

Tionólfar Comhdháil Bhliantúil 2007

Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

AR AN DOMHNACH, 1 AIBREÁN ag 11.00 r.n.

san

GREVILLE ARMS HOTEL, MUILEANN CEARR

CLÁR OIBRE

1. Fáiltiú
2. Addresses of Invited Guests
3. Adoption of Standing Orders
4. Minutes of Comhdháil 2006
5. Report of Riarthóir Náisiúnta
6. Annual Accounts 2006
7. Oráid an Uachtaráin
8. Elections
 - Uachtarán Tofa
 - Cisteoir
 - Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle Cumann Lúthchleas Gael
9. Motions
10. Close of Congress

AINMNIÚCHÁIN

Uachtarán: Risteárd de Bhilbhí (Cill Chainnigh), Ualtar Ó Conchubhair (An Mhí),
Antóin Ó hAnnáin (Sligeach, Cill Mhantáin)

Cisteoir: Eamon Ó Briain (Áth Cliath), Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí (Tiobraid Árann, Ciarraí,
Gaillimh, Cill Mhantáin, Sligeach, Corcaigh, Luimneach)

**Teachta ar Ard
Chomhairle CLG:** Antóin Ó hAodha (Ciarraí, Luimneach, An Clár, Corcaigh, Gaillimh, Cill Mhantáin)

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

The year under review was another very busy, active and successful one on the handball courts of Ireland and, very significantly, one in which Irish players dominated the main international events. The Task Teams continued some work in line with the objectives of the Strategic Plan 2002-2007 but a lot remains to be done to reach the targets set in the report. Unfortunately, the post of Promotions Administrator was not filled during the year and this was a cause of concern because of the lack of sustained publicity for the game.

Some of the main features of 2006 were:

- ☺ The overall success of Irish players in winning 38 titles at the Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships held in Edmonton, Alberta.
- ☺ The retention of the World Men's and Women's Open Singles titles by Paul Brady of Cavan and Fiona Shannon from Antrim respectively, a first for any player in either event.
- ☺ The increase in the number of players in the All-Ireland handball championships.
- ☺ The decision of Ard Chomhairle CLG to approve the inclusion of new handball facilities in a further stage of development of the Association's infrastructure.
- ☺ The development of strong links with the Basque Country and the re-establishment of contacts with several national bodies in Europe.
- ☺ The successful staging of the FBD Irish Nationals and the FBD Handball Awards.
- ☺ The selection of Paul Brady and the Jury's Irish Independent Sports Star of the Week in July – the first such honour for a handballer since the scheme was inaugurated in the early 1950s.
- ☺ The completion of the Level One coaching course syllabus.

There were also several areas that need quite a lot of attention if we are to make progress and the following are some pointers:

- ☺ The need to develop ladies handball in the majority of clubs and to increase the level of entries in some of the ladies competitions.
- ☺ Concern that there are many clubs which have no juvenile section.
- ☺ A requirement to provide basic information requested from Clubs for the handball database.
- ☺ The difficulty in making national fixtures due to the late completion of many provincial championships.
- ☺ The lack of regular meetings in many counties and Clubs.
- ☺ The need for competitions at county and regional levels.
- ☺ The lack of adequate publicity at national level and in many counties.
- ☺ The need to get a number of the Task Teams to complete a full work programme.

National Competitions

Ard Chomhairle was responsible for a total of 219 competitions and there were 12 events in the St Paul's 40 x 20 Open. For the second successive year, and to facilitate those playing in the

World Championships, the bulk of the 60 x 30 championships were played in the late summer and through the autumn. The experiment of deferring the championships because of the increased pressure on players due to hurling and football duties during the summer months as well as the many other commitments people have at that time of year was successful and will be continued in the future.

National Competitions AND Ranking Tournaments

Competition	MALE		FEMALE		MIXED	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Juvenile	Total
60 x 30	33	8	8	7	-	56
40 x 20	32	8	8	8	-	56
Hardball	8	-	-	-	-	8
Team	6	6	-	4	-	16
Gael Linn	-	-	-	-	1	1
Féile na nGael	-	4	-	2	-	6
Second Level	-	12	-	8	-	20
Third Level	18	-	9	-	-	27
Irish Nationals	8	3	3	3	-	17
One Wall	7	2	1	2	-	12
Opens	7	2	2	1	-	12
TOTAL	119	45	31	35	1	231

In addition to its full complement of domestic competition, listed above, 2006 was a year which saw Irish handball make excellent progress on the international stage in the Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships, the USHA Nationals and the USHA Junior Championships. On the European front contacts were continued with the Basque Pelota Federation and links were established with the Italian Federation all of which put additional demands on players and administrators.

60 x 30 Championships

The 60 x 30 championships were overshadowed somewhat by preparations for the World Championships in August and a number of players decided not to take part and there were no provincial entries in a number of grades. However, the championships were generally successful and produced winners from 13 counties. Kilkenny with six titles and Wexford with five were ahead of Tipperary's four and three each for Dublin, Clare and Roscommon. Westmeath and Sligo had two wins apiece and Laois, Mayo, Limerick, Monaghan and Cork took one title each.

The lack of a reasonable number of entries in so many grades poses a serious question about the future of the softball code. If players do not enter in sufficient numbers, we must establish why this is so. There may be too much emphasis on 40 x 20 and international handball to the detriment of softball: there is no doubting the attractions of the international game and most young players aim to take part in international competition.

There are far fewer 60 x 30 courts than 40 x 20 and the standard of many of those which are playable leaves something to be desired. Clubs must upgrade their facilities in an effort to sustain

the game at juvenile level and have them in good condition for competitive games. This includes providing proper heating and good spectator comfort in order to attract people to the game. It is never too late to begin to improve facilities and a start must be made by those clubs which have not moved forward over the past two or three decades.

An equally important issue is the promotion of softball, something which the Development and Promotion Task Teams should take on board as a priority. In addition, the Coaching Task Team might well examine what could be done through coaching courses to support softball.

Further Success for Dublin

Eoin Kennedy from the St Brigid's Club in Dublin won his fourth 60 x 30 All-Ireland Senior Singles title when he defeated Tom Sheridan of Meath 19-21, 21-19, 21-5 but not before getting a very close call in the second game in particular. He and Egin Jensen retained their Senior Doubles title with a rather easy 21-5, 21-11 win over Barry Goff and Gavin Buggy of Wexford. Dublin also took the EMBS title with Paddy Murray defeating Pat O'Sullivan of Sligo 21-9, 21-7.

Robert McCarthy of Westmeath continued his winning streak: he defeated Patrick Finnegan (Cavan) 21-16, 21-6 in the Intermediate Singles final and teamed up with Liam Cassidy to take the doubles 21-19, 13-21, 21-13 against Aengus Cunningham and Dara Rogers of Roscommon. Paddy Donovan from Laois was best in the Junior Singles championship when he defeated Lorcán Maughan, Roscommon 7-21, 21-15, 21-17. The Junior Doubles title went to Mayo's Ollie Cassidy and Paul Flynn who outscored Christy Donnelly and Ian Griffin, Dublin 21-19, 21-5.

Kilkenny had excellent doubles in Minor, Junior B and Masters grades. Nicholas Anthony won the Minor Singles crown with a 21-11, 21-16 win over Brian Donaghy from Tyrone. The same players, partnered by Kirk Greene and Conor Duff respectively, played in the Minor Doubles, Kilkenny winning 21-12, 21-6. Michael Ducksy Walsh won both Masters titles, the singles against Anthony O'Donnell, Roscommon and the doubles, with Pat Maher, against the same opponent and Martin Bruen. The Noreside county represented by Sean Maher won the Junior B Singles All-Ireland against Thomas Turley of Armagh, 21-11, 21-13 and Seamus Phelan and Michael Falsey defeated Roscommon's John Kennedy and Billy Kelly 21-19, 21-15 in Junior B Doubles.

Tipperary's Ger Coonan was the 2006 Under 21 Singles champion: he defeated Chris Doolin from Roscommon 21-12, 21-4. The Premier county also won the Masters B Singles final when John McQuaide defeated Ronan Galvin from Roscommon 21-12, 21-11. Pakie Mullins had a good double for Tipperary in Emerald Masters: he won the singles against Martin Cronin, Mayo, 21-20, 21-11 and partnered by Sean Doyle took the doubles against Michael Corbett and Matt Coady of Mayo.

