



Comhairle LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE na hÉireann

An Chomhtháil Bhliantúil
2005





Winners of FBD Handball Awards for 2003 pictured at Cabra Castle, Co. Cavan, with Mary O'Reilly, Area Sales Manager with sponsors FBD, and Tony Hayes, Uachtarán, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann..



Pictured on his way to winning the 2004 Coca-Cola All-Ireland 60 x 30 Intermediate Doubles title is Mayo's Joe McCann.



Eoin Kennedy, St Brigid's Club, Dublin, pictured with his Vodafone Handball Player of the Year Award at a ceremony in the Westin Hotel, Dublin.



Michael Ducksy Walsh of Kilkenny is recognised by Uachtarán CLG Seán Ó Ceallaigh for his lifetime achievement in handball.



Pictured at their final training session in Croke Park before departing for the 2004 USHA Juniors in Des Moines, Iowa are members of the Tele2 Irish Junior Handball Team, with Sara Eriksson, Marketing Manager, Tele2. From L to R: Brian Carroll, Meath; Gary McConnell, Meath. Sara Eriksson, Tele2; Robert McCarthy, Westmeath; Maria Daly, Kerry; Aisling Reilly, Antrim.

Tionólfar Comhdháil Bhliantúil 2005

Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

AR AN SATHARN, 2 AIBREÁN ag 5.30 i.n.

AGUS AR AN DOMHNACH, 3 AIBREÁN ag 10.00 r.n.

san

ROYAL HOTEL, BRÍ CHUALAINN, CO. CHILL MHANTÁIN

CLÁR OIBRE

1. Fáiltiú
2. Addresses of Invited Guests
3. Adoption of Standing Orders
4. Minutes of Comhdháil 2004
5. Report of Riarthóir Náisiúnta
6. Annual Accounts 2004
7. Motions
8. Oráid an Uachtaráin
9. Inauguration of Uachtaráin Nua.
10. Oráid an Uachtaráin Nua
11. Elections
 - Cisteoir
 - Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle
12. Close of Congress

AINMNIÚCHÁIN

Uachtarán: Tomás Breathnach.

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí (Muigheo, Aontroim, Ceatharlach, Tiobraid Árann, Sligeach)

Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle CLG: Peadar Mac Artúir (Muigheo, Aontroim, Sligeach)

STANDING ORDERS

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

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

TUARASCÁIL AN RIARTHÓRA NÁISIÚNTA

RÉAMBRA

Following the exceptionally busy World Handball Championship year of 2003, the year under review was a very successful one for Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann: a wide range of national and provincial competitions was completed, the Task Teams got into action and the Council appointed a Handball Promotion Administrator who has responsibility for promotion, publicity and sponsorship. At the end of the year the handball office moved to level six on the Cusack Stand which is a much more presentable location for the sport's headquarters.

Among the highlights of 2004 were:

- The achievement of DIT Club in becoming the first College from outside the USA to win the USHA Collegiate Team Championship
- The success of Paul Brady in winning the Ultimate Handball Showdown in the USA
- The increased participation of Third Level College players in both 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 championships
- Eoin Kennedy's achievement in winning the FBD Nationals Men's Open for the third successive year as well as the 60 x 30 and Hardball Senior Singles titles
- Increased funding from the GAA and the sponsorship of some of our main events
- Better publicity for the game on TV and in the national press
- The progress of Ulster handballers in claiming five of the top seven places in the 40 x 20 Rankings

The year was not without its negative points and it must be recorded that

- There was a low level of entries in some of the ladies competitions and a lack of development in ladies handball – apart from a small number of Clubs
- There was a low return of basic information requested from Clubs for the handball database
- There is a serious lack of regular meetings in many counties and Clubs
- The standard of refereeing still leaves a lot to be desired
- A small number of competitions were not held due to lack of entries and there were three walkovers in All-Ireland finals
- The High Court case before the Coca-Cola All-Ireland Senior Softball doubles final took from one of the premier events of the year

National Competitions

Ard Chomhairle organised 188 competitions in 2004 while there were 18 events in three Provincial Opens and four Vocational Schools Championships, as outlined in the accompanying table. This level of activity places administrators at all levels of the organisation under a lot of pressure with entries to be taken, fixtures schedules to be drawn up, venues to be organised, publicity generated and communications to be established, not to mention the rescheduling of matches due to various factors

which arise from time to time. Very often the same people are involved in general administration as well as fixtures.

This cannot be allowed to continue or the organisation will suffer; it will become increasingly harder to attract new people into administration and those already involved may become tired and lack the enthusiasm to continue at the pace at which they operate at present.

The 108 Singles and Doubles championships at adult and juvenile level in 60 x 30, 40 x 20 and hardball were shared by 23 counties. Mayo topped the list with 13 titles; Roscommon and Kilkenny followed with 11 victories each. Cork took seven All-Irelands, Kerry, Tyrone and Wicklow won six while Dublin, Meath, Galway and Limerick each won five titles. Kildare, Wexford and Waterford each won four and Cavan and Tipperary secured three apiece. Westmeath, Antrim and Armagh all had two wins and Offaly, Clare, Down and Monaghan had one victory each

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND RANKING TOURNAMENTS 2004

Competition	MALE		FEMALE		MIXED	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Juvenile	Total
60 x 30	32	8	3	8	-	51
40 x 20	32	8	6	8	-	54
Hardball	3	-	-	-	-	3
Team	6	6	-	4	-	16
Gael Linn	-	-	-	-	1	1
Féile na nGael	-	4	-	2	-	6
Second Level	-	16	-	8	-	24
Third Level	10	-	3	-	-	13
Irish Nationals	5	3	2	3	-	13
One Wall	6	2	1	2	-	11
Opens	11	3	2	2	-	18
TOTAL	105	50	17	37	1	210

60 x 30 Championships

Eoin Kennedy from the St Brigid's Club in Dublin won his second 60 x 30 All-Ireland Senior Singles title when he defeated Barry Goff, Wexford, 21-17, 21-16 in a very sporting contest. After a week of controversy involving a High Court case, Meath's Tom Sheridan and Walter O'Connor won their fourth Senior Doubles title in five years when they were too good for Michael Ducksy Walsh and Eugene Downey who were making a comeback after a year's absence from the competition, 21-19, 21-7.

Mayo's Joe McCann had an excellent double in the Intermediate grade winning the Singles 18-21, 21-2, 21-16 over Niall Kerr of Tyrone and, with Campbell Brennan, outpointing Kerr and Ciarán Meenagh 21-5, 21-15 in Doubles. Robert McCarthy of Westmeath continued his fine run of success when he took both Minor titles defeating Waterford's Patrick Hurney in two games in Singles and, with John O'Shaughnessy, outscoring Hurney and John Kindregan 21-12, 21-9 in Doubles.

The Junior Singles medal went to Noel Murphy of Offaly who had an excellent 17-21, 21-17, 21-11 win over James Doyle of Armagh who was unfortunate to be ill on the night. Patrick Buckley and Colm Jordan of Cork advanced to Intermediate ranks by defeating Dublin's Christy Donnelly and Ian Griffin 21-8,

21-12 in Junior Doubles. Damien Martin from the St Coman's Club in Roscommon had a nice double at Under 21 winning the Singles over Michael Browne of Waterford 21-7, 21-2 and, partnered by Rikki O'Gara, taking the Doubles at the expense of Donnacha O'Dea and Joseph O'Keeffe of Cork 21-5, 21-12. Ollie Cassidy of Mayo won the Junior B Singles All-Ireland, 21-8, 21-16 over Ken Burke of Limerick while the Doubles medals went to Clare brothers Declan and Liam Frawley, 21-12, 21-9 against Shane Bruen and Kevin Meehan of Sligo to record their county's only All-Ireland success in 2005.

Bourke The Master

Billy Bourke of Kilkenny won both Masters A titles with victories over Cork in singles and, with Martin Lalor, defeating Tipperary in doubles. The Masters B Singles went to Jimmy Holden of Kilkenny who was too good for Kieran Bourke of Limerick while Paddy Reilly won the EMAS medal with a third game victory over Dan O'Brien of Cork. He and Seamus Reade were victorious in the EMAD final in a tight 21-12, 21-20 final against Tipperary.

Eugene Kennedy won yet another All-Ireland partnered by Vinny Farrelly in the GMAD final against Billy McCarthy and Pakie Mullins of Tipperary, 21-13, 21-9. John Boy Molloy and Francis Carroll of Meath had a good win in the SMAD final versus Seamus and Tom Morrissey of Tipperary on a 21-14, 21-12 scoreline. Mayo players had success in three Masters grades: Kevin Geraghty defeated Tom O'Brien of Limerick 21-16, 21-16 in the SMAS final, Martin Cronin was successful 21-11, 18-21, 21-18 against Martin Sandford of Waterford and John Kenny had a walkover in the EMBS event.

Richie Cullen and Fintan Doyle of Wexford proved too good for Cavan in the MBD final while in SMBS Martin Conneely of Galway had a good win over Limerick's Donal O'Connor in three games. Monaghan took the SMBD title, Martin McEntee and Peter Larkin proving too good for Mayo's Michael Heraty and Jim Sheridan. John Frazer of Limerick had a successful softball season winning both singles and doubles at the expense of Dublin and Roscommon opponents respectively. Mossie Butler of Waterford and Sean Heaney from Mayo renewed rivalry in the DMAS final with victory going to the Déise man, 21-13, 20-21, 21-17. However, he was on the wrong end of the result in doubles when he and Declan Mulcahy had to give way to Paddy Lee and Paddy Lennon of Wicklow. Michael Jordan of Cork had a good double in the Diamond B events with victories over Kilkenny in singles and, with Jim Kennedy, over Galway opposition in doubles. The EMBD All-Ireland went to Willie Mugan and John Heneghan of Roscommon who received a walkover from Waterford.

40 x 20 Championships

Fourteen counties took honours in the 40 x 20 court with Mayo winning six titles and Cork and Galway winning four each. The championships threw up the usual top class fare, especially in the premier grades with pride of place going to the Senior Singles final in which Tony Healy regained the title from Paul Brady, 17-21, 21-5, 21-20 in a gripping contest at O'Loughlins in which he had to call on all his mental and physical reserves to achieve victory in a splendid contest. Paul had consolation in doubles when he and Michael Finnegan – who was superb on the right – retained their title defeating Tommy Hynes and Colin Keeling of Wexford 21-7, 11-21, 21-10.

Ulster's good run of 40 x 20 successes continued in the Intermediate grade when Charly Shanks, Armagh, atoned for his 2003 loss to Barry Goff by defeating Joe McCann of Mayo

21-18, 21-19 in singles and he and James Doyle took gold in doubles with a 21-8, 21-14 win over Gavin Buggy and Paul Carty of Wexford.

Double for Westmeath

Robert McCarthy achieved another double, this time at Minor level winning the singles title 21-10, 21-15 over Ger Coonan of Tipperary and with John O'Shaughnessy taking the doubles with a 21-6, 21-16 victory over Waterford's Patrick Hurney and John Kindregan.

Ollie Cassidy got his year off to great start winning the Junior Singles final against Jerry Guiney of Cork while the Junior Doubles was won by Galway brothers Ollie and Pat Conway, 21-17, 21-11 against Danny Healy and John Flynn of Cork, just reward for the input of Williamstown Club to handball over the years.

Johnny Willoughby of Wicklow took the honours in Under 21 Singles winning 21-12, 21-18 against Mark McGowan of Donegal who was also on the losing side in doubles when he and Paul Murray went down to Cormac Smyth and Miles Cash of Wexford 21-11, 21-9. Finbarr Rafferty of Cork doubled in Junior B, 21-9, 19-21, 21-8 against Michael Maher from Clogh, Kilkenny and with Alan O'Dwyer defeating Wicklow brothers Michael and Jimmy Lennon 2-18, 17-21, 21-7.

Billy Bourke once again proved his pedigree by winning in singles and doubles in the Masters A grade, Stevie Madden of Antrim his victim in singles in two straight games. The Kilkenny man was partnered by Johnny Brennan to win doubles 21-7, 21-8 against Brendan Rainey and Paddy Gault of Antrim.

Mayo take five Masters

Kevin Geraghty of Mayo won the first of his SMAS medals in the 40 x 20 final against Antrim's Billy Silcock 21-9, 21-10 but the Antrim man gained a doubles medal partnering Thomas Maguire when they outscored Benny Doyle and Johnny Goggins of Wexford 21-18, 21-20 in a very well contested match. Mayo players had four other Masters wins: John Staunton and John Granahan defeated Limerick's Jack Dillon and Donal O'Connor in SMBD and in the EMAD final Seamus Clarke and Matt Coady were too good for Greg Sheridan and Patsy Hand from Cavan. Seán Heaney had a great double in the Diamond A grade winning the singles final 21-15, 21-17 against Jimmy Walsh of Clare and with Michael Reilly defeating Mossie Butler and Declan Mulcahy of Waterford 21-9, 21-12 in doubles.

Cork's Pat Morris won the GMAS final 21-19, 21-17 against Tony Breen of Wexford to bring his county's softball medal haul to four for 2004. Roscommon's Ger Walsh secured gold in the SMBS final against Mike Kelly of Clare and in the GMAD event Tony Hannon and P.J. Moran, Roscommon, defeated Paddy Duffy and Jim McAllister of Antrim. The GMBD All-Ireland went to Sonny Sheil and Billy Rossiter of Wexford who were too good for Tipperary's Jim Quinn and Gary Howard 15-21, 21-18, 21-15. Morgan Darcy of Galway was again in the winner's enclosure as he tied up the EMAS title with a fine win over Seamus Graham of Antrim in three games. Noel Rigney, also from Galway, won the EMB Double, the singles against P.J. Counihan of Clare 18-21, 21-8, 21-16 and the doubles with Ollie Burke against P.J. Counihan and Donal Fleming, again in three games.

Pat Donagh of Cavan had a good 60 x 30 season winning in singles, 21-14, 21-16 against Paddy Donovan of Laois and teaming up with Andrew Clarke to defeat John Joe Farragher and Brendan McNeela of Galway 15-21, 21-8, 21-13 in doubles. Seamus Hussey of Tyrone came good after many years of effort to annex an All-Ireland defeating Tony McInerney of Galway in

the GMBS final. Kildare's only title in adult 60 x 30 went to Eamonn Deegan who won out at the expense of Tommy Shannon of Antrim 21-10, 21-18.

Dan McCartan won his first All-Ireland handball medal to add to his three football celtic crosses when he and Des McNeill had a good 21-18, 21-15 win over Séamus Ó Fatharta and Peter Mulryan, Galway.

Handball Championships

The entry level for the All-Ireland handball championships was disappointing and only three competitions were held. The worst feature was that there was no minor championship which should be the seedbed for the future of the code. If the game is to survive, there should be a lot more promotion of handball at Club and county level; people need to take it seriously and give some priority to it. When there are no other handball events of any kind anywhere in the country can we justify playing three or four competitions for the sake of it? However, handball has a long and established tradition and its value should not be underestimated or discarded lightly; the onus is on those who say there is a future for the game to promote it and to get enough players involved to have meaningful championships.

Eoin Kennedy demonstrated his ability by winning the Senior Singles All-Ireland medal for the second time defeating Dessie Keegan of Mayo 21-10, 21-11. Wicklow's Pat O'Donnell had a fine double at junior level taking the singles title 21-17, 19-21, 21-12 over Paul Flynn of Mayo to make up for his defeat in the 2004 final and, with Ned Kealy, winning in doubles against Paul Flynn and James Towey, 14-21, 21-11, 21-10.

Ladies Championships

It was the most disappointing year for some time in the ladies championships with only nine of a possible 16 events held, three in 60 x 30 and six in 40 x 20 and two of the finals were not contested and walkovers were given. The low level of entries is due to several factors among them illness, family reasons and moving away from the club area. There is good interest in the game at juvenile level and competition is very keen up to minor but it is really difficult to keep players involved after that. The same Clubs seem to be doing the work all the time and there are few new developments in ladies handball. However, participation in the Cumann na mBunscol events should provide a platform for additional Clubs to promote handball for girls.

Provincial Councils and County Committees must take a strong lead in promoting the sport and provide more opportunities for girls to play and compete. One of the problems facing ladies handball is the small number of players in the various age groups and grades. There are too few to have competitions in some counties and the organisation must ensure that we can organise events which will keep everybody playing in regional competitions where there is little possibility of local events being held.

Eimear Ní Fhallúin of Kildare won three minor All-Irelands; she took the 40 x 20 singles crown with an excellent win over Lisa McAleer of Tyrone who avenged that defeat when she and Nadine Kelly overcame Eimear Ní Fhallúin and Sinéad Gallogly in the doubles. The Kildare pair won the 60 x 30 doubles All-Ireland when they proved too strong for Karen Collins and Anne Marie Ryan of Tipperary 21-14, 21-8. Eimear Ní Fhalluín also took gold in the 60 x 30 Minor Singles final with an easy victory over Caitriona Casey from Kerry. Cliona Collins from Tipperary won the 60 x 30 JBS All-Ireland defeating Loretta Murphy of Kilkenny 21-7, 21-8.

Susan Keegan of Dublin had a very worthwhile double in 60 x 30 with wins over Derry in Junior B Singles and Doubles with Tracy Hutchinson. Róisín O'Hagan was the finalist in singles and Edel McIvor and Fionnuala Ní Thuatain went down in doubles. There were two uncontested finals: Maria Daly took Kerry's first ever 40 x 20 All-Ireland Senior Singles title when Fiona Shannon of Antrim was unable to play due to illness and Patricia Doyle, Wicklow, had a walkover in the Junior 60 x 30 Singles final.

Juvenile Boys Championships

The standard of skill, commitment, dedication and endeavour was maintained at a very high level in the juvenile boys championships. We had many excellent displays of top class handball and the prospects are that this will continue into the top adult grades in the future. Great credit is due to the coaches and mentors who look after our young players and put so much time and effort into developing juveniles. It is a great pity that some Clubs have no juveniles at all and one must ask what the future holds for these Clubs: they have a responsibility to promote and organise handball for young people and to ensure that the facilities which generations past have put in place will continue to be used into the future.

Doubles for seven

Seven players achieved notable doubles in the juvenile championships where pride of place must go to Seamus O'Carroll and CJ Fitzpatrick of Limerick who won the Under 14 Doubles titles in both courts defeating Mark O'Dwyer and Niall Smith of Kilkenny 15-8, 15-8 in 60 x 30 and Niall Smith, again, and Dean Wilson of Kilkenny in 40 x 20. Nicholas Anthony from Nore side won the Under 16 60 x 30 Singles final proving too strong for Eoin Cahill of Limerick in straight games and he teamed up with Patrick Nolan to defeat Anthony Fahy and Darren Cullinan from the Banner county in 40 x 20 doubles.

Having lost their first game on each occasion, Waterford's Jason Healy and David Power went on to claim the gold medals in both Under 15 Doubles finals their victims being Ciarán Neary and Eamonn Foley, 10-21, 21-17, 11-8 in 60 x 30 and Colm Nolan and Shane Redmond of Carlow, 17-21, 21-4, 11-4 in 40 x 20. Brendan Burke from Kilkenny reaped rich reward for all his years of development when he took both Under 17 All-Irelands with victories over Brian Devlin of Tyrone in 60 x 30 and Clare's Conor Cooney, 21-14, 19-21, 11-9 in 40 x 20.

Tyrone Victories

Tyrone's Conor Duff was the proud winner of both Under 15 titles defeating Micheál Mullins, Carlow, in 60 x 30 and Nigel O'Dowd from Roscommon in 40 x 20. The O'Neill county also achieved success at Under 16 Singles in 40 x 20 when Padraig McGlinchey was too strong for Richie Hogan of Kilkenny and that county won in Under 16 60 x 30 Doubles with Brian Donaghy and Conor Grugan in fine form against Patrick Nolan and Kirk Greene in a marvellous contest which ended 20-21, 21-17, 11-10.

Two of Ireland's best young players, Fergal Collins, Tipperary, and Garry McConnell of Meath met in the two Under 14 All-Irelands with the spoils shared after excellent games: the Premier county man took gold in 40 x 20 on a 15-14, 15-9 scoreline while the Meathman was best in 60 x 30, 15-12, 15-7. The Coolboy partnership of Jason Doyle and Jerome Willoughby brought yet another All-Ireland to the Garden County when they defeated David Hickey and Michael Brennock of Waterford in

the Under 17 60 x 30 Doubles event. Wexford's only juvenile victory was at Under 17 in the 40 x 20 court when Michael Berry and Paul Lambert outscored Colin Donnelly and Michael Todd of Monaghan 21-7, 21-18.

Juvenile Girls Championships

The juvenile girls championships were once again dominated by Kerry and Roscommon, each county winning six titles. At Under 14 level Sharon Twomey was victorious over Wicklow's Shauna Hilley in both courts, with the 40 x 20 final going to 7-15, 15-7, 15-4.

Leona Doolin and Hilary Rushe were unstoppable in Under 14 Doubles defeating Kerry's Edel Murphy and Maedbh Prendiville in 40 x 20 and Maedbh Prendiville again and Ciara Ní Shé in 60 x 30. Deirdre Donohue of Roscommon took double gold in the Under 15 Singles with a walkover from Cork in 60 x 30 and defeating Fiona Ní Chatáin from Kerry in 40 x 20.

Ashley Prendiville of Kerry won two Under 16 medals, the 60 x 30 Singles against newcomer Leona Archibald from Westmeath and the 40 x 20 Doubles partnered by Karen Lawlor against Marianna Rushe and Katie Costello of Roscommon. The St Coman's pair won the Under 16 40 x 20 Doubles medals with an exciting 19-21, 21-15, 11-10 scoreline against Karen Lawlor and Lisa Falvey of Kerry. Roscommon's other victory was in Under 17 60 x 30 Doubles when Ellen O'Keeffe and Edel Finnegan defeated Laura Keevers and Susan Lonergan from Waterford 21-6, 21-7. Kerry took the Under 15 40 x 20 Doubles All-Ireland, Eabha Ní Rinn and Siobhán Ní Chonchúir getting the better of Mayo's Eithne McHale and Leona Pryal 9-21, 21-17, 11-4. The westerners had consolation in 60 x 30 winning the Under 15 title against Fiona Holohan and Niamh Murphy of Wexford 21-16, 21-6.

Antrim Supreme in Under-16

Aisling Reilly of Antrim reigned supreme once more in the Under 16 40 x 20 Singles event winning out at the expense of Joanne Logan from Leitrim in two games. The Under 17 40 x 20 Singles title went to Karen Collins, Tipperary, who outpointed Denise Walsh, Roscommon, and the corresponding 60 x 30 title went to Siobhán Lehane, Limerick, who defeated Olivia Kilbane of Mayo 12-21, 21-19, 11-9. Waterford had a notable success in the Under 17 40 x 20 Doubles final when Laura Keevers and Mary Ann Meehan had the better of exchanges with Anna Walsh and Laura Mannion, Roscommon, 21-13, 18-21, 11-2.

Juvenile Team Championships

The Juvenile Team Championships were again very successful demonstrating that these competitions are attractive for the players who have not won a provincial championship in any age group. There were some excellent contests but some were one-sided, even in All-Ireland semi-finals, and a lot more counties should be entering teams in the provincial championships. This would give more players the opportunity to represent their counties and give them very valuable experience of challenging new players from other places.

Carlow had a great year contesting four finals, winning two and being declared joint winners with Waterford in a third when there was confusion about the correct ball for the Under 16/17 40 x 20 final. The Barrow county defeated Kerry 87-64 in the Under 14/15 60 x 30 final to reverse the decision when the counties met in 40 x 20, Kerry winning 67-61.

Carlow got the better of Limerick in the Under 16/17 60 x 30 final, 56-32.

Kilkenny had double success in the Under 12/13 events winning 90-29 against Limerick in softball and accounting for Cork 86-36 in 40 x 20.

In the girls team events St Coman's of Roscommon and Ballymacelligott shared the honours in the Under 16 Club championship, the westerners winning the softball 97-86 and the Kerry team coming out on top in a round robin in 40 x 20 in which St Coman's were runners-up. Munster and Connacht had two marvellous outings in the Under 13/17 Girls Interprovincial series, the southerners taking gold on both occasions – 122-99 in 40 x 20 and 129-127 in 60 x 30 in a contest which could not have been much closer.

Club Championships

Some new names came to the fore in the Club Championships with Hospital from Limerick taking honours in Junior B 60 x 30 against Wexford's Castlebridge and Na Fianna coming back in force to win the Junior softball event over Ballydesmond, a Club which has always been very committed to these championships. The Open 60 x 30 title went to Ballaghaderreen whose increasing strength at top level is becoming more evident with more of their players progressing to senior status; their team were too good for Kells, 89-79 in the final.

Kells had success in the 40 x 20 Open final when they defeated Gort na Móna, 98-65 in Kingscourt. The Junior B victors were St Mary's from New Ross who defeated Conna from Cork, 97-79 in the final. St Coman's, Roscommon, another Club which is devoted to these Championships, took top honours in the 40 x 20 Junior final overcoming Ballina, 97-92 in a very exciting contest.

It is worth noting that there is very keen interest in the Junior B championship in particular and that the entries in all four provinces were encouraging. The same cannot be said about the Junior championship – although the entries are steady but should be much higher – nor of the Open events in either code. Entries for the Open championships are very scarce and the composition of the teams should be reviewed to see if more Clubs could enter under revised criteria.

Third Level Colleges

Interest in the Third Level Colleges Championships is at an all-time high with more players taking part every year. The addition of the 60 x 30 event to the calendar has provided a competition for players who might not otherwise have an opportunity to play softball due to being abroad during the summer holidays and keeps them involved in the code. It also winds down the softball season for others who have taken part in the provincial championships.

The 60 x 30 A Team gold went to the DIT team of Brian Carroll, Paul Fitzpatrick, Cormac Smyth and Mark McGowan who defeated SIT 89-68. UCD were winners in the B Team final against DIT's second string winning out 78-71 in a closely fought battle. Brian Carroll was on the winner's rostrum in singles following a really great encounter with team mate Cormac Smyth on a scoreline of 14-15, 15-9, 15-10. The Women's winner was Maria Daly of UCC who was too good for her sister Sharon from UL 15-6, 15-9. John Horgan, a Corkonian in UCD, won the Men's B final and the C singles gold went to Podge O'Brien representing DIT.

Thanks and appreciation to University of Limerick who undertook the organisation of the championships at Meath venues, and to Donnacha Maguire in particular who worked diligently to ensure the success of the event in the Royal County.

The 40 x 20 championships were held in Dublin and our thanks go to Padraig Gaffney who did a wonderful job in organising the schedule. Eoin Kennedy reigned supreme once again in the A Singles final with a 21-16, 21-10 victory over Dessie Keegan of DIT. The B title went to Joseph O'Keeffe of CIT who defeated his fellow countyman John Horgan, UCD.

James Clerkin of UCD was best in the C Singles grade defeating Eoghan Collins of DIT. Maria Daly again had the better of her sister Sharon in the Women's A Singles while Niamh Egan, DIT, took the Women's B medal at the expense of her colleague Laura Halligan, 34-30.

Sligo IT, led by Noel McHugh and Joe McCann swept to victory in the Men's A team championship with a good win over Queens while in the B equivalent UCD beat NUIG.

USHA Collegiates

As usual, a large contingent of Irish players and teams took part in the USHA Collegiate Championships in February. This annual exodus is the highlight of the Third Level Colleges year and is eagerly anticipated from one year to the next. The Irish have been making a major impact on the event and last year DIT became the first non-American College to win the coveted team title.

Following a sequence of five Irish victories in a row in the Open Singles beginning with Tony Healy in 1999, Dessie Keegan was unlucky to lose out to Emmett Peixoto in the final, 21-20, 19-21, 11-7 thus being deprived of an historic three in a row. Joe McCann and Noel McHugh made up for that reverse by winning the Open Doubles medals 21-10, 16-21, 11-8 against Americans David Munson and L Ruiz. Padraig Cahill and Connor McGinnity of DIT took the Men's B Doubles title against Lake Forest opponents.

All-Ireland Colleges

There was a very wide spread of Colleges in the boys All-Ireland finals in both codes, 12 in softball and 10 in 40 x 20 and a total of 17 in all in 12 finals. This is in marked contrast to the 1990s when only a handful of schools had any hope of success at a time when a player – and it did happen – could compete in all four competitions which were run at that time. In 2004 11 schools shared the 12 titles, St Kieran's of Kilkenny being the only one to win two All-Irelands, one in each code. Kirk Greene was the only winner of two medals as he took gold in Intermediate Doubles with Stephen Shortt in 60 x 30 and Richie Hogan in 40 x 20. It is significant that Leinster schools won six titles, Munster three, Connacht two and Ulster had one victory.

As in previous years, the participating schools reflected the work of the Clubs at juvenile level and it is always a measure of the activity in many areas. It is to be expected that the development of schools handball in Ulster will begin to pay dividends in the near future and that the province will be seen as a major force at All-Ireland level again.

Our thanks go to the Clubs which look after handball in and for schools and to those schools which make the effort to promote the sport and to facilitate their pupils in playing in the Colleges events. We need a much more concentrated effort on the part of schools to encourage the playing of handball: clubs and counties can play a vital role in this regard by liaising with teachers, especially the principals and games masters/PE teachers.

I must acknowledge the work done by the provincial schools handball organisers in contacting the schools, seeking entries and organising the competitions. This is not an easy task when faced by the demands of an overcrowded schools schedule and

the requirements made on pupils to play other games. I urge the organisers to ensure that competitions are run off in time to facilitate the making of the All-Ireland fixtures as it is far from satisfactory not to know the names of some provincial winners until two or three days before the fixture.

Cumann na mBunscol

Cumann na mBunscol personnel have been doing excellent work in many counties and 23 counties took part in the 2004 promotion. We are deeply grateful to them for their interest and appreciate the time and effort they put in to promoting and organising the county and provincial exhibition days. These culminate in National Days at Croke Park, one for boys and one for girls in the spring of each year.

The Primary Schools Handball Days are intended to give regional representatives an opportunity to play in Croke Park against pupils from other counties and provinces. This is not a knock-out competition and children are given a chance to play three games which would not be possible in a knock-out competition. During their visit to headquarters the pupils and their teachers/parents may avail of a complimentary visit to the GAA museum which is another highlight of their day.

It is important where Club or county handball personnel are involved in organising the promotional days at county level that they do so in conjunction with the Cumann na mBunscol officials. This must be so for insurance purposes and to ensure that the Cumann na mBunscol guidelines are strictly adhered to. It is also important that the pupils know they are not playing in a competition on the National Days and that they realise that it is meant to be an enjoyable fun day.

Lisa Mitchell, in cooperation with SRC, manufacturers and Macsports, distributors of the full range of handballs in Ireland, has been developing a Primary Schools promotion geared to provide handballs, promotional literature and coaching information to schools through the local Club structure. She has been compiling a database of schools contacts in each Club catchment area and will distribute the packs to Clubs for the schools. This will help establish and maintain links between the Club and the local schools and has the potential to benefit the Club in the short term and give a new impetus to the activities of every Club in the country. It is up to every Coiste Contae to monitor this initiative and to ensure that the promotional packs reach the schools through the Clubs. Any Club which does not avail of this promotion will be failing in its duty to help secure its own future and that of handball in general.

Féile na nGael

Féile na nGael Lár Tire was hosted for the second successive year by Kildare, Meath and Westmeath and our thanks are due to all the Clubs which facilitated the games and arranged accommodation for the visiting teams. All Clubs did a marvellous job in preparing for the event and in administering the programme and we thank those officials who took time out to look after the games.

Pat Ryan from the Naomh Mhuire Club in Leixlip once again took on the task of planning the whole event: he sought the entries, graded the teams, prepared content for the programme and distributed the equipment to the venues. He coordinated the results and liaised with the office on various matters in advance of Féile and afterwards. He was also a member of the Féile Organising Committee and represented handball very well at that level. The participating teams certainly owe him a great debt of gratitude for all his efforts to ensure that Féile was a major success.

FBD Irish Nationals

The FBD Irish Nationals were again very successful with over 230 entries in the 16 events from 13 and Under to Golden Masters. The entries in the juvenile sections were very pleasing and are a good indication of the interest in the game at that level. As in previous years, the early rounds were played at regional venues over one weekend and the final stages were hosted at Kingscourt where the organisation was superb. The Club is deserving of the highest praise for their efforts and can be satisfied that it has put handball on a new footing in Ireland.

The staging of so many matches under one roof created a marvellous atmosphere and handball patrons and supporters were treated to some great exhibitions of all that is best in the game over the weekend. This had not been possible in Ireland before the Kingscourt complex was developed and should give other Clubs the inspiration to do likewise.

Many of the All-Ireland champions in various grades were to the fore in the Nationals: Eoin Kennedy and Maria Daly took the honours in Open Singles while other All-Ireland winners who doubled were Cormac Smyth in Men's C, Pat Donagh in Masters B, Eimear Ní Fhallúin and Aisling Reilly in Girls 19 and Under and 15 and Under respectively and Robert McCarthy, Pdraig McGlinchey and Garry McConnell in the Boys 17, 15 and 13 and Under events.

The 2005 FBD Nationals are being organised in new format: the junior grades are being played down to finals at Kingscourt during Easter week and there will be a consolation event in any event in which there are sufficient entries. The junior finals and all games in the adult grades will be played over the May bank holiday weekend. It will be a worthwhile experiment and will be reviewed later to determine if it should be repeated. We acknowledge the sponsorship and support of FBD for the Nationals and appreciate the interest of Seamus McCormack, Sales Manager, in this promotion.

One-Wall Nationals

Coiste Chontae Shligigh hosted the One Wall Nationals in July and again did the players and organisation proud: this event has certainly become a regular feature in the handball calendar and is eagerly anticipated by many who have been attending the competition for several years. Sincere thanks to the Organising Committee and to Conell Cannon and John McLoughlin in particular who did Trojan work to ensure that everything went according to plan.

Dessie Keegan took the main title, the Men's Open, in a great battle with Carl Browne of Meath, 15-14, 15-10. Another Meath player, Brian Carroll, was the victor in Men's B when he was too good for his father Francis, 15-12, 15-9. In an all Tyrone Men's C final Darragh Daly won out against Michael Donnelly, 15-7, 15-13. The Ladies Open went to Marian Kennedy from the Williamstown Club in Galway who had a good tiebreak win against Maighréad Ní Riabhaigh-Ó Dúill from Armagh. Leona Doolin of Roscommon and Karen Lawlor of Kerry were best in the juvenile girls events while Caolán Daly (Tyrone) and Ciarán Burke (Mayo) won the Boys Under 14 and Under 16 titles respectively. Robbie McCarthy, Westmeath, Peter Larkin of Monaghan and Nikki John Clancy topped the table in the Masters grades.

Venues and Refereeing

Following the fire inspection at the Handball Ceannaras, one of the main concerns all Clubs must face is the requirement that

every venue must meet the legal standards in respect of fire and safety. These requirements have become much stricter over the years and as the vast majority of our courts were built before 1990, it must be a priority to review the facilities and to take the necessary steps to bring them up to standard. Every Club should get professional advice on managing this and ensure that fire and safety issues are dealt with as a matter of urgency.

It is encouraging that a small number of new courts are being developed each year and that others are upgrading their facilities. Every Club should assess its court/s and ancillary facilities and set out a plan to improve them on an ongoing basis. Standards that were acceptable in previous decades have fallen out of line and players deserve to play and spectators like to watch games in comfortable courts. The Facilities Task Team will be developing criteria for courts and can advise Clubs which are embarking on various improvements.

One of the trends in GAA Clubs is the erection of hurling courts which can also be used for handball, especially one wall. Some GAA County Committees are developing county complexes with several training pitches and other facilities and County Handball Committees should keep themselves aware of any such developments and try to ensure that they are planned to accommodate handball as well as other sports.

On behalf of the Handball Council and of our players I wish to acknowledge the enormous help given by the many voluntary officials throughout the country who officiate and take on the unenviable task of refereeing our games. Without them it would not be possible to undertake such a huge number of fixtures at national level: thanks to all who assisted in any way during 2004 to ensure that this was achieved.

There is an onus on anybody who referees games to know and understand the rules and to avail of any opportunity to take a refereeing course which is available to all counties and provinces under the guidance of Kit Finnegan from Cavan. Refereeing standards vary quite a lot and it is essential that all referees come up to the standard required as players deserve that respect. On the other hand, referees deserve the respect of players and spectators as they carry out a difficult job and get very little credit for their contribution to our games.

Coaching

The importance of good coaching cannot be overemphasised: it leads to good skill development, engenders the proper attitude to the game and provides players, especially the young, with achievable targets and objectives. Every Club should have a reasonable number of qualified coaches so that their players get a proper foundation in the skills of handball.

Many players do not recognise the need for ongoing coaching throughout their careers: some players grow out of the coaching mind-set in their teenage years but if they are to improve and develop their skills they should be coached to appreciate the benefits of ongoing coaching. Coaching of adult players is a feature of every sport and it is a vital ingredient if a player is to reach the top of the sport. In fairness to our top handballers, they do take coaching seriously but not enough players at other levels do so and they do not progress as they would with good coaching.

One of the essential components of all coaching courses is the inclusion of a session on the GAA code of Best Practice for Youth Sport. This course sets out in a very positive way the proper approach to caring for and guiding young people in our Clubs. Some people may be put off by the perception that it is about what not to do but the opposite is the case. Much of the content will already be familiar to everybody, and it is very much

a common sense approach, but it is good to hear the content and know that we can deal with players in a very constructive way.

International Events

The main international achievements of 2004 were Paul Brady's win in the Ultimate Handball Showdown in Seattle in February, the success of our Tele 2 team in winning seven golds at the USHA Juniors in December, Robert McCarthy's four USHA titles and Finbarr Rafferty winning the USHA C Singles in June.

In the USHA Boys 19 and Under Doubles Robert McCarthy and Brian Carroll proved too good for brothers Aaron and Allan Garner from San Antonio, 21-18, 21-19 in a Titanic battle. Brian was outpointed by Allan Garner in the 19 and Under Singles and Robert took the 17 and Under title with an excellent 21-8, 21-20 win over Aaron Garner. Maria Daly again proved her worth in winning gold in the Girls 19 and Under round robin and partnered by Aisling Reilly took a second gold in doubles. The Antrim girl made history by winning the Girls 15 and Under for the third successive year. In addition to the Irish team, Caolán Daly from Tyrone won the Boys 13 and Under title and was declared best newcomer to the USHA Juniors while Keith Kavanagh, Wicklow, won the 11 and Under co-ed event.

The Juniors is a marvellous experience for our young and promising players and we have now progressed beyond winning in those ages only: our top players have made a major impact in the US handball arena within the past decade, especially since 1999. They have all come through the Juniors and continued with their coaching programmes and we can be truly proud of their achievements: and they are excellent ambassadors for handball and our country as well as being exemplary role models for our younger players, a very necessary feature of any sport.

The Compromise Rules team of Eoin Kennedy, Dessie Keegan, James Doyle, Michael Gregan and Joe McCann represented Ireland in an international 'Davis Cup' style tournament against the Basque Country. The event consisted of Senior Singles and Senior and Under 22 Doubles games with the aggregate score deciding the winners. The huge court, although it was adapted somewhat to cater for the Irish, the weight and size of the ball and the absence of killshots – there is a one metre tell line above which the ball must be hit – militated against our players. Nevertheless, they put up a good show and had they had the benefit of more practice, they might have surprised the Basques.

Publicity and Awards

For many years we have been seeking more and better publicity for handball and the appointment of Lisa Mitchell as Handball Promotion Administrator has made a big impact in this area. As a media professional with a wide range of experience, she has brought a fresh approach to the preparation and presentation of information for the media. She has secured publicity for various aspects of the game on UTV, BBCTV, TG4 and RTE. Other promotions include contributions to various GAA and sports magazines, local and national radio and interviews with the press.

The amount of coverage of handball in the national and provincial papers is being monitored for the Council by a professional agency over a twelve month period so that we will be in a position to identify where improvements are needed. This is vital information in making approaches to potential sponsors and all units can play a significant part in this regard.

The publication of a player poster and a wall planner by the end of March, 2005 and the introduction of the Primary Schools promotion will add to the image of handball. Other initiatives

are planned in the future and will further enhance the profile of the organisation.

Our thanks and appreciation to those journalists and PROs who contribute regular articles to their local and national papers. It is only fitting to single out Tony McGee of the Irish News, Chris and Ciaran Curran of The Game and Michael McGee who writes in the Hogan Stand for their marvellous contributions. In addition, the launch of Daily Ireland has provided another major outlet for publicity. Peter Dennehy is the link with The Examiner and other papers in the south and we have many excellent county and Club PROs who can be relied on for weekly features in their areas. John McLoughlin provides an excellent results service for the Irish Independent: we appreciate all that he does to publicise the sport and we also thank Aidan Crowley for his coverage in the same paper.

Eoin Kennedy was recognised as the Vodafone Player of the Year for his outstanding achievements in 2004 and Robert McCarthy was named one of the Irish Examiner/TV3 Young Sportspersons of the Year. Aisling Reilly received the Ulster GAA Writers Merit Award for January and Maria Daly's list of awards was enhanced again last year. It is really important that our top players are rewarded and recognised for their contribution to the game and for providing so much enjoyment and entertainment for our supporters. This is also very important at county level and several counties, and Clubs, honour their stars in an annual awards presentation.

Yearbook

The Handball Council Yearbook 2004/2005 was published in December 2004 and covered the activities of the organisation for 2003 and 2004. It is a good record of a wide range of happenings including the World Championships of 2003 and a spread of international items as well as the usual events in Ireland.

As in previous years, not all counties and provinces contributed articles for the publication; this is a pity as all county and provincial units should ensure that their activities are recorded for posterity. I appeal to all concerned to make every effort to see that this is rectified in the future. It is also important that the Yearbook is distributed to all registered adult members as provided for in registration fees.

Our thanks to all those who contributed articles for the Yearbook and to people who forwarded photographs to complement them. I wish to pay particular tribute to the Editorial Committee of Tommy O'Brien, Owen McCann, Tom O'Connor and Michael McGee for their input: without their cooperation and expert help and it would not be possible to produce such an extensive compilation. I want to thank Tom Beirne and his excellent staff in The Kilkenny People who worked very hard to meet our deadlines and to produce a very presentable publication of which the organisation can be justifiably proud.

FBD Awards

The FBD Handball Awards for 2003 proved very successful and were presented at a function at the magnificent Cabra Castle, Kingscourt. This was the first time since the Awards were launched in 1994 that the presentations took place outside Croke Park and the move proved very popular as it coincided with the FBD Irish Nationals in Kingscourt, adding a very enjoyable social dimension to a weekend of frenetic handball activity.

The Awards recognise the achievements of a wide range of players and officials and reward them for their contribution to the sport in a variety of ways. It is important that we salute the coaches and officials as well as the players and those who have

graced the courts of Ireland and other countries in the past. It is also important that all winners attend the ceremony and acknowledge the contribution of our sponsors to the sport.

Tom McGarry of Limerick was the recipient of the Hall of Fame Award. He was the first man from his county to win All-Ireland Minor Softball Singles and Doubles All-Ireland titles and followed with a Junior Softball Doubles title in 1957 and Senior Doubles crowns in 1958 and 1959, all with Michael Mullins. It was fitting that the efforts and achievements of the Kingscourt Club in developing their new complex and in hosting over 200 games in the World Championships in 2003 were rewarded when Kit Finnegan took the Official of the Year Award and the Club was named Club of the Year. Liam Mahon from Goresbridge was also recognised for his contribution to the organisation and administration of the World Championships in the Kilkenny region when he received the Special Achievement Award.

The World Championships had a major influence on many of the award selections, the full list of winners as follows:

- **Young Player of the Year (Female)** – Maria Daly (Kerry)
- **Young Player of the Year (Male)** – Robert McCarthy (Westmeath)
- **Player of the Year (Female)** – Fiona Shannon (Antrim)
- **Player of the Year (Male)** – Tom Sheridan (Meath)
- **International Player of the Year** – Paul Brady (Cavan)
- **Masters Player of the Year** – Seán Heaney (Mayo)
- **Special Achievement** – Liam Mahon (Kilkenny)
- **Coach of the Year** – Connie Collins (Tipperary)
- **Official of the Year** – Kit Finnegan (Cavan)
- **Hall of Fame** – Tom McGarry (Limerick)
- **Club of the Year** – Kingscourt (Cavan)

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

Handball has received unprecedented financial assistance from Cumann Lúthchleas Gael over the past year. The Association increased the annual grant to CLLE from €70,000 to €100,000 for a three year period ending in 2007 and took up the full cost of the High Court case at almost €30,000. In addition, the GAA has advised on many handball matters at Management Committee level and reviewed plans and proposals regarding the upgrading of the Handball Centre at Croke Park.

Ba mhaith le Comhairle Liathróid Laimhe na hÉireann fíor-bhuíochas a ghabháil le hArd Chomhairle agus Coiste Bainistí CLG as ucht an tacaíocht sin atá riachtanach chun liathróid láimhe a chur chun cinn. Gabhaim buíochas faoi leith do Seán Ó Ceallaigh, Uachtarán CLG, a chabhraigh go mór linn i rith na bliana agus a bhí i láthair ag cluichí agus ar ócáidí eile.

Ár mbuíochas freisin don Ard Stiúrthóir, Liam Ó Maolmíchíl, as ucht a chabhair i 2004. Bhí sé ar fáil go minic le haghaidh cruinnithe agus chun comhairle a thabhairt ar réimse leathan de rudaí a bhaineann leis an cluiche. Gabhaimid buíochas, chomh maith, le foireann na hard oifige as ucht a dtacaíocht le linn na bliana seo chaite agus go speisialta le Ciarán Ó Néill a d'éirigh as a phost mar Bhainisteoir Árachais agus Dlí ag tús 2005.

John Greene from Longford has been the GAA Management Committee representative on Ard Chomhairle CLLE for the past three years. He has given tremendous service to handball and attended almost all of our Council meetings. He has represented handball in a very positive light to the GAA Management Committee and by his efforts secured several benefits for the

organisation since 2002. We thank him sincerely for his commitment to handball and can rest assured that he can be called upon to assist the Handball Council again in the future.

It is vital that all handball units cooperate with our parent body for the overall good of the Association and that GAA policies are implemented in full throughout handball. We depend very much on the GAA at all levels to ensure that handball functions smoothly and it is incumbent on all members and units to maintain a close working relationship with their counterparts and to develop proper communications at Club, county, provincial and national levels.

Our thanks to the GAA Provincial Councils for the very significant financial and other support they provide for handball and to a large number of counties which do likewise. Many County GAA Coistí facilitate fundraising ventures at county finals and by other means to enable handball units to promote, develop and administer the game. In return, we have a duty to play our part by assisting the GAA units in the organisation and stewarding of matches and in administration wherever possible and to help the Association go from strength to strength.

Ceannaras

For a number of years the Irish Handball Centre has been in need of major upgrading and some remedial work was carried out to keep the premises up to a minimum standard to accommodate games and to facilitate the operation of the bar.

An inspection by the Dublin Fire Officer in September last put everything into perspective: her findings were that the Centre lacked many of the fire and safety measures which are now standard in public buildings and she specified that if certain basic fittings were not put in place by the eve of the All-Ireland softball finals, the games could not go ahead. Immediate emergency action was taken and a large number of people cooperated to ensure that the work was done in time and inspected by a fire officer on the afternoon of the games. The Handball Council wishes to thank everybody who helped to achieve these requirements and special mention must be made of Vinny Farrelly, Cathaoirleach and Pádraig Gaffney, Bar Manager. But for their input in particular, the finals would have been postponed.

The Centre requires much more work to bring it up to standards which would be in keeping with the expectations of players and spectators and the Fire Officer has itemised a wide range of essential works which must be accomplished to facilitate the issuing of a fire certificate for the building. All in all, this will be a huge task and the Ceannaras Committee has presented outline plans to the Stadium Executive Committee to address many of the issues involved and at the time of writing a final decision on the matter is awaited. One of the key concerns of the Ceannaras Committee is that the Club licence was not renewed in September and the application was adjourned on three occasions with a final hearing in late March by which time an emergency exit is required by the Fire Officer before the fire certificate is granted: and the granting of the licence depends on this. On behalf of our players and supporters who frequent Ceannaras, I wish to thank Pádraig Gaffney and Martin Dillon for their work and the voluntary personnel who help out with the activities of the Centre.

Insurance

The question of insurance is raised with increasing frequency in relation to Public Liability and Employer's Liability in respect of which all handball units are covered. This is arranged at county level and all handball County Committees must ensure that this is done and that cover is provided for all Clubs.

The importance of having insurance in place cannot be overstated: we live in a society which has become ever more litigation conscious and we must take every precaution to ensure that our Clubs and officials are fully protected in the event of any injury. This is vital in relation to playing injuries: nobody can be allowed take part in training or games without being a registered member of a Club and all Clubs should display notices stating this. In addition, all 40 x 20 courts should have notices to the effect that players must wear eyeguards while using the court. This should also apply in 60 x 30 courts where eye protection is required for juveniles and in ladies softball. The introduction of the Player Injury Scheme to handball has been very worthwhile and many players have benefited from it. It is one of the most important developments in the sport in recent years and is in the interest of everybody that proper care is taken to protect the scheme and to safeguard it for the future.

The playing of other sports not under the auspices of the Association in handball facilities should be monitored very carefully to make sure that any other activity is only permitted provided that the proper insurance cover is in place and that Club officials have sight of the relevant documentation.

Sports Councils

We are once again indebted to the Irish Sports Council for their support for handball over the past year: the Annual Grant of over €100,000 is vital to the administration and development of the organisation and is key to providing the services needed to assist our units and personnel to work at all levels of handball. Early in 2004 the Council forwarded a grant of €30,000 on foot of a report on work carried out at over 20 venues for the World Championships in the preceding year for distribution to the Clubs in question.

Sports Council personnel were on hand to advise the office and officials on a range of issues during the year and to meet with them as required. One major step forward was the approval of the facility for our top seeded players to avail of medical, physiotherapy, dietary, fitness and other NCTC services in 2005.

Eleven young handballers, Maria Daly, Michael Gregan, Brian Carroll, Noel McHugh, Ger Coonan, Sandy McSwiney, Robert McCarthy, Eimear Ní Fhallúin, Damian Martin, Emer Coyle and Joy Smith were awarded Carding Scheme status for 2004. They underwent a coaching and training programme and most of the players took part in competition in the USA, participation in international competition being one of the conditions of availing of the scheme.

Our thanks and appreciation to John Treacy, CEO, and his staff for their help and guidance throughout the year and to Helen Raftery in particular who had a major input at a training day for the members of the Task Teams. We also acknowledge the financial and other support provided by the Sports Council of Northern Ireland to some units in the North.

Uachtarán

Antóin Ó hAodha has served as Uachtarán for the past three years and guided the sport through the first phase of the Strategic Plan which sets out the blueprint for the future of the organisation. He brought his considerable experience of management and organisational skills to bear on the policies and projects which have set out the goals and targets to be achieved during his presidency. He inspired many people in new ways of thinking and pursued a wide variety of ideas and ideals during his term of office.

The Uachtarán travelled widely and attended numerous handball and social functions as well as officiating at games

throughout the length and breadth of the country and was strongly supported and encouraged by his wife Theresa who travelled with him on most occasions. When the organisation of the World Championships in 2003 met some difficult moments he took courageous decisions which ensured that the event was a huge success. On the European front he developed strong links with the Basque Pelota Association and led an Irish team to compete in two internationals against the Basques in 2002 and 2004.

On behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and of all our players, officials and units at every level, I wish to thank the Uachtarán for his dedication to the organisation and for his personal interest in the wide range of activities which we have on an ongoing basis. He took time to meet players at every opportunity and took their concerns on board in an effort to develop and maintain good communications with them. We wish him a long, enjoyable and fruitful retirement and know that he will have much to offer the Council in the years ahead.

Uachtarán Nua

Cuirimid fóir fáilte roimh Tomás Breathnach a bheidh ina Uachtarán ó 3 Aibreán ar aghaidh. Tá seirbhís fada aige mar imreoir agus oifigeach tríd na blianta agus tá taithí aige mar riarthóir ag gach leibhéal den eagraíocht.

The incoming Uachtarán has served with distinction in all officer positions with the Bray Handball Club and as Cathaoirleach, Rúnaí and Cisteoir of Coiste Liathróid Láimhe Chill Mhantáin for over 25 years. He is a member of the Wicklow GAA Management Committee, is the current GAA Irish and Culture Officer in the county and has been involved in Scór since its inception in 1969. He has been a member of the Handball Ard Chomhairle and Coiste Bainistí and was Cathaoirleach of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe Laighean whom he represents on the Leinster GAA Coaching and Games Development Committee.

We look forward to the new presidency and members can be assured that Tomás Breathnach will bring his many personal and administrative attributes and talents to bear on the development of the organisation over the next three years.

Na Mairbh

The Handball Council and our members, players and supporters extend their sympathy to all handball families who were bereaved during the year.

It was with great regret that we learned of the sudden death on 9 October of Fr Eamán Neville, retired P.P. of University Church, St Stephen's Green at 79 years of age. He served as 14th Uachtarán of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann from 1962 to 1965 and had been Cathaoirleach of Wicklow and Comhairle Laighean prior to that. He oversaw the construction of the first 40 x 20 court in Ireland at Oldtown, Co Dublin in 1969 and was a member of the ten man Committee which planned the development of the 60 x 30 court at Ceannaras for the 1970 World Championships. Fr Neville was a regular visitor to Croke Park and attended the All-Ireland softball finals in September, 2004.

Victor Sherlock who played in nine Ulster football finals, winning five, and won two All-Ireland medals took the All-Ireland Junior Softball singles title in 1949 went to his eternal reward in 2004. He won ten Ulster singles and ten Ulster doubles medals. He teamed up with the legendary Joey Maher in 1957 to represent Ireland at international level which was probably the highlight of his long and fruitful handball career. His was a household name throughout the country and he will long be

remembered for his prowess in football and in handball, his first love in sport.

The death occurred on 11 October of Michael Treacy, bar manager at Ceannaras from 18 June, 1979 to 21 July, 1995. Mick was a dedicated and loyal servant of handball and the GAA. He was a fervent Tipperary hurling and Dublin football supporter and attended matches at Croke Park and provincial venues on a regular basis. He always had a hearty welcome for handball players and patrons from all over the country. He will be sadly missed, especially by his wife and family.

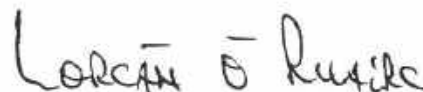
Buíochas

Ba mhaith liom fíor-bhuíochas a ghabháil le gach duine a chabhraigh le foireann na hoifige chun rudaí a chur i gcrích i rith na bliana. Bhí bliain ghnóthach againn agus bhí alán daoine páirteach in imeachtaí éagsúla. The Provincial Administrators were particularly diligent and helpful in providing information and results to the office; their workload is not always appreciated and it is only fitting that their contribution should be acknowledged. County officers, too, carry a lot of responsibility and they are deserving of credit for running the affairs at county level.

I wish to thank Cionnaith Ó Chonbhui who has been Cisteoir for over ten years and whose expertise in financial matters is a very valuable asset to the organisation. He keeps a tight rein on the Council's accounts and is meticulous in preparing financial statements throughout the year and in setting out the end of year documentation for audit.

Since Lisa Mitchell joined the office staff she has made a great impact on the promotion of the sport and will be extending that service over the coming year. She has fitted in very well into the handball scene and I commend her on her professional abilities and her approach to her work and in dealing with the handball public.

Finally, I would like to wish all handball units and personnel a very successful year ahead in 2005.



LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC,
Riarthóir Náisiúnta.

NA RÚIN

BYE-LAWS

1. That voting rights be returned to the representative of An Chomhairle Ard-Oideachais Liathróid Láimhe. Amend Fo-Riail 33 (A) accordingly. (An Mhí).
2. That the following be added to Fo-Riail 33 (A) "...and GAA Management Committee representative" (Ard Chomhairle).
3. That players who do not have to play a provincial final in the Under 16, Minor or Under 21 grades and who are subsequently defeated in their All-Ireland semi-finals should not automatically be regraded for the purposes of Junior and Intermediate competitions. Amend Fo-Riail 49 (B) (i) and Fo-Riail 49 (C) (ii) accordingly. (Roscomáin).
4. Amend Fo-Riail 47 (O) (i) to read "The Under 15 is for non-winners of gold, silver or bronze medals at Under 14 and non-winners of gold medals at Under 15. The Under 17 grade is for non-winners of gold, silver or bronze medals at Under 14 or Under 16 and non-winners of gold medals at Under 15 or Under 17". Remainder of Fo-Riail to remain the same. (Corcaigh, Comhdháil Laighean).
5. Amend Fo-Riail 47 (N) to read "All players are confined to one grade of singles or doubles in inter-county competition in 40 x 20, Softball and Hardball in any one year, except players competing in the senior championship who can also compete in their own grade, and players in Masters grades who do not have a doubles partner in their grade in their own county can play singles in their own grade and play doubles in another grade, for which they are eligible, with a player from their own county". (Corcaigh).
6. That a player who is not eligible to play in the senior grade may play senior doubles to partner a player who is eligible to do so and also play in his/her own grade. Amend Fo-Rialacha 49 E and 52 A accordingly. (Tiobraid Árann).
7. That Fo-Riail 50 (A) be amended to read: "Authority to be given to An Ard Chomhairle to change the format of the All-Ireland Senior Championships from the current 'one match per day' format to one deemed more appropriate to that Committee". (Roscomáin).

PLAYING RULES

1. That The Irish Handball Council adopt the USHA Rules with the following exceptions:
Add to Rule 1.5 Part 1 "...in Tournament Handball Competitions. In All-Ireland Championships (excluding juveniles) the tie-breaker will be to 21 points".
Delete second sentence of Rule 2.2 A. 4: "A lighter ball may be used for any division provided it is USHA approved and is specified on the entry blank".

Add to Rule 2.2 "LADIES. The present dark blue ball".

Add to Rule 2.4 B: "In inter-county matches, the county attire must be worn".

Replace USHA in the rules with IHC where appropriate.

Rule 4.1 A: Insert "to 11" after tie-breaker in third sentence and add a final sentence in that paragraph "In a tie-breaker to 21 the player who served first in the first game serves first in the tie-breaker".

Insert "to 11" after tie-breaker in third sentence and add to paragraph two: "In a tie-breaker to 21 the side winning the toss for the first game shall choose".

Delete Rules 5.7 and 5.8 in Part 5

Delete Interpretation 10 with the exception of the first sentence. (Aontroim).

2. That the adult Dunlop 60 x 30 ball be used for Ladies Championships in Junior B, Junior and Senior. Amend Part V D (h), and Part V H accordingly. (Tiobraid Árann).
3. That handball may not be played barehanded in 40 x 20 or 60 x 30. Gloves must be worn. Amend Part 11 C 1 Court and Equipment and other rules affected. (An Cabhán).
4. Add to Part 11 D 1: "Players may not wear sleeveless shirts when playing in official 40 x 20 competition". (Roscomáin).
5. That the following sentence be deleted in Part 111 C: "A marker shall be appointed to keep a record of the points scored and assist the referee by keeping the record of the order of service". Amend Part 111 B 1 (c). (An Cabhán).
6. That the following be added to Part 1V E 3 A: "Spitting in a handball court or between play shall be punishable by deduction of a point from the offending side". (Roscomáin).
7. That Part 1V F 2 (b) be amended as follows: "During the game in the 40 x 20 and/or 60 x 30 courts each player in singles and each side in doubles may request a 'time-out' for a towel wiping, glasses or change or adjustment of equipment only in the period between end of play and the calling of the score by the referee. Each 'time-out' shall not exceed one minute and not more than three 'time-outs' shall be granted each player in singles and each pair in doubles". (An Cabhán).
8. That Part 1V F 5 be amended as follows: "A player shall not be allowed play in the 40 x 20 or 60 x 30 court unless he/she is wearing eyeguards" Amend other rules affected accordingly. (An Cabhán).
9. That the following be added to Part 1V F 4: "A player suffering from 'cramp' shall be allowed call an injury time out at the referee's discretion". (Roscomáin).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Irish Nationals be moved to a more appropriate date in the calendar where they do not interfere with the Handball and Softball Championship seasons. (Roscomáin).
2. That the 40 x 20 inter-club finals be held on a date in the 40 x 20 season after St Patrick's Day to avoid disruption of county and provincial championships. (Roscomáin).
3. That the Senior 40 x 20 championship finals be played on a rota basis between each of the four provinces at a venue deemed appropriate by Ard Chomhairle. (Roscomáin).
4. That a new ball be developed for juvenile and ladies 60 x 30 handball as a matter of urgency. (Roscomáin).
5. That a national Irish Handball Newsletter be established from The Irish Handball Council – printed quarterly or bi-monthly – which will give Clubs more opportunity to promote their activities and to inform the wider handball community of upcoming events. (Roscomáin).
6. That a detailed and updated database of players and their playing grades be kept by The Irish Handball Council to determine eligibility for certain grades in events such as inter-club competition, Irish Nationals, Provincial Opens, USHA Nationals etc. (Roscomáin).
7. That minor players have free entry to the handball championships. (Muigheo).
8. That The Irish Handball Council take full control in organising and regulating Colleges handball competitions. (Aontroim).

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

22 March 2005

A Cháirde

We have examined the records of an Chomhairle for the year ended 31 December 2004.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to €320,649. Expenditure came to €267,527 leaving an Operating Surplus of €53,122. In the preceding year there was a surplus of €34,549. As compared with that year the following were the principal variations in Income and Expenditure:

INCOME	Increase €	Decrease €
Irish Sports Council Grants	8,075	
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants	19,903	
National League Grant		6,350
Sponsorship and Subscriptions	6,285	
EXPENDITURE	Increase €	Decrease €
World Championship Expenses		76,868
Meetings and Officials' Travel	8,256	
Juvenile	60,192	

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of An Chomhairle at 31 December 2004 including outlay on Ceannáras €386,254 had a book value of €713,133. Liabilities at the same date including Bank Overdraft €222,790 came to €392,453. Assets exceeded Liabilities by €320,680.

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 2004

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.

22 March 2005.

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 2004 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 2004 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
22 March, 2005

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2004

	Schedule	2004 €	2003 €
INCOME			
County Committee and Members		27,080	25,162
Gate Receipts		8,135	6,714
Irish Sports Council Grants	1	132,988	124,913
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants	2	129,903	110,000
National League Grant		—	6,350
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		16,750	10,465
Advertising		400	600
Sundry Sales		1,300	4,723
Ceannáras Club		6,000	6,000
Yearbook		(4,737)	(576)
Other Income		2,830	3,173
		<u>320,649</u>	<u>297,524</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Competition Expenses		17,776	13,057
International		6,300	7,130
World Championship Expenses		(3,141)	73,727
Provincial Open Tournament Grants		2,305	1,270
Third Level Grants		635	635
Juvenile		1,902	811
Promotional Materials		9,733	5,936
Trophies		15,814	15,487
Meetings and Officials' Travel		29,001	20,745
Provincial Grants		2,540	2,540
Coaching, Leadership and Development		5,032	3,681
Administration and General	3	177,587	117,395
Depreciation		2,043	561
		<u>267,527</u>	<u>262,975</u>
OPERATING (DEFICIT) SURPLUS		<u>53,122</u>	<u>34,549</u>
Balance at beginning of year		<u>267,558</u>	<u>233,009</u>
Balance at end of year		<u>320,680</u>	<u>267,558</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

22 March 2005.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2004

	Note	2004 €	2003 €
FIXED ASSETS			
	2	394,448	386,567
Loan – Galway County Board		22,855	22,855
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		3,236	3,025
C.L.G. Development Scheme		127	127
Loans to Clubs		571	571
Debtors and Prepayments		37,575	26,362
Cash and Bank Balances		254,321	190,951
		<u>295,830</u>	<u>221,036</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		101,109	71,556
Bank Overdraft		222,790	222,790
		<u>392,453</u>	<u>362,900</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(96,623)</u>	<u>(141,864)</u>
		<u>320,680</u>	<u>267,558</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund		<u>320,680</u>	<u>267,558</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

22 March 2005.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2004**

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
Office Furniture	- 10% Straight line

2. FIXED ASSETS

	Outlay on Ceannáras €	Gymnasium Equipment €	Office Equipment €	Total €
COST				
At 1 January 2004	386,254	5,706	20,398	412,358
Additions in Year	-	-	9,924	9,924
At 31 December 2004	<u>386,254</u>	<u>5,706</u>	<u>30,322</u>	<u>422,282</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2004	-	5,706	20,085	25,791
Charge for year	-	-	2,043	2,043
At 31 December 2004	-	<u>5,706</u>	<u>22,128</u>	<u>27,834</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	<u>386,254</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,194</u>	<u>394,448</u>

3. ACCUMULATED FUND

Balance at beginning of year	267,558	233,009
Surplus for year	53,122	34,549
Balance at date	<u>320,680</u>	<u>267,558</u>

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2004**

2004 2003
€ €

SCHEDULE 1:

Irish Sports Council Grants

Annual Grant	102,988	99,913
World Championships	30,000	25,000
Carding Scheme	<u>14,000</u>	<u>12,800</u>
	146,988	137,713
Less: Distributable Carding Scheme	(14,000)	(12,800)
	<u>132,988</u>	<u>124,913</u>

SCHEDULE 2:

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants

Ard Chomhairle Annual	129,903	60,000
Ard Chomhairle - World Championships	-	30,000
Provincial Councils - World Championships	-	20,000
	<u>129,903</u>	<u>110,000</u>

SCHEDULE 3:

Administration and General Expenses

Staff Costs	119,739	90,386
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	12,314	9,756
Postage and Telephone	8,753	10,864
Audit and Accountancy Fees	4,598	4,477
Legal Fees	29,903	-
World Affiliation Fees	254	-
All-Ireland Tickets	1,207	880
Miscellaneous	819	1,032
	<u>177,587</u>	<u>117,395</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 2004.

	2004	2003
€	€	€
INCOME		
Membership Fees	5,290	6,558
Court Booking Fees	3,541	4,261
	<u>8,831</u>	<u>10,819</u>
Shop Sales	4,848	6,388
Cost of Sales	<u>3,721</u>	<u>5,983</u>
Profit on Sales	1,127	405
	<u>9,958</u>	<u>11,224</u>
EXPENSES		
Administration	2,601	1,997
Premises	2,897	5,130
Financial	<u>83</u>	<u>106</u>
	<u>5,581</u>	<u>7,233</u>
Net Operating Profit/(Loss)	4,377	3,991
Club Lounge Subsidy	<u>(6,165)</u>	<u>(1,325)</u>
Net (Loss)/Profit	<u>(1,788)</u>	<u>2,666</u>
Opening Surplus	<u>571</u>	<u>(2,095)</u>
Closing Deficit	<u>(1,217)</u>	<u>571</u>

BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 2004

	2004	2003
€	€	€
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	806	2,489
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Bank loans and overdrafts	23	(52)
Accruals	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,970</u>
	<u>2,023</u>	<u>1,918</u>
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES) ASSETS	<u>(1,217)</u>	<u>571</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(1,217)</u>	<u>571</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	<u>(1,217)</u>	<u>571</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 2004.

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 2004 and to the assets and liabilities of the business at 30th September 2004.

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 2004

	2004	2003
	€	€
SALES	286,354	301,345
COST OF SALES	138,409	149,681
GROSS PROFIT	147,945	151,664
EXPENSES		
Administration	40,251	38,135
Staff Costs	77,563	72,465
Premises	26,549	22,377
Depreciation	2,521	—
Financial	1,678	2,233
	148,571	135,210
NET OPERATING PROFIT	(626)	16,454
Club Subsidy	6,165	1,325
NET PROFIT	5,539	17,779
Contributions	(10,000)	(10,359)
Opening Surplus	19,091	11,671
Closing Surplus	14,630	19,091

BALANCE SHEET — as at 30th September 2004

	2004	2003
	€	€
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible Assets	10,083	
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	8,767	10,119
Debtors	3,520	4,832
Cash at bank and in hand	34,513	27,942
	46,800	42,893
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade creditors	18,337	13,945
Other creditors	12,216	8,177
Accruals	11,700	1,680
	42,253	23,802
NET CURRENT ASSETS	4,547	19,091
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	14,630	19,091
<i>Represented by:</i>		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	14,630	19,091

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 2004.

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 2004 and to the assets and liabilities of the business at 30th September 2004.

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Cisteoir

VINCENT FARRELLY, Cathaoirleach

TORTHAÍ 2004

60 x 30

SS:	Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Barry Goff (Wexford) 21-17, 21-16
SD:	Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan (Meath) dft Michael Walsh, Eugene Downey (Kilkenny) 21-19, 21-7
IS:	Mayo (Joe McCann) dft Tyrone (Niall Kerr) 18-21, 21-2, 21-16
ID:	Mayo (Campbell Brennan, Joe McCann) dft Tyrone (Niall Kerr, Ciarán Meenagh) 21-5, 21-15
JS:	Offaly (Noel Murphy) dft Armagh (James Doyle) 17-21, 21-17, 21-11
JD:	Cork (Patrick Buckley, Colm Jordan) dft Dublin (Christy Donnelly, Jan Griffin) 21-8, 21-12
MS:	Westmeath (Robert McCarthy) dft Waterford (Patrick Hurney) 21-2, 21-5
MD:	Westmeath (Robert McCarthy, John O'Shaughnessy) dft Waterford (Patrick Hurney, John Kindregan) 21-12, 21-9
U21S:	Roscommon (Damien Martin) dft Waterford (Michael Browne) 21-7, 21-2
U21D:	Roscommon (Damien Martin, Rikki O'Gara) dft Cork (Donnacha O'Dea, Joseph O'Keeffe) 21-5, 21-12
JBS:	Mayo (Ollie Cassidy) dft Limerick (Ken Burke) 21-8, 21-16
JBD:	Clare (Declan Frawley, Liam Frawley) dft Sligo (Shane Bruen, Kevin Meehan) 21-12, 21-9
MAS:	Kilkenny (Billy Bourke) dft Cork (John Herlihy) 21-7, 21-7
MAD:	Kilkenny (Martin Lalor, Billy Bourke) dft Tipperary (Pat Griffin, Jimmy Mullins) 21-9, 21-5
MBS:	Kilkenny (Jimmy Holden) dft Limerick (Kieran Bourke) 21-11, 21-12
MBD:	Wexford (Richie Culleton, Fintan Doyle) dft Cavan (Joe Dillon, Seán Gargan) 21-6, 21-18
SMAS:	Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) dft Limerick (Tom O'Brien) 21-16, 21-16
SMAD:	Meath (John Boy Molloy, Francis Carroll) dft Tipperary (Seamus Morrissey, Tom Morrissey) 21-14, 21-12
SMBS:	Galway (Martin Conneely) dft Limerick (Donal O'Connor) 16-21, 21-11, 21-10
SMBD:	Monaghan (Martin McEntee, Peter Larkin) dft Mayo (Michael Heraty, Jim Sheridan) 21-17, 21-12
GMAS:	Mayo (Martin Cronin) dft Waterford (Martin Sandford) 21-11, 18-21, 21-18
GMAD:	Dublin (Eugene Kennedy, Vinny Farrelly) dft Tipperary (Billy McCarthy, Pakie Mullins) 21-13, 21-9
GMBS:	Limerick (John Frazer) dft Dublin (Paddy Murray) 21-9, 21-10
GMBD:	Limerick (John Frazer, Billy O'Connor) dft Roscommon (James Coughlan, Tom Cunniffe) 21-18, 21-12
EMAS:	Kilkenny (Paddy Reilly) dft Cork (Dan O'Brien) 21-13, 15-21, 21-15

EMAD:	Kilkenny (Seamus Reade, Paddy Reilly) dft Tipperary (Jim Ryan, Connie Collins) 21-12, 21-20
EMBS:	Mayo (John Kenny) W/O v Waterford (Tony O'Mahony) Scr
EMBD:	Roscommon (Willie Mugan, John Heneghan) W/O Waterford (Tony O'Mahony, Jim O'Rourke) Scr.
DMAS:	Waterford (Mossie Butler) dft Mayo (Sean Heaney) 21-13, 20-21, 21-17
DMAD:	Wicklow (Pat Lee, Paddy Lennon) dft Waterford (Mossie Butler, Declan Mulcahy) 9-21, 21-5, 21-17
DMBS:	Cork (Michael Jordan) dft Kilkenny (Johnny O'Mara) 21-2, 21-8
DMBD:	Cork (Michael Jordan, Jim Kennedy) dft Galway (Jim Doherty, Séamus Ó Fatharta) 21-10, 21-11

HARDBALL

SHS:	Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Dessie Keegan (Mayo) 21-10, 21-11
SHD:	No championship
JHS:	Pat O'Donnell (Wicklow) dft Paul Flynn (Mayo) 21-17, 19-21, 21-12
JHD:	Pat O'Donnell, Ned Kealy (Wicklow) dft Paul Flynn, James Towey (Mayo) 14-21, 21-11, 21-10
MHS:	No championship
MHD:	No championship

40 x 20

SS:	Tony Healy (Cork) dft Paul Brady (Cavan) 17-21, 21-5, 21-20
SD:	Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Cavan) dft Tommy Hynes, Colin Keeling (Wexford) 21-7, 11-21, 21-10
IS:	Armagh (Charly Shanks) dft Mayo (Joe McCann) 21-18, 21-19
ID:	Armagh (Charly Shanks, James Doyle) dft Wexford (Gavin Buggy, Paul Carty) 21-8, 21-14
JS:	Mayo (Ollie Cassidy) dft Cork (Jerry Guiney) 21-3, 21-12
JD:	Galway (Pat Conway, Ollie Conway) dft Cork (Danny Healy, John Flynn) 21-17, 21-11
MS:	Westmeath (Robert McCarthy) dft Tipperary (Ger Coonan) 21-10, 21-15
MD:	Westmeath (Robert McCarthy, John O'Shaughnessy) dft Waterford (Patrick Hurney, John Kindregan) 21-6, 21-16
U21S:	Wicklow (Johnny Willoughby) dft Donegal (Mark McGowan) 21-12, 21-18
U21D:	Wexford (Cormac Smyth, Myles Cash) dft Donegal (Mark McGowan, Paul Murray) 21-11, 21-9
JBS:	Cork (Finbarr Rafferty) dft Kilkenny (Michael Maher) 21-9, 19-21, 21-8
JBD:	Cork (Alan O'Dwyer, Finbarr Rafferty) dft Wicklow (Michael Lennon, Jimmy Lennon) 21-18 17-21, 21-7
MAS:	Kilkenny (Billy Bourke) dft Antrim (Stevie Madden) 21-2, 21-9

TORTHAÍ 20044 (continued)

MAD: Kilkenny (Billy Bourke, Johnny Brennan) dft Antrim (Paddy Gault, Brendan Rainey) 21-7, 21-8
MBS: Cavan (Pat Donagh) dft Laois (Paddy Donovan) 21-14, 21-16
MBD: Cavan (Pat Donagh, Andrew Clarke) dft Galway (John Joe Farragher, Brendan McNeela) 15-21, 21-8, 21-13
SMAS: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) dft Antrim (Billy Silcock) 21-9, 21-10
SMAD: Antrim (Billy Silcock, Thomas Maguire) dft Wexford (Benny Doyle, Johnny Goggins) 21-18, 21-20
SMBS: Roscommon (Ger Walsh) dft Clare (Mike Kelly) 21-8, 21-3
SMBD: Mayo (John Staunton, John Granahan) dft Limerick (Jack Dillon, Donal O'Connor) 8-21, 21-12, 21-14
GMAS: Cork (Pat Morris) dft Wexford (Tony Breen) 21-19, 21-17
GMAD: Roscommon (P J Moran, Tony Hannon) dft Antrim (Paddy Duffy, Jim McAllister) 21-15, 21-8
GMBS: Tyrone (Seamus Hussey) dft Galway (Tony McInerney) 9-21, 21-11, 21-12
GMBD: Wexford (Sonny Sheil, Billy Rossiter) dft Tipperary (Jim Quinn, Gary Howard) 15-21, 21-18, 21-15
EMAS: Galway (Morgan Darcy) dft Antrim (Seamus Graham) 21-12, 4-21, 21-13
EMAD: Mayo (Seamus Clarke, Matt Coady) dft Cavan (Greg Sheridan, Patsy Hand) 8-21, 21-19, 21-14
EMBS: Galway (Noel Rigney) dft Clare (P J Counihan) 18-21, 21-8, 21-16
EMBD: Galway (Noel Rigney, Ollie Burke) dft Clare (P J Counihan, Donal Fleming) 21-13, 21-4
DMAS: Mayo (Sean Heaney) dft Clare (Jimmy Walsh) 21-15, 21-17
DMAD: Mayo (Sean Heaney, Michael Reilly) dft Waterford (Mossie Butler, Declan Mulcahy) 21-9, 21-12
DMBS: Kildare (Eamonn Deegan) dft Antrim (Tommy Shannon) 21-10, 21-18
DMBD: Down (Des McNeill, Dan McCartan) dft Galway (Seamus Ó Fatharta, Peter Mulryan) 21-18, 21-15

Ladies 60 x 30

SS: No Championship
SD: No Championship
JS: No Championship
JD: No Championship
JBS: Tipperary (Cliona Collins) dft Kilkenny (Loretta Murphy) 21-7, 21-8
JBD: No Championship
MS: Kildare (Eimear Ní Fhallúin) dft Kerry (Caitriona Casey) 21-0, 21-2
MD: Kildare (Eimear Ní Fhallúin, Sinéad Gallogly) dft Tipperary (Karen Collins, Anne Marie Ryan) 21-14, 21-8

Ladies 40 x 20

SS: Maria Daly (Kerry) W/O v Fiona Shannon (Antrim)
SD: No Championship
JS: Wicklow (Patricia Doyle) W/O v Roscommon (Emer Coyle) Scr

JD: No Championship
JBS: Susan Keegan (Dublin) dft Roisin O'Hagan (Derry) 21-8, 21-11
JBD: Dublin (Susan Keegan, Tracy Hutchinson) dft Derry (Edel McIvor, Fionnuala Ní Thúatain) 21-5, 21-8
MS: Kildare (Eimear Ní Fhallúin) dft Tyrone (Lisa McAleer) 21-4, 21-11
MD: Tyrone (Lisa McAleer, Nadine Kelly) dft Kildare (Eimear Ní Fhallúin, Sinéad Gallogly) 12-21, 21-8, 11-0

60 x 30 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Junior B: Hospital, Limerick (Ken Bourke, John Paul O'Connor, John Keyes, Kieran Burke) dft Castlebridge, Wexford (David Kenny, Eoin Walsh, Diarmuid Smyth, Thomas Moore, John Veale) 104-86
Junior: Na Fianna, Dublin (Ian Griffin, Christy Donnelly, Adrian Benson, Vinny Farrelly, Eamonn O'Brien) dft Ballydesmond, Cork (Donnacha O'Dea, Jerry Guiney, Michael O'Dea, Danny Healy) 84-40
Open: Ballaghaderreen, Mayo (Joe McCann, Vinny Moran, Paul Flynn, Dessie Keegan) dft Kells, Meath (Carl Browne, Tom Sheridan, Donnacha Maguire, Walter O'Connor) 89-79

40 x 20 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Junior B: New Ross, Wexford (Felix Doran, Joe Goggins, Johnny Goggins, Miles Cash, Tom Goff) dft Conna, Cork (Brendan Hurley, John Heffernan, Barry O'Regan, Pat Clancy) 97-79
Junior: St Coman's, Roscommon (Chris Doolin, Neil McDermott, Aengus Cunningham, P J Moran) dft Ballina, Tipperary (Paul Coleman, John Lee, John McQuaide, Martin McInerney, Ger Coonan) 97-92
Open: Kells, Meath (Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan, Brian Carroll, Carl Browne, Donnacha Maguire) dft Gort na Móna, Antrim (Ricky McCann, Paddy Crothers, John McGarry, Eddie Mallon, Robert McMahon) 98-65

BUACHAILLÍ 60 x 30

14S: Meath (Garry McConnell) dft Tipperary (Fergal Collins) 15-12, 15-7
14D: Limerick (Seamus O'Carroll, C J Fitzpatrick) dft Kilkenny (Mark O'Dwyer, Niall Smith) 15-8, 15-8
15S: Tyrone (Conor Duff) dft Carlow (Micheál Mullins) 21-2, 21-9
15D: Waterford (Jason Healy, David Power) dft Kilkenny (Ciarán Neary, Eamonn Foley) 10-21, 21-17, 11-8
16S: Kilkenny (Nicholas Anthony) dft Limerick (Eoin Cahill) 21-7, 21-12
16D: Tyrone (Conor Grugan, Brian Donaghy) dft Kilkenny (Patrick Nolan, Kirk Greene) 20-21, 21-17, 11-10
17S: Kilkenny (Brendan Burke) dft Tyrone (Brian Devlin) 21-2, 21-7
17D: Wicklow (Christopher Doyle, Jerome Willoughby) dft Waterford (David Hickey, Michael Brennock) 21-8, 21-10

TORTHAÍ 2004 (continued)

CAILÍNÍ 60 x 30

- 14S: Kerry (Sharon Twomey) dft Wicklow (Shauna Hilley) 15-0, 15-8
- 14D: Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe) dft Kerry (Maedbh Prendiville, Ciara Ní Shé) 15-0, 15-4
- 15S: Roscommon (Deirdre Donohue) W/O Cork (Karen Finnegan) Scr. inj.
- 15D: Mayo (Ethna McHale, Leona Pryal) dft Wexford (Fiona Holohan, Niamh Murphy) 21-16, 21-6
- 16S: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) dft Westmeath (Leona Archibald) 21-7, 21-3
- 16D: Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costelloe) dft Kerry (Karen Lawlor, Lisa Falvey) 19-21, 21-15, 11-10
- 17S: Limerick (Siobhan Lehane) dft Mayo (Olivia Kilbane) 12-21, 21-19, 11-9
- 17D: Roscommon (Ellen O'Keeffe, Edel Finnegan) dft Waterford (Laura Keever, Susan Lonergan) 21-6, 21-7

BUACHAILLÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Tipperary (Fergal Collins) dft Meath (Garry McConnell) 15-14, 15-9
- U14D: Limerick (Seamus O'Carroll, C J Fitzpatrick) dft Kilkenny (Niall Smith, Dean Wilson) 15-2, 15-4
- U15S: Tyrone (Conor Duff) dft Roscommon (Nigel O'Dowd) 21-9, 21-5
- U15D: Waterford (David Power, Jason Healy) dft Carlow (Colm Nolan, Shane Redmond) 17-21, 21-4, 11-4
- U16S: Tyrone (Pádraig McGlinchey) dft Kilkenny (Richard Hogan) 21-5, 21-11
- U16D: Kilkenny (Nicholas Anthony, Patrick Nolan) dft Clare (Anthony Fahy, Darren Cullinan) 21-6, 21-5
- U17S: Kilkenny (Brendan Burke) dft Clare (Conor Cooney) 21-14, 19-21, 11-9
- U17D: Wexford (Michael Berry, Paul Lambert) dft Monaghan (Colin Donnelly, Eamon Todd) 21-7, 21-18

CAILÍNÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Kerry (Sharon Twomey) dft Wicklow (Shauna Hilley) 7-15, 15-7, 15-4
- U14D: Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe) dft Kerry (Edel Murphy, Maedbh Prendiville) 15-3, 15-13
- U15S: Roscommon (Deirdre Donohue) dft Kerry (Fiona Ní Chatháin) 21-4, 21-8
- U15D: Kerry (Eabha Ring, Siobhán Ní Chonchúir) dft Mayo (Eithne McHale, Leona Pryal) 9-21, 21-17, 11-4
- U16S: Antrim (Aisling Reilly) dft Leitrim (Joanne Logan) 21-1, 21-4
- U16D: Kerry (Karen Lawlor, Ashley Prendiville) dft Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costelloe) 21-12, 21-9
- U17S: Tipperary (Karen Collins) dft Roscommon (Denise Ward) 21-16, 21-3
- U17D: Waterford (Laura Keever, Mary Ann Meehan) dft Roscommon (Anna Walsh, Laura Mannion) 21-13, 18-21, 11-2

60 x 30 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

U12/13 Team of Six: Kilkenny (Michael O'Brien, Eoghan Hennessy, David Delahunty, Brian Campion, Patrick Funchion, Pádraig Maher, Michael Fennelly, David Laffort) dft **Limerick** (Tom McMahon, Sean Dillon, Pádraig O'Carroll, David Mooney, Darragh Lyons, Enda Frawley, Stephen Foley, Keith O'Connor) 90-29

U14/15 Team of Six: Carlow (Adam Kenny, Shane Fenlon, Paul McElligott, Matthew O'Toole, Colm Nolan, Shane Redmond, Deni Joe O'Regan, Alan Beaton) dft **Kerry** (Cian Counihan, James O'Donnell, Colm O Muircheartaigh, Gary Marshall, Paul Culloty, Brendan Crowe, Aaron O'Halloran, Caoimhín Ó Sé) 87-64

U16/17 Team of Six: Carlow (Pauric Townsend, Pádraic Ryan, David Donovan, Daniel Fenlon, Ambrose Doran) dft **Limerick** (Evan Fox, David Grimes, Kevin Ryan, Joe Birmingham, Kieran McCarthy) 56-32

Cailíní Team of Four: St Coman's, Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costelloe, Deirdre Donohue, Anna Keenan) dft **Ballymacelligott**, Kerry (Caitríona Casey, Lisa Falvey, Ashley Prendiville, Maedbh Prendiville) 97-86

Cailíní U13/17 Interprovincial Team of Ten: Munster (Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Caitríona Casey, Sharon Twomey, Ciara Ní Shé, Brenda Carmody, Sinéad Long, Karen Lawlor, Lisa Falvey, Caitríona Casey, Karen Collins, Naomi O'Sullivan, Ashling O'Keeffe) dft **Connacht** (Tracy Fahy, Anna Keenan, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Deirdre Donohue, Ellen O'Keeffe, Marianna Rushe, Katie Costelloe, Olivia Kilbane, Marian Kennedy, Joanne Logan, Lisa Cummins) 129-127

40 x 20 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

U12/13 Team of Six: Kilkenny (Patrick Funchion, Brian Campion, Michael O'Brien, Peter Landy, Pauric Maher, Eoghan Hennessy, Luke Greene, David Delahunty) dft **Cork** (Conor Hannon, John O'Keeffe, John Casey, Denis O'Rourke, Eoin Douglas, Arthur O'Neill, Aaron Fennessy, Colm Kearney) 86-36

U14/15 Team of Six: Kerry (Leon Seidler, Joseph Sheeran, Paul Culloty, Aaron O'Halloran, Cian Counihan, Damian Healy, James O'Donnell) dft **Carlow** (Paul McElligott, Matthew O'Toole, Pádraig Ryan, Robert Nolan, Deni Joe O'Regan, Niall Hogan, Shane Fenlon, Brendan Bolger) 67-61

Cailíní U16 Team of Four Round Robin

Winners: Ballymacelligott, Kerry (Ashley Prendiville, Sharon Twomey, Brenda Carmody, Lisa Falvey, Caitríona Casey, Maedbh Prendiville)

Runners-up: St Coman's, Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costelloe, Leona Doolin, Deirdre Donohue, Ellen O'Keeffe, Hilary Rushe)

Under 16/17 Team of Four:

Joint Winners: Carlow (Pauric Townsend, Colm Delaney, David Donovan, Daniel Fenlon, Robert

Thompson, Peter Doran) and **Waterford** (Shane Lambden, Michael McAndrew, Michael Brennock, James Phelan, David Walsh, John Walsh)

Cailíní U13/17 Interprovincial: Munster (Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Aoife Dillane, Sharon Twomey, Maedbh Prendiville, Brenda Carmody, Sineád Long, Karen Lawlor, Ashley Prendiville, Karen Collins, Caitriona Casey (Kerry), Caitriona Casey (Cork), Aisling O'Keeffe) dft **Connacht** (Anna Keenan, Tracy Fahy, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Deirdre Donohue, Ellen O'Keeffe, Katie Costelloe, Marianna Rushe, Olivia Kilbane, Marian Kennedy, Stephenie Coleman, Mary Duffy) 122-99

FÉILE NA nGAEL

Girls 40 x 20 Division 1 – Sciath Ard Chomhairle: St. Coman's, Roscommon (Hilary Rushe, Leona Doolin, Linda Connolly, Laura Mannion, Lisa Ryan) dft **Leixlip,** Kildare (Maria Flaherty, Stephanie O'Neill, Sheila Lettford, Orla Ryan, Roisín Gilheaney, Jackie Mayock) 21-10, 21-2.

Skills winner: Leona Doolin, St Coman's, Roscommon
Skills runner-up: Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh, An Ghaeltacht, Ciarraí

Girls 40 x 20 Division 2 – The St. Augustine's College Shield: Maynooth, Kildare (Louise Walsh, Rosin Gorey, Eimear Connolly, Therese Barry, Ellen Stack) dft **Clooney Quinn,** Clare (Aisling Hannon, Deirdre Hayes, Leagh O'Keeffe, Shauna Murphy, Lisa Loughnane) 21-10, 21-9

Skills winner: Roisin Gorey, Maynooth, Kildare
Skills runner-up: Leah O'Keeffe, Clooney Quinn, Clare

Boys 40 x 20 Division 1 – The Simon Cleary Perpetual Cup: Kells, Kilkenny (Mark O'Dwyer, Pat Funchion, David Delahunty, Niall Smith, Ger McGrath) dft **Carrickmore,** Tyrone (Conor Grogan, Caolan Daly, Sean McVeigh, Ruairi Loughran, Michael Donaghy) 21-17, 21-11

Skills winner: Garry McConnell, Naomh Colmcille, Meath

Skills runner-up: Conor Grogan, Carrickmore, Tyrone

Boys 40 x 20 Division 2 – The Michael Tyrrell Perpetual Cup: Coolboy, Wicklow (Garry Donohue, PJ Mulhall, Keith Kavanagh, Anthony Rohio, Shauna Hilley) dft **Friary Abbeyside Ballinacourty,** Waterford (Conor Moloney, Tom Hanrahan, John Power, Pierce Galvin, James Defusto) 21-19, 21-17

Skills winner: Tom Hanrahan, Friary Abbeyside Ballinacourty, Waterford

Skills runner-up: Garry Donohue, Coolboy, Wicklow

Boys 40 x 20 Division 3 – The Harry Haddock Shield: Liscaul, Roscommon (Sean Cavanagh, Noel Deery, Grant Deeney, Colm Lavin, Alan O'Dowd) dft **Leixlip,** Kildare (Rikki O'Duffy, Adrian Ryan, Niall O'Connor,

Michael Coleman, Ray Noonan, Niall O'Reilly, Danny Marcello, Anthony Handibode) 21-4, 4-21. Tied on points. Liscaul won in tie-break.

Skills winner: Thomas Morgan, Liscaul, Roscommon

Skills runner-up: Niall O'Connor, Leixlip, Kildare

Boys 60 x 30 – The Steve Casey Perpetual Cup: Ballina, Tipperary (Fergal Collins, Daragh Hardy, Donal Kent, Eoin Kent, Mark Kennedy) dft **Loughmacrory,** Tyrone (Paul Donnelly, Conor Donnelly, Sean O'Kane, Conor Fullen, Niall Donaghy) 21-17, 21-13

Skills winner: Fergal Collins, Ballina, Tipperary

Skills runner-up: Paul Donnelly, Loughmacrory, Tyrone

ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

BUACHAILLÍ 60 x 30

JS: Aaron O'Halloran (Coláiste Phádraig, Castleisland) W/ O Garry McConnell (Kells C.S.) Scr.

JD: Mark O'Dwyer, Niall Smyth (Scoil Aireagail, Ballyhale) dft Cian Counihan, Gary Marshall (Tralee CBS) 21-8, 21-15

IS: Nicholas Anthony (Good Counsel, New Ross) dft Cathal Dillon (Abbey CBS, Tipperary) 21-6, 21-3

ID: Kirk Greene, Stephen Shortt (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) dft Ciarán Burke, Dara Reid (Rice College, Westport) 21-6, 21-14

SS: Chris Doolin (Roscommon CBS) dft Jerome Willoughby (Scoil Bhríde, Carnew) 21-14, 21-16

SD: Richard Nolan, Mark Nolan (Kilkenny CBS) dft David Hickey, Michael Brennock (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-11, 21-5

CAILÍNÍ 60 x 30

JS: Ashley Prendiville (Presentation, Tralee) dft Shauna Hilley (Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew) 21-11, 21-12

JD: Marianna Rushe, Katie Costelloe (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Marie Therese O'Neill, Claire Love (Castlecomer C.S.) 21-18, 21-1

SS: Eimear Ní Fhallúin (Coláiste Chillian, Cluain Dolcáin) dft Karen Lawlor (Mercy Mounthawk, Tralee) 21-1, 21-2

SD: Caitriona Casey, Lisa Falvey (Presentation Tralee) dft Ellen O'Keeffe, Leona Doolin (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) 21-12, 21-10

BUACHAILLÍ 40 x 20

JS: Pádraig McGlinchey (Omagh CBS) dft Cathal Hannon (St Joseph's, Tulla) 21-15, 21-15

JD: Ciaran Burke, Dara Reid (Rice College, Westport) dft Sean McCorry, Gerard McVeigh (Meán Scoil Feirste) 21-9, 21-10

IS: Brian Carroll (Kells CS) dft Conor Cooney (St Joseph's, Tulla) 21-9, 21-10

ID: Richie Hogan, Kirk Greene (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) dft Jason O'Brien, David Hickey (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-11, 21-11

- SS: Gerard Coonan (St Anne's, Killaloe) dft Stephen Shortt (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) 21-11, 21-11
- SD: Michael Browne, Patrick Hurney (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) dft David Kenny, Séan Flood (St Peter's, Wexford) 21-9, 21-3

CAILINÍ 40 x 20

- JS: Ashley Prendiville (Presentation College, Tralee) dft Aisling Reilly (Meánscoil Feirste) 21-16, 21-12
- JD: Sharon Twomey, Brenda Carmody (St Joseph's, Castleisland) dft Claire Love, Marie Therese O'Neill (Castlecomer CS) 21-3, 21-7
- SS: Lisa McAleer (Omagh Technical College) dft Sarah Corley (Balla) 21-11, 21-8
- SD: Emer Coyle, Nicola Kelly (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Aisling Behan, Ciara Dowling (Presentation College, Carlow) 21-8, 21-15

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS 40 x 20

- JS: Darragh Daly (Dean McGurk School, Carrickmore) dft Jerome Willoughby (Colaiste Bhride, Carnew) 18-21, 21-18, 21-20
- JD: Conor Duff, Brian Donaghy (Dean McGurk School, Carrickmore) dft Jerome Willoughby, Paddy Kearney (Colaiste Bhride, Carnew) 21-13, 21-4
- SS: Christopher Doyle (Colaiste Bhride, Carnew) dft Michael Donnelly (Dean McGurk School, Carrickmore) 21-14, 21-10
- SD: Caolan Daly, Niall Loughran (Dean McGurk School, Carrickmore) dft Christopher Dolye, Killian Greagan (Colaiste Bhride, Carnew) 12-21, 21-14, 21-19

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 60 x 30

- Men's A Singles:** Brian Carroll (DIT) dft Cormac Smyth (DIT) 14-15, 15-9, 15-10
- Women's A:** Maria Daly (UCC) dft Sharon Daly (UL) 15-6, 15-9
- Men's B:** John Horgan (UCD) dft John Veale (UL) 15-10, 15-12
- Men's C:** Podge O'Brien (DIT) dft A Davern (UCC) 5-15, 15-9, 15-12
- Men's A Team:** DIT (Brian Carroll, Paul Fitzpatrick, Cormac Smyth, Mark McGowan) dft SIT (Joe McCann, Damien Martin, Niall McGrath, Paul Murray) 89-68
- Men's B Team:** UCD (John Horgan, Shane Hennelly, James Clerkin, Patrick Clerkin) dft DIT (Darren O'Reilly, Pádraig Cahill, Darren Flynn, Matt Hughes) 78-71

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 40 x 20

- Men's A:** Eoin Kennedy (DCU) dft Dessie Keegan (DIT) 21-16, 21-10
- Men's B:** Joseph O'Keeffe (CIT) dft John Horgan (UCD)
- Men's C:** James Clerkin (UCD) dft Eoghan Collins (DIT)

- Women's A:** Maria Daly (UCC) dft Sharon Daly (UL)
- Women's B:** Niamh Egan (DIT) dft Laura Halligan (DIT), 34-30
- Men's A Team:** SIT (Noel McHugh, Joe McCann, Damien Martin, Niall McGrath, Paul Murray) dft **Queens** (Charly Shanks, Séamus Ó Tuama, Ryan Daly, Kevin Holmes)
- Men's B Team:** UCD (Shane Hennelly, John Horgan, Tommy Lonergan, Ronan Gollogly) dft **NUIG** (Brendan Fleming, Cary Dohman, Paul Hayes, Leo Logan)

40 x 20 USHA COLLEGIATES

- Men's Open S:** Emmett Peixoto (US) dft Dessie Keegan (DIT) 21-20, 19-21, 11-7
- Men's Open D:** Joe McCann, Noel McHugh (Sligo I.T.) dft D Munson, L Ruiz (USA) 21-10, 16-21, 11-8
- Men's B D:** Pádraig Cahill, Connor McGinnity (DIT) dft Aren Klein (Lake Forrest) 21-16, 21-4.

FBD IRISH NATIONALS

- Men's Open:** Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Ricky McCann (Antrim) 21-2, 21-11
- Men's B:** Conor O'Brien (Offaly) dft Johnny Willoughby (Wicklow) 17-21, 21-7, 11-9.
- Ladies Open:** Maria Daly (Kerry) dft Sibéal McKenna (Antrim) 21-10, 21-0
- Ladies B:** Sharon Daly (Kerry) dft Maria McCarthy (Dublin) 21-2, 21-13.
- Men's C:** Cormac Smyth (Wexford) dft Finbarr Rafferty (Cork) 21-14, 21-17.
- Masters B:** Pat Donagh (Cavan) dft Paddy Donovan (Laois) 21-9, 21-20.
- Golden Mas. A:** Dominic Sheridan (Cavan) dft Eugene Kennedy (Dublin) 21-15, 21-19.
- Girls 17:** Eimear Ni Fhallúin (Kildare) dft Lisa McAleer (Tyrone) 21-7, 21-6
- Girls 15:** Aisling Reilly (Antrim) dft Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) 21-14, 21-13
- Girls 13:** Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) dft Leona Doolin (Roscommon) 21-12, 21-0
- Boys 17:** Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Brian Carroll (Meath) 21-17, 21-9
- Boys 15:** Pádraig McGlinchey (Tyrone) dft Pádraig Townsend (Carlow) 21-14, 21-4
- Boys 13:** Garry McConnell (Meath) dft Fergal Collins (Tipperary) 21-5, 19-21, 11-8

ONE-WALL NATIONALS

- Men's Open:** Dessie Keegan (Mayo) dft Carl Browne (Meath) 15-14, 15-10
- Men's B:** Brian Carroll (Meath) dft Francis Carroll (Meath) 15-12, 15-9
- Men's C:** Darragh Daly (Tyrone) dft Michael Donnelly (Tyrone) 15-7, 15-13

TORTHAI 2004 (continued)

- Girls U14:** Leona Doolin (Roscommon) dft Siobhan Gilligan (Longford) 15-11, 15-9
- Boys U14:** Caolan Daly (Tyrone) dft Conor Grogan (Tyrone) 14-15, 15-12, 11-3
- Girls U16:** Karen Lawlor (Kerry) dft Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) 15-11, 10-15, 11-3
- Boys U16:** Ciaran Burke (Mayo) dft Daniel Connaughton (Galway) 15-6, 15-4
- Ladies Open:** Marian Kennedy (Galway) dft Maighread Ní Riabhaigh-Ó Dúill (Armagh) 6-15, 15-5, 11-3
- Masters A:** Robbie McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Francis McCann (Sligo) 6-15, 15-13, 11-5
- Golden Mas:** Peter Larkin (Monaghan) dft Richard Willoughby (Wicklow) 15-6, 15-4
- Diamond Mas:** Nicky John Clancy (Galway) dft Tom O'Connor (Wicklow) 15-3, 15-4

CONNACHT 40 x 20 OPEN

- Men's Open:** Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Tony Healy (Cork) 21-3, 14-21, 11-9
- Ladies Open:** Maria Daly (Kerry) dft Eimear Ní Fhallúin (Kildare) 17-21, 21-13, 11-10
- Men's B:** Gerry Kane (Carlow) dft Patrick Buckley (Cork) 21-18, 21-18
- Men's C:** Paddy Donovan (Laois) dft Paul Fitzpatrick (Cavan) 21-14, 21-2
- Masters A/B D:** Francis McCann, Martin Golden (Sligo) dft Kevin Geraghty, Eugene Maloney (Mayo) 9-21, 21-8, 11-1
- Boys Under-17:** Johnny Willoughby (Wicklow) dft Pauric Townsend (Carlow) 21-6, 21-15
- Boys Under-15:** Brian Donaghy (Tyrone) dft Paul Donnelly (Tyrone) 15-9, 15-11
- Girls Under-17:** Karen Lawlor (Kerry) dft Karen Collins (Tipperary) 21-11, 21-14
- Girls Under-15:** Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) dft Deirdre Donohue (Roscommon) 15-7, 15-1

LEINSTER 60 x 30 OPEN

- Men's Open:** Barry Goff (Wexford) dft Michael Grogan (Wicklow) 21-18, 21-15
- Masters D:** Robert McCarthy, Pat Doyle (Westmeath/Wicklow) dft Paddy Donovan, Christy Ryan (Laois/Limerick) 21-14, 21-10
- Ladies Open:** Maria Daly (Kerry) dft Patricia Doyle (Wicklow) 21-8, 21-10

ST PAUL'S BUSHMILLS GOLDEN GLOVES

- Men's Open:** Ricky McCann (Antrim) dft Ciaran Curran (Tyrone) 12-21, 21-8, 11-7
- Men's A/B:** Ollie Cassidy (Mayo) dft Eddie Bourke (Kilkenny) 21-2 ret inj
- Ducksy Walsh Kitchens Boys U17:** Darragh Daly (Tyrone) dft Jerome Willoughby (Wicklow) 21-19, 21-12

- Men's C:** Paul Hedderman (Limerick) dft Dominic Marley (Antrim) 21-15, 21-17
- Masters:** Billy Silcock (Antrim) dft Stephen Madden (Antrim) 21-13, 21-17
- Golden Mas:** Eugene Kennedy (Dublin) dft Paddy Duffy (Antrim) 18-21, 21-12, 11-7

USHA NATIONALS

- B Doubles:** Robert McCarthy, Conor Casey (Westmeath / Oregon) dft Peter Bidegain, Greg Stansburg (CA) 21-9, 21-17
- C Singles:** Finbarr Rafferty (Cork) dft Travis Hoover (CA) 21-15, 21-7
- G11S:** Brant Bidegain (CA) dft Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) 21-3, 21-2
- B17S:** Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Aaron Garner (Tx) 21-12, 21-17

USHA JUNIORS 2004

- Boys 19 & Under Singles Final:** Allan Garner (San Antonio) dft Brian Carroll (Ireland) 21-6, 21-10
- Boys 19 & Under Doubles Final:** Brian Carroll, Robert McCarthy (Ireland) dft Allan Garner, Aaron Garner (San Antonio) 21-18, 21-19
- Boys 17 & Under Singles Final:** Robert McCarthy (Ireland) dft Aaron Garner (San Antonio) 21-8, 21-20
- Boys 13 & Under Singles Final:** Caolan Daly (Tyrone) dft Pádraig O'Carroll (Limerick) 21-9, 21-10
- Boys 13 & Under Doubles Final:** Brant Bidegain, Tommy Torres (California) dft Caolan Daly, Keith Kavanagh (Tyrone/Wicklow) 11-21, 21-12, 11-5
- 11 & Under Round Robin (Co-Ed):** Winner: Keith Kavanagh (Wicklow) dft John Audet (Ontario) 21-7, 21-12; Greg Healy (Illinois) 21-7, 21-15; Loren Collado (California) 21-0, 21-0; Patrick Sutherland (Kansas) 21-1, 21-2
- Girls 19 & Under Round Robin:** Maria Daly (Ireland) dft Carly /Stickles (Illinois) 21-12, 21-6; Kimberly Gibilisco (NE) 21-1, 21-1
- Girls 19 & Under Doubles Final:** Maria Daly, Aisling Reilly (Ireland) dft Katie Sedgwick, Karen Lawlor (Illinois/Kerry) 21-9, 21-3
- Girls 15 & Under Round Robin: Winner:** Aisling Reilly (Ireland) dft Aimee Mahon (Westmeath) 21-0, 21-0; Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) **Second** 21-13, 21-17; Natasha McCarthy (Westmeath) **Third** 21-1, 21-9; Katie McCarthy (Westmeath) **Fourth** 21-2, 21-0





Robert McCarthy, Westmeath, winner of the Handball Award at the 21st Irish Examiner / TV3 National Junior Sports Star Awards, held in early March at the Maryborough House Hotel, Douglas, Co. Cork, pictured with his fellow award winners. Robert is seated centre of the front row beside Camogies's Stephanie Gannon (L) and Hockey's Emma Stewart (R).



Pictured after the Compromise Rules Series in the Basque Country are, back row: Tony Hayes, Eoin Kennedy, Joe McCann, Michael Gregan, James Doyle, Dessie Keegan, Ruben Zapirain, Fernando Tapia (Minister of Culture and Sports of the Territory of Gipuzkoa), Asier Aranbarri (Major of Azkoitia). Front row: Kepa Arroitauregi (coach of the Basque Pelota national team), Ander Martin (assistant coach of the Basque Pelota national team), Lier Gandiaga, Mikel Gonzalez, Garikoitz Erroizenea, Aitor Erauskin, Txema Aldamiz-Etxebarria (President of the National Federation of Basque Pelota).

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