



Comhairle LIATHRÓID LAIMHE na hÉireann

An Chomhtháil Bhliantúil
2004





Action from the World Men's Open Singles Final between Paul Brady, Cavan and Tony Healy, Cork.



Tony Hayes, President IHC, and Caimin Jones, ex-WHC President, present the Open Singles trophies to Tony Healy and Paul Brady, winner.



Michael Finnegan and Paul Brady proudly display the World Open Doubles trophies.

Tionólfar Comhdháil Bhliantúil 2004

Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe

na hÉireann

AR AN SATHARN, 3 AIBREÁN ag 6.30 i.n.

AGUS AR AN DOMHNACH, 4 AIBREÁN ag 10.00 r.n.

in

ÓSTÁN GLENEAGLE, CILL ÁIRNE

CLÁR OIBRE

1. Fáiltiú
2. Addresses of Invited Guests
3. Adoption of Standing Orders
4. Minutes of Congress 2003
5. Report of Riarthóir Náisiúnta 2003
6. Annual Accounts 2003
7. Oráid an Uachtaráin
8. Elections
 - Uachtarán Tofa
 - Cisteoir
 - Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle C.L.G.
9. Motions
10. Close of Congress

AINMNIÚCHÁIN 2004

Uachtarán Tofa:	Tomás Breathnach, Cill Mhantáin (Cill Mhantáin, Cill Chainnigh)
Cisteoir:	Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí, Tiobraid Árann (Tiobraid Árann, Cill Chainnigh, Corcaigh)
Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle CLG:	Tomás Breathnach, Cill Mhantáin (Cill Mhantáin) Peadar Mac Artúir, Muigheo (Corcaigh) Gearóid Ó Murchú, Cill Chainnigh (Cill Chainnigh) Brídín Uí Mhaolagáin, Baile Átha Cliath (An Mhí, Port Láirge)

STANDING ORDERS

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

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

RÉAMBHRÁ

Is féidir a rá go raibh bliain ana mhaith ag Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann i 2003. Bhí Comórtaisí an Domhain thar barr agus chabhraigh alán daoine – idir an Coiste Náisiúnta agus 'sna Clubanna – chun gach rud a eagrú go cruinn. Bhuaidh an tír seo trí cinn de na ceithre príomh craobhacha agus bhí ár déagóirí ar fheabhas 'sna cluichí. Bhuaidh ár nimreoirí sé craobhacha ag na USHA Nationals agus bhuaidh Dessie Keegan an príomh craobh ag na USHA Collegiates don dara bliain as a chéile.

Thainig imreoirí óga chun cinn, bhí na Nationals go maith agus chabhraigh contaethe agus na h-imreoirí chun na comórtaisí go léir a chríochnú de réir clár na bliana. D'oscail Cumann Dún na Rí ionad iontach in am do Comórtaisí an Domhain agus d'oscail Baile Liaim (Gaillimh) agus Coláiste Naomh Agaistín (Dún Garbhán) cuairteanna 60 x 30 i rith na bliana.

Caithfidh ár structúr a neartú, cúrsaí riaracháin a chur ar suúl agus níos mó poiblíocht a fháil do liathróid láimhe. Is féidir na rudaí seo a dhéanamh tríd na Coistí nua atá eagraithe anois agus, gan dabht, beidh tioncar mór ar an eagraíocht dá bharr. Tá sár chluiche againn agus tá dualgas mór ar gach ball agus ar gach aonad tabhairt faoi gach rud idir ballraíocht, riarachán agus áiseanna a fheabhsú as seo amach. Caithfidh i bhfad níos mó daoine a mhealladh isteach i liathróid láimhe chun ár gluiche agus an eagraíocht i gcoitinne a fheabhsú as seo amach mar tá an iomarca le déanamh ag roinnt daoine.

The year under review was an extremely busy one for Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann; all provincial and national Championships were completed to schedule and the Council undertook the organisation of the Eleventh World Handball Championships in October.

Among the highlights of 2003 were:

- ☺ The successful staging of the Eleventh World Championships at 26 venues in nine counties and the Irish victories in the Men's Open Singles (Paul Brady), Men's Open Doubles (P Brady, Michael Finnegan) and Women's Open Singles (Fiona Shannon).
- ☺ The completion of a magnificent state-of-the-art three court complex by the Kingscourt Club and the opening of excellent 60 x 30 courts by Williamstown and Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty Clubs.
- ☺ The achievement of Paul Brady, An Cabhán, in reaching the No 2 spot in the USHA rankings.
- ☺ The success of Dessie Keegan, DIT, who became the first Irishman to retain the USHA Collegiates Open Singles title, a fifth successive win for Ireland.
- ☺ The continued increase in interest in handball in the Third Level Colleges sector and the extension of the range of competitions covering 60 x 30 and 40 x 20.
- ☺ Ulster's achievement in winning the All-Ireland Senior 40 x 20 Singles (Paul Brady, An Cabhán) and Doubles (P Brady, Michael Finnegan) titles for the first time as well as a similar double for sisters Fiona Shannon (Singles) and Sibéal McKenna from Antrim.
- ☺ The success of the Irish Nationals, the All-Ireland juvenile championships and the One-Wall Nationals.

- ☺ The approval of and part funding by Cumann Lúthchleas Gael of the appointment of a Handball Promotion Administrator.

On the negative side, we must acknowledge that:

- ☹ We need to greatly improve our administration and publicity at all levels.
- ☹ Some officers are carrying a huge burden of work with little help or planning for the future in the event of their retirement.
- ☹ It appears to be difficult to get young people involved in administration.
- ☹ Some Clubs have made no effort to upgrade their facilities in recent years..
- ☹ A small number of competitions, including some Provincial Opens, were not run in 2003 due to lack of entries.
- ☹ Only a handful of Clubs and counties actively promote and organise Ladies handball.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Ard Chomhairle was responsible for 192 competitions in 2003 as outlined in the accompanying table .while the Vocational Schools organised four more. This is a huge level of activity and the workload for all county, provincial and national administrators has increased dramatically over the past decade. This means that there is less time for other activity such as coaching, promotion and development which are so necessary if the game is to prosper in the future. Additional factors are that the same administrators are involved in so many ways in the sport and that some units make little or no effort to attract younger personnel to take up officerships.

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Competition	MALE		FEMALE		MIXED	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Juvenile	Total
60 x 30	32	8	6	8	-	54
40 x 20	32	8	7	8	-	55
Hardball	4	-	-	-	-	4
Team	6	6	-	3	-	15
Gael Linn	-	-	-	-	1	1
Féile na nGael	-	4	-	2	-	6
Second Level	-	16	-	8	-	24
Third Level	11	-	3	-	-	14
Irish Nationals	6	3	1	2	-	12
One Wall	6	3	-	2	-	11
TOTAL	97	48	17	33	1	196

60 x 30 Championships

Pride of place in softball in 2003 must go to Tom Sheridan from the Kells Club in Meath who achieved a lifetime ambition by winning the Senior Singles title defeating his doubles partner Walter O'Connor from the Gormanston Club, 21-6, 21-15 in convincing style at Croke Park. He proved far too powerful for his opponent on the night and fully deserved the reward of his

first Senior Singles medal. The pair teamed up to win Meath's eighth All-Ireland Senior Softball Doubles title defeating Millennium Champions Tommy Hynes and Colin Keeling of Wexford in two straight games 21-5, 21-12 which brought them a total of ten Senior Doubles titles in Softball, Hardball and 40 x 20.

Michael Gregan from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow had a nice double defeating Niall Kerr of Tyrone rather easily in the Intermediate Singles final and partnered by Pat Quaile taking the Intermediate Doubles title at the expense of Niall Kerr and Stephen Clarke. Ger Coonan from the Ballina Club put Tipperary handball on the map when he defeated Damian Martin of Roscommon 21-19, 21-18 in Minor Singles. Martin with partner Rikki O'Gara had compensation in the Minor Doubles final when they defeated Jason Doyle and Richie Walshe from Coolboy, Wicklow. Another Tipperary player to do well was Adrian Johnson who defeated Conor Kerr of Tyrone in the Junior Singles final, 21-13, 21-8. Roscommon's Aengus Cunningham and Darragh Rogers took the Junior Doubles medals at the expense of Conor O'Brien and Noel Murphy of Offaly in a very exciting contest 21-18, 17-21, 21-17.

Joe McCann from the Ballaghaderreen Club in Mayo won the Under 21 Singles title in convincing style with a 21-16, 21-7 win over Jimmy Goggins of Wexford. The tables were turned in the Under 21 Doubles final when Goggins and Myles Cash defeated McCann and Brian Heraty. Colm Jordan from Cork won the Junior B Singles title defeating Neil McDermott of Roscommon 21-18, 21-18 while in Junior B Doubles, Kilkenny's Michael Maher and Colm Love won out over Paul Fitzpatrick and Eddie Halligan of Cavan, 21-11, 21-5.

Master's Title for Billy Bourke

Billy Bourke of Kilkenny reproduced some of the form of his younger years when he defeated Francis McCann of Sligo, 21-5, 21-7 in the Masters A Singles final. McCann and Michael Porter teamed up to win the Doubles title over Philly Parsons and Johnny Brennan of Kilkenny, 21-10, 21-8. Sligo's other finalist, Martin Golden, was defeated by Pechelli English of Wexford in the Masters B Singles event, 21-11, 21-20. Tony Breen of Wexford partnered by Jimmy Goggins won yet another Masters medal, this time at Silver Masters A Doubles, defeating Pádraig Geraghty and Seamus Clarke of Mayo, 21-10, 21-16. Kildare's only victory in Softball was that of brothers John and Stephen Carroll who defeated brothers Thomas and Pat Maguire of Antrim, 21-11, 21-13 in Masters B Doubles.

Mayo Masters

Mayo took six of the Masters titles with Kevin Geraghty setting the trend in the Silver Masters A Singles defeating Limerick's Tom O'Brien, 21-1, 21-10. John Granahan took the Silver Masters B Singles title with a 21-5, 21-12, victory over Cork's Seán Daly while he partnered John Staunton to victory over Daly and Jack O'Brien, 21-20, 21-15 in Doubles. Martin Cronin had an excellent 21-5, 21-7 win over Dublin's Eugene Kennedy in Golden Masters A Singles but Kennedy, partnered by Vinny Farrelly, turned the tables in Doubles defeating Cronin and Matt Coady, 21-5, 21-8. Seán Heaney from the Hollymount Club brought another title to Mayo in Diamond Masters A Singles with a 21-18, 17-21, 21-17 victory over Mossy Butler of Waterford while Dave Macken had a good win in Diamond Masters A Singles over Kilkenny's Johnny O'Mara, 21-18, 21-11.

Doubles for Dublin, Mayo and Cork

Neville Farrelly of Dublin achieved an excellent double in the

Golden Masters B grade, defeating Michael McCarron of Monaghan, 21-10, 21-13 in Singles and teaming up with Richard Downey to defeat James Coughlan and Tom Cunniffe, Roscommon, 21-2; 21-13 in Doubles. John Kirby won yet another All-Ireland title, defeating Tom Derrig of Mayo, 21-5, 21-3, in Emerald Masters A Singles. He and brother Dan defeated Greg Sheridan and Patsy Hand of Cavan, 21-14, 21-6, in Doubles. Cork's Dan O'Brien recorded two excellent victories in the Emerald Masters B grade, defeating John Kenny of Mayo, 21-14, 21-3, in Singles and, with Tony Buckley, outpointing Tim Hughes and Seán Ryder of Mayo, 21-7, 21-5, in Doubles. Mossy Butler and Declan Mulcahy of Waterford won yet another All-Ireland title, this time in Diamond Masters A Doubles at the expense of Seán Heaney and Matt Greer of Mayo, 21-7, 16-21, 21-15. Galway's only softball title went to Tadhg Ó Curraidhín and Colm Ó Cualáin, who defeated Carl Burkett and Declan Ryan of Kerry, 21-15, 21-8, in Diamond Masters B Doubles.

SOFTBALL STANDARDS

One of the main concerns in 2003 was the decline in the number of entries for the softball championships. While this may be in part attributable to the fact that a lot of players were preparing for the World Championships, the alarm bells are certainly ringing out. We must be greatly concerned for the future of softball when so many players had byes to All-Ireland finals and, in particular, when Roscommon's first games in the Minor Singles and Minor Doubles championships were the All-Ireland finals. By comparison with 40 x 20 a very high proportion of the All-Ireland championships in softball were one sided. It is also a matter of great concern that many adult softball Clubs do not promote juvenile handball at all. Steps must be taken at provincial and county levels to rectify this situation; otherwise, the future of softball is under very serious threat. It is the responsibility of Clubs and counties to ensure that young players are introduced to softball and that they are given every opportunity to develop their skills and talents and to take part in competitions at Club, county and provincial levels. As I have pointed out in previous Annual Reports, there are many factors which impinge on the promotion and organisation of softball in the summer months. This is something which must be addressed by the Promotion and Competition Task Teams. The lifestyle of young people in Ireland has changed dramatically from the 1960s and 70s to the present day. There are many more attractions for young people during the summer months, including family holidays, travel, Gaeltacht courses, hurling, football and other sports and part-time or full-time summer employment, as well as social life. The provincial administrators and juvenile committees have serious problems in organising the provincial juvenile softball championships in particular, but if we do not tackle this situation seriously we will have a major problem on our hands in the very near future.

40 x 20 Championships

The thirty two 40 x 20 titles were spread relatively evenly over the provinces with Ulster taking six, including the two premier titles, Munster and Connacht taking eight each and Leinster winning ten championships. Mayo took five titles while Dublin and Antrim won four each followed by Tipperary with three. Another five counties took two All-Irelands each while a further seven won one title apiece.

Historic Breakthrough for Cavan

Pride of place in the 40 x 20 court must certainly go Cavan and in particular to Paul Brady and Michael Finnegan who made an

historic breakthrough for the county and province by taking the Senior Singles and Doubles titles in a period of eight days. Brady became the first Ulster handballer to win an All-Ireland Senior 40 x 20 Singles title when he defeated three times champion, Tony Healy of Cork, in an absorbing contest at the O'Loughlinn Gaels Club in Kilkenny. Then ranked at number three in the USHA, he enthralled the packed gallery with a display of silken skills which left viewers searching for superlatives to describe the action. He took the first game 21-6 in thirteen minutes in which his serve was a huge strategy keeping the Corkman on the back foot. Tony Healy regained his composure in the second and slowed the pace of the game and scores were tied at six, nine and twelve. Healy led 18-15 at one stage and a third game looked on the cards but the Cavanman took control and won the next six points to win 21-18 and take the title to Cavan and Ulster for the first time.

A week later Paul Brady and partner Michael Finnegan teamed up to take the All-Ireland Senior 20 x 40 Doubles title, another first for both county and province. The Ulstermen led from the start and powered their way to victory with a superb 21-5 win in the first game. The Meath pair rallied superbly in the second and dictated the pace of the game from early on and ran out winners 21-7. However, that game took its toll on Sheridan and O'Connor and they had no answer in the third to Brady's superb serving and shooting and to Michael Finnegan's excellent support play and retrieval skills on the right.

Fine Successes for Mayo

Mayo's Campbell Brennan and Vincent Moran had a fine win in the Intermediate Doubles final bringing the county's total of senior players to four when they defeated Wexford's Paul Carty and Barry Goff, 17-21, 21-16, 21-6 in an excellent contest. Joe McCann from the Ballaghaderreen Club had a very good win in the Under 21 Singles final overcoming the luckless Myles Cash of Wexford who had to retire due to an injury with the score at 15-21, 21-10; 6-0 to the Mayoman. Kevin Geraghty had a tight 21-12, 16-21, 21-19 victory over Pat Morris of Cork in the Silver Masters A Singles final and Seán Heaney had another Double, this time at Diamond Masters A level, defeating Pat O'Brien of Cork, 21-8; 21-20 in Singles and partnering Michael Reilly to victory over Pat O'Brien and Sam Tanner of Cork 21-14, 13-21, 21-13 in an excellent Doubles final.

Barry Goff of Wexford advanced to Senior ranks when he defeated Charly Shanks of Armagh, 7-21, 21-17, 21-17 in an absorbing Intermediate Singles final. Wexford's other victory in 40 x 20 went to Tony Breen and Jimmy Goggins in the Silver Masters A Doubles event against Mayo's Kevin Geraghty and Martin Cronin on a 21-17, 21-18 scoreline.

Minor Doubles for Roscommon

Roscommon's Damian Martin and Rikki O'Gara had a good 21-7, 21-10 win over Michael Browne and John Kindregan of Waterford in the Minor Doubles final. Damian Martin lost out in the Singles event against Brian Carroll of Meath, 6-21, 21-4, 21-10 when it seemed that all was lost for the Meath man after the first game. Another premier title went to Conor O'Brien of Offaly in Junior Singles when he defeated Ollie Cassidy of Mayo 21-15, 21-15. Tipperary took three titles at Junior level, Des Kelly and Michael Carroll defeating brothers Dominic and Anthony Caddell of Antrim 21-9, 21-12 in the Junior Doubles final while Jason Tobin had an excellent victory over Neil McDermott of Roscommon, 21-12, 16-21, 21-18 in Junior B Singles. Tipperary's other victory was at Silver Masters B Doubles where Michael Gleeson and Gerry Spillane defeated Seamus Collins

and Tom Smith of Antrim 16-21, 21-7, 21-14. The Junior B Doubles title went to James Gregan and Anthony Sheridan of Wicklow who outscored Stevie Brady and Kevin McPartland of Antrim 21-5, 17-21, 21-5.

Successes for Antrim

Antrim recorded four successes, the most important of these at Under 21 Doubles level with Owen McKenna and Kevin Holmes outpointing brothers Brendan and Niall Fleming of Cork 21-9, 15-21, 21-18. The Masters A Doubles title went to Billy Silcock and Stevie Madden of Antrim who had an excellent 21-12, 21-12 victory over Kilkenny's Martin Lalor and Philly Parsons. Thomas Maguire took the Masters B Singles title for Antrim when he defeated Frank Daly of Dublin 21-7, 21-18 and the Doubles title at the same level went to Brendan Rainey and Paddy Gault of Antrim who outscored Pat Donnellan and John Cawley of Clare 21-17, 21-15.

Good Year for Dublin

It was another good year for Dublin at Golden Masters with Eugene Kennedy defeating Tyrone's John McCullagh in Golden Masters A Singles 21-9, 21-6 and partnered by Vinny Farrelly beating Monaghan's Michael McCarron and Michael Todd 21-16, 21-18 in Doubles. Neville Farrelly had an excellent double winning the Golden Masters B titles over Noel Rigney, Galway, in Singles 21-2, 21-7 and with Richard Downey defeating Noel Rigney and Ollie Burke of Galway, 21-10, 21-13 in Doubles.

Clare's John Kirby added to his tally of All-Ireland titles with a 21-9, 21-6 victory over Morgan Darcy of Galway in the Emerald Masters A Singles final. He was partnered by his brother Dan in the Doubles final against Pat Clarke and Noel Raftery of Roscommon, the Clare men winning 21-17, 21-2. Dan O'Brien was another Munster player who had a fine double defeating Tommy Shannon of Antrim 21-5, 21-3 in the Emerald Masters B Singles final and partnered by Tony Buckley winning the doubles event against Pádraig Ó Conghaile and Pádraig Ó Fatharta of Galway 21-10, 21-4. Another Munster player to win his first All-Ireland title was Carl Burkett of Kerry who defeated Brian Kilcommins from Roscommon, 21-7, 21-15 in the Diamond B Singles final. However, the Kerry player, with Declan Ryan, was on the losing side in the Diamond Masters B Doubles final against Galway's Tadhg Ó Curraidhín and Colm Ó Cualáin, 21-8, 21-4. Eamonn Conneely took the Masters A Singles medal for Galway when he defeated Billy Bourke of Kilkenny on the unlikely scoreline of 1-21, 21-12, 21-19. Martin Clancy of Carlow won his first 40 x 20 title defeating John Granahan of Mayo 21-12, 21-20 in the Silver Masters B Singles event.

40 x 20 STANDARDS

There is no doubt but that the standard of play in 40 x 20 has increased dramatically in recent years. The growth in popularity of the international code over the past thirty five years is nothing short of phenomenal. The development of 40 x 20 courts all over the country has provided excellent facilities, many of them in need of upgrading at this stage, which helped introduce 40 x 20 to large numbers of players. The participation of official Irish junior teams in the USHA Junior Nationals from 1981 onwards was a major step in raising the standard of handball in Ireland. This was supported and augmented by an excellent coaching system for the junior teams which led to major successes in the USHA Nationals and in later years to many successes in the USHA Nationals, eventually leading on to our players making a major breakthrough in the USHA ranking system and to success at world level.

Success at international level has influenced the development of domestic handball and standards all round have been raised. The interest of so many players in taking part in international events at their own expense demonstrates the commitment of young people to handball. Participation in international competition is very attractive and the prospects of travelling to other countries to take part in events is a major plus for the 40 x 20 code. The future for the game looks particularly bright, especially considering the successes of so many of our players in international events and in taking on the best in the world.

Boys Juvenile Championships

The standard of play in the boys juvenile championships was excellent and there were some marvellous individual performances where players achieved doubles in the premier grades. Our juveniles continued to set the pace in international competition both in the USHA Junior Nationals and in the World Championships. It is very evident that the Clubs whose officials and coaches promote and develop juvenile handball do particularly well in domestic competition and on the international stage. It is particularly pleasing, but not surprising, that those who put in the effort reap the rewards of success. On the other hand there are numerous Clubs which do not promote either 40 x 20 or 60 x 30 handball at juvenile level: this is lamentable and irresponsible and this matter will have to be addressed by the Promotions and Development Task Teams. The recruitment of personnel and officials to look after juvenile Clubs in particular may be a daunting task but it is one which every Club must face up to. In addition, we must not overload any official to the point where he or she cannot cope with the amount of work involved. If the workload is shared it is better for everybody concerned and the players in particular will benefit accordingly.

Notable Doubles

Robert McCarthy from the Mullingar Club in Westmeath achieved a notable double at Under 16 Singles when he accounted for Michael Turley of Antrim and Pádraig McGlinchey of Tyrone in 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 respectively. Tyrone's Brian Donaghy achieved similar success in Under 14 Singles defeating Anthony Fahy of Clare, 15-8, 15-11 in 40 x 20 and Fergal Collins of Tipperary 11-15, 15-14, 15-1 in 60 x 30. Martin Doyle and Colm Quigley of Carlow combined to win both Under 14 Doubles titles with an easy 15-3, 15-1 victory over Emmett Mahon and Martin Rafferty of Leitrim in 40 x 20 and Roscommon's Nigel O'Dowd and Thomas Morgan 15-10, 15-7 in 60 x 30. Christopher Doyle and Jerome Willoughby from the Coolboy Club in Wicklow had an excellent 21-4, 16-21, 11-4 victory over Pádraig McGlinchey and Darragh Daly from Tyrone in Under 16 40 x 20 Doubles. Wexford's Niall Maher and Paddy Berry had a 21-2, 21-9 win over Galway's Steven Ryan and Daniel Connaughton in Under 16 60 x 30 Doubles. Cathal Hannon from Clare defeated Shane Heraty of Mayo 21-6; 21-7 in Under 15 40 x 20 Singles while Donegal's Mark Marley won that county's first boys juvenile title in 40 x 20 defeating Wexford's David Kenny 21-7, 17-21, 11-9 in an excellent final.

Five Titles for Kilkenny

Kilkenny players put their county on the map by winning five titles at juvenile level. Kirk Greene won two Under 15 Doubles medals partnering Stephen Shortt to victory in Under 15 40 x 20 against Paddy Brady and Raymond Cullivan of Cavan on a 21-19, 21-8 scoreline and teaming up with Patrick Nolan to defeat Mayo's Dara Reid and Steven Ryder rather easily in 60 x 30. The Under 15 Softball Singles title went to Nicholas Anthony of

Kilkenny who defeated Tyrone's Conor Duff 21-2, 21-6 in the final. Mark Nolan from the Noreside county defeated Cian Dowling of Roscommon 13-21, 21-6, 11-2 in Under 17 Softball Singles while in the doubles event Diarmuid Brennan and Ricky Noaln took the title to Kilkenny with a 21-5, 21-6 victory over Mayo's Ronan O'Malley and Shane Heraty.

Hardball Championships

The All-Ireland Hardball championships did not attract a great deal of interest and only four of the six competitions were held. However, this was an improvement on the situation from 1999 to 2002 when there were only enough entries for either two or three championships. Four events were run off in 1998, five in 1997 and the last year when six Championships were held was 1996.

As in previous years there were no other hardball competitions held throughout the country at any level. Again, the value of running the hardball championships must be questioned, especially when there are so many other competitions throughout the year. However, we must always be mindful of the traditional game of hardball and we cannot afford to disregard the past and the earlier history of handball and the legacy which has been passed on to us.

Eoin Kennedy from the St. Brigid's Club in Dublin won his first Senior Hardball Singles title with a 21-1, 21-6 victory over Dara Ward from Kildare. The Junior Singles title went James Doyle of Limerick who defeated Pat O'Donnell, Wicklow 21-4, 16-21, 21-18 in an excellent final. The Junior Doubles title went to brothers Pat and Oliver Conway of Galway who defeated brothers Niall and Conor Kerr of Tyrone 21-9, 21-13. Robert McCarthy of Westmeath won another gold medal when he defeated Brian Carroll from the Kells Club in Meath 21-10, 21-15, in the Minor Singles event.

Ladies Championships

Thirteen of the possible sixteen ladies adult championships were held in 2003, the exceptions being Junior Doubles in 40 x 20 and Senior Singles and Doubles in 60 x 30. Again, there were relatively few entries at provincial level in several of the events which were held and this despite the increasing numbers of juvenile girls playing the game. It is incumbent on all Clubs, counties and provinces to promote adult ladies handball much more actively. Those ladies who do play handball enjoy the game enormously and many of them take part in all available events. It is very encouraging and heartening to see the interest they have in the game but it is a pity that this is denied to so many other potential players. Clubs must promote ladies handball at grass roots level and introduce young players to the game through the Cumann na mBunscol competitions and various other juvenile promotions. It is only in this way that there will be sufficient numbers to represent counties in provincial championships. This would lead to much more meaningful competition at provincial and national levels.

One of the main difficulties involved in ladies handball is retaining players after their teenage years. However, it is encouraging to see that a number of ladies continue to play handball when they go on to Third Level education. It is understandable that a sizeable number may drop out for various reasons and this is another matter which must be addressed by the Task Teams.

Doubles for Four Counties

Antrim, Dublin, Tipperary and Kerry all recorded doubles in

the ladies championships with Kerry recording a double double in 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. Fiona Shannon of Antrim had an excellent 21-6, 21-5 victory over Fiona Healy of Kildare in the ladies 40 x 20 Seniors Singles final while she partnered her sister Sibéal McKenna to victory over Maria and Sharon Daly of Kerry 21-12, 21-11 in Doubles. Maria McCarthy from Dublin had an excellent double defeating Laura Gillespie of Donegal 21-5, 21-2 in 40 x 20 Junior Singles and, with Claire Devlin, won the Junior Doubles title in convincing style over Galway 21-16, 21-18. Marian Coleman from the Ballina Club in Tipperary won two Junior B softball medals defeating Emer Rafferty of Galway 21-11, 21-20 in Singles and with Cliona Collins receiving a walkover from Kilkenny because of injury in Doubles. Tracy Floyd of Donegal advanced to senior ranks defeating Lorraine McHale of Mayo 21-9, 21-8 in Junior Softball Singles. The 40 x 20 Junior B Singles title went to Mary Murphy from Goresbridge in Kilkenny who had an easy win over Cliona Collins of Tipperary.

Maria Daly of Kerry had another excellent year winning all four Minor titles on offer. She defeated Lisa McAleer of Tyrone in both Singles finals and was partnered by Sandy McSwiney from Ballymacelligott to victory over Emer Coyle and Nicola Kelly from the St. Coman's Club in Roscommon in both Minor Doubles finals.

Juvenile Girls Championships

Fifteen of the sixteen possible juvenile girls championships were played, the exception being Under 17 Doubles in 60 x 30. Eight counties shared fifteen titles, Kerry leading the way with four, including a double at under 14 Doubles and under 16 Singles. Kilkenny took three titles while Tipperary and Mayo won two each, with Antrim, Roscommon, Clare and Laois all claiming one title.

Aisling Reilly from the St. Paul's Club in Antrim won her third successive All-Ireland Under 14 40 x 20 Singles medal at the expense of Kilkenny's Marie Therese O'Neill who also lost out in the softball final against Marianna Rushe of Roscommon 15-13, 15-6. Kerry's Sharon Twomey and Brenda Carmody had a double at Under 14 Doubles, winning the 40 x 20 title 15-8, 15-2 against Karen Kelly and Kerri Grimes of Tyrone and defeating Roscommon's Leona Doolin and Deirdre Donohue 15-9, 15-10 in softball. Ashley Prendiville from the Ballymacelligott Club had an excellent double at Under 16 Singles level, winning the 40 x 20 title against Marie Herron of Donegal and defeating Katie Costello of Roscommon 21-15, 21-10 in 60 x 30. Claire Love and Anne Marie Hawe from Kilkenny met Alma Geraghty and Rachel Gibbons, Mayo, in both Under 16 Doubles finals winning on each occasion, 21-14, 21-19 in 40 x 20 and 15-21, 21-14, 11-1 in 60 x 30. Kilkenny's Loretta Murphy achieved victory over Una Toner of Tyrone 21-10, 21-7 in Under 17 40 x 20 Singles. Eva McKeogh and Ciara McCarthy achieved a double for Tipperary at Under 15 Doubles, winning the 40 x 20 title against Deirdre Donohue and Katie Costelloe of Roscommon 1-21, 21-16, 11-5 and defeating Mayo's Eithne McHale and Leona Pryal in softball 21-14, 21-16. Mayo's titles went to Lorraine Cronin in Under 15 60 x 30 Singles when she defeated Ciara Dowling of Laois 21-15, 21-10 and to Sarah Corley and Stacey Roache in Under 17 40 x 20 Doubles with an 11-21, 21-14, 11-8 victory over Sarah Laffort and Emer Skehan of Kilkenny. Louise Hayes, Clare, made a great impression at Under 15 Singles in the 40 x 20 court defeating Denise Ward of Roscommon 21-7, 21-10. Aisling Behan took the Under 17 Softball Singles title to Laois defeating Olivia Kilbane of Mayo 21-8, 21-8.

Juvenile Team Events

The Juvenile Team championships continue to attract counties in both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 although there should be a lot more entries in both codes. The reduction of the Under 16/17 Team event from six to four players should facilitate more counties in taking part. These championships provide a marvellous opportunity for young players to represent their counties but it is a pity that some counties do not take the trouble to give their players that opportunity.

Once again the strength of girls handball in Munster was demonstrated by the fact that Ballymacelligott won both girls Team of Four Club Championships with Munster winning the Inter-Provincial in both courts. The Kerry Club defeated St. Coman's of Roscommon 90-68 in 60 x 30 and in a 40 x 20 Round Robin proved to good for Ballina and St. Coman's. Munster defeated Connacht in the 60 x 30 Inter Provincial final on a scoreline of 135-71 and overcame the Connacht challenge in 40 x 20, 89-62.

Juvenile handball took a great step forward in Limerick when that county won the Under 12/13 and Under 16/17 boys 60 x 30 Championships. The younger age group defeated Mayo 57-24 and at Under 16/17 level the Shannonside county accounted for Dublin on a 46-43 scoreline. Kilkenny won both Under 14/15 Championships defeating Waterford 74-53 in 60 x 30 and Tyrone 87-27 in 40 x 20. Wexford continued their county's good record in team championships, winning the Under 16/17 Team of Four in 40 x 20 by 11 points to 9 in a tie-break with Monaghan after the scores were even at the end of the doubles series.

Club Championships

As in previous years the level of interest and participation in the Club Championships was very disappointing; in most cases only the stronger Clubs continue to take part and this is another area which will have to be tackled by the Competitions Task Team. However, there are many Clubs which could take part in the Championships who do not make the effort to do so. This is very unfair to their players and members and to the Championships in general and many Clubs question the value of winning a Championship in which there are very few entries.

The Kells Club from Meath contested both Open finals, winning the 60 x 30 title with a very tight 90-89 victory over Ballaghaderreen. In 40 x 20 Kingscourt, powered by Paul Brady and Michael Finnegan, accounted for Kells 107-88. Ballaghaderreen won the Junior 40 x 20 title at the expense of Arklow in a very tight contest on a scoreline of 126-123. The Junior 60 x 30 Championship went to the Ballina Club in Tipperary who defeated Williamstown, Galway 105-63. St. Coman's of Roscommon won the Junior B 40 x 20 title, 106-98, against Ballydesmond from Cork but lost out to Clogh, Kilkenny in 60 x 30, 131-50.

Third Level Colleges

The reintroduction of 60 x 30 Championships in the Third Level Colleges calendar in 2002 has added major interest at that level. The event was even more successful in 2003 and attracted a very large entry. The Championships were hosted and very well organised by Sligo IT with the cooperation of a number of Clubs in that region. Our thanks and appreciation go to everybody concerned.

Noel McHugh representing Sligo IT retained the Men's A Singles title at the expense of Patrick Finnegan, UCD, 15-5, 15-8. Maria Daly in her first year at Third Level took the Ladies A Singles title to UCC with a fine victory over her sister Sharon

from UL in the final. Donnacha Maguire took the Men's B Singles title for UL with a 15-3, 15-8 win over Stephen Cass, also from UL. In Men's C Singles, Eugene O'Reilly of DCU outpointed Dermot Reynolds, DIT, 15-9, 15-10 in the final. Sligo IT, represented by Noel McHugh, Joe McCann, Damian Martin and Niall McGrath defeated NUIG's Neil McDermott, Pat Conway, Ollie Conway and Brendan Fleming 90-46. The Men's B team title was won by DIT with a 90-56 victory over Sligo IT.

The 40 x 20 Championships were superbly organised by Queens and the social events and atmosphere added greatly to the Occasion. Eoin Kennedy won yet another Men's A Singles title for DCU with a 21-14, 12-21, 11-6 victory over Ricky McCann from UUJ. Joe McCann from Sligo IT defeated Ryan Daly from Queen's University 21-7, 21-7 in the Men's A Plate. The Women's A Singles title went to Suzanne Gartland of QUB who defeated Fiona Healy, DIT, 21-12, 21-12 in the final. Paul Murray of Letterkenny I.T took the Men's B Singles title with a 21-15, 21-11 win over Jonathan Westlake of DIT. Joseph O'Keeffe, CIT, defeated Eddie Halligan from Cavan Technical College, 21-14, 21-15, in the Men's B Plate. Dorothy Cassidy of DIT defeated Ailish McCartan, DIT, 21-4, 21-10 in the Women's B Singles final while John Burns from Queens defeated Shane Hennelly, DCU, 27-24 in Men's C Singles. Queen's University had an excellent team championship winning both A and B titles. Darren Donnelly, Ryan Daly, Charly Shanks and Mark McCullough defeated Kevin Downes, Dessie Keegan, Mark McGowan and Pádraig Gaffney of DIT 114-110 in the A event while John Burns, Darren McRory, Fergal McConville and Emmett Clarke defeated DIT's Jonathan Westlake, Conor McGinnity, Patrick Cahill and Seamus Heffernan 114-109 in the B final.

USHA Collegiates

Irish players continued to do very well in the USHA Collegiate Championships. Dessie Keegan won the Men's Open Singles title for the second time, defeating Emmett Peixoto of the USA 14-21, 21-4, 21-4. Ryan Daly from Queen's University defeated Brian Ault of the USA 21-18, 21-15 in the Men's A Singles Championship while David Tormey of NUIG defeated Liam Reidy, USA, 21-17, 5-21, 21-10 in the B Singles final. DIT achieved a remarkable second place in the team placings thus raising the standard for Irish teams taking part in the Collegiates.

The participation of more and more Irish students and College teams in the USHA Collegiate Championships is a further indication of the interest of Irish players in taking part in international competition at a very high level. Irish players have now won the Men's Open Singles title for five years in succession with Tony Healy, Paul Brady, Eoin Kennedy and Dessie Keegan (twice) achieving top honours. Their successes are also to be seen and recognised through their participation in the USHA Nationals, in Qualifiers and Pro-Stops and in the World Championships. It is also possible for average or weaker players to take part in team events in the Collegiates thus enhancing their own status as players and providing the opportunity for their teams to do better as a result of their individual performances.

All-Ireland Colleges

The twelve All-Ireland Boys Colleges titles were shared by nine schools reflecting the strength of handball in their local areas. It is noteworthy that the six softball titles went to six different schools with two players, Chris Doolin of Roscommon

C.B.S. and Kirk Greene of St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, winning titles in both codes. Rice College from Westport achieved a notable breakthrough in winning the Junior Softball Doubles title while St. Augustine's College, Dungarvan took the Senior Doubles Softball Championship. It was interesting that the Colleges Championships were not dominated by players who also won All-Ireland Juvenile or Minor titles. A number of other players have come through and this is to the credit of the Colleges concerned, some of whom make a tremendous effort to promote handball. However, it must also be pointed out that some Colleges depend solely on the efforts of their Clubs to gain success in the Colleges Championships.

Only four schools won girls 40 x 20 or 60 x 30 Championships, The Convent of Mercy in Roscommon taking three titles, two of these at Senior Doubles level with Emer Coyle and Nicola Kelly being successful. That school also won the Junior Doubles Softball title with Marianna Rushe and Katie Costello being successful. Maria Daly won another Senior 40 x 20 Singles medal while Lisa McAleer took two Singles titles, Junior 40 x 20 and Senior 60 x 30. Ashley Prendiville of Presentation, Tralee won the Junior 60 x 30 Singles title and, with Lisa Falvey, took the Junior 40 x 20 Doubles title.

Cumann na mBunscol

At a recent Cumann na mBunscol National A.G.M. there was severe criticism of handball Clubs for not offering the use of their facilities to Primary Schools. There was a major complaint that courts which are quite close to some schools are not made available to those schools and that there is no contact between Clubs and the schools in the catchment area. There is no doubt but that many Clubs provide their facilities and offer coaching support to schools. Every Club must do its utmost to promote the game at Primary School level because if it not done there the possibility of introducing handball after children leave primary education is very much reduced.

Twenty two counties took part in the 2003 national programme for Primary Schools organised by Cumann na mBunscol and Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. This has been a very successful promotion and on behalf of the Handball Council I wish to thank the Executive of Cumann na mBunscol and the Primary School units throughout the country for promoting and organising handball at that level.

A number of counties have yet to become involved in the promotion and this is something that each County Handball Committee should examine in cooperation with Cumann na mBunscol at county level. By increasing the number of counties taking part in the promotion, the concept of the National Handball Days which are organised separately for boys and girls at Páirc an Chrócaigh would be truly National Days for Primary Schools handball. As well as playing a number of exhibition games, the pupils have an opportunity to visit the GAA museum and to experience a day at headquarters as part of their reward for their involvement in handball and the development of their personal skills.

Féile na nGael

Féile na nGael was successfully hosted by Kildare, Meath and Westmeath Clubs in an area in which Féile had not previously been held, under the leadership of Pat Ryan from the Naomh Mhuire Club in Leixlip. The events were very well organised and the host Clubs cooperated in every way possible to ensure their success. Féile na nGael is an excellent outlet for young players and it is a pity that so many counties do not make the

effort to promote the concept of participation in Féile in a meaningful way. There should be qualifying competitions in every county for boys and girls so that the Clubs representing their counties earn the right to represent their counties in this prestigious national event. I appeal to all counties to make a special effort to become involved in the ideal of Féile na nGael and to ensure that there is widespread participation at county level so that as many young players as possible can experience what it is to represent their Clubs in meaningful competition.

The Loughmacrory Club from Tyrone were victorious in the boys 40 x 20 Division 1 in which Eamon Foley from Kells in Kilkenny was the skills winner. Naomh Mhuire from Kildare took the boys 40 x 20 Division 2 title with Martin O'Neill from Coolboy in Wicklow taking the skills medal. Tinryland from Carlow won the boys 40 x 20 Division 3 medals and Donal McMahon from Tydavnet in Monaghan took the skills award. The girls 40 x 20 Division 1 title went to St. Coman's of Roscommon with Marianna Rushe from that Club taking top honours in the skills.

The girls 40 x 20 Division 2 medals went to An Ghaeltacht from Ciarraí with Niamh Murphy of Templeudigan in Wexford taking the skills medal. Ballina from Tipperary continued a great tradition in the boys 60 x 30 Division 1, winning the team title and Fergal Collins from the same Club winning the skills contest.

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann, I wish to thank and congratulate all the Clubs which took part, especially those who stayed on for the parade, and to compliment their coaches and team mentors on the manner in which the players conducted themselves throughout the weekend. Our thanks and appreciation also go to the host Clubs and all of the officials and personnel who looked after refereeing, administration and catering at venues: without their help it would not be possible to run such a successful and worthwhile event.

FBD IRISH NATIONALS

The FBD Insurance Company kindly sponsored the Irish Nationals and the overall event was again very successful - despite the fact that they were too few entries to run a small number of competitions. It was disappointing that some of our top players did not take part in the Men's Open Singles event and this detracted from the overall appeal of the final stages of the competitions at Croke Park.

Special thanks and appreciation go to all the officials and venues around the country for their excellent cooperation in hosting and completing a very hectic schedule of games over two weekends. We greatly appreciate their help and support in making the Nationals so successful.

Our thanks also go to the National Organising Committee and to many other people who helped out during the competitions. We rely greatly on the help and cooperation of a relatively small number of people at each venue and we are very grateful to them for their commitment to running the competitions.

The winners of the 2003 FBD Irish Nationals were: **Men's Open:** Eoin Kennedy, Dublin. **Women's Open:** Fiona Shannon, Antrim. **Men's B:** Shane Dormer, Laois. **Men's C:** Daniel Armstrong, Antrim. **Masters A:** Billy Bourke, Kilkenny. **Masters B:** Gerard Walsh, Roscommon. **Golden Masters B:** Seamus Hussey, Tyrone. **Boys 19 and Under:** Joe McCann, Mayo. **Boys 17 and Under:** Ger Coonan, Tipperary. **Girls 17 and Under:** Maria Daly, Kerry. **Boys 15 and Under:** Robert McCarthy, Westmeath. **Girls 15 and Under:** Aisling Reilly, Antrim.

One-Wall Nationals

The seventh annual One-Wall Nationals were hosted by Sligo County Committee and again proved an outstanding success with an increase in the number of entries which shows the appeal of this marvellous competition.

As a result of the One-Wall Nationals, many players have become very adept at this code and represented their Clubs and counties extremely well in the World Championships in October. As well as that, quite a few players prefer the one-wall code to any other and thoroughly enjoy the outdoor activity. The One-Wall Nationals have the added advantage of showing how easily handball can be established in new areas and in places where the game has gone into decline.

The winners of the 2003 One-Wall Nationals were: **Boys Under 14:** Caolan Daly, Tyrone. **Boys Under 16:** Robert McCarthy, Westmeath. **Boys Under 18:** Chris Doolin, Roscommon. **Girls Under 14:** Siobhán Gilligan, Longford. **Girls Under 16:** Sinéad Sheridan, Longford. **Masters:** Robert McCarthy, Westmeath. **Golden Masters:** Richard Willoughby, Wicklow. **Diamond Masters:** Round Robin Winner, Nicholas Clancy, Galway. **Men's C:** Donnacha Maguire, Meath. **Men's B:** James Doyle, Limerick. **Men's Open:** Carl Browne, Meath.

Competition Structure

One of the most difficult tasks facing handball administrators is the range and timing of competitions involved over a twelve month period. This is a very serious strain on our administrators and the amount of time involved in fixtures and competitions places an inordinate burden on voluntary officials with the result that there is little time for other aspects of development including promotion, development and coaching, all of which are vital to the future of handball in general. The overall structure cannot maintain the present level of activity and certainly not the duration over which some of the competitions are played.

One of the first priorities of the Competitions Task Team must be to review the range and timing of all events throughout the year. Such a review was carried out and proposals were put to Congress in Mallow in 2000 but were roundly rejected. Provincial championships start at different times in different provinces, depending on the number of entries, and it is very unfair on some players that they have to wait a very long time for games in the Championship. Delays are far too long and can impinge on preparation and training for competition. With the increased participation of Irish players in events in the USA including Qualifiers, Pro-Stops, the Collegiate Championships and the recently inaugurated Ultimate Handball Showdown, it is becoming more and more difficult to schedule the Senior Championships. In the current 40 x 20 season the first Senior Singles games took place on 31 January, and the final is scheduled for 17 April. In Doubles the schedule is from 7 February to 24 April. Such a timescale does not make sense and it is certainly not practical for players, considering all the demands on their time. It would be far preferable to play the two championships over a maximum of four weekends.

Venues and Refereeing

All units and, in particular, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann, depend totally on the help and support of numerous voluntary officials and the goodwill of our Club and county officers, especially those who officiate at games, in hosting, administering and looking after our fixtures programme. Because of the quality of their facilities and their geographical locations, some Clubs carry a major portion of our fixtures from year to

year and we are very grateful for their ongoing help and cooperation in this regard. It is not an easy task and involves a lot of time and tremendous commitment to ensure that games are looked after properly. The hospitality extended to players and visiting officials is generally very good. People are made very welcome and this helps to build up and maintain friendships over a long number of years between handball personnel throughout the country.

In particular, our thanks go to the people who take on the onerous task of refereeing. This is a very important job and is central to the success of any fixtures programme. While all referees are well intentioned and do the best possible job, there are occasions when mistakes can be made: in such circumstances players and spectators must show understanding but on the other hand there is an obligation on referees to be familiar with every aspect of the rules. In this regard Kit Finnegan from the Kingscourt Club has held a number of courses throughout the country and many more of these are required to raise the standard of refereeing in general. The practice of losing players refereeing the subsequent game during the World Championships and in other events has been very successful and should be developed further. It is essential that all players know the rules thoroughly and are in a position to accept referees' decisions and to take correct decisions when they are refereeing themselves.

A very important aspect of the referee's task is to complete the official record and report on each game. Referees must always act in a fair and consistent manner and this applies also in compiling reports for the various fixtures bodies. Such reports must always be factual and objective without any recommendation on what course of action should be taken by the body in charge.

NATIONAL FIXTURES

It is almost two years now since the task of making national fixtures has been handled by the Riarthóir. The policy set out by previous Fixtures Committees in relation to fixtures and postponements has been followed as closely as possible.

Venues chosen for All-Ireland semi-finals and finals may not always find favour with all counties but every effort is made to take account of factors such as the quality of the facilities available, the travel involved and the help and cooperation on offer from the chosen Clubs. In addition, counties are grouped together as far as possible in order to provide an attractive programme and to facilitate long distance travel.

In an effort to improve the basis on which fixtures are made, I would certainly welcome suggestions and recommendations from units throughout the country which could be discussed by An Coiste Gnímh, An Coiste Bainistí and Ard Chomhairle so that there would be a widespread understanding of the factors involved in deciding on venues for fixtures programmes. I very much welcome and appreciate the proposals made by Provincial Councils in relation to All-Ireland semi-final fixtures and the help and support given to me by a number of people on venue selection for the national fixtures programme.

COACHING

Coaching is certainly one of the corner stones of success at Club, county, provincial and international levels. Appropriate coaching must be available to all players at the level at which they need it. Counties have a major responsibility in this regard in organising coaching courses for their Club personnel. It is very important that there is a proper follow-up with people who undertake courses and that they continue to receive guidance in

proper methods of coaching and progress from Foundation Level to Level One on the coaching ladder.

While we have three qualified Coach Tutors, with Tony Healy to qualify very shortly, there has been a very poor demand for coaching courses in general, another area to be attended to by the Coaching Task Team. The role of Provincial Councils which have responsibility for all counties within their jurisdiction cannot be underestimated. Provinces must ensure that coaching courses are held on a regular basis throughout the counties and that seminars and refresher courses are undertaken.

There is a huge onus on all of us to ensure that people who are looking after juveniles are properly trained and skilled in the art of coaching and in communicating with and dealing with young people. These aspects of coaching are as important as passing on the skills of the game and it is also very important to pass on the correct attitude to sportsmanship in relation to playing the game and in particular with regard to winning and losing.

World Championships

The hosting of the 11th World Handball Championships by Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann at thirty three courts in twenty six locations in nine counties from 17 to 26 October was a mammoth undertaking. There were 1,058 entries from nine countries and even though a number of players had to cry off for a variety of reasons over one thousand people took part in the Championships.

For the record, the Clubs and locations involved were: O'Loughlin Gaels, Kells, Windgap, Pilltown, Goresbridge, Muckalee, Clogh, Lisdowney, all in Kilkenny; Monavea and Culohill in Laois, Garryhill, Borris, Tinryland and St. Mary's in Carlow, Coolboy (Wicklow), Carrick-on-Suir (Tipperary), Kiltealy (Wexford), Ballymore Eustace and Leixlip (Kildare), Kingscourt in Cavan and in Dublin Croke Park, DCU, Erin's Isle, St. Maur's, Rush and Sportslink in Santry.

ONE-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Events began with a three day series of One-Wall Championships at the O'Loughlin Gaels Club in Kilkenny where three specially constructed courts catered for 16 championships ranging from boys and girls 13 and Under to the Men's and Women's Open Singles and Doubles events. Irish players performed particularly well in the underage events winning four of the seven titles on offer, the other three going to the USA. The New York One-Wallers made their presence felt in the Men's and Women's Open Singles and Doubles winning these four titles while the USA also took the Masters Singles and Doubles and the Golden Masters Singles with the Basque Country winning both B Singles and Doubles on their first venture into World Championships.

The O'Loughlin Gaels Sportshall was a hive of activity for three full days with hundreds of players and spectators creating a tremendous atmosphere. In fact, they got the Championships off to a marvellous start and certainly set the tone for the week of fourwall events which followed.

FOURWALL EVENTS

A total of 50 fourwall events were held with Irish players performing particularly well at underage and open levels. Robert McCarthy of Westmeath and Noel McHugh from Galway completed doubles at 17 and 19 and Under respectively while Maria Daly accomplished a similar feat at 19 and Under in Singles and Doubles. Michael Gegan won the A Singles title while Barry Goff and Raymond Cunningham teamed up to take the A Doubles. Pat O'Donnell of Wicklow won the B Singles

and the Conway brothers, Pat and Ollie, from Galway took the B Doubles title. Tom Connors of Wexford was successful in C Singles and Finbarr Rafferty and Alan O'Dwyer from Cork took the C Doubles title. Ger Walsh from Roscommon was successful in Over 40 B Singles while the Carroll brothers, John and Stephen, from Kildare took the Doubles title in the same grade. Pat O'Keeffe of Kilkenny partnered Kevan del Grande of the USA to take the Over 70 Doubles. Angela Lyons of Kildare had a double in C Singles and B/C Doubles partnering Sarah Corley from Mayo.

MAJOR SUCCESSES FOR TOP IRISH PLAYERS

Three Irish players achieved ultimate success in the Open events, Paul Brady from Cavan winning the Singles and partnering Michael Finnegan to victory in Open Doubles while Fiona Shannon of Antrim took the Women's Open Singles and, with her partner and sister Síbeal McKenna, was somewhat unlucky in the Open Doubles final against Lisa Fraser and Jessica Gawley of Canada.

The fact that a number of the top American players did not take part in the Open events was disappointing. Nevertheless, the series of games proved very successful and attractive - none more so than the Men's Open Singles final in which Paul Brady outpointed Tony Healy winning in a tie-break 21-14, 3-21, 11-7. The main talking point of this magnificent contest was Tony Healy's generous, magnanimous and extraordinary gesture in giving his time outs to his opponent when he went down with severe cramp in the second game, even though the American referee declared that Healy could have claimed the title if he so wished as there is no provision for injury time outs in the case of cramp. At the time some people felt that the Corkman was foolish not to have claimed the World title but that was not the way he would have wanted to win it and he gained much praise as a result. In her review of the sports highlights of the year, Cliona Foley of the Irish Independent gave four reasons to love sport in 2003. The first was the Special Olympics World Summer Games followed by the Aoife McGrane King fund raising campaign, then Peter Canavan winning his All-Ireland Senior football medal and, fourthly, Tony Healy's gesture of good sportsmanship in the World Handball final.

The Men's Open Doubles final was a repeat of the All-Ireland 40 x 20 Senior Doubles final earlier in the year. The outcome was the same with Paul Brady and Michael Finnegan winning in fine style in a very sporting contest 21-16, 21-18. Fiona Shannon defeated Lisa Fraser from Canada 21-18, 21-12 to win the Women's Open Singles title in convincing style while she and her sister Síbeal McKenna looked as if they were going to repeat the double but were outpointed in the tie-breaker and went down 21-16, 8-21, 11-9 to the disappointment of the large Irish following.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The **Official Opening Ceremony** held at the Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny, and organised by the local organising committee was a spectacular occasion with appropriate ceremonial, short addresses and spectacular entertainment including Irish music, dancing and poetry with Tommy O'Brien acting as a very capable Master of Ceremonies.

The **Closing Banquet** at the Burlington Hotel, attended by 450 people representing all participating countries, as well as GAA and civic dignitaries was a splendid affair. During the week the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Royston Brady, hosted a **reception at the Mansion House** for Irish and

international officers. In addition, the Canadian Handball Association hosted promotional events at Kilkenny, Kingscourt and Croke Park where they outlined the attractions of attending the next World Handball Championships in Edmonton, Alberta in 2006.

BUÍOCHAS

On behalf of Comhairle Liathroid Láimhe and of all the players and spectators, I wish to thank and congratulate everybody concerned with the organisation of the biggest ever World Handball Championships. It was certainly a huge undertaking and all host Clubs, venues and officials rose to the occasion in magnificent style. Visitors were loud in their praise of the hospitality extended to them and there were many written messages of thanks and appreciation to various people and Clubs following the Championships. I also wish to thank the main Organising Committees in the Dublin, Kingscourt and Kilkenny regions. They all willingly undertook the workload involved in planning, organising and administering the competitions and, in particular, in ensuring that facilities were upgraded and well prepared for the Championships.

Our thanks are also due in great measure to the National Steering Committee led by Antóin Ó hAodha, Uachtarán. This Coiste had the responsibility to make the overall plans for the Championships and to liaise with all countries and various agencies in Ireland in relation to the Championships. Of particular concern was the financial burden involved in hosting the event and the Committee is particularly grateful to Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, The Irish Sports Council and the GAA Provincial Councils for their generous contributions towards the cost of hosting the Championships.

The Championships put the office staff under a lot of pressure and I would have to point out that the past two years have been very difficult due to the amount of work involved in the Championships and the fact that we only had a part-time assistant for a year after the late Angela's death and no assistant from early November, 2003 to the following April.

Thanks and appreciation also go to Caimn Jones who completed his sixth and final year as President of the World Handball Council before the end of the Championships. He has always been very dedicated to the international cause and made many very valuable contributions and contacts during his presidency. He will continue to serve as World Council officer for a further two years and we wish him well in this capacity.

Finally, I think we can all look back with great pride on a job well done and that we can be happy with our contribution to the development and progress of international handball in 2003.

USHA Events

Irish players continue to take part in increasing numbers in the USHA Nationals and the USHA Juniors. The participation of Irish teams and individual players in these events, particularly over the past two decades, has proved invaluable in raising the standards of Irish handball. Our younger players had performed exceptionally well against their American counterparts over the years but fell somewhat short at adult level; that gap has now been well and truly bridged and our players are taking part in international events with increasing confidence.

Tony Healy reached the final of the Men's Open Singles at the Nationals going down to John Bike 21-20, 20-21, 11-3 in a marvellous tie. Fiona Shannon went out to Lisa Fraser of Canada in the Women's Open Singles final 21-13, 21-9. Shane Dormer from Laois had an excellent 21-10, 21-9, victory over Vince

Martinez of California in the B Singles final. Roscommon's Neil McDermott won the C Singles title, 21-19, 21-13 against Tyrrell Russell from North Carolina but was unlucky in Doubles when partnered by Ger Coonan of Tipperary they went down to John Stoffel and Mike Wells from Minnesota 21-5, 21-20 in B Doubles.

Our Junior team did particularly well in the USHA Juniors which were held at Modesto, California in December. Robert McCarthy retained the 17 and Under title defeating fellow Irishman, Brian Carroll from Kells, 21-18, 21-17. Richard Hogan had a fine double winning the 15 and Under Singles title over Luis Merino from Arizona, 21-15, 21-17 and partnering Joey Peterson from Iowa to defeat Evan Browne and Conor Casey of Oregon 21-3, 21-9 in Doubles. Aisling Reilly had a marvellous double defeating Karen Lawlor of Kerry 21-10, 21-6 in the girls 15 and Under Singles event and partnering Maria Daly to victory in the 19 and Under Doubles Round Robin. Noel McHugh and Johnny Willoughby teamed up to win the 19 and Under Doubles title defeating Sean Lenning and Luis Merino 21-15, 21-10 in convincing style. Keith Kavanagh from Wicklow went down 21-6, 21-7 to Brant Bidegain from California in the boys 11 and Under Singles final.

Our sincere thanks go to Jimmy King and Sean McEntee for their very professional and dedicated contribution to the preparation and management of the Irish team whose successes are due in no small measure to the expertise which is available to them through the National Coaches.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Having introduced the first phase of the Handball Strategic Plan in 2002 which set up new structures for Ard Chomhairle and An Coiste Banistí and the making of fixtures by the Riarthóir, phase two was introduced in 2003 with the appointment of the Handball Task Teams under the following Directors:

Development:	Maureen O'Shea
Coaching:	Jimmy Heffernan
Facilities:	Denis Phelan
Competitions:	John Molloy

A Director of Promotion is yet to be appointed. The Teams had an introductory training day with the assistance of Helen Raftery from the Irish Sports Council and Con Moore and Jim Outram from the Strategic Planning Team. Meetings have been taking place and the Teams are progressing with their heavy workload.

Towards the end of the year Cumann Lúthchleas Gael approved, with part-funding by the Association, the appointment of a Handball Promotions Administrator and at the time of writing plans are well under way to fill in the position. The main purpose of the role will be:

- To develop and implement a strong national profile for handball through a marketing strategy at all levels of the organisation.
- To ensure that a consistent image of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann is communicated through all media.
- To ensure the successful promotion of Handball Council policies and views through all media ensuring a timely response to any developments affecting the Council.
- To ensure that sponsorships are well managed and that new sponsorships are secured.
- To ensure the efficient operation of the daily activities of the Council in conjunction with the Riarthóir.

The responsibilities attaching to the Promotion Administrator position will lead to increased sponsorship and publicity

opportunities for handball in general and will give added impetus to what has become an increasingly vibrant and successful sport at national and international levels.

Yearbook

The Irish Handball Council Yearbook has become a much sought after item since it was first published at the end of 1996. The Yearbook covers all aspects of handball both at home and abroad and includes a wide range of topics from Club to international level.

Due to the World Handball Championships in October, and being under-staffed since early November, it was not possible to produce the 2004 Yearbook so far. However, most of the material has been collected and edited and the publication will be available in May, 2004. It is important that we have an historical record of the happenings of the past year, particularly in such an outstanding year for Irish and World handball. Even at the time of writing some counties have not submitted articles for the Yearbook and I appeal to them to rectify this situation immediately.

It should be pointed out that many of the articles we receive are very professionally prepared and edited. However, we get quite an amount of articles which have to be totally rewritten as they come either in AGM.report form or are handwritten or are poorly typed. In an era of very sophisticated technology it should be possible for every county to produce a well prepared report and have it emailed to the office. This would certainly make the task of the Yearbook Committee much more manageable. On behalf of all our members and readers I wish to thank and compliment Tommy O'Brien, Owen McCann, Michael McGee and Tom O'Connor on their tremendous input to the preparation of the Yearbook every year.

Publicity

As everybody knows, it is always a struggle to get adequate publicity at national level. However, things have improved in this regard in recent times and there is much more public awareness of handball in general. This is as a result of some very good coverage of the World Handball Championships on national radio and television as well as excellent coverage through provincial papers and local radio stations.

Our sincere thanks to RTE Network 2 for an excellent hour long programme on the World Championships which showed handball in a very positive light. In addition, we had live commentary of games on national radio for the first time ever. Our thanks and appreciation to commentator Martin Kiely and Roy Willoughby, Sports Editor, RTE Radio, for their help in this area.

Through the efforts of Chris Curran of All Star Print, we have been getting increased coverage in various media over the past couple of months. There was particular media interest in the participation of five Irish players in the Ultimate Handball Showdown, culminating in Paul Brady's victory in that event and as a result the world champion was featured prominently on TV and radio and in the print media. There is no doubt but that good stories attract significant media interest which in turn leads on to interest in the sport in general. We must capitalise on this for the benefit of the game. The appointment of the Handball Promotion Administrator will play a major role in increasing the profile of handball in the years ahead.

Our thanks and appreciation go to Tony McGee for his weekly articles in The Irish News and to Peter Dennehy for his contributions to The Irish Examiner. Chris Curran has made a

very significant impact with his input to The Star and other newspapers and this is very welcome. Neil McDermott has done terrific work updating and maintaining the handball website which is an excellent way of communicating with our members and the public in general. It was particularly effective for the World Championships, when it was managed by Kate O'Brien. John McLoughlin continues to provide results and information, especially at the weekends. I am particularly grateful to him for his work on programmes when the office needed assistance. Thanks, also, to Aidan Crowley who supplies fixtures and information to The Irish Independent and The Sunday Independent.

We are fortunate to have some marvellous PROs who report every week on handball news in the local media. This is a very good service for our members and players keeping people up-to-date on various happenings. Local radio stations provide an excellent publicity vehicle and several counties avail of this service providing interviews and stories each week. Many counties contribute articles to county GAA publications and this is to be encouraged as a way of communicating with the Association. One of our priorities during the coming year will be to organise a course for public relations officers to support and encourage them in their work.

FBD Handball Awards 2002

The National Handball Awards scheme again proved very attractive and were sponsored by FBD Insurance. Since their inception in 1994 the Awards have recognised people in various categories ranging from young players to the Hall of Fame award as well as Club officials, coaches and an international dimension. The Awards are much sought after and the recipients are held in high esteem in recognition of their achievements either in the past year or over their careers as players or administrators. However, the Awards deserve better support than they have been receiving over the past few years and I appeal to all Clubs to support the scheme and to ensure that it continues to be the success it deserves to be. The following were the **FBD Award winners for 2002:**

- ★ **Young Player of the Year – Female: Maria Daly**, Ballymagelligott, Ciarraí, on the basis of her All-Ireland, Colleges and international achievements.
- ★ **Young Player of the Year – Male: Noel McHugh**, Williamstown, Gaillimh, in recognition of his success in Minor 40 x 20 and 60 x 30, the English Schools Fives/Handball Championships, the All-Ireland Vocational Schools Championships and the 60 x 30 Third Level Colleges Singles and Team events.
- ★ **Masters Player of the Year: Tony Breen**, Templeduigan, Loch Garman, who won three of the 2002 SMA titles and was a member of the Wexford teams which won the All-Ireland Team of Eight titles in both courts.
- ★ **Player of the Year – Female: Anna Wrynn**, Naomh Mhuire, Leixlip, Cill Dara, winner of All-Ireland 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Senior Doubles titles and the 60 x 30 Senior Singles title.
- ★ **Player of the Year – Male: Eoin Kennedy**, St. Brigid's, Baile Átha Cliath, who won the All-Ireland 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Senior Singles titles, the Irish Nationals Open Singles title and the Third Level Colleges 40 x 20 Open Singles title.
- ★ **International Player of the Year: Paul Brady**, Kingscourt, An Cabhán, in recognition of his success in the USHA Pro-Stops, winning at Milwaukee in December and reaching the final against Dave Chapman in Concord, CA.

- ★ **Special Achievement: Paddy Monaghan**, Ballymore Eustace, Cill Dara, who has given over 50 years of service to juvenile handball in his Club and county, who looks after the Ballymore Eustace Club premises on an ongoing basis and who has always been a referee and administrator.
- ★ **Coach of the Year: Owen Conlon**, Toonagh, An Clár, in recognition of his enormous input into the coaching of juvenile players in his Club and county and in bringing Clare to the forefront of juvenile handball following several unsuccessful years.
- ★ **Hall of Fame: Peadar McGee**, Newport, Muigheo, in recognition of his outstanding record of achievements – 10 Senior Hardball Singles and 5 Senior Hardball Doubles titles, a JSD title, a Senior Singles 40 x 20 title and a Senior Singles 60 x 30 title.
- ★ **Official of the Year: Paddy McDermott**, Ballintubber, Roscomáin, Secretary of Coiste Liathróid Láimhe Roscomáin since 1984, with a break of three years, and who was Rúnaí of Comhairle Chonnachta for six years.
- ★ **Club of the Year: Carrickmore**, Tír Eoghain, in recognition of the Club's outstanding contribution to their community, their successes in provincial, national and international competitions, their broad spread of activities for male and female players, its promotion and publicity and the contribution of its members to the organisation and administration of handball.

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

Ba mhaith le Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann buíochas a ghabháil le hArd Chomhairle agus le Coiste Bainistí CLG as uch a dtacaíocht do liathróid láimhe. Ár mbuíochas go speisialta don Uachtarán, Seán Ó Ceallaigh a chabhraigh go mór linn i rith na bliana. We thank him sincerely for his very active support for handball and for his attendance at several events during the year.

Gabhamíd buíochas mór, freisin, le Liam Ó Maolmhichíl, Árd Stiúrthóir, a bhí ar fáil dúinn go minic le haghaidh cruinnithe agus chun comhairle a thabhairt dúinn i rith na bliana. Gabhaimid buíochas, freisin, le foireann na h-árd oifige as ucht dtacaíocht.

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. However, there is much room for further support and initiatives in this area and we trust that this will be forthcoming through closer liaison between the units concerned.

Without the very significant financial and other support which the Irish Handball Council receives from An Coiste Bainistí and Ard Chomhairle of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, it would be impossible for the Council to carry out its functions and role in promoting and developing handball at any level. The GAA provides an annual grant of €60,000 to the Council and has agreed to part-fund the appointment of the Promotion Administrator. In addition, the Council received a special grant of €30,000 towards the cost of hosting the World Handball Championships and the GAA Provincial Councils contributed a total of €20,000 for the same purpose. We are confident that the work and achievements of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann during 2003 justified the granting of this substantial financial help.

The appointment at the beginning of 2003 by An Coiste Bainistí CLG of a special sub-committee to examine the position of handball and its relationship to Cumann Lúthchleas Gael was,

in terms of planning for the future, even more important than the financial assistance received. Under the Chairmanship of John Greene, the Committee examined in detail many aspects of the workings of the Handball Council and brought forward proposals to An Coiste Bainistí on many important matters which will affect the future of handball.

It is vital that communication is established and maintained with GAA units at all levels throughout the organisation from Club to national level. This is vital to the vibrancy of handball in particular and the Association's units who have responsibility for their handball sub-committees are entitled to that communication and to information on what is happening in the sport at the various levels. Handball delegates to the GAA County Committee should give regular reports to County Committee meetings and handball should be included on the agenda as a matter of course. This should also apply at provincial and national levels. It is also very important that handball personnel attend all GAA meetings at which they are entitled to represent their units.

Ceannaras

As is the case with so many facilities which were built in the 1960s and '70s, the handball headquarters at Croke Park are in need of a major upgrading: the Centre was built over 30 years ago and while it was a model of its kind at that time, it must be brought up to the standards expected by players and spectators in the modern era. The Sports Capital unit of the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism last year approved a grant of €150,000 for improvements to the Centre and plans have been submitted to the GAA outlining the main works involved. It is essential for the Handball Council that this work is carried out as a matter of priority. The Ceannaras Management Committee undertook a lot of work in advance of the World Championships which got us over a critical point for that occasion and thanks are due especially to Vinny Farrelly, Cathaoirleach, Neville Farrelly, Mark McGowan and Pádraig Gaffney for the time and commitment they gave to getting the work done in a very short time and with a very limited budget. I also wish to thank Páirc An Chrócaigh Teoranta for funding the works and look forward to their cooperation in taking in the next phase of development.

Our thanks and appreciation to Pádraig Gaffney who manages the Centre in a professional and efficient manner. It is good to note that profits from the Centre have been transferred to the Handball Council and the Dublin County Board for the past two years. Many thanks to Martin Dillon for his dedicated work in assisting with the operation of the bar and to Kathleen Brady who acts as caretaker of Ceannaras. The Management Committee, under the guidance of Vinny Farrelly, has contributed greatly to the Centre over the past year and I thank the members for their dedication to their work.

Insurance

It is vital that all handball units are aware of the fact that the GAA Public Liability and Employer's Liability Scheme and the Property Insurance Scheme are available to all handball Clubs. Details of the schemes are available from County GAA Secretaries and even though there are some variations in how County Committees operate the schemes, every handball Club must ensure that its property and rights are protected. There is a grave onus on all handball County Committees to ensure that their Clubs are covered by the schemes available from the Association. At present a number of Clubs pay exorbitant property insurance and public liability premia to insurance

companies while at the same time adequate protection is available through the Association's schemes.

One of the areas which the handball Facilities Task Team could very usefully and profitably examine is insurance. There should be a full audit of all handball facilities and of the insurance cover applying to them.

Sports Councils

The Irish Sports Council has again been very generous to Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann providing substantial financial aid as well as professional advice and help over the past year. The Council provided additional funding for the implementation of several aspects of the Strategic Plan for 2003 and again for 2004 and €30,000 for the World Championships. Helen Raftery from the Sports Council was of tremendous assistance to the Strategic Planning Team in attending meetings and reviewing drafts of the report as well as giving ongoing assistance and advice regarding the implementation of the Plan and following up with substantial input for the Task Teams on the national training day.

Eight young handballers, Noel McHugh, Patricia Doyle, Patrick Finnegan, Michael Gregan, Joy Smith, Dessie Keegan, Damian Martin and Maria Daly were awarded grants and support services under the Irish Sports Council's International Player/Athlete Carding Scheme for 2003. This included professional services for physiotherapy, medical and other needs and facilitated a coaching and training programme and attendance at a special workshop and seminars as well as physical testing sessions at the National Coaching and Training Centre. One of the requirements of Carding Scheme is that players who take part must play in at least one international event each year.

I wish to express the sincere thanks and appreciation of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann to the staff of the Irish Sports Council who assisted us in many ways during the past year. They were available for consultation and meetings as required and we greatly appreciate and value their support. We also wish to thank the Sports Council of Northern Ireland for the support it provides in relation to our units in the North. Finally, our thanks to the Sports Capital Unit of the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism which provided a grant to €30,000 towards the cost of upgrading handball facilities for the staging of the World Championships in October.

Na Mairbh

A large number of players and officials suffered bereavements during the past year and to the families of our departed relatives and friends, we offer our sincere sympathy on their sad losses. We remember in particular those departed ones who made any contribution to the development of handball, who played the game or who were Club officers at any time. In this context, the passing of Johnny Hartnett who was Limerick County Secretary for over thirty years and who won the 1970 Junior Handball Singles and Doubles titles came as a great shock to his many colleagues, friends and admirers. He made a marvellous contribution to the game in his Club and county and had numerous friends throughout the country as evidenced by the huge attendance at his removal and funeral in his native Ballingarry.

On a personal note, I wish to thank everybody who expressed their sympathy to me in many different ways on my mother's death in February, whether by attending her removal or funeral Mass, sending floral tributes, Mass cards and letters or through phone calls and visits to the office. It was very gratifying to have

the support of so many handball people at a difficult time and I and my family appreciated this very much.

Buíochas

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and on a personal note, I wish to congratulate the numerous voluntary members of our organisation who give so much of their time and energies to the promotion, development and organisation of handball. I would like to pay a special tribute to coaches and officials who look after the extremely important area of juvenile handball. This is not an easy task at any time, especially in the times in which we live, and they perform a major service for the game. Quite often their work goes unseen and unacclaimed. They perform a most essential service for handball and ensure that the love of the game is passed on to the younger generation.

Our thanks also to our county officers, especially to the Rúnaíthe Contae who are the vital link in the chain between national and Club level. I also wish to thank the Provincial Secretaries on organising very extensive fixtures programmes and for their help and cooperation in sending information to the office. I would also like to pay tribute to the members of our central Coistí and Task Teams for their help in the administration of national handball matters. They give marvellous commitment to the game and I value the advice and assistance given by so many of them throughout the year.

I wish to pay a special tribute to all of our players, coaches and referees without whom the game could not continue or prosper. Their tremendous help and cooperation is very inspiring and greatly appreciated. Our thanks are also due to the GAA central office staff for their advice and support in many ways throughout the past year.

My personal thanks go to **Cionnaith Ó Chonbhúí** for his excellent work as Cisteoir of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. He has always given generously of his time and professional expertise in dealing with the accounts and keeping our financial affairs in order.

Antóin Ó hAodha has completed his second year as Uachtarán and has had a very busy and demanding schedule of meetings and general commitments during that time, especially for the World Championships. He has successfully implemented the first phase of the Strategic Plan and has been negotiating with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael on a wide range of issues that are critical to the Plan and to the future of handball. I thank him for his very valuable advice and support on a regular basis and for his availability to me and so many people throughout the country over the past year.

On behalf of all members, players, officials and units, I wish to acknowledge the excellent work of **Kate O'Brien** who assisted in the office from November 2002 to November 2003. She had a tremendous input to the World championships and was very diligent in assisting with administration in what was an extremely busy and difficult year. My thanks are also due to **Tomás Breathnach** for his very valuable assistance on many occasions during the past year.

Finally, may I wish handball units and everybody involved in the game a very successful year in 2004.



LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta

NA RÚIN

1. That Over 70 Singles and Doubles championships be inaugurated in 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. Amend Fo-Riail 47 accordingly. (Cill Chainnigh)
2. That a closed season of one or possibly two months be introduced to the calendar. (Ciarraí)
3. That all adult 40 x 20 All-Ireland semi-finals and finals be played over the one weekend. (Ciarraí)

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

31 March 2004

A Cháirde

We have examined the records of an Chomhairle for the year ended 31 December 2003.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to €297,524. Expenditure came to €262,975 leaving an Operating Surplus of €34,549. In the preceding year there was a surplus of €15,364. As compared with that year the following were the principal variations in Income and Expenditure:

INCOME	Increase €	Decrease €
Irish Sports Council Grants	43,316	
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants	40,165	
Sponsorship and Subscriptions	9,219	
EXPENDITURE	Increase €	Decrease €
World Championship Expenses	73,727	
Meetings and Officials' Travel		8,821
Juvenile	4,387	

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of an Chomhairle at 31 December 2003 including outlay on Ceannáras €386,254 had a book value of €630,458. Liabilities at the same date including Bank Overdraft €222,790 came to €362,900. Assets exceeded Liabilities by €267,558.

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 STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

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 appropriate to presume that An Chomhairle will continue its activities.

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 Chonbhuí.
Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

30 March 2004.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Members of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

We have audited the financial statements of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann for the year ended 31 December 2003 which comprise the Revenue Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out below.

This report is made solely to the members of the Council. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to An Chomhairle members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purposes. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Council and its members for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Management and Auditors

Management's responsibilities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and Irish Accounting Standards are set out in the Statement of Management Responsibilities. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with the relevant legal and regulatory requirements and Auditing Standards promulgated by the Auditing Practices Board in Ireland and the United Kingdom.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared. We also report to you whether in our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Council. In addition, we state whether we have obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purpose of our audit and whether the Council's balance sheet and revenue account are in agreement with the books of account.

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 Management 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 2003 and of its deficit 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.

Harcourt Centre,,
Harcourt Road, Dublin 2
30 March, 2004

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2003

	Schedule	2003 €	2002 €
INCOME			
County Committee and Members		25,162	24,594
Gate Receipts		6,714	6,529
Irish Sports Council Grants	1	124,913	81,597
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants	2	110,000	69,835
National League Grant		6,350	6,350
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		10,465	1,246
Advertising		600	1,350
Sundry Sales		4,723	4,742
Ceannáras Club		6,000	3,809
Yearbook Surplus		(576)	4,792
Other Income		3,173	4,276
		<u>297,524</u>	<u>209,120</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Competition Expenses		13,057	11,162
International		7,130	9,033
World Championship Expenses		73,727	–
Provincial Open Tournament Grants		1,270	2,540
Third Level Grants		635	–
Juvenile		811	1,457
Promotional Materials		5,936	6,478
Trophies		15,487	16,233
Meetings and Officials' Travel		20,745	29,566
Provincial Grants		2,540	2,540
Coaching, Leadership and Development		3,681	1,178
Administration and General	3	117,395	113,008
Depreciation		561	561
		<u>262,975</u>	<u>193,756</u>
OPERATING (DEFICIT) SURPLUS		<u>34,549</u>	<u>15,364</u>
Balance at beginning of year		<u>233,009</u>	<u>217,645</u>
Balance at end of year		<u>267,558</u>	<u>233,009</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

30 March 2004.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2003

	Note	2003 €	2002 €
FIXED ASSETS			
	2	386,567	387,128
Loan – Galway County Board		22,855	22,855
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		3,025	3,548
C.L.G. Development Scheme		127	127
Loans to Clubs		571	571
Debtors and Prepayments		26,362	26,240
Cash and Bank Balances		190,951	134,606
		<u>221,036</u>	<u>165,272</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Court Construction Grants		3,174	3,174
Grants to Underprivileged Areas		1,893	1,893
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Development Grant		63,487	63,487
Creditors		71,556	50,902
Bank Overdraft		222,790	222,790
		<u>362,900</u>	<u>342,246</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(141,864)</u>	<u>(176,974)</u>
		<u>267,558</u>	<u>233,009</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund		<u>267,558</u>	<u>233,009</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

30 March 2004.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2003**

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 €	Gymnasium Equipment €	Office Equipment €	Total €
COST				
At 1 January 2003	386,254	5,706	20,398	412,358
At 31 December 2003	<u>386,254</u>	<u>5,706</u>	<u>20,398</u>	<u>412,358</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2003	–	5,706	19,524	25,230
Charge for year	–	–	561	561
At 31 December 2003	<u>–</u>	<u>5,706</u>	<u>20,085</u>	<u>25,791</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	<u>386,254</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>386,567</u>

3. ACCUMULATED FUND

	2003 €	2002 €
Balance at beginning of year	233,009	217,645
Surplus for year	34,549	15,364
Balance at date	<u>267,558</u>	<u>233,009</u>

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2003**

	2003 €	2002 €
SCHEDULE 1:		
Irish Sports Council Grants		
Annual Grant	99,913	67,347
World Championships	25,000	–
Carding Scheme	12,800	25,600
International	–	7,900
Strategic Planning Process & Review	–	2,400
Outstanding Sportspersons	–	635
Other	–	3,950
	<u>137,713</u>	<u>107,832</u>

Less: Distributable		
Carding Scheme	(12,800)	(25,600)
	<u>–</u>	<u>(635)</u>
	<u>124,913</u>	<u>81,597</u>

SCHEDULE 2:

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants		
Ard Chomhairle Annual	60,000	69,835
Ard Chomhairle – World Championships	30,000	–
Provincial Councils – World Championships	20,000	–
	<u>110,000</u>	<u>69,835</u>

SCHEDULE 3:

Administration and General Expenses		
Staff Costs	90,386	86,230
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	9,756	12,461
Postage and Telephone	10,864	8,748
Audit and Accountancy Fees	4,477	4,206
All-Ireland Tickets	880	636
Miscellaneous	1,032	731
	<u>117,395</u>	<u>113,021</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 2003.

	2003	2002
€	€	€
INCOME		
Membership Fees	6,558	3,098
Court Booking Fees	4,261	4,864
	<u>10,819</u>	<u>7,962</u>
Shop Sales	6,388	5,248
Cost of Sales	<u>5,983</u>	<u>4,233</u>
Profit on Sales	405	1,015
	<u>11,224</u>	<u>8,977</u>
EXPENSES		
Administration	1,997	2,934
Premises	5,130	5,822
Financial	<u>106</u>	<u>98</u>
	<u>7,233</u>	<u>8,854</u>
Net Operating Profit/(Loss)	3,991	123
Club Lounge Subsidy	<u>(1,325)</u>	<u>(519)</u>
Net (Loss)/Profit	2,666	(396)
Opening Deficit	<u>(2,095)</u>	<u>(1,699)</u>
Closing Surplus	<u>571</u>	<u>(2,095)</u>

BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 2003

	2003	2002
€	€	€
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	2,489	350
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Bank loans and overdrafts	(52)	528
Accruals	1,970	1,917
	<u>1,918</u>	<u>2,445</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>571</u>	<u>(2,095)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>571</u>	<u>(2,095)</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	<u>571</u>	<u>(2,095)</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 2003.

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 2003 and to the assets and liabilities of the Club at 30th September 2003.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Cisteoir

VINCENT FARRELLY, Cathaoirleach

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

CEANNÁRAS CLUB LOUNGE

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 30th September 2003

	2003	2002
	€	€
SALES	301,345	314,728
COST OF SALES	149,681	157,501
GROSS PROFIT	151,664	157,227
EXPENSES		
Administration	38,135	31,601
Staff Costs	72,465	73,604
Premises	22,377	22,984
Financial	2,233	3,466
	135,210	131,655
NET OPERATING PROFIT	16,454	25,572
Club Subsidy	1,325	519
NET PROFIT	17,779	26,091
Contributions	(10,359)	(6,348)
Opening Deficit	11,671	(8,072)
Closing Surplus	19,091	11,671

BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 2003

	2003	2002
	€	€
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	10,119	10,729
Debtors	4,832	1,883
Cash at bank and in hand	27,942	25,410
	42,893	38,022
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade creditors	13,945	17,611
Other creditors	8,177	7,140
Accruals	1,689	1,600
	23,802	26,351
NET CURRENT ASSETS	19,091	11,671
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	19,091	11,671
<i>Represented by:</i>		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	19,091	11,671

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 2003.

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 2003 and to the assets and liabilities of the Club at 30th September 2003.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIROC, Cisteoir

VINCENT FARRELLY, Cathaoirleach

TORTHAI 2003

60 x 30

SS: Tom Sheridan (Meath) dft Walter O'Connor (Meath) 21-6, 21-15

SD: Tom Sheridan, Walter O'Connor (Meath) dft Tommy Hynes, Colin Keeling (Wexford) 21-5, 21-12

IS: Wicklow (Michael Gregan) dft (Tyrone) Niall Kerr 21-4, 21-12

ID: Wicklow (Michael Gregan, Pat Quaile) dft Tyrone (Niall Kerr, Stephen Clarke) 21-3, 21-7

JS: Tipperary (Adrian Johnson) dft Tyrone (Conor Kerr) 21-13, 21-8

JD: Roscommon (Aengus Cunningham, Dara Rogers) dft Offaly (Conor O'Brien, Noel Murphy) 21-18, 17-21, 21-17

MS: Tipperary (Ger Coonan) dft Roscommon (Damien Martin) 21-19, 21-18

MD: Roscommon (Damien Martin, Rikki O'Gara) dft Wicklow (Jason Doyle, Richie Walshe) 21-6, 21-2

U21S: Mayo (Joe McCann) dft Wexford (Jimmy Goggins) 21-16, 21-7

U21D: Wexford (Myles Cash, Jimmy Goggins) dft Mayo (Joe McCann, Brian Heraty) 21-15, 21-10

JBS: Cork (Colm Jordan) dft Roscommon (Neil McDermott) 21-18, 21-18

JBD: Kilkenny (Michael Maher, Colm Love) dft Cavan (Paul Fitzpatrick, Eddie Halligan) 21-11, 21-5

MAS: Kilkenny (Billy Bourke) dft Sligo (Francis McCann) 21-5, 21-7

MAD: Sligo (Francis McCann, Michael Porter) dft Kilkenny (Philly Parsons, Johnny Brennan) 21-10, 21-8

MBS: Wexford (Pechelli English) dft Sligo (Martin Golden) 21-11, 21-20

MBD: Kildare (John Carroll, Stephen Carroll) dft Antrim (Thomas Maguire, Pat Maguire) 21-11, 21-13

SMAS: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) dft Limerick (Tom O'Brien) 21-1 21-10

SMAD: Wexford (Tony Breen, Jimmy Goggins) dft Mayo (Pádraig Geraghty, Seamus Clarke) 21-10, 21-16

SMBS: Mayo (John Granahan) dft Cork (Seán Daly) 21-5, 21-12

SMBD: Mayo (John Granahan, John Staunton) dft Cork (Seán Daly, Jack O'Brien) 21-20, 21-15

GMAS: Mayo (Martin Cronin) dft Dublin (Eugene Kennedy) 21-5, 21-7

GMAD: Dublin (Eugene Kennedy, Vinnie Farrelly) dft Mayo (Martin Cronin, Matt Coady) 21-5, 21-8

GMBS: Dublin (Neville Farrelly) dft Monaghan (Michael McCarron) 21-10, 21-13

GMBD: Dublin (Neville Farrelly, Richard Downey) dft Roscommon (James Coughlan, Tom Cunniffe) 21-2, 21-13

EMAS: Clare (John Kirby) dft Mayo (Tom Derrig) 21-5, 21-3

EMAD: Clare (John Kirby, Dan Kirby) dft Cavan (Greg Sheridan, Patsy Hand) 21-14, 21-6

EMBS: Cork (Dan O'Brien) dft Mayo (John Kenny) 21-14, 21-3

EMBD: Dan O'Brien, Tony Buckley (Cork) dft Tim Hughes, Seán Ryder (Mayo) 21-7, 21-5

DMAS: Mayo (Seán Heaney) dft Waterford (Mossy Butler) 21-18, 17-21, 21-17

DMAD: Waterford (Mossy Butler, Declan Mulcahy) dft Mayo (Seán Heaney, Matt Greer) 21-7, 16-21, 21-15

DMBS: Mayo (Dave Macken) dft Kilkenny (Johnny O'Mara) 21-18, 21-11

DMBD: Galway (Tadhg Ó Curraidhín, Colm Ó Cualain) dft Kerry (Carl Burkett, Declan Ryan) 21-15, 21-8

HARDBALL

SHS: Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Dara Ward (Kildare) 21-1, 21-6

JHS: James Doyle (Limerick) dft Pat O'Donnell (Wicklow) 21-4, 16-21, 21-18

JHD: Pat Conway, Oliver Conway (Galway) dft Niall Kerr, Conor Kerr (Tyrone) 21-9, 21-13

MHS: Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Brian Carroll (Meath) 21-10, 21-15

40 x 20

SS: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Tony Healy (Cork) 21-6, 21-18

SD: Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Cavan) dft Tom Sheridan, Walter O'Connor (Meath) 21-5, 17-21, 21-5

IS: Wexford (Barry Goff) dft Armagh (Charly Shanks) 7-21, 21-17, 21-17

ID: Mayo (Campbell Brennan, Vincent Moran) dft Wexford (Paul Carty, Barry Goff) 17-21, 21-16, 21-6

JS: Offaly (Conor O'Brien) dft Mayo (Ollie Cassidy) 21-15, 21-15

JD: Tipperary (Des Kelly, Michael Carroll) dft Antrim (Dominic Caddell, Anthony Caddell) 21-9, 21-12

MS: Meath (Brian Carroll) dft Roscommon (Damian Martin) 6-21, 21-4, 21-10

MD: Roscommon (Damian Martin, Rikki O'Gara) dft Waterford (Michael Browne, John Kindregan) 21-7, 21-10

U21S: Mayo (Joe McCann) dft Wexford (Myles Cash) 15-21, 21-10, 6-0 M Cash retd injd

U21D: Antrim (Owen McKenna, Kevin Holmes) dft Cork (Brendan Fleming, Niall Fleming) 21-9, 15-21, 21-18

JBS: Tipperary (Jason Tobin) dft Roscommon (Neil McDermott) 21-12, 16-21, 21-18

JBD: Wicklow (James Gregan, Anthony Sheridan) dft Antrim (Stevie Brady, Kevin McPartland) 21-5, 17-21, 21-5

MAS: Galway (Eamon Conneely) dft Kilkenny (Billy Bourke) 1-21, 21-12, 21-19

MAD: Antrim (Billy Silcock, Stevie Madden) dft Kilkenny (Martin Lalor, Philly Parsons) 21-12, 21-12

MBS: Antrim (Thomas Maguire) dft Dublin (Frank Daly) 21-7, 21-18

MBD: Antrim (Brendan Rainey, Paddy Gault) dft Clare (Pat Donnellan, John Cawley) 21-17, 21-15

SMAS: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) dft Cork (Pat Morris) 21-12, 16-21, 21-19

SMAD: Wexford (Tony Breen, Jimmy Goggins) dft Mayo (Kevin Geraghty, Martin Cronin) 21-17, 21-18

SMBS: Carlow (Martin Clancy) dft Mayo (John Granahan) 21-12, 21-20

SMBD: Tipperary (Michael Gleeson, Gerry Spillane) dft Antrim (Seamus Collins, Tom Smith) 16-21, 21-7, 21-14

GMAS: Dublin (Eugene Kennedy) dft Tyrone (John McCullagh) 21-9, 21-6

GMAD: Dublin (Eugene Kennedy, Vinny Farrelly) dft Monaghan (Michael McCarron, Michael Todd) 21-16, 21-18

TORTHAÍ 2003 (continued)

- GMBS: Dublin (Neville Farrelly) dft Galway (Noel Rigney) 21-2, 21-7
- GMBD: Dublin (Neville Farrelly, Richard Downey) dft Galway (Noel Rigney, Ollie Burke) 21-10, 21-13
- EMAS: Clare (John Kirby) dft Galway (Morgan Darcy) 21-9, 21-6
- EMAD: Clare (John Kirby, Dan Kirby) dft Roscommon (Pat Clarke, Noel Raftery) 21-17, 21-2
- EMBS: Cork (Dan O'Brien) dft Antrim (Tommy Shannon) 21-5, 21-3
- EMBD: Cork (Dan O'Brien, Tony Buckley) dft Galway (Pádraig Ó Conghaile, Pádraig Ó Fatharta) 21-10, 21-4
- DMAS: Mayo (Seán Heaney) dft Cork (Pat O'Brien) 21-8, 21-20
- DMAD: Mayo (Seán Heaney, Michael Reilly) dft Cork Pat O'Brien, Sam Tanner) 21-14, 13-21, 21-13
- DMBS: Kerry (Carl Burkett) dft Roscommon (Brian Kilcommins) 21-7, 21-15
- DMBD: Galway (Tadhg Ó Curraidhín, Colm Ó Cualáin) dft Kerry (Carl Burkett, Declan Ryan) 21-8, 21-4

LADIES 60 x 30

- JS: Donegal (Tracy Floyd) dft Mayo (Lorraine McHale) 21-9, 21-8
- JD: Mayo (Lorraine McHale, Noelle Ruddy) dft Donegal (Tracy Floyd, Gina McGowan) 21-14, 21-1
- JBS: Tipperary (Marian Coleman) dft Galway (Emer Raftery) 21-11, 21-20
- JBD: Tipperary (Marian Coleman, Cliona Collins) WO Kilkenny (Gráinne Hughes, Mary Murphy) Scr Inj
- MS: Kerry (Maria Daly) dft Tyrone (Lisa McAleer) 21-2, 21-5
- MD: Kerry (Maria Daly, Sandy McSwiney) dft Roscommon (Emer Coyle, Nicola Kelly) 21-2, 21-2

LADIES 40 x 20

- SS: Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Fiona Healy (Kildare) 21-6, 21-5
- SD: Fiona Shannon, Sibéal McKenna (Antrim) dft Maria Daly, Sharon Daly (Kerry) 21-12, 21-11
- JS: Dublin (Maria McCarthy) dft Donegal (Laura Gillespie) 21-5, 21-2
- JD: Dublin (Maria McCarthy, Claire Devlin) dft Galway (Karen Finnegan, Lena Connaughton) 21-16, 21-18.
- JBS: Kilkenny (Mary Murphy) dft Tipperary (Cliona Collins) 21-3, 21-3
- JBD: Dublin (Maria McCarthy, Claire Devlin) dft Galway (Karen Finnegan, Lena Connaughton) 21-16, 21-17
- MS: Kerry (Maria Daly) dft Tyrone (Lisa McAleer) 21-6, 21-7
- MD: Kerry (Maria Daly, Sandy McSwiney) dft Roscommon (Emer Coyle, Nicola Kelly) 21-13, 21-8

60 x 30 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Junior B: Clogh**, Kilkenny (Micheal Maher, Andrew Lawlor, Colm Love, William Love) dft **St Coman's**, Roscommon (Chris Doolin, Niall McGrath, David Hannon, Neil McDermott) 131-50
- Junior: Ballina**, Tipperary (John McQuaide, John Lee, Martin McInerney, Michael Gleeson) dft **Williamstown**, Galway (Paul McHugh, Oliver Conway, Paddy Connaughton, Alan Tierney, Miles Connaughton) 105-63

- Open: Kells**, Meath (Peter Reilly, Tom Sheridan, Francis Carroll, Carl Browne, Brian Carroll) dft **Ballaghaderreen**, Mayo (Dessie Keegan, Vincent Moran, Joe McCann, Paul Flynn, Campbell Brennan) 90-89

40 x 20 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Junior B: St Coman's**, Roscommon (Chris Doolin, Niall McGrath, Shane Hennelly, Neil McDermott) dft **Ballydesmond**, Cork (Donnacha O'Dea, Joseph O'Keeffe, Michael Murphy, Dave Stack) 106-98
- Junior: Ballaghaderreen**, Mayo (Ollie Cassidy, Kevin Geraghty, Tony Groarke, Brian Tansey, James Towey) dft **Arklow**, Wicklow (Pat O'Donnell, Eamonn Rice, John Quinn, Ned Kealy) 126 - 123
- Open: Kingscourt**, Cavan (Paul Brady, Micheal Finnegan, Raymond Cunningham, Patrick Finnegan) dft **Kells**, Meath (Carl Browne, Tom Sheridan, Donnacha Maguire, Brian Carroll) 107-88

BUACHAILLÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Tyrone (Brian Donaghy) dft Clare (Anthony Fahy) 15-8, 15-11
- U14D: Carlow (Martin Doyle, Colm Quigley) dft Leitrim (Emmett Mahon, Martin Rafferty) 15-3, 15-1
- U15S: Clare (Cathal Hannon) dft Mayo (Shane Heraty) 21-6, 21-7
- U15D: Kilkenny (Stephen Shortt, Kirk Greene) dft Cavan (Paddy Brady, Raymond Cullivan) 21-19, 21-8
- U16S: Westmeath (Robert McCarthy) dft Antrim (Michael Turley) 21-3, 21-6
- U16D: Wicklow (Christopher Doyle, Jerome Willoughby) dft Tyrone (Pádraig McGlinchey, Darragh Daly) 21-4, 16-21, 11-4
- U17S: Donegal (Mark Marley) dft Wexford (David Kenny) 21-7, 17-21, 11-9
- U17D: Tyrone (Pearse McKiernan, Kevin Slane) dft Kilkenny (Diarmuid Brennan, Ricky Nolan) 21-19, 21-16

CAILÍNÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Antrim (Aisling Reilly) dft Kilkenny (Marie Therese O'Neill) 15-3, 15-5
- U14D: Kerry (Sharon Twomey, Brenda Carmody) dft Tyrone (Karen Kelly, Kerri Grimes) 15-8, 15-2
- U15S: Clare (Louise Hayes) dft Roscommon (Denise Ward) 21-7, 21-20
- U15D: Tipperary (Eva McKeogh, Ciara McCarthy) dft Roscommon (Deirdre Donohue, Katie Costello) 1-21, 21-16, 11-5
- U16S: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) dft Donegal (Marie Heeron) 21-1, 21-5
- U16D: Kilkenny (Claire Love, Anne Marie Hawe) dft Mayo (Alma Geraghty, Rachel Gibbons) 21-14, 21-19
- U17S: Kilkenny (Loretta Murphy) dft Tyrone (Una Toner) 21-10, 21-7
- U17D: Mayo (Sarah Corley, Stacey Roache) dft Kilkenny (Sarah Laffort, Emer Skehan) 11-21, 21-14, 11-8

BUACHAILLÍ 60 x 30

- U14S: Tyrone (Brian Donaghy) dft Tipperary (Fergal Collins) 11-15, 15-14, 15-1
- U14D: Carlow (Martin Doyle, Colm Quigley) dft Roscommon (Nigel O'Dowd, Thomas Morgan) 15-10, 15-7

TORTHAÍ 2003 (continued)

- U15S: Kilkenny (Nicholas Anthony) dft Tyrone (Conor Duff) 21-2, 21-6
 U15D: Kilkenny (Patrick Nolan, Kirk Greene) dft Mayo (Dara Reid, Steven Ryder) 21-1, 21-3
 U16S: Westmeath (Robert McCarthy) dft Tyrone (Pádraig McGlinchey) 21-1, 21-2
 U16D: Wexford (Niall Maher, Paddy Berry) dft Galway (Steven Ryan, Daniel Connaughton) 21-2, 21-9
 U17S: Kilkenny (Mark Nolan) dft Roscommon (Cian Dowling) 13-21, 21-6, 11-2
 U17D: Kilkenny (Diarmuid Brennan, Ricky Nolan) dft Mayo (Ronan O'Malley, Shane Heraty) 21-5, 21-6

CAILÍNÍ 60 x 30

- U14S: Roscommon (Marianna Rushe) dft Kilkenny (Marie Therese O'Neill) 15-13, 15-6
 U14D: Kerry (Brenda Carmody, Sharon Twomey) dft Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Deirdre Donohue) 15-9, 15-10
 U15S: Mayo (Lorraine Cronin) dft Laois (Ciara Dowling) 21-15, 21-10
 U15D: Tipperary (Eva McKeogh, Ciara McCarthy) dft Mayo (Ethna McHale, Leona Pryal) 21-14, 21-16
 U16S: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) dft Roscommon (Katie Costello) 21-15, 21-10
 U16D: Kilkenny (Claire Love, Ann Marie Hawe) dft Mayo (Rachel Gibbons, Alma Geraghty) 15-21, 21-14, 11-1
 U17S: Laois (Aisling Behan) dft Mayo (Olivia Kilbane) 21-8, 21-8
 U17D: No Championship

CUMASC GAEL LINN

- An Corn:** Baile Mhic Ealgóid, Ciarraí (Sharon Twomey, Cian Counihan) dft An Cúl Buí, Cill Mhantáin (Shauna Hilley, Gary Donohue) 53-20
Sólás: Loch Mhic Ruairí, Tír Eoghain (Gráinne McKernan, Paul Donnelly) dft Trálí Fitzgerald Jones, Ciarraí (Claire Fitzgerald, Damian Healy) 45-9

60 x 30 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Under 12/13 Team of Six:** Limerick (CJ Fitzgerald, Seán Dillon, Séamus O'Carroll, Aidan Frawley, John Noonan, Pádraig O'Carroll) dft Mayo (Lee Cummins, Shane Scott, Darragh Ruane, Dean Galvin, Alan Burke, Shane McDermott, Niall Burke, Ian McLoughlin) 57-42
Under 14/15 Team of Six: Kilkenny (Nicholas Anthony, Eamonn Foley, Kirk Greene, Ciaran Neary, Patrick Nolan, Niall Mulally, Eoin Ryan) dft Waterford (James Phelan, Owen McCullagh, John Walsh, David Walsh, David Power, Anthony Butler, Conor Moloney) 74-53
Under 16/17 Team of Four: Limerick (Christopher Enright, Tom Davern, Christopher Noonan, Lawrence Browne, Joe Birmingham, Eoin Lyons) dft Dublin (Robet Farrelly, Jonathan Farrell, Gerard Martin, Derek Farrelly, Niall Callaghan, Steven Nolan) 46-43

Cailíní Under 16

- Team of Four:** Ballymacelligott, Kerry (Brenda Carmody, Caitríona Casey, Lisa Falvey, Ashley Prendiville, Maedbh Prendiville, Sharon Twomey) dft St Coman's, Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costello, Deirdre Donohue, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Ellen O'Keeffe) 90-68

Cailíní Under 13/17 Inter Provincial:

Munster (Sharon Twomey, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Maedbh Prendiville, Brenda Carmody, Lisa Falvey, Caitríona Casey, Ashley Prendiville, Karen Lawlor, Karen Collins, Sarah Flavin, Siobhan Lehane, Fiona Ní Chatháin) dft **Connacht** (Leona Doolin, Tracy Fahy, Hilary Rushe, Niamh Connaughton, Katie Costello, Ellen O'Keeffe, Marianna Rushe, Lisa Ryan, Kerry McNulty, Sarah Corley) 135-71

40 x 20 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- U12/U13 Team of Six:** Tyrone (Paul Donnelly, Conor Donnelly, Conor Grugan, Ruairi Loughran, Caolan Daly, Seán McVeigh) dft **Clare** (Alan Leamy, Sam Edbroke, Diarmuid Nash, Trevor Vaughan, Jerry Cooney, James McMahon) 84-49
U14/U15 Team of Six: Kilkenny (Patrick Nolan, Gavin O'Keeffe, Eamonn Foley, Niall Mulally, Ciaran Neary, Darren O'Dwyer, Stephen Conway, Eoin Ryan) dft **Tyrone** (Niall Toner, Cormac McMullen, Conor Duff, Niall Fox, Darren Dixon, Michael McKiernan) 87-27
U16/U17 Team of Four: Wexford (Paul Lambert, Colin Edwards, Edward Connors, Seán Flood) dft **Monaghan** (James Gavigan, Lee Conlon, Colin Donnelly, Eamonn Todd) 53-51

Cailíní U16 Team of Four Round Robin

- : **Ballymacelligott**, Kerry (Caitríona Casey, Sharon Twomey, Brenda Carmody, Ashley Prendiville, Maedbh Prendiville, Hazel Prendiville) 242
 : **Ballina**, Tipperary (Karen Collins, Ciara McCarthy, Eva McKeogh, Anne Marie Ryan, Natasha Moroney) 170
 : **St Coman's**, Roscommon (Katie Costello, Marianna Rushe, Deirdre Donohue, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Edel Finnegan) 136

Cailíní U13/17 Inter-Provincial

Munster (Sharon Twomey, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Brenda Carmody, Fiona Ní Chathain, Karen Lawlor, Caitríona Casey, Ashley Prendiville, Sarah Flavin, Sandy McSwiney, Karen Collins, Ciara McCarthy, Sinéad Long) dft **Connacht** (Hilary Rushe, Leona Doolin, Marianna Rushe, Deirdre Donohue, Katie Costello, Denise Ward, Alma Geraghty, Rachel Gibbons, Nicola Kelly, Sarah Corley, Tracy Fahy, Emma Flatley) 89-62

FÉILE NA nGAEL

- Boys 40 x 20 Division 1:** Loughmacrory, Tyrone (Brian Donaghy, Conor Duff, Paul Donnelly, Seán O'Kane, Conor Donnelly) dft **Naomh Pól**, Antrim (Seán McCorry, Gerard McVeigh, Aisling Reilly, Dermot McVeigh, Ciaran Duffy) 39 - 36
Skills Winner: Eamonn Foley, Kells, Kilkenny
Runner-up: Conor Duff, Loughmacrory, Tyrone

- Boys 40 x 20 Division 2:** Naomh Mhuire, Kildare (James Byrne, Darren O'Hara, Dylan McDonald, Eoin Brady, Ciaran Walsh) dft **Kells**, Meath (Gary McConnell, Jamie Browne, Conor McManus, Declan Clarke, Karl Rodgers) 45-31
Skills Winner: Martin O'Neill, Coolboy, Wicklow
Runner-up: Emmett Mahon, Fenagh, Leitrim.

Boys 40 x 20 Division 3: Tinryland, Carlow (Matthew O'Toole, Cian Clancy, Colm Nolan, Martin Deane, David Townsend) dft **Tydavnet**, Monaghan (Daniel McNally, Niall McKenna, Pádraig McKenna, Donal McMahon, Conor Hamill) 42-13

Skills Winner: Donal McMahon, Tydavnet, Monaghan
Runner-up: Cian Clancy, Tinryland, Carlow

Girls 40 x 20 Division 1: St Coman's, Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Deirdre Donohue, Ellen O'Keeffe) dft **Naomh Mhuire**, Leixlip, Kildare (Stephanie O'Neill, Caroline Lynch, Aileen Quinn, Joanna Timmons, Karen Prior, Marie Flaherty) 42-17

Skills Winner: Marianna Rushe, St Coman's, Roscommon
Runner-up: Kerri Grimes, Loughmacrory, Tyrone.

Girls 40 x 20 Division 2: An Ghaeltacht, Ciarraí (Fiona Ní Chatháin, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Eilis Ní Luíng, Siobhán Ní Choncuir, Ashling Ní Luíng) dft **Templeudigan**, Wexford (Niamh Murphy, Amanda Kelly, Sandra Kelly, Fiona Holohan, Michelle Boland) 42-15

Skills Winner: Aimee Jordan, Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty, Waterford
Runner-up: Niamh Murphy, Templeudigan, Wexford

Boys 60 x 30 Division 1: Ballina, Tipperary (Fergal Collins, Donal Kent, Eoin Kent, Darragh Hardy) dft **Garryhill**, Carlow (Pádraig Ryan, Michael Mullins, Adam Kenny, Deni Joe O'Regan, Kevin Hogan) 40-20

Skills Winner: Fergal Collins, Ballina, Tipperary

Runner-up: Michael Mullins, Garryhill, Carlow

ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

BOYS 60 x 30

JS: Pádraig McGlinchey (Omagh CBS) dft Patrick Nolan (Kilkenny CBS) 21-15, 21-15,

JD: Darragh Reid, Ciaran Burke (Rice College, Westport) dft John Walsh, James Phelan (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-16, 21-1

IS: Chris Doolin (Roscommon CBS) dft Conor Cooney (St Joseph's Tulla) 20-21, 21-12, 11-7

ID: Richie Hogan, Kirk Greene (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) dft Jason O'Brien, David Hickey (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-13, 21-8

SS: Rikki O'Gara (St Joseph's College, Garbally) dft Michael Breathnach (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-6, 21-10

SD: Michael Browne, Patrick Hurney (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) dft David Kenny, Mark Mythen (St Peter's College, Wexford) 21-15, 21-9

GIRLS 60 x 30

JS: Ashley Prendiville (Presentation, Tralee) dft Deirdre Donohue (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) 21-14, 21-3

JD: Marianna Rushe, Katie Costello (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Caitriona Casey, Lisa Falvey (Presentation, Tralee) 21-14, 20-21, 11-10

SS: Lisa McAleer (Omagh Technical College) dft Aisling Behan (Presentation, Carlow) 21-16, 21-3

SD: Nicola Kelly, Emer Coyle (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Karen Collins, Anne Marie Ryan (St Anne's, Killaloe) 21-19, 21-7

BOYS 40 x 20

JS: Niall Maher (Enniscorthy CBS) dft Pádraig McGlinchey (Omagh CBS) 21-14, 21-11

JD: Kirk Greene, Stephen Shortt (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) dft (Ciaran Burke, Shane Heraty (Rice College, Westport) 18-21, 21-17, 11-8

IS: Brian Carroll (Kells CS) dft Michael Turley (St Colman's Newry) 21-3, 21-4

ID: Chris Doolin, Stephen Mannion (Roscommon CBS) dft David Kenny, Diarmuid Smyth (St Peter's College, Wexford) 21-10, 21-20

SS: Damien Martin (Roscommon CBS) dft Gerry Kane (Presentation De La Salle, Bagenalstown) 21-10, 21-17

SD: John O'Keeffe, Niall O'Neill (St Joseph's, Tulla) dft Fintan Gamble, Gerard McGrath (St Mary's CBGS, Belfast) 21-9, 18-21, 21-17

GIRLS 40 x 20

JS: Lisa McAleer (Dean McGurk College, Carrickmore) dft Karen Lawlor (Mount Hawk, Tralee) 21-6, 21-5

JD: Ashley Pendiville, Lisa Falvey (Presentation, Tralee) dft Marianna Rushe, Deirdre Donohue (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) 21-10, 21-5

SS: Maria Daly (Presentation, Castleisland) dft Nicola Lambe (Glenamaddy CS) 21-6, 21-7

SD: Nicola Kelly, Emer Coyle (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Gina McGowan, Marie Herron (St Colomba's, Stranorlar) 21-9, 21-7

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS 40 x 20

JS: Pearse McKiernan (Dean Brian McGurk School, Carrickmore) dft Jerome Willoughby (Carnew VS) 21-14, 21-20

JD: Conor Daly, Niall Loughran (Dean Brian McGurk School, Carrickmore) dft Stephen Conway, Gavin O'Keeffe (Scoil Earagail, Ballyhale) 21-13, 21-10

SS: Robert McCarthy (Mullingar CC) dft Micheal Donnelly (Dean Brian McGurk School, Carrickmore) 21-1, 21-8

SD: Killian Gregan, Christopher Doyle (Carnew VS) dft: Marcus Hannick, Kevin McCabe (Lacken Cross VS): 21-6, 21-6, 21-8

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 60 x 30

Men's A: Noel McHugh (SIT) dft Patrick Finnegan (UCD) 15-5, 15-8

Ladies A: Maria Daly (UCC) dft Sharon Daly (UL) 15-3, 15-2

Men's B: Donnacha Maguire (UL) dft Steven Cass (UL) 15-3, 15-8

Men's C: Eugene O'Reilly (DCU) dft Dermot Reynolds (DIT) 15-9, 15-10

Men's A Team: SIT (Noel McHugh, Joe McCann, Damian Martin, Niall McGrath) dft NUIG (Neil McDermott, Pat Conway, Ollie Conway, Brendan Fleming) 90-46

Men's B Team: DIT (Dermot Reynolds, Darren Flynn, Patrick Cahill, Ronan Costello) dft SIT (Chris Rudden, Adrian Vahey, Philip Devine, Damian Jordan) 90-56

TORTHAÍ 2003 (continued)

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 40 x 20

- Men's A:** Eoin Kennedy (DCU) dft Ricky McCann (UUJ) 21-14, 12-21, 11-6
- Men's A Plate:** Joseph McCann (SIT) dft Ryan Daly (QUB) 21-7, 21-7
- Women's A:** Suzanne Gartland (QUB) dft Fiona Healy (DIT) 21-12, 21-12
- Men's B:** Paul Murray (LYIT) dft Jonathan Westlake (DIT) 21-15, 21-11
- Men's B Plate:** Joseph O'Keefe (CIT) dft Eddie Halligan (Cavan Technical College) 21-14, 21-15
- Women's B:** Dorothy Cassidy (DIT) dft Ailish McCartan (DIT) 21-4, 21-10
- Men's C:** John Burns (QUB) dft Shane Hennelly (DCU) 27-24,
- Men's A Team:** QUB (Darren Donnelly, Ryan Daly, Charly Shanks, Mark McCullough) dft DIT (Kevin Downes, Dessie Keegan, Paul Fitzpatrick, Mark McGowan, Pádraig Gaffney) 114-110
- Men's B Team:** QUB (John Burns, Darren McRory, Fergal McConville, Emmet Clarke) dft DIT (Jonathan Westlake, Conor McGinnity, Pádraig Cahill, Seamus Heffernan) 114-109

USHA COLLEGIATES

- Men's Open S:** Dessie Keegan (DIT) dft Emmet Peixoto (USA) 14-21, 21-4, 21-4
- Men's A S:** Ryan Daly (QUB) dft Brian Ault (USA) 21-18, 21-15
- Men's B S:** David Tormey (NUIG) dft Liam Reidy (USA) 21-17, 5-21, 21-10

DIT finished second in the team placings.

FBD IRISH NATIONALS

- Men's Open:** Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Ricky McCann (Antrim) 21-11, 21-18
- Women's Open:** Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Sibéal McKenna (Antrim) 21-11, 21-12
- Men's B:** Shane Dormer (Laois) dft Dara Ward (Kildare) 21-6, 21-11
- Men's C:** Daniel Armstrong (Antrim) dft Mark McGowan (Donegal) 21-9, 21-19
- Masters A:** Billy Bourke (Kilkenny) dft Billy Silcock (Antrim) 21-6, 21-17
- Masters B:** Gerard Walsh (Roscommon) dft Martin Clancy (Carlow) 21-18, 21-15
- Golden Mas. B:** Seamus Hussey (Tyrone) dft Paddy Murray (Dublin) 21-3, 21-12
- Boys 19 & U:** Joseph McCann (Mayo) dft Noel McHugh (Galway) 21-11, 21-20
- Boys 17 & U:** Ger Coonan (Tipperary) dft Brian Carroll (Meath) 15-21, 21-8, 11-7
- Girls 17 & U:** Maria Daly (Kerry) dft Nicola Kelly (Roscommon) 21-2, 21-3
- Boys 15 & U:** Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Paddy Berry (Wexford) 21-10, 21-20
- Girls 15 & U:** Aisling Reilly (Antrim) dft Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) 21-8, 21-16

ONE-WALL NATIONALS

- Boys U14:** Caolan Daly (Tyrone) dft Conor Grogan (Tyrone) 15-12, 15-3

- Boys U16:** Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Darragh Daly (Tyrone) 15-12, 15-8
- Boys U18:** Chris Doolin (Roscommon) dft Philip McKeon (Monaghan) 15-4, 15-6
- Girls U14:** Siobhán Gilligan (Longford) dft Leona Doolin (Roscommon) 15-10, 15-4
- Girls U16:** Sinéad Sheridan (Longford) dft Ruth Kelly (Galway) 15-7, 15-5
- Masters:** Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Michael Porter (Sligo) 15-13, 15-3
- Golden Mas:** Richard Willoughby (Wicklow) dft Tony McInerney (Galway) 15-9, 15-13
- Diamond Mas:** Round Robin Winner Nicholas Clancy (Galway)
- Men's C:** Donnacha Maguire (Meath) dft Darren Flynn (Longford) 14-15, 15-10, 11-10
- Men's B:** James Doyle (Limerick) dft Robert Willoughby (Wicklow) 15-5, 15-6
- Men's Open:** Carl Browne (Meath) dft Vincent Moran (Mayo)

USHA Nationals

- Men's Open:** John Bike (California) dft Tony Healy (Cork) 21-20, 20-21, 11-3
- Women's Open:** Lisa Fraser (Canada) dft Fiona Shannon (Antrim) 21-13, 21-9
- B Singles:** Shane Dormer (Laois) dft Vince Martinez (California) 21-10, 21-9
- B Doubles:** John Stoffel, Mike Wells (Minnesota) dft Neil McDermott, Ger Coonan (Roscommon/Tipperary) 21-5, 21-20
- C Singles:** Neil McDermott (Roscommon) dft Tyrrell Russell (North Carolina) 21-19, 21-13

USHA JUNIORS

- Boys 19&U D:** Noel McHugh, Johnny Willoughby (Galway/Wicklow) dft Seán Lenning, Luis Moreno (Washington/Arizona) 21-15, 21-10
- Boys 17&U S:** Robert McCarthy (Ireland) dft Brian Carroll (Meath) 21-18, 21-17
- Boys 15&U S:** Richard Hogan (Ireland) dft Luis Moreno (Arizona) 21-15, 21-17
- Boys 15&U D:** Richard Hogan, Joey Peterson (Ireland/Iowa) dft Evan Brown, Conor Casey (Oregon) 21-3, 21-9
- Boys 11&U D:** Brant Bidegain (California) dft Keith Kavanagh (Wicklow) 21-6, 21-7
- Girls 19&U S:** Round Robin: Courtney Peixoto (California) dft Maria Daly (Ireland) 21-14, 21-16, dft Katie Sedgwick (Illinois) 21-12, 21-8, dft Tina Apolinario (California) 21-4, 21-16; M Daly dft K Sedgwick 21-2, 21-2, dft T Apolinario 21-0, 21-1; K Sedgwick dft T Apolinario 21-10, 21-1
- Girls 19&U D:** Round Robin: Maria Daly, Aisling Reilly (Ireland) dft Courtney Peixoto, Tina Apolinario (California) 21-1, 21-12; dft Karen Lawlor, Katie Sedgwick (Kerry/Illinois) 21-4, 21-5; dft Aimee Ulbert, Stephanie Makos (Illinois) 21-7, 21-0; dft Lindsey Sotomayor, Crystal Diaz (California) 21-2, 21-1
- Girls 15&U S:** Aisling Reilly (Ireland) dft Karen Lawlor (Kerry) 21-10, 21-6

TORTHAÍ 2003 (continued)

WORLD HANDBALL CHAMPIONS 2003

ONE-WALL

Men's Open Singles:	Herman Mendez (USA)
Men's Open Doubles:	Herman Mendez, Willie Polanco (USA)
Women's Open Singles:	Anna Calderon (USA)
Women's Open Doubles:	Anna Calderon, Melody Ruiz (USA)
Masters Singles:	Paul Williams (USA)
Masters Doubles:	Chris Roberts, Vern Roberts (USA)
Golden Singles:	Dennis Uffer (USA)
B Singles:	Iker Exteberria (Basque Country)
B Doubles:	Ander Martin, Mikel Gonzalez (Basque Country)
Girls 13 & Under:	Sharon Twomey (Kerry)
Girls 15 & Under:	Marie Therese O'Neill (Kilkenny)
Girls 19 & Under:	Na Liu (USA)
Boys 13 & Under:	Evan Brown (USA)
Boys 15 & Under:	Darragh Daly (Tyrone)
Boys 17 & Under:	Gary McCrory (Tyrone)
Boys 19 & Under:	Victor LoPierre (USA)

FOURWALL

Boys Events

13 & U Singles:	Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick)
13 & U Doubles:	Fergal Collins, Seamus O'Carroll (Tipperary/Limerick)
15 & U Singles:	Richard Hogan (Kilkenny)
15 & U Doubles:	Paddy Berry, Martin Doran (Wexford)
17 & U Singles:	Robert McCarthy (Westmeath)
17 & U Doubles:	Robert McCarthy, John O'Shaughnessy (Westmeath)
19 & U Singles:	Noel McHugh (Galway)
19 & U Doubles:	Noel McHugh, Johnny Willoughby (Galway/Wicklow)

Girls Events

13 & U Singles:	Sharon Twomey (Kerry)
13 & U Doubles:	Shauna Hilley, Stephanie Makos (Wicklow/USA)
15 & U Singles:	Aisling Reilly (Antrim)
15 & U Doubles:	Karen Lawlor, Sharon Twomey (Kerry)
17 & U Singles:	Eimear Ní Fhallúin (Kildare)
17 & U Doubles:	Eimear Ní Fhallúin, Sinéad Gallogly (Kildare)
19 & U Singles:	Maria Daly (Kerry)
19 & U Doubles:	Maria Daly, Joy Smith (Kerry/Meath)

Men's Events

Open Singles:	Paul Brady (Cavan)
Open Doubles:	Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Cavan)
A Singles:	Michael Gregan (Wicklow)
A Doubles:	Raymond Cunningham, Barry Goff (Cavan/Wexford)
B Singles:	Pat O'Donnell (Wicklow)
B Doubles:	Pat Conway, Ollie Conway (Galway)
C Singles:	Tom Connors (Wexford)
C Doubles:	Finbarr Rafferty, Alan O'Dwyer (Cork)
40 Singles:	Dan Armijo (USA)
40 Doubles:	Chris Roberts, Vern Roberts (USA)
40 B Singles:	Gerard Walsh (Roscommon)
40 B Doubles:	John Carroll, Stephen Carroll (Kildare)
45 Singles:	Tim Sterrett (USA)

45 Doubles:	Roger Berry, Rick Anderson (USA)
50 Singles:	Roger Berry (USA)
50 Doubles:	Mike Bock, Kelly Russell (USA)
50 B Singles:	Seamus Hussey (Tyrone)
50 B Doubles:	Chris Kilday, Scott Dutton (USA)
55 Singles:	Ernie Virgili (USA)
55 Doubles:	Mike Kelly, Alan Sherrill (USA)
60 Singles:	Vic Di Luzio (Australia)
60 Doubles:	Bill Flowers, Gary Rohrer (USA)
60 B Singles:	John Lenoir (USA)
60 B Doubles:	George Kelley, Sanford Robbins (USA)
65 Singles:	Jim Economides (USA)
65 Doubles:	Ed Grossenbacher, Mike Driscoll (USA)
70 Singles:	Kevan DelGrande (USA)
70 Doubles:	Kevan DelGrande, Pat O'Keeffe (USA/Waterford)

Women's Events

Open Singles:	Fiona Shannon (Antrim)
Open Doubles:	Lisa Fraser, Jessica Gawley (Canada)
B Singles:	Stefanie Vanderpool (USA)
B/C Doubles:	Angela Lyons, Sarah Corely (Kildare/Mayo)
C Singles:	Angela Lyons (Kildare)
50 Singles:	Debbie Forrester (USA)

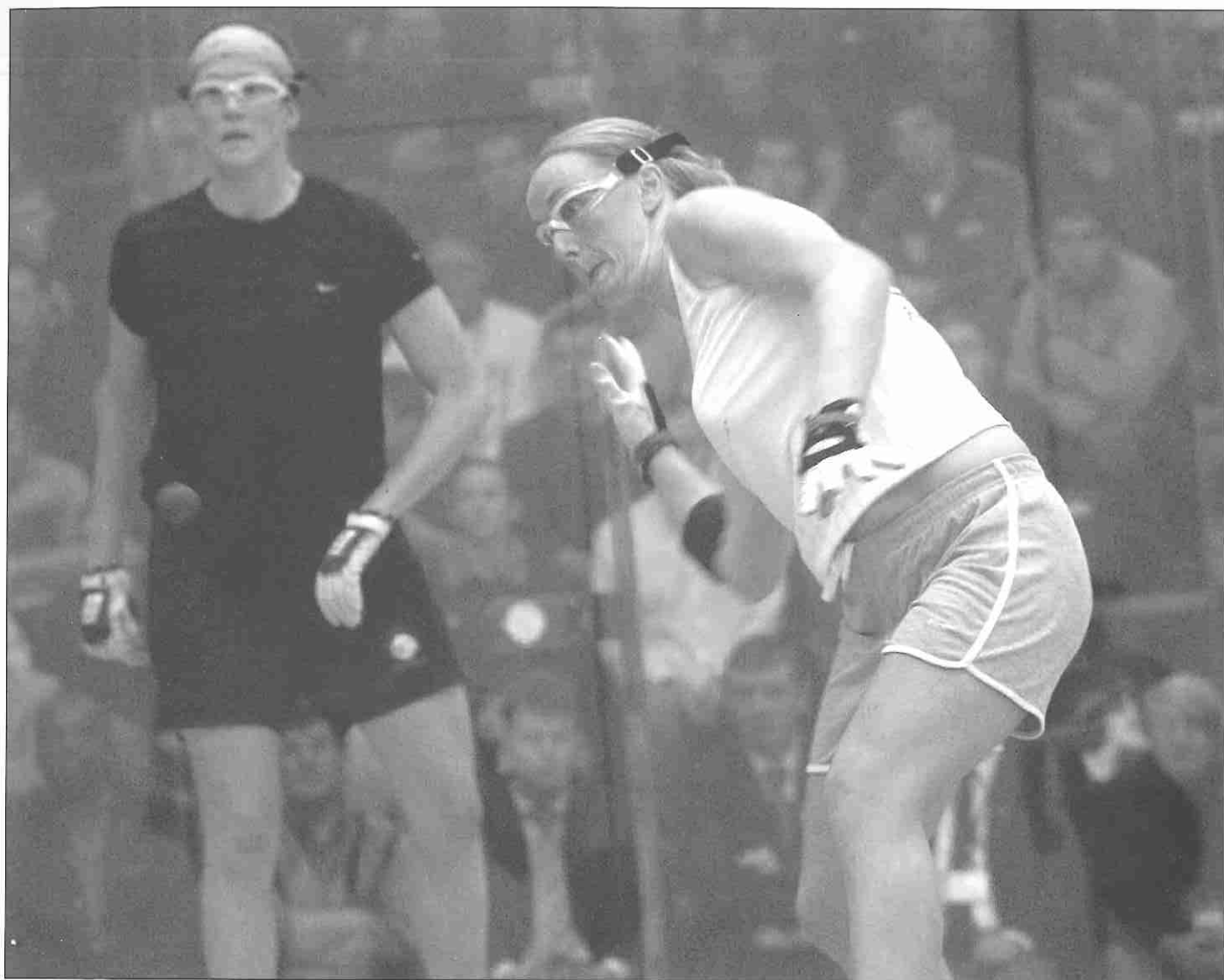
LEINSTER OPEN 40 x 20 2002

Men's S:	Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Ricky McCann (Antrim) 16-21, 21-11, 11-4
Ladies S:	Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Sibéal McKenna (Antrim) 21-16, 21-6
Men's B/C D:	Ian Griffin, Christy Donnelly (Dublin) dft Stephen Clarke, Barney Corcoran (Tyrone) 21-5, 21-5
Masters D:	Martin Lalor, Philly Parsons (Kilkenny) dft Jerry Guiney, Chris Hurley (Cork) 21-13, 21-15
Boys 15 & U:	Patrick Hogan (Kilkenny) dft Richard Hogan (Kilkenny) 21-14, 15-21, 11-10
Girls 15 & U:	Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) dft Anne Marie Hawe (Kilkenny) 21-10, 21-10
Boys 17 & U:	Brian Carroll (Meath) dft Ger Coonan (Tipperary) 21-17, 21-15
Girls 17 & U:	Nicola Kelly (Roscommon) dft Emer Coyle (Roscommon) 17-21, 21-13, 11-4



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Action from the World Women's Open Singles Final between Lisa Fraser and Fiona Shannon.



Sisters Sibeal McKenna and Fiona Shannon with Stephen Byrne, Enable Facilities Management after the World Open Doubles final.



Tony Hayes, President IHC with Jessica Gawley (left) and Lisa Fraser, winners of the Open Doubles.