Roscommon took three titles with Damien Martin and Rikki O'Gara being too strong for Ger Coonan and Eric Monaghan of Tipperary in Under 21 Doubles 21-6, 21-8. Cormac O'Brien and Ger Walsh won the Masters B Doubles final against Paul Maher and John McQuaide of Tipperary 21-15, 21-13 and Tom Cunniffe took the Diamond Masters Singles medal winning rather easily over Carl Burkett from Kerry.

Wexford Masters

Wexford players won five Masters titles: Pat Cleary claimed the Silver Masters Singles with a 21-13, 16-21, 21-9 victory over Sligo's Francis McCann and he completed his double with Benny

Doyle, 21-18, 21-9 against Francis McCann and Michael Porter. Tony Breen added to his All-Ireland medal tally winning the Golden Masters Singles and Doubles. He defeated Kevin Geraghty of Mayo 21-6, 21-20 in singles and he and Jimmy Goggins were too strong for Kevin Geraghty and Tim Hughes 21-18, 21-15 in doubles. Wexford's other success was in Diamond Masters B Doubles when Ger McWilliams and Henry Hayes defeated Kerry's Declan Ryan and Carl Burkett 21-11, 21-16.

John Kirby from Clare was on the winner's rostrum again, this time in the Diamond Masters A grade. He was best in the singles final against Sean Heaney of Mayo 21-9, 21-14 and Jimmy Walsh partnered him to victory over Sean Heaney and Tom Derrig 21-7, 21-11 in doubles. Clare also had a win in Silver Masters B Singles when Sligo-born John Cawley was best in the final against Frank Macken from Mayo on a 21-3, 21-14 scoreline.

Sligo won two titles in masters: Pat O'Sullivan and Seamus Duffy defeated Paddy Clerkin and John Barton from Dublin in Emerald Masters B Doubles and Paddy Walsh won the Ruby Masters Singles inaugural title 21-3, 21-4 against the ageless Jim Kennedy from Cork. The Rebel county's only softball title was in Golden Masters B Doubles where Michael O'Dea and Chris Hurley combined to defeat James Coughlan and Tom Cunniffe from Roscommon 21-18, 21-13.

Limerick won one title in softball when Jack Dillon and Jimmy Fanning took the Silver Masters B Doubles medals in the final against Frank Macken and Aidan Bell, Mayo 21-18, 21-18. The remaining adult softball title went to Monaghan's Michael McCarron who defeated Michael O'Dea of Cork 21-13, 21-17 in Golden Masters B Singles.

40 x 20 Championships

Thirteen counties took honours in the 40 x 20 court with Antrim winning six titles and Mayo and Kilkenny taking five each. Dublin won three All-Irelands and Cavan, Roscommon, Offaly and Tyrone took two each. The remaining counties were Westmeath, Laois, Tipperary, Clare and Limerick. In all, a total of 17 counties won All-Irelands over the two courts.

There were some excellent games throughout the championships and no better play than by Paul Brady who was outstanding in retaining the Senior Singles title with a fine 21-19, 21-8 win over Eoin Kennedy in the final at the Cappagh venue. He and Michael Finnegan exacted revenge against Eoin Kennedy and Egin Jensen when they regained the Senior Doubles title from the Dubliners, 21-15, 21-17. Robert McCarthy from the Mullingar Club won his first All-Ireland of the year in the Intermediate Singles against Joe McCann from Mayo on a 21-9, 14-21, 21-10 scoreline. The Intermediate Doubles medals went to Damien Martin and Rikki O'Gara of Roscommon who defeated Colm Jordan and Brendan Fleming from Cork 21-6, 21-12. Roscommon's other success was in Masters B Singles in which Cormac O'Brien was too strong for Pat O'Flaherty of Tipperary in a well contested 15-21, 21-10, 21-7 final.

Laois handball achieved a first All-Ireland in Junior Singles when Paddy Donovan outscored Galway's Bernie McDonagh 15-21, 21-6, 21-10. Kilkenny players had good wins in Junior Doubles and in Minor and Masters A Singles and Doubles. The Manogue partnership of Brian and Frank ran out comfortable winners over Alan Tierney and Bernie McDonagh of Galway 21-11, 21-12 in Junior Doubles. Richard Hogan won the Minor Singles at the expense of Pádraig McGlinchey of Tyrone, 21-16, 12-21, 21-14 and partnered by Nicholas Anthony took the Minor Doubles against the same player whose partner was Darren Dickson, 21-15, 21-12. Michael Ducksy Walsh won the Masters

A Singles title rather easily against Stevie Madden from Antrim and he and Pat Maher won the first of their three doubles titles of the year 21-7, 21-7 over Stevie Madden and Joe McAllister.

Ulster Successes

Darragh Daly brought the Under 21 title to the O'Neill county with a 21-6, 21-15 win over Jerome Willoughby of Wicklow and he combined with Gary McCrory to take the doubles against James Moakley and John Horgan from Cork, 21-12, 21-19. Antrim's masters players had a good year: Billy Silcock won the Silver Masters Singles defeating Johnny Brennan from Kilkenny 21-14, 21-10 and he and Thomas Maguire took the Masters Doubles honours with a 21-6, 21-16 win over Tipperary's Pat O'Flaherty and Pat Griffin. Anthony Caddell also had a double: he won the Silver Masters B Singles 21-4, 21-8 in the final versus Brendan Hurley from Cork and paired with his brother Dominic, won the doubles 21-10, 21-15 against Fintan Doyle and Richie Culleton of Wexford. Dermot O'Reilly took the Golden Masters B Singles title to the north-east when he defeated Jimmy Heffernan of Dublin 21-19, 21-4 in the final. Antrim's sixth masters title went to Seamus Collins and Tom Smith in Golden Masters B Doubles in a 21-10, 17-21, 21-6 win against Jimmy Heffernan and Eamon O'Brien from the capital.

Dublin's Vinny Farrelly had a good double in the Emerald Masters grade: he won the singles final against Michael O'Malley of Galway 21-7, 21-4 and, with Eugene Kennedy, took the doubles 21-10, 21-11 in another contest with old rivals Greg Sheridan and Patsy Hand from Cavan. Dublin's third title was in Diamond Masters B Doubles where Sylvie O'Dowd and former All-Ireland winner with Sligo, Marcus Henry won out at the expense of Donegal's Eamon McDonnell and Brendan Temple.

Mayo Masters

Mayo's strength at masters level continued in 2006 with five All-Ireland victories. Kevin Geraghty won the Golden Masters A Singles medal with a good 21-10, 21-11 win over Tony Breen from Wexford. Sean Heaney had another double winning the Diamond Masters A Singles against John Molloy from Dublin, 21-8, 21-4. He and Tom Derrig were best in the doubles final against Paddy Lennon and Dick Doyle, Wicklow, 21-12, 21-12. Martin Vahey and JJ Kelly brought the Masters B Doubles title to the western county winning against Cork's John Hedigan and Patrick Clancy, 21-14, 21-15. John Kenny defeated Ger McWilliams, Wexford, in Diamond B Singles.

Billy Mullins and former Westmeath player Jim Guilfoyle won the Golden Masters A Doubles title for Offaly defeating Kevin Geraghty and Michael O'Reilly from Mayo 21-6, 21-7. The Junior B Singles also went to the Faithful County when Noel O'Brien defeated Shane O'Neill from Tyrone 21-19, 21-18. The Junior B Doubles medals went to Jimmy Close and Dermot Fitzgerald of Clare who won 21-8, 21-13 against Kevin Craddock and Trevor Hannan from Galway. Limerick's lone 40 x 20 title winner was John Frazier in Emerald Masters B Singles: he defeated John Kelehan, Galway, 21-18, 21-4. Connie Collins and Pakie Mullins were Tipperary's winners in Emerald Masters B Doubles with a 21-7, 21-12 win over Sligo's Seamus Duffy and Pat O'Sullivan.

Overall, the standard of the 40 x 20 code is in a healthy state, as evidenced by the success of Irish players in the USHA and World Championships. One must appreciate that the international code was only introduced in Ireland less than 40 years ago. In that time the game has made remarkable progress, albeit at the expense of softball and hardball, but great credit is due to players and coaches alike for the growth of this code. The standard set

by our top players is excellent and with Michael Walsh's success in the World Masters grade it is evident that this will continue into the masters grades in the future.

Hardball Championships

The 2006 hardball championships were the most successful for at least a decade: there were very good entries in all eight events including the inaugural Masters Singles and Doubles championships. It was very encouraging to note the interest in the Minor Singles and Doubles which were played for the first time in many years while the Senior Doubles was played for the first time since 1997.

This bodes well for the future of the ancient code and must give encouragement to those who have lamented the decline of hardball since the 1980s. It will still take a lot of hard work and promotion of the game to bring it back to its former glory of the middle of the 20th century. It would be a poor reflection on the organisation if hardball were to disappear but with positive promotion and the organisation of a few regional tournaments it could make a significant comeback. Provincial Councils and County Committees should examine the possibility of running competitions and there must be some Clubs which could do so as well.

When there are no hardball events of any kind anywhere in the country, can we say there is enough interest in the game? Hardball 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 continue the championships.

First Senior Medal for Dessie Keegan

Dessie Keegan from Ballaghaderreen, a Club which has supported hardball very strongly, won his first All-Ireland senior medal when he defeated defending champion Eoin Kennedy 21-7, 21-17 in the final. Eoin Kennedy and Egin Jensen retained the Senior Doubles title with a 21-5, 21-8 victory over Tom Sheridan and Walter O'Connor from Meath. Damien Martin from St Coman's had a good double winning the Junior Singles against Jason Tobin from Tipperary and he and Rikki O'Gara defeated Jason Tobin and Ger Coonan 21-13, 21-2 in Junior Doubles. There was another double in the minor grade: CJ Fitzpatrick, Limerick, won the singles title when he was too good for his doubles partner Seamus O'Carroll 15-21, 21-20, 21-7. They combined well to take the Minor Doubles against Christopher Gavigan and Thomas Fleming from Mayo. Michael Ducksy Walsh also took two hardball titles: he defeated Willie Pratt from Kilkenny 21-5, 21-5 in Masters Singles and, with Pat Maher, outscored Ollie Deegan and Pat Coffey, Kildare 21-6, 21-11 in doubles.

Ladies Championship

It was the best year for some time in the ladies championships with 16 events held, eight each in 60 x 30 and 40 x 20. However, there should be a lot more entries in the ladies events; there is good interest in the game at juvenile level and competition is very keen up to minor but we need to keep players involved after that. The same Clubs seem to be coming through each year and there are few new developments in ladies handball. Participation in the Cumann na mBunscol events is providing a means for more Clubs to promote handball for girls and the additional competitions at Third Level can keep players involved much longer in the game.

Provincial Councils and County Committees must encourage Clubs to provide more opportunities for girls to play and compete.

Most of the winners in the premier competitions are recognised Club and county players such as Ger Coonan from University of Limerick who won the 60 x 30 Open Singles title as well as the A Singles in 40 x 20 and Eimear Ní Fhalláin, UCD, who was best in the Ladies 60 x 30 A Singles. Charly Shanks from Queen's University shone in the Men's Open 40 x 20 and Maria Daly representing UCC did likewise in the 40 x 20 Open Singles.

DIT again dominated the team events winning the Men's A and B 40 x 20 titles against UCD and UL/GMIT respectively and over University of Limerick and DCU in 60 x 30. That college also made its mark in the USHA Collegiates doing very well in the points table for overall team performance and Brian Carroll reaching the Men's Open final only to go down 18-21, 21-18, 11-6 to Ricardo Diaz of the USA in the final.

All-Ireland Colleges

Six different schools won the six titles in the Boys 60 x 30 Colleges championships, a far cry from some years ago when two or three schools dominated in all grades and there was a similar outcome in the 40 x 20 championships which is very pleasing. The situation was quite different in Girls Championships where Mercy Convent, Roscommon, reflecting the strength of the St Coman's Club, won seven of the eight titles on offer, the only exception being Scoil Bhríde, Carnew in Junior 40 x 20 Singles.

I wish to express the thanks and appreciation of the Irish Handball Council 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. There are many colleges where there is little teacher interest in the game and there should be a more concentrated effort on the part of schools to encourage the playing of handball: clubs must liaise with teachers, especially the principals and games masters/PE teachers, and encourage them to take a greater interest in helping to promote handball in schools. It must be acknowledged that but for the good work of so many parents and Club officials, there would be far fewer players involved in colleges handball.

I wish to acknowledge the work done by the provincial schools handball organisers in contacting the schools, taking entries and organising the draws and 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 appeal to all the organisers to have competitions run off in time to facilitate the making of the All-Ireland fixtures: far too often we do not have the names of some provincial winners until a day or two before the fixtures take place. This is far from satisfactory and militates against informing schools who their opponents are and where the games are to be played.

Féile na nGael

Féile na nGael was hosted for the second successive year by Cork and our thanks and those of the participating clubs are due to all the venues 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.

Peter Dennehy, Rúnaí Choiste Chorcaí 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.

The Clogh Club from Kilkenny set the standard in Boys 60 x 30 winning the final against Cappagh from Limerick 42-28. Kells, another Kilkenny Club, took the Boys 40 x 20 Division One honours with a decisive win against Tulla from Clare. The Division Two title went to Mallow who had a tight 37-34 win over Newport, Mayo. Indreabhán defeated another Galway Club, Moycullen, in the Boys Division Two 40 x 20 final 42-23. Ballydesmond had an excellent win in the Girls 40 x 20 Division One final defeating Newport, Mayo, 38-37 in a nail-biting contest. Clooney from Clare were best in the Girls 40 x 20 Division Two final when they outscored Cappagh from Limerick 36-27.

Entries in the Boys 60 x 30 competition are very disappointing with only three or four teams taking part for the past few years. This is very ominous for the softball game: if there are so few entries, there must be great concern for the future of the code. It appears that some Clubs are reluctant to enter due to the likelihood that they have little or no chance of winning. The demise of the Division Two event some years ago signalled a warning sign: the Promotion and Development Task Teams should review this area and take definite steps to revive juvenile softball in as many Clubs as possible if it is not to decline further.

FBD Irish Nationals

The FBD Irish Nationals were again very successful attracting over 350 entries in the 17 events from 13 and Under to Golden Masters. That level of interest was partly due to the fact that the Nationals doubled as trials for the Irish team for the World Championships in Canada. Entries in the juvenile sections were very high 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 Kilkenny, Laois and Carlow venues where the games were well organised.

Many of the All-Ireland champions in various grades were victorious in the Nationals: Fiona Shannon took top honours in the Ladies Open defeating Maria Daly from Kerry while Tony Healy had a good 6-21, 21-18, 11-5 win over Paul Brady. Ulster players took the other men's events: Séamus Ó Tuama in A, Gary McCrory in B and Ruairí Kelly in C. Pat O'Flaherty, Tipperary, won the Masters B title, Kevin Geraghty from Mayo the Golden Masters A and Pat Buckley from Cork the Golden Masters B. Fidelma O'Reilly from Limerick was best in Ladies B.

Eoghan Hennessy from Kilkenny won the Boys 13 and Under final and Diarmuid Nash from Tuamgraney took the 15 and Under title. Tyrone's Padraig McGlinchey was the 17 and Under winner and Robert McCarthy continued his dominance in 19 and Under. In the girls events the honours went to Caitríona Casey, Cork, in 13 and Under, Leona Doolin from Roscommon in 15 and Under, Aisling Reilly, Antrim, in the 17 and Under grade and Ashley Prendiville from Kerry in 19 and Under.

We acknowledge and appreciate the sponsorship and support of FBD for the Nationals and appreciate the interest of Walter Moran, Technical Sales Manager and Nuala McNamara and Therese Dowling of the FBD Sales Department in the event.

One-Wall Nationals

Coiste Chontae Shligigh again hosted the One Wall Nationals in July and once more did the players and organisation proud: this

event has certainly become a very attractive date in the handball calendar and most of the players who take part have been regular participants 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 the games went off very smoothly.

Robert McCarthy from Westmeath won the Men's Open title for the first time with a great 7-15, 15-10, 11-8 win over David King of Carlow who has a marvellous record in the One Wall Nationals. Marianna Rushe from St Coman's had a good 15-13, 15-5 win over Ashley Prendiville from Kerry. Paul Fitzpatrick, Cavan and Michael Donnelly from Tyrone were best in Men's A and Men's B respectively. The Masters title went to Francis McCann of Sligo while the Golden Masters and Diamond Masters winners were Peter Larkin from Monaghan and Nicholas Clancy, Galway respectively. Mayo had three juvenile winners – Amy Corrigan from Ballaghaderreen in Girls Under 14, Ian McLoughlin in Boys Under 16 and Dara Reid in the Under 18 event. Leona Doolin brought a second title to St Coman's Club when she was best in the Girls Under 16 final.

World Championships

The Waterford Crystal Handball Championships, hosted by the Canadian Handball Association in Edmonton, Alberta were a major organisational success. The host committee spared no effort in planning the championships and the many social events which were held from 4 to 13 August. Beginning in 2003, they advertised widely and mailed all participating countries providing literature to attract as many players as possible to Edmonton for the championships and also to Alberta as a tourist destination. Over 300 Irish players made the journey and took part in all the main events. Indeed, but for the Irish interest in the Junior grades, it would not have been possible to run all of them.

Irish players won a total of 38 titles, eight in one wall and 30 in 40 x 20. There were 21 victories in the Junior events and 17 at adult level. Male players won 22 titles and females took 16.

Open Singles Players Make History

Paul Brady made history when he became the first player to retain the Men's Open Singles title when he defeated Tony Healy in a repeat of the 2003 final on a 21-7, 21-11 scoreline. With a superb display of silken skills and all that is good in the game, the Cavan man took the game to his opponent and won with lots to spare. The Cork player had some compensation in the Open Doubles final when he and Eoin Kennedy wrested the title from Paul Brady and Michael Finnegan in a classical game of titanic proportions: anyone who had the good fortune to see this spectacular was in awe of the intensity of the contest and marvelled at the skill, dexterity, determination and sportsmanship of all four players who were acclaimed by a very appreciative audience at the end of the match which went down to the last few points with the Healy/Kennedy combination winning out 18-21, 21-13, 11-8.

Fiona Shannon also retained her Ladies Open Singles title, the first player in the history of this event to do so. She was always too strong for Anna Christoff and ran out a comfortable 21-13, 21-11 winner to be presented with her trophy by GAA President Nicky Brennan. With her sister Sibéal McKenna, she went down to the Canadian pairing of Lisa Fraser and Jessica Gawley for the second time in three years 21-7, 21-8 in the Women's Open Doubles final.

Ireland had significant victories in Men's A where Joe McCann, Mayo, took the singles title and Declan Frawley (Clare) and Colm Jordan (Cork) were best in doubles. Eddie Burke from

Kilkenny was the winner of the Men's B Singles while Cormac Smyth (Wexford) and Richie Walshe (Wicklow) took the honours in Men's B Doubles. Shane O'Neill from Tyrone had a great double in Men's C, partnered by Ruairi Kelly in doubles. Michael Ducky Walsh continued his form taking the Masters A Singles and Doubles, Egin Jensen providing the support. The other Irish adult male winners were Cormac O'Brien (Roscommon) in Masters B Singles and Pat O'Flaherty (Tipperary) and John Hedigan (Cork) in Masters B Doubles.

Juniors Take Top Honours

Irish Junior players almost swept the boards winning every premier title with the exception of the Boys 17 and Under Singles and Doubles. Robert McCarthy was best in a marvellous Boys 19 and Under Singles final against his doubles partner Brian Carroll from the Kells Club in Meath coming out on the right end 21-13, 11-21, 11-7. The pair were later too good for US opponents in the doubles final. Diarmuid Nash of the Ireland team took gold in the 15 and Under Singles and Doubles defeating Luis Cordova of Mexico 21-15, 17-21, 11-9 in a terrific final and he and Niall Malone from Clare won the doubles against Shane Hedigan (Cork) and Dara Ó Súilleabháin (Kerry). The boys 13 and Under Singles title went to Pádraig O'Carroll from Limerick and Patrick McCrory (Tyrone) won the Boys 11 and Under event.

Irish girls were victorious in big numbers: Marianna Rushe from the St Coman's Club in Roscommon defeated Ashley Prendiville of the Ireland team 2-11, 21-14 in the 19 and Under Singles but the Kerry girl teamed up with her Ireland team mate Aisling Reilly to win the 19 and Under Doubles title. Aisling Reilly also won the 17 and Under Singles and Marianna Rushe and partner Katie Costello took the 17 and Under Doubles. The 15 and Under Singles winner was Leona Doolin of the Ireland team who won the doubles with Shauna Hilley from Wicklow. The latter player also won the 15 and Under One Wall Singles and, with Mary Duffy, Mayo, the doubles. Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) and Martina McMahon (Limerick) took the honours in the 13 and Under and 11 and Under finals respectively.

Apart from Fiona Shannon's victory, the other Irish adult ladies four wall wins were Emer Coyle and Deirdre Donohue (Roscommon) in Women's B Doubles, Sarah Flavin from Limerick in C Singles and the Clogh duo of Claire Love and Marie Therese O'Neill in Women's C Doubles.

One Wall Successes

As mentioned above, Shauna Hilley, with Mary Duffy in doubles, won two one wall titles. Maighread Ní Riabhaigh Ó Dúill from Armagh won the Women's B Singles against Aine Gorman from Dublin. Leona Archibald (Westmeath) and Karen Lawlor (Kerry) were the best pairing in the 19 and Under Doubles event. Thomas Turley from Armagh won the Boys 17 and Under final and Tyrone players Caolán Daly and Michael Donaghy took top honours in the Boys 15 and Under final. Patrick Funchion from Kilkenny made his mark in Boys 13 and Under while Patrick McCrory from Tyrone set up the first leg of his double by winning the Coed 11 and Under final.

Buíochas

On behalf of all Irish players, officials and supporters I wish to thank and compliment the Edmonton Organising Committee on their excellent organisation of such a mammoth task of running the World Championships. The games were very well coordinated and, apart from a few relatively small difficulties, the whole programme ran very smoothly and efficiently. The transport

system between the various accommodation points and the venues was superb and the good humour of the personnel involved added to the enjoyment to the whole experience.

The social and entertainment programme ranged from a spectacular Opening Ceremony which included many local and native features as well as a flag-bearing ceremony to the barbecue, a VIP reception and dinner and the Closing Banquet.

Our thanks and appreciation to GAA President Nickey Brennan and his wife Mairéad for their attendance at the Championships, the first such visit by a GAA President outside Ireland. This was very much appreciated by everyone and we are grateful to them for taking the time to travel to Edmonton and take a big interest in attending the various games and functions. The President addressed the meeting of the World Handball Council during the Championships and was guest of honour at the Irish Club in Edmonton.

M Donnelly Sponsorship

Our thanks are due in great measure to Martin Donnelly and his company M Donnelly for their financial support and for sponsoring the Irish team. He has been a long-standing sponsor of Gaelic games and we appreciate his very generous support for the team.

I wish to sincerely thank all the Irish players and supporters who travelled to Edmonton and helped to make the Championships a very memorable experience. Our thanks are also due to Tony Hayes, Team Manager, Anne Naughton, Assistant Manager and Sean McEntee, Team Coach and to Richard Willoughby and Jimmy King who helped prepare the Irish team for the Worlds. It is with great anticipation that large numbers of Irish players are already planning to travel to Portland, Oregon for the next championships in 2009.

USHA Nationals and Juniors

It was another historic year for Paul Brady at the USHA Nationals when he became the first Irish player to retain the USHA Nationals Open Singles title and he and Michael Finnegan took the Open Doubles for Ireland for the second successive year following the success of Tony Healy and Ricky McCann in 2005. His emphatic 21-2, 21-17 win over Naty Alvarado, Jnr was repeated in the US Open of Handball later in the year when he defeated the same player 20-21, 21-17, 11-6. The Cavan pair won the Open Doubles title 21-9, 20-21, 11-4 against Eddie Chapa and Eddie Silveyra.

Irish junior players kept up their record with some fine victories in the USHA Junior Championships but Robert McCarthy who won the 19 and Under Doubles with Billy O'Donnell from the US was deprived of a unique record of six successive Junior Singles titles when he went down to Luis Moreno 21-7, 21-19 in the 19 and Under final.

In the USHA Juniors Ashley Prendiville of Kerry, representing Ireland, won the Girls 19 and Under round robin. Marianna Rushe from Roscommon took gold in the 17 and Under event defeating Pauline Gallagher of the Ireland team 21-7, 21-7. Both girls combined to win the 19 and Under Doubles against Ashley Prendiville and Shauna Hilley. The latter player, also of the Ireland team, was victorious in the 15 and Under race.

Gary McConnell from the Kells Club in Meath, representing Ireland in the Juniors for the third successive year, took gold in the Boys 15 and Under at the expense of Caolán Daly from Tyrone 20-21, 21-19, 11-10 in a really well contested final. The Tyrone player was victorious in the 15 and Under Doubles final when he teamed up with Stephen Cooney from the Ballaghaderreen Club in Mayo to defeat US opponents. Keith Kavanagh from

Wicklow paired off with Brant Bidegain of the US to take the Boys 13 and Under Doubles title while Barry Nash from Clare won the Boys 11 and Under gold.

Irish handballers have had a major impact on the US championships over many years. Great credit is due to the many coaches who work tirelessly at club level to coach and train their juveniles; they do a marvellous job and can be rightly proud of their protégés and their achievements. The players are excellent representatives of their families, Clubs, counties and country and have brought Irish handball to the top of the ladder. This has been achieved on a progressive basis and we must continue to encourage clubs to coach their juveniles to the highest standard. However, it must be noted with concern that quite a large number of clubs have no juveniles and that has to be a serious worry for the future of those Clubs. Each Provincial Council should examine the position in its counties and take urgent promotional action to get juvenile handball on a sound footing in every Club under its jurisdiction.

Developments in Europe

Tom O'Connor, International Officer, continued his contacts with several European Associations and renewed contacts with others. Arising from this and other developments the Dutch are due to hold One Wall Nationals in October, 2007 and their president and vice-president will have attended the FBD Nationals and All Star Awards in Kilkenny and will have had meetings with Irish officials.

The English Fives Association held One Wall Nationals in the summer with David King winning the main event. There will be English Nationals again in July, 2007 and an International Open in December. Both Eton Fives and Rugby Fives have combined to support the one wall development which is being substantially funded by local government

In April An tUachtarán and the Riarthóir attended meetings with the president and international officer of the Basque Pelota Federation and the Basque Sports Minister to discuss cooperation between both bodies and to plan for future events. A Compromise Rules team of Eoin Kennedy, Dessie Keegan, James Doyle, Damien Martin, Darragh Daly and Ger Connan took part in an invitational tournament against the Basque Country at the end of June. The event consisted of Senior and Under 22 Singles and Doubles games with the aggregate score deciding the winners. The pelota court was adapted by the lowering of the Basque tell board and a lighter hardball was used but the Irish were unable to match the skill and craft of the Basques losing out 120-55. Had they had an opportunity to play a realistic challenge match in advance of the international contest it would have been of immense benefit to them. The One Wall international was a very well contested event with the Basques again winning 105-76.

In November Eoin Kennedy, Dessie Keegan, Robert McCarthy and David King represented Ireland in a One Wall tournament in Italy which was won by the two first-named players in an exciting final. The official Irish party were hosted in fine style by the Italian Federation who will be represented at the Irish One Wall Nationals in Sligo in July.

One wall handball is also played in Belgium and there is considerable interest in the game in northern France. It is also played in several other countries and it is planned to organise a European championship in Ireland in 2008. Tom O'Connor attended an international conference in Bilbao in December which attracted many South American and European countries at which proposals to develop the game were outlined. A further possibility is that one wall handball could be played as a demonstration sport at the Olympic Games in London in 2112. All these

developments and possibilities cannot be fulfilled without a great deal of international planning and cooperation between several countries and the financial support of government agencies. If this is to be realised an international organising body must be established with the support of handball playing countries to plan and fund international competition. It will not be easy to do so but it must be done in the interest of the game.

Fixtures And Competitions

As can be seen from a comparison of the number of national competitions between 1990 and 2006, there has been a huge increase in the number of fixtures involved. This requires the cooperation of everyone involved in organising championships at county, provincial and national levels. If we are to have proper notification of fixtures and adequate publicity we must complete all provincial championships on time.

Over the past year it has been very difficult to get the complete lists of players in time: in some cases fixtures had to be issued without knowing the representatives of at least twelve counties. This is very unsatisfactory and cannot continue. Players are entitled to know who their opponents are so that they can make the necessary preparations for their games and PROs need the information for local media. We lament the lack of publicity but we are not helping our own cause by delaying championships ad infinitum, particularly when there are only two or three games to be played.

There have been several difficulties in making fixtures in the senior grade, especially in 40 x 20. This is due to the duration of the championship, players taking part in the USHA Collegiates and other international events, the playing of the FBD Nationals during the championship season and the format of the championships. We have to find a solution to this problem: can we play the championships over a few weekends so that the momentum is kept up and players can prepare for that type of competition?

During the year a small number of counties sought postponements for various reasons. Some were granted in the interest of youth handball (juvenile and minor) but the concession backfired on two occasions when counties did not reciprocate the leniency shown, and difficulties arose. If rules and policies are strictly adhered to it is easy for counties to say that the Council is not promoting handball but it is a different story if things do not work out satisfactorily afterwards: in such cases it is always an easy option to blame the office for something which arises from requests which should not be made in the first place or which should not be conceded.

We seriously need to revise our competition structure and the Competitions Task Team has made some proposals in relation to the masters grades but we must examine all competitions to assess their merits and see what can be done to improve the situation. Young players should be consulted on this as they are the ones who will carry the game forward and they will have fresh ideas on how championships should be run. As it is, we have little or no time for the promotion or development of handball due to the spread of the championships: this must be rectified.

Refereeing

On behalf of the Irish 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 2006 to ensure that this was achieved.

Anyone who referees games should have a thorough knowledge of the rules and understand the intricacies of handball. We need to train more referees to a very high standard: the players deserve it and the game requires that we do so. The standard of play and the speed of players demand that referees be fully familiar with the rules and implement them impartially. 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.

Refereeing standards vary quite a lot and it is essential that all referees come up to the best standard possible. The rules are straightforward enough and a refereeing course can be provided for any unit at county or provincial level. It takes courage to begin to referee but one can gain confidence very quickly beginning with juveniles and progressing to adult games in a relatively short time. We have relied for a long time on a certain number of referees and I appeal to young members in particular to get involved in refereeing and contribute to the sport. Refereeing can bring its own rewards and it can be a very satisfying experience to take on this vital role in handball.

Administration

I want to say a word of sincere thanks and appreciation to all Rúnaithe Contae for the amount of work they carry out on a regular basis, especially those in large county units. It is not an easy task to keep the organisation going when there are so many events to be planned and organised. Activity in a county usually revolves around the work of the Rúnaí and the undoubted commitment and enthusiasm of so many people is exemplary.

It must be said, however, that it can be very difficult to get some basic information from counties: last year was particularly bad in relation to registrations and a number of unregistered players won All-Ireland and other titles. This is particularly serious on two counts: all players must be registered before they play in official competitions and, secondly, they must be covered for the Player Injury Scheme. It is a disservice to the game when players are not registered in time and I ask all counties to comply with the relevant rule from now on. The amount of time lost in following up on unpaid entry fees, dealing with late entries and payment for invoices, among other things, is very frustrating: all fees and invoices etc should be paid to the Council at the right time and I appeal to all concerned to act on this.

A major concern in some counties and many Clubs is that there are no General Meetings or reports to members. This is very undemocratic and unsatisfactory: members are entitled to an annual review of activities and any unit which does not fulfil this duty is acting irresponsibly. All units must have a constitution governing the affairs of that body so that relevant matters are dealt with as required under rule. Each Provincial Council should take steps to assess the situation in its own province and report to Ard Chomhairle as appropriate.

At national level it was a very difficult year: the fact that the Promotion Administrator position was not filled left a huge void in the workings of the Council and it meant many extra hours of additional work in the office. I regret that it was not possible to fulfil all the functions normally carried but that will be rectified during 2007. It would be timely to have review of the workload at national level and to assess how it can be implemented fully in the future.

I wish to thank Tomás Breathnach, Uachtarán, for all his help during the year and especially in late 2006 when I was

unavoidably absent from the office. I also thank Aidan Mulligan for his unstinting service. Without them it would not have been possible to carry out all the functions of the office. Thanks are also due to Siobhán Butler who worked in the office for the summer holiday period and helped greatly in the run-up to the World Championships.

Publicity and Awards

National publicity for various aspects of the game was less than desired in 2006 but there were some very significant TV programmes such as the RTÉ OB Sport programme on the World Championships and a Setanta documentary on historical and current aspects of the game as well as the annual TG4 coverage of the softball finals and the OB Sport item on the FBD Nationals. Other promotions include contributions to various GAA and sports magazines, local and national radio and interviews with the press.

Our thanks and appreciation to those journalists and PROs who contribute regular articles to their local and national papers. Tony McGee of the Irish News writes a weekly column. Chris Curran, Ciaran Curran and Michael McGee make excellent contributions to various magazines. Peter Dennehy is the regular handball correspondent for The Examiner and other papers in the south. Many county and Club PROs can be relied on for weekly features in their areas. Our thanks, too, to Aidan Crowley for his weekly article and for providing results for the Irish Independent.

John McLoughlin provides an excellent results service for followers of the game; we appreciate all that he does to publicise the sport. In passing, I would like to comment on the fact that several contributors to his message board do not identify their names: if they are so concerned about various issues – and there are many of them – they should be prepared to stand over their comments. Anonymous letters are the hallmark of a person who complains but is afraid to stand up and speak openly: the same can be said about those who do not put their names to their contributions.

Paul Brady received an Ulster GAA Writers Award, the Cavan Person of the Year Award and made history by being selected as the Jury's Hotel/Irish Independent Sports Star of the Week Award in July following his retention of the USHA Open Singles title and winning the Open Doubles for the first time with Michael Finnegan. It was a major disappointment that he was not rewarded for his feats in 2006 with a Texaco Award; he certainly had a much more credible claim to such an award than one or two who were included among the ten winners.

Diarmuid Nash received the Munster GAA Council Handball Award following his victories in the World 15 and Under Singles and Doubles finals – as well as his domestic achievements. Roscommon and Limerick players were feted by the local councils and there were many other functions to recognise World champions.

It is becoming more important than ever that our players are rewarded and recognised for their contribution to the game: they provide great enjoyment and entertainment for our supporters and they put a huge amount of time and effort into their game. I would strongly encourage provinces, counties and Clubs which do not already do so to honour their stars in an annual awards presentation. It would be very appropriate to do this and it would add to the general profile of handball.

Yearbook 2006

The 2006 Handball Yearbook was published in August and provides a good record of a wide range of happenings for the

year covering international items as well as the usual events in Ireland. It was not possible to publish the Yearbook any earlier due to several factors including pressure of work, lack of staff and the difficulty in getting material from handball units and personnel in time. In addition, many articles are far too long and have to be re-written; some have to be corrected and others need significant editing. This is an ongoing problem and if the Yearbook is to be continued counties and provinces will have to play their part in providing adequate copy and photographs in a suitable format for ease of editing and publication.

As in previous years, some counties and provinces did not contribute articles for the Yearbook; this is regrettable as all units should ensure that their activities are recorded for posterity. I appeal to all concerned to make rectify this problem for the future. It is also important that the Yearbook is distributed to all registered adult members as provided for in registration fees: there is evidence that this is not happening in some cases.

Our thanks to all those who contributed articles for the Yearbook and to people who forwarded photographs to complement them. I wish to pay a special 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 the Yearbook. I also thank Tom Beirne and his excellent staff in The Kilkenny People who worked very hard to produce a worthwhile publication.

Because of circumstances beyond my control at the end of 2006 it was not possible to go ahead with the 2007 Yearbook but it is planned to do so as soon as possible as it is part of the Council's remit to do so and, again, it is important to publish the achievements and records of the year.

FBD All Star Awards

The FBD Handball All Star Awards for 2005 was a very successful event which was held in conjunction with the FBD Nationals in Kilkenny. The awards were presented by Nioclás Ó Braonáin, Uachtarán GLG, Tomás Breathnach, Uachtarán CLLE and Walter Moran, Technical Sales Manager, FBD. Brian Carthy, RTE Gaelic games correspondent was a very efficient master of ceremonies and added a professional dimension to the awards ceremony. Ronnie Delaney, winner of the 1,500 metres title at the Melbourne Olympic Games in 1956 was a very welcome special guest and his commentary on a showing of that race was a highlight of the Awards night.

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 important to review any scheme or event from time to time and the FBD All Stars is no exception. The Award categories have been the same since the mid 1990s and, no doubt, have been very popular. They have served the sport well so far and the Hall of Fame award has been particularly well received in recognising players and officials who have made an exceptional contribution to the game over a long period of time. However, with progress and developments in handball it would be appropriate to take stock of the awards and decide if they need to be improved in any way. Any comments or suggestions on the Awards would be welcome for review by Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann.

Eoin Kennedy from the St Brigid's Club in Dublin was named Player of the Year (male) on foot of his achievement in winning All-Ireland Senior Softball Singles and Doubles, Senior 40 x 20

Doubles and Senior Hardball Singles titles. Fiona Shannon received her eighth All Star award following her victories in the All-Ireland 40 x 20 Senior Singles and Doubles finals. Robert McCarthy, Westmeath, won four All-Irelands and was Young Player of the Year (male) while Ashley Prendiville from Kerry was the outstanding player in 2005 and received the Young Player of the Year Award (female).

Paul Brady was the first Irish player to win the USHA Open Singles title in the 55 year history of the event and was again chosen as International Player of the Year. Pat Morris from Cork who won a Silver Masters All-Ireland title in 40 x 20 was Masters Player of the Year. Sean McEntee was the Hall of Fame recipient in recognition of his contribution to handball in his club, county, province and country and as Uachtarán he introduced the All Stars and Irish Nationals in 1994.

Michael Naughton from St Coman's Club in Roscommon has had a very long record in coaching juveniles in his club and county and had particular successes in 2005 culminating in being named as Coach of the Year. Official of the Year was John McLoughlin who served as Sligo secretary for many years and was Connacht secretary until 2005: his Home Page is an integral part of Irish and international handball. Club of the Year was Cappagh which had very significant successes in provincial, national and international competitions as well as developing its facilities over a number of years. The Special Achievement Award went to Paddy Collins from the Ballina Club in Tipperary.

FBD All Star Award Winners

Young Player of the Year (Female) – Ashley Prendiville (Ciarraí)

Young Player of the Year (Male) – Robert McCarthy (An Iarmhí)

Player of the Year (Female) – Fiona Shannon (Aontroim)

Player of the Year (Male) – Eoin Kennedy (Ath Cliath)

International Player of the Year – Paul Brady (An Cabhán)

Masters Player of the Year – Pat Morris (Corcaigh)

Special Achievement – Paddy Collins (Tiobraid Árann)

Coach of the Year – Michael Naughton (Roscomáin)

Official of the Year – John McLoughlin (Sligeach)

Hall of Fame – Seán McEntee (Aontroim)

Club of the Year – Cappagh (Luimneach)

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

Over the past three years the Council has received an annual grant of 100,000 from our parent body: this has been vital for the ongoing operations of the Council. This is greatly appreciated by handball and we also acknowledge the special grant of 30,000 towards the cost of the participation of the Irish team in the World Championships in Canada. The GAA has advised on many handball matters at Management Committee level and reviewed plans and proposals regarding the new handball facilities at Croke Park and we acknowledge this essential support.

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. Gabhaimid buíochas faoi leith do Níoclás Ó Braonáin, 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 Maolmhichíl, as ucht an chabhair a thug sé dúinn i 2006. Bhí sé ar fail 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

Liam Ó Máirtín from Westmeath is the GAA Management Committee representative on Ard Chomhairle CLLE. He has given great support and encouragement to handball and attended almost all of our Council meetings and we express our thanks to him for this.

Our thanks to the GAA Provincial Councils for the financial support for the World Championships and for the grants and other support they provide for the Provincial Handball Councils 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. Handball units have a duty to play their part by assisting the GAA units in the organisation and stewarding of matches and in administration wherever possible and to assist in the development of the Association at all levels, especially at local level.

Ceannaras

The Irish Handball Centre was the focus of much attention for some time: this culminated in the closing of the Centre in March, 2005 following which protracted negotiations took place between a Steering Committee and Croke Park Stadium resulting in the re-opening of the Centre in January, 2006 under specific terms agreed by both parties. The Irish Handball Sports Council Centre Club has been given responsibility for all events held in the premises and now reports to the Stadium Director on policy and financial matters.

The Irish Handball Council arranges games at the Centre through the Management Committee and because of the restrictions imposed by the Fire Officer, it is not possible to hold major games in the 40 x 20 court and an inspection must be carried out by the Safety Officer in advance of the All-Ireland Softball finals each year.

Since the Centre was established the Irish Handball Council has been represented on its Management Committee but that will come to an end at the next AGM when the Riarthóir will step down as Rúnaí.

The Centre is now managed by John Molloy who has had a long involvement with handball at Dublin, Leinster and national levels. I thank him for his contribution to Ceannaras as a member of the Management Committee for several years and wish him well in his new role. I also thank all members of the Committee for their involvement over the years and acknowledge the major role played by Cathaoirleach, Vinny Farrelly and Jimmy Heffernan over the past two years. Thanks to Garrett Graham who was Centre Manager from January to November, 2006 and to the voluntary staff who assisted with the operation of the bar throughout the year.

Insurance

The issue of insurance is raised with increasing frequency in relation to Public Liability and Employer's Liability in respect of which all handball units can be covered under GAA policies. This must be done at county level and it is incumbent on all county units to make the necessary arrangements and to ensure that all personnel and properties are adequately covered. Some counties do not seem to be aware of the fact that they can avail of the GAA cover; all of them should review the cover for their clubs as a matter of great urgency to protect the interests of everyone concerned and avoid any potential problems which might arise from neglecting this serious responsibility.

Units must take every precaution to ensure that our Clubs and

officials are fully protected in the event of any injury or of damage to or loss of property. This is vital in relation to playing injuries: players cannot be allowed take part in training or games without being a registered member of a Club and every Club should display notices to this effect. There should be notices in all 40 x 20 courts stating that players must wear eyeguards while using the court: this must also apply in 60 x 30 courts where eye protection is required for juveniles and in ladies softball.

The Player Injury Scheme has been very worthwhile and many players have benefited very significantly from it. It must be properly monitored to ensure that claims in respect of handball injuries arise from handball alone; it is in the interest of everybody that proper care is taken to protect the scheme and to safeguard it for the future.

Clubs must ensure that any sports outside the auspices of the Association which are played in handball facilities are officially permitted by the Club only when the necessary evidence of insurance cover is in place and when Club officials have sight of the relevant documentation.

Sports Councils

We are very indebted to the Irish Sports Council for its support for handball over the past year: the grant of over 127,000 was vital to the administration and development of the organisation and essential in providing the services needed to assist our units, players and personnel to work at all levels of handball.

The role of the ISC has developed significantly over the years and it provides NGBs with the opportunity to develop their own sports and to avail of the many courses which they organise in areas of special interest. The ISC has led the way in developing sports policy for the country but one cannot but suggest that there should be much more emphasis on the minor sports; it appears that those which are strongest are those which benefit most whereas the weaker sports need more assistance.

Sports Council personnel were available on many occasions to advise the office and officials on a range of issues during the year and to meet with them as required. Our thanks and appreciation to John Treacy, CEO, and his staff for their help and guidance throughout the year. A special word of thanks is due to Diane Fay in the NGB unit for her help and guidance in 2006. We also acknowledge the financial and other support provided by the Sports Council of Northern Ireland to some units in the North.

Uachtarán

Tomás Breathnach, Uachtarán travelled widely and attended numerous handball and social functions as well as officiating at games throughout the length and breadth of the country. He took time to meet players at every opportunity and has been very conscious of their role in the organisation and there were very few finals in 2006 where he was not in attendance.

On the European front he continued the development of strong links with the Basque Pelota Federation and led Irish teams to compete in internationals against the Basques in June and against Italy in November.

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 of the organisation.

My thanks and appreciation to the Uachtarán, for all his help and advice over the past year and especially for his assistance in running the office when I was unavoidably absent for a long period at the end of the year. Special thanks and appreciation to Aidan Mulligan who also helped out in the office during 2006.

na Mairbh

It was with great regret that we learned of the death of Pakie Hoare from Roscommon after a lengthy illness. Pakie was a very keen handball player, coach and enthusiast and won an All-Ireland Junior Softball medal. He wrote booklets on coaching and handball history and was a member of the Roscommon Minor football team which won the All-Ireland final in 1941. He was one of the main organisers of the development of the 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 courts at St Coman's and was always eager and willing to advise other clubs on their developments. Pakie was a very keen proponent of one wall handball and was a key figure in the hosting of the European Championships in Roscommon in 1999.

Michael McCloskey was another person who had a great influence on handball and made an enormous contribution to the juvenile game in Dublin for many years. He guided several players to national successes and he, too, will be sadly missed.

Dublin and Irish handball lost one of the brightest stars of ladies handball when Julie Behan (nee Long) lost a long battle with a serious illness on 4 March, 2007. Julie won World and European titles as well as nine national titles and was named Young Player of the Year in 1995. A very outgoing and vivacious lady, she took on many responsibilities in St Brigid's Club in Blanchardstown where juvenile handball is now thriving. We extend the sympathy of all handball personnel and units to her husband Gary and her two daughters, her parents and sisters and her other family members.

Many players and officers lost family members during the year and these are remembered in Masses for the deceased. We offer the support and sympathy of our members and units to all who were bereaved.

Buíochas

Ba mhaith liom bhuíochas a ghabháil le gach duine a chabhraigh le foireann na hoifige chun imeachtaí liathróid láimhe a chur i gcrí 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 extremely efficient in managing the Council's finances. His 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.

Thanks, too, to all Task Team members and to the members of Ard Chomhairle and An Coiste Bainistí for their unselfish contribution to the workings of the Council and without whose help it would be impossible for the organisation to function. Many other people have contributed to the running of handball at national level and have offered guidance and advice on many matters and I appreciate their contribution.

Finally, I would like to wish all handball units and personnel a very successful year ahead in 2007 and to say that despite what some may believe, "the glass is half full, not half empty".

Lorcán Ó Ruairc

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta.

NA RÚIN

1. That eyeguards be compulsory in hardball. (Cill Mhantáin)
2. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann recognise the Irish Collegiate Handball Association/An Chomhairle Árd Oideachais Liathróid Láimhe (ICHA/CAOLL) as the National Governing Body for Third Level Handball in Ireland. (Áth Cliath).
3. That CLLE allow the ICHA/CAOLL nominate one person to Ard Chomhairle CLLÉ with full attendance and voting rights.
Amend Fo-Riail 33 (a) as follows: "... and the ICHA/CAOLL representative to the Ard Chomhairle".
Amend Fo-Riail 33 (b) as follows: "The ICHA/CAOLL representative shall be represented by a proxy, who shall be a member of the ICHA/CAOLL". (Áth Cliath)
4. That the registration fee for Third Level students be reduced to a level to determined by Ard Chomhairle. (Áth Cliath)

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

23 March 2007

A Cháirde

We have examined the records of an Chomhairle for the year ended 31 December 2006.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to €298,259. Expenditure came to €272,603 leaving an Operating Surplus of €25,656. In the preceding year there was a surplus of €21,312. As compared with that year the following were the principal variations in Income and Expenditure:

I	Increase €	Decrease €
Irish Sports Council Grants	2,659	-

EXPENDITURE

Administration and General World		
Championship Expenses	47,288	-
Meetings and Officials' Travel	-	10,503
Staff costs	-	34,782
Printing, postage and advertising	-	7,732

PROVISIONS AND WRITE OFFS

Full provision has been made against the loan of €22,855 provided to the Galway Handball Board, which reduced the surplus for the year to €2,801. In addition the Association's investment of €386,254 in Ceannarus was written off in 2005.

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of an Chomhairle at 31 December 2006 had a value of €228,169. Liabilities at the same date including Bank Overdraft of 222,790 came to €308,765. The current liabilities exceeded current assets by €87,957.

As in previous years Interest on Bank Borrowings has been avoided by arrangement with Central Council Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

Is sinne le meas

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES, Chartered Accountants

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006

The management are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland including the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

Management is required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and the group and of the profit or loss of the group for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the management are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group will continue in business.

The management are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of An Chomhairle. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The management are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on An Chomhairle website. Legislation in the Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

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

23 March 2007

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 2006 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

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the organisation's management are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland including the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

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 International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board, except that the scope of our work was limited as explained below.

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 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. However, as stated in Note 1 the evidence available in relation to the repayment of the bank overdraft was limited.

In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Qualified Opinion arising from limitation in audit scope

Except for any adjustments that might have been found to be necessary had we been able to obtain sufficient evidence concerning the appropriateness of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements, in our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in Ireland, of the state of the Council's affairs as at 31 December 2006 and of its results for the year then ended

In respect solely of the limitation on our work relating to the assessment of the appropriateness of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements we have not obtained all the information and explanations that we considered necessary for the purpose 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.

In our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

Harcourt Centre,
Harcourt Road, Dublin 2
23 March, 2007

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2006

	Schedule	2006 €	2005 €
INCOME			
County Committee and Members		26,153	28,499
Gate Receipts		6,837	6,638
Irish Sports Council Grants	1	107,366	104,707
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants	2	130,000	100,000
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		22,681	10,667
Advertising		700	650
Sundry Sales		1,822	5,305
Yearbook		(857)	(956)
Other Income		3,557	4,001
		<u>298,259</u>	<u>259,511</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Competition Expenses		18,852	20,493
International		9,342	15,691
World Championship Expenses		40,288	(7,000)
Provincial Open Tournament Grants		635	1,270
Third Level Grants		1,270	635
Juvenile		6,389	3,058
Promotional Materials		15,219	12,783
Trophies		18,327	17,278
Meetings and Officials' Travel		27,211	37,714
Provincial Grants		2,540	2,540
Coaching, Leadership and Development		3,317	7,786
Ceannaras Grant		6,000	—
Administration and General	3	120,759	166,121
Depreciation		2,454	2,454
		<u>272,603</u>	<u>280,823</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		25,656	(21,312)
Provision – Loan to Galway Handball			
Board	4	(22,855)	—
Write off investment in Ceannaras	4	—	(386,254)
		<u>2,801</u>	<u>(407,566)</u>
Balance at beginning of year		<u>(86,886)</u>	<u>320,680</u>
Balance at end of year		<u>(84,085)</u>	<u>(86,886)</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

23 March 2007

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2006

	Note	2006 €	2005 €
FIXED ASSETS			
	3	7,361	9,814
Loan – Galway County Board		—	22,855
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		3,868	3,266
C.L.G. Development Scheme		127	127
Loans to Clubs		571	571
Debtors and Prepayments		18,539	23,997
Cash and Bank Balances		197,703	174,652
		<u>220,808</u>	<u>202,613</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Court Construction Grants		2,731	3,174
Grants to Underprivileged Areas		—	1,893
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Development Grant		63,487	63,487
Creditors		19,757	28,086
Bank Overdraft		222,790	222,790
		<u>308,765</u>	<u>319,430</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		(87,957)	(116,817)
		<u>(80,596)</u>	<u>84,148</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund	4	(84,085)	(86,886)
Development Fund		3,489	2,738
		<u>(80,596)</u>	<u>(84,148)</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

23 March 2007

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2006**

1. GOING CONCERN

The repayment of the bank overdraft is dependent on the support of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. An Chomhairle's officers are engaged in discussions with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael regarding this support. At the time of signing the accounts these discussions have not been concluded.

2. 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:

Office Equipment - 20% Straight line

3. FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment €	Total €
COST		
At 1 January 2006	13,997	13,997
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2006	<u>13,997</u>	<u>13,997</u>
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2006	4,183	4,183
Charge for year	<u>2,453</u>	<u>2,453</u>
At 31 December 2006	<u>6,636</u>	<u>6,636</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	<u><u>7,361</u></u>	<u><u>7,361</u></u>

4. ACCUMULATED FUND

	2006 €	2005 €
Balance at beginning of year	(86,886)	320,680
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	<u>2,801</u>	<u>(407,566)</u>
Balance at date	<u>(84,085)</u>	<u>(86,886)</u>

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2006**

2006 2005
€ €

SCHEDULE 1:

Irish Sports Council Grants

Annual Grant	107,366	104,707
Carding Scheme	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>
	<u>131,366</u>	<u>128,707</u>
Less: Distributable		
Carding Scheme	<u>(24,000)</u>	<u>(24,000)</u>
	<u>107,366</u>	<u>104,707</u>

SCHEDULE 2:

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants

Ard Chomhairle Annual and World Championships	<u>130,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
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SCHEDULE 3:

Administration and General Expenses

Staff Costs	90,195	124,977
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	13,028	20,760
Postage and Telephone	6,791	10,541
Audit and Accountancy Fees	4,500	4,500
Bank Interest and Charges	775	429
World Affiliation Fees	-	227
All-Ireland Tickets	1,380	1,199
Miscellaneous	1,624	790
Ceannáras Repairs	<u>2,466</u>	<u>2,698</u>
	<u>120,759</u>	<u>166,121</u>

SCHEDULE 4

Full provision has been made in respect of the loan due from the Galway Handball Board. In 2005 the investment in Ceannáras was written off.

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

TORTHAI 2006

60 x 30

SS: Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Tom Sheridan (Meath) 19-21, 21-19, 21-5
SD: Eoin Kennedy, Egin Jensen (Dublin) dft Barry Goff, Gavin Buggy (Wexford) 21-5, 21-11
IS: Westmeath (Robert McCarthy) dft Cavan (Patrick Finnegan) 21-16, 21-6
ID: Westmeath (Robert McCarthy, Liam Cassidy) dft Roscommon (Aengus Cunningham, Dara Rogers) 21-19, 13-21, 21-13
JS: Laois (Paddy Donovan) dft Roscommon (Lorcán Maughan) 7-21, 21-15, 21-17
JD: Mayo (Ollie Cassidy, Paul Flynn) dft Dublin (Christy Donnelly, Ian Griffin) 21-19, 21-5
JBS: Kilkenny (Seán Maher) dft Armagh (Thomas Turley) 21-11, 21-13
JBD: Kilkenny (Seamus Phelan, Michael Falsey) dft Roscommon (John Kennedy, Billy Kelly) 21-19, 21-15
U21S: Tipperary (Ger Coonan) dft Roscommon (Chris Doolin) 21-12, 21-4
U21D: Roscommon (Rikki O'Gara, Damien Martin) dft Tipperary (Ger Coonan, Eric Monaghan) 21-6, 21-8
MS: Kilkenny (Nicholas Anthony) dft Tyrone (Brian Donaghy) 21-11, 21-16
MD: Kilkenny (Nicholas Anthony, Kirk Greene) dft Tyrone (Brian Donaghy, Conor Duff) 21-12, 21-6
MAS: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh) dft Roscommon (Anthony O'Donnell) 21-0, 21-4
MAD: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh, Pat Maher) dft Roscommon (Anthony O'Donnell, Martin Bruen) 21-4, 21-4
MBS: Tipperary (John McQuaide) dft Roscommon (Ronan Galvin) 21-12, 21-11
MBD: Roscommon (Ger Walsh, Cormac O'Brien) dft Tipperary (Paul Maher, John McQuaide) 21-15, 21-13
SMAS: Wexford (Pat Cleary) dft Sligo (Francis McCann) 21-13, 16-21, 21-9
SMAD: Wexford (Pat Cleary, Benny Doyle) dft Sligo (Francis McCann, Michael Porter) 21-18, 21-9
SMBS: Clare (John Cawley) dft Mayo (Frank Macken) 21-3, 21-14
SMBD: Limerick (Jack Dillon, Jimmy Fanning) dft Mayo (Frank Macken, Aidan Bell) 21-18, 21-18
GMAS: Wexford (Tony Breen) dft Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) 21-6, 21-20
GMAD: Wexford (Tony Breen, Jimmy Goggins) dft Mayo (Kevin Geraghty, Tim Hughes) 21-18, 21-15
GMBS: Monaghan (Michael McCarron) dft Cork (Michael O'Dea) 21-13, 21-17
GMBD: Cork (Michael O'Dea, Chris Hurley) dft Roscommon (James Coughlan, Tom Cunniffe) 21-18, 21-13
EMAS: Tipperary (Pakie Mullins) dft Mayo (Martin Cronin) 21-20, 21-11
EMAD: Tipperary (Pakie Mullins, Seán Doyle) dft Mayo (Michael Corbett, Matt Coady) 21-2, 21-8
EMBS: Dublin (Paddy Murray) dft Sligo (Pat O'Sullivan) 21-9, 21-7

EMBD: Sligo (Pat O'Sullivan, Seamus Duffy) dft Dublin (Paddy Clerkin, John Barton) 21-4, 21-1
DMAS: Clare (John Kirby) dft Mayo (Seán Heaney) 21-9, 21-14
DMAD: Clare (John Kirby, Jimmy Walsh) dft Mayo (Seán Heaney, Tom Derrig) 21-7, 21-11
DMBS: Roscommon (Tom Cunniffe) dft Kerry (Carl Burkett) 21-2, 21-2
DMBD: Wexford (Ger McWilliams, Henry Hayes) dft Kerry (Declan Ryan, Carl Burkett) 21-11, 21-16
RMS: Sligo (Paddy Walsh) dft Cork (Jim Kennedy) 21-3, 21-4
RMD: No Championship

HARDBALL

SHS: Dessie Keegan (Mayo) dft Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) 21-7, 21-17
SHD: Eoin Kