora Stapleton, Tracy Floyd) dft Kilkenny (Grainne Hughes, Grainne Brennan) 21-4, 21-5

GAEL LINN MIXED DOUBLES

Windgap, Kilkenny (Ann Marie Hawe, Eoin Coady) dft Ballymacelligott, Kerry (Aishling Prendiville, Tim Prendiville) 48-41

SOLÁS FINAL

Kells, Kilkenny (Brendan Burke, Sarah Butler) dft St Brigid's, Dublin (Roslyn Larkin, Philip Lawson) 59-25

60 x 30 JUVENILE TEAM

UNDER 12/13

Kilkenny (Patrick Nolan, Patrick Hogan, Richard Hogan, Brendan Burke, Stephen Conway, Nicholas Anthony, Gavin O'Keeffe) dft **Roscommon** (Johnny Burke, Patrick McNamara, Paul McGrath, Alan Vogt, Paul Allen, Niall Gordon, Thomas McGrath) 86-47

UNDER 14/15

Wexford (Mark Mythen, Brian Nugent, Paddy Murphy, Thomas Moore, Niall Cullen, Alan Griffith, David Kenny) dft **Waterford** (Patrick Hurney, Jason O'Brien, Walter Fives, John Kindregan, John Cass, Joe McGovern), 90-34

U16 – CAILÍNÍ

St Coman's, Roscommon (Rachel Casey, Nicola Kelly, Emer Coyle, Elaine Healy, Maria Duignan, Deirdre Healy) dft **Naomh Mhuire, Leixlip** (Angela Lyons, Eimear Fallon, Sinéad Gallogly, Vanessa Newman, Ailish O'Brien) 71-19

40 x 20 JUVENILE TEAM

U12/13 **Kilkenny** (Patrick Hogan, Richard Hogan, Patrick Nolan, Owen Coady, Stephen Conway, Brendan Burke, Nicholas Anthony) dft **Tyrone** (Joseph Kelly, Darragh Daly, Michael Donnelly, Paul Donnelly, Niall Loughran, Pádraig McGlinchey) 84-49

U14/15 **Waterford** (Michael Brennan, Mark Fives, Simon Hanrahan, Tristan Hickey, Patrick Hurney, John Kindregan) dft **Mayo** (Marcus Hannick, Gary McLoughlin, Alan Murphy, David Walsh, Michael Malone, Kieran Kilcullen) 90-45

FÉILE NA nGAEL

Boys 60 x 30 Division 1

Ballina, Tipperary (Jer Coonan, Declan Kennedy, Fergal Collins, Anthony Kennedy) dft **Mothel, Kilkenny** (Diarmuid Brennan, Mark Nolan, Patrick Nolan, Niall Gibbons, Brian Mulhall) 42-31

Skills Winner: Jer Coonan, Ballina, Tipperary

Boys 40 x 20 Division 1

Carrickmore, Tyrone (Gary McRory, Fergal Rafferty, Niall Loughran, Darragh Daly) dft **Coolboy, Wicklow** (Christopher Doyle, Martin O'Neill, Jerome Willoughby, Killian Gegan, P J Mulhall) 42-20

Skills Winner: Gary McRory, Carrickmore

Boys 40 x 20 Division 2

Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty, Waterford (John Kindregan, John Cass, Mark Fives, Patrick Hurney, Jason O'Brien) dft **Ballyhogue, Wexford** (Brian Nugent, Darren Sweetman, Niall Maher, Mark Maher) 42-21

Skills Winner: Mark Downey, Carrickmacross

Boys 40 x 20 Division 3

Saval, Down (Stephen Sands, Martin Havern, Kevin McCarthy, Micheál McEvoy, Ronan Digney) dft **Downpatrick, Down** (Christopher Murray, Philip Maguire, Matthew Ferris, Gareth Browne, Christopher Ferris) 37-35

Skills Winners: Ciarán McMahon, Clann Éireann, Armagh; Niall McCarthy, Carrickmacross, Monaghan

Girls 40 x 20 Division 1

Naomh Mhuire, Leixlip, Kildare (Sinéad Gallogly, Vanessa Newman, Eimear Fallon, Ashling Roche, Leah Bergin) dft **Loughmacrory, Tyrone** (Lisa McAleer, Karen Kelly, Nadine Kelly, Una Toner) 33-27

Skills Winner: Lisa McAleer, Loughmacrory

Girls 40 x 20 Division 2

Naomh Mhichíl, Derry (Clare O'Hagan, Clare McIvor, Helen Monaghan, Kerry McGlone, Leanne Coey) dft **Buncrana, Donegal** (Helen McCorrigan, Caoimhe Barron, Majella Lynch, Ann McColgan) 42-16

Skills Winner: Clare McIvor, Naomh Mhichíl

ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

GIRLS 60 x 30

- 1st Year S Olivia Kilbane (St Patrick's, Lacken Cross) dft Michelle Stamp (Gorey C.S.) 15-2, 15-5
- 1st Year D Marian Kennedy, Grace Moorehead (Coláiste Sheosaimh, Glenamaddy) dft Gemma O'Connell, Karen Lawlor (Moyderwell School, Tralee) 15-2, 15-12
- U15 S Maria Daly (Presentation Convent, Castleisland) dft Nicola Kelly (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) 15-4, 15-6
- U15 D Emer Coyle, Elaine Healy (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Ciara Mullins, Mary Murphy (St Brigid's, Goresbridge) 21-5, 21-5
- U18 S Lydia Doolan (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Una Byrne (Gorey C.S.) 21-5, 21-5
- U18 D Joy Smith, Sinéad Tevlin (Eureka College, Kells) dft Helen Cooney, Lorraine McHale (St Patrick's, Lacken Cross) 21-8, 21-6

BOYS 40 x 20

- JS Michael Herron (St Mary's CBGS, Belfast) dft Seán Maher (Castlecomer C.S.) 21-2, 21-15
- JD Fintan Gamble, Gerard McGrath (St Mary's CBGS, Belfast) dft Eanna Torpey, Aidan Lynch (St Joseph's College, Tulla) 21-11, 21-16
- SS Patrick Finnegan (Ability College, Navan) dft Brendan Herron (St Mary's CBGS, Belfast) 21-12, 21-15
- SD Kenny Keane, Barry McAndrew (St Augustine's, Dungarvan) dft Ryan Daly, Mark McCullagh (Omagh CBS) 21-7, 21-10

GIRLS 40 x 20

- 1st Year S Sandy McSwiney (Presentation Convent, Tralee) dft Nicola Lambe (St Joseph's, Glenamaddy) 15-1, 15-1
- 1st Year D Elaine Healy, Deirdre Healy (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Rebecca Kelly, Marie Keegan (Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis) 15-1, 15-6
- U15S Patricia Doyle (Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew) dft Nicola Kelly (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) 15-7, 15-12
- U15D Emer Coyle, Aidín Ní Dhonncha (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Miriam Ryan, Deirdre O'Brien (Muine Bheag C.S.) 15-3, 15-5
- U18S Lydia Doolan (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Joy Smith (Eureka College Kells) 15-4, 15-6
- U18D Claire Connaughton, Yvonne McHugh (St Joseph's, Glenamaddy) dft Susan Keegan, Elizabeth Martin (Coolmine Community College) 21-18, 7-21, 11-1

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES

- A Team** D.I.T. (Darragh O'Gara, Paul Brady, Pádraig Gaffney, Stephen McCormack) dft D.C.U. (Eoin Kennedy, Paul Foley, Derek Henry, Colm Devine, David McAndrew)
- B Team** N.U.I.G. (Neil McDermott, Pat Conway, Peter Daveron, Oisín Naughton, John Nolan) dft U.C.C. 112-93
- Men's A** Paul Brady (D.I.T.) dft Eoin Kennedy (DCU) 18-13
- Ladies A** Fiona Healy (Crumlin College) dft Fionnuala Mee (UCD) 34-31
- Men's B** Michael O'Neill (UCD) dft Glen Raftery (GMIT) 42-17
- Ladies B** Bernie O'Reilly (DIT) W.O. Edel McGuane (UL) Scr.
- Men's C** Anthony O'Sullivan (DIT) dft Darren McArdle (DIT) 33-28

WATERFORD CRYSTAL IRISH NATIONALS

MEN'S OPEN

Tony Healy (Cork) dft Paul Brady (Cavan) 21-10, 21-9

LADIES OPEN

Fiona McKenna (Antrim) dft Jennifer Schmitt (USA) 21-8, 21-9

MEN'S B

David King (Carlow) dft Gavin Buggy (Wexford) 21-14, 14-21, 11-5

LADIES B

Grainne O'Reilly (Antrim) dft Claire Heneghan (Roscommon) 21-4, 21-17

MEN'S C

Eddie Burke (Kilkenny) dft Paul Smith (Kilkenny) 21-7, 21-11

MASTERS A

Pat Cleary (Wexford) dft Mickey Walsh (Roscommon) 21-12, 21-16

MASTERS B

Tony Flaherty (Tipperary) dft Jerry Guiney (Cork) 21-12, 21-13

GOLDEN MASTERS A

Eugene Kennedy (Dublin) dft Noel Raftery (Roscommon) 21-8, 21-10

GOLDEN MASTERS B

Mervyn McCann (Armagh) dft Michael Todd (Monaghan) 21-5, 19-21, 11-4

DIAMOND MASTERS

Paddy Walsh (Sligo) dft Mick Lally (Galway) 21-17, 9-21, 11-4

BOYS 19 & UNDER

Michael Grogan (Wicklow) dft Dessie Keegan (Mayo) 21-20, 11-21, 11-10

GIRLS 19 & UNDER

Fiona Healy (Kildare) dft Tracy Buckley (Kerry) 21-3, 21-2

BOYS 17 & UNDER

Charles Shanks (Armagh) dft Adrian Kelly (Clare) 20-21, 21-5, 11-4

GIRLS 17 & UNDER

Lydia Doolan (Roscommon) dft Sharon Daly (Kerry) 21-1, 21-4

BOYS 15 & UNDER

Damian Martin (Roscommon) dft Ruairi Kelly (Tyrone) 21-17, 21-18

GIRLS 15 & UNDER

Patricia Doyle (Wicklow) dft Noelle Casey (Limerick) 21-18, 21-18

ONE WALL NATIONALS

Men's Open

Dessie Keegan (Mayo) dft David King (Carlow) 9-15, 15-2, 15-1

Masters 'A'

Michael Porter (Sligo) dft Peter Larkin (Monaghan) 15-7, 11-15, 11-2

Golden Masters

Steve Kraft (USA) dft Mervyn McCann (Armagh) 15-13, 15-3

Masters 'B'

Kerry Wilde (Wales) dft Frank Semple (Wicklow) 15-9, 15-9

Men's 'B'

Barry Hough (Mayo) dft Declan Hough (Mayo) 13-15, 15-11, 11-5

Girls U17

Patricia Doyle (Wicklow) dft Michelle Kennedy (Galway) 15-3, 15-2

Girls U14

Nicola Kelly (Roscommon) dft Elaine Healy (Roscommon) 15-8, 15-12

Boys U17

Michael Gregan (Wicklow) dft Noel McHugh (Galway) 25-15

Boys U14

Brian Carroll (Meath) dft Gary McRory (Tyrone) 10-15, 15-5, 11-6

MUNSTER 40 x 20 OPEN

Mousetrap Men's Open Singles

Tony Healy (Cork) dft Dessie Keegan (Mayo) 21-4, 21-6

Sean Burton Hardware Ladies Open Singles

Brid Kerr-MacCorraidh (Antrim) dft Julie Long (Dublin) 21-6, 21-7

Siucra Men's A Singles

Shane Dormer (Laois) dft Kevin Buckley (Cork) 21-5, 21-8

The Arches, Mallow Junior B Doubles

Michael O'Dea, Jerry Guiney (Cork) dft Barry McAndrew, Ciarán Shields (Waterford) 21-20, 21-16

Cummins Sports Masters Doubles

Pat Morris, Paul Hayes (Cork) dft Morgan Darcy, Martin Conneely (Galway) 21-4, 18-21, 11-9

John Murphy Bookmaker EMD

Tim Healy, Pat O'Brien (Cork) dft Sam Tanner, Roger Maloney (Cork) 21-16, 21-18

Old Walls Girls 17 & Under

Patricia Doyle (Wicklow) dft Maria Daly (Kerry) 21-14, 21-18

Frank Roche Services Boys 17 & Under

Noel McHugh (Galway) dft Joseph McCann (Mayo) 21-5, 21-18

ST PAUL'S BUSHMILLS GOLDEN GLOVES

Men's Open

Tony Healy (Cork) dft Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) 20-21, 21-6, 11-2

Ladies Open

Lydia Doolan (Roscommon) dft Suzanne Gartland (Antrim) 21-13, 21-17

Men's B

Patrick Buckley (Cork) dft Brendan Fleming (Cork) 21-15, 18-21, 11-2

Men's C

Paul Walsh (Cork) dft Eddie Burke (Kilkenny) 12-21, 21-19, 11-8

Masters

Billy Silcock (Antrim) dft Paul Hayes (Cork) 21-10, 21-13

Boys 17 & Under

Noel McHugh (Galway) dft Charles Shanks (Armagh) 21-13, 21-4

LEINSTER 60 x 30 OPEN

Duxie Walsh Kitchens Men's Open Singles

Michael 'Duxie' Walsh (Kilkenny) dft Kenneth Kane (Carlow) 21-11, 21-20

Duxie Walsh Kitchens Ladies Open Singles

Lydia Doolan (Roscommon) dft Ethna Mee (Roscommon) 21-2, 21-12

Goggins Brothers Painters Junior B Doubles

Michael Roche, Anthony Burke (Limerick) dft Mick Armstrong, John Roche (Wexford) 21-8, 19-21, 11-9

South East PVC Masters A/B Doubles

Jimmy Goggins, John Goggins (Wexford) dft Billy McCarthy, Har Lacey (Tipperary/Wexford) 21-9, 21-9

John Goff FES Ltd Boys 17 & Under

Michael Gregan (Wicklow) dft Clive Counihan (Kerry) 21-5, 21-2

John Goff FES Ltd Girls 17 & Under

Maria Daly (Kerry) dft Patricia Doyle (Wicklow) 21-8, 21-13

TORTHAÍ 2000 (continued)

CONNACHT 60 x 30 OPEN

A.I.B. Men's Open Singles

Barry Goff (Wexford) dft Francis McCann (Sligo) 21-8, 21-17

Slattery's Ladies Open Singles

Lydia Doolan (Roscommon) dft Fionnuala Mee (Roscommon) 21-17, 21-10

Masters Doubles

Mickey Walsh, Michael Porter (Roscommon/Sligo) dft Billy McCarthy, Pat Ryan (Tipperary) 21-10, 21-18

Junior Doubles

Niall Kerr, Conor Kerr (Tyrone) dft Paul Flynn, Pádraig Gaffney (Mayo) 18-21, 21-20, 11-5

Junior B Doubles

Kerry Hennessy, Paul Hedderman (Limerick) dft Ryan Daly, Mark McCullagh (Tyrone) 21-16, 21-12

U17 Boys Doubles

Michael Gregan, Johnny Willoughby (Wicklow) dft Noel McHugh, Thomas Connaughton (Galway) 20-21, 21-19, 11-9

U17 Girls Doubles

Aifric Naughton, Emer Coyle (Roscommon) dft Aidín Ní Dhonnacha, Karen Hynes (Roscommon) 21-15, 21-11

WATERFORD CRYSTAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2000

40 x 20

Men's B Singles

Stephen Palmer (Cork) dft Matt Hough (California) 21-19, 21-16

Men's B Doubles

James Grota, Brian Neveau (Wisconsin) dft Robert McCarthy (Westmeath), Shane Dormer (Laois) 14-21, 21-13, 11-5

Women's B Doubles

Maggie Grelle (MA) Megan Haug (WA) dft Susan Ennis, Julie Long (Dublin) 21-5, 21-19

Men's C Singles

Ian Griffin (Dublin) dft Carlos Zamora (Illinois) 21-4, 21-15

Men's C Doubles

Richard Willoughby, Jnr (Wicklow), Gerry O'Neill (Antrim) dft Enrique Escobar, B Romero (Texas) 13-21, 21-6, 11-5

Men's 35+ Singles

Dan Armijo (New Mexico) dft Egin Jensen (Meath) 21-11, 21-8

Men's 35+ Doubles Richard Vasquez, Rick Dunne (California) dft Egin Jensen (Meath), Eugene Downey (Kilkenny) 21-6, 21-16

Boys 19 & U Singles

Dessie Keegan (Mayo) dft Bill Mehilos (Illinois) 16-21, 21-20, 11-8

Boys 19 & U Doubles

David Munson (VT), Shane Vigen (Illinois) dft Adrian Kelly (Clare), Peter Reilly (Meath) 20-21, 21-2, 11-10

Girls 19 & U Doubles

Amy Sove (California), Megan Mehilos (Illinois) dft Maria Daly, Sharon Daly (Kerry) 21-17, 21-12

Boys 17 & U Singles

Noel McHugh (Galway) dft Joseph McCann (Mayo) 21-6, 21-8

Girls 17 & U Singles

Lydia Doolan (Roscommon) dft Courtney Peixoto (Illinois) 21-1, 21-3

Boys 15 & U Singles

Seán Lenning (Washington) dft Damien Martin (Ireland) 21-7, 21-4

Boys 15 & U Doubles

Jason Doyle, Richie Walsh (Wicklow) dft Paul Byrne, Thomas Campion (Kilkenny) 21-9, 21-12

Girls 15 & U Singles

Patricia Doyle (Wicklow) dft Maria Daly (Kerry) 20-21, 21-16, 11-8

Boys 13 & U Singles

Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Christopher Doyle (Wicklow) 21-13, 21-8

ONE WALL

Men's 35+ Singles

Dan Armijo (New Mexico) dft Robbie McCarthy (Westmeath) 21-5, 21-18

Men's C Doubles

Damian Walker (Australia), Kerry Wilde (Wales) dft Paddy McDermott, Alan McDermott (Roscommon) 21-6, 21-3

Girls 16 & U Singles

Courtney Peixoto (California) dft Sinéad Tevlin (Meath) 21-12, 21-14

Boys 13 & U Singles

Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Christopher Doyle (Wicklow) 21-4, 21-0



Officials and members of the Irish handball team pictured at Dublin airport before departing for the 2000 Waterford Crystal World Championships.

Back: Elizabeth Campbell, Kenneth Kane, Fiona McKenna, Michael Walsh, Con Moore (Team Manager), Fiona Healy, Damien Martin, Michael Gegan, Seán McEntee (Coach).

Front: Mary Lindsay (Coach), Peadar Mac Artúir, Uachtarán C.L.L.E., Lydia Doolan and Patricia Doyle.



Colin Keeling and Tommy Hynes, Loch Garman, winners of the High Ball All-Ireland Senior Softball Doubles final at Páirc an Chrócaigh on 23 Meán Fómhair 2000.



Dessie Keegan, Muigheo, winner of national 40 x 20, 60 x 30, hardball and one-wall titles in 2000.

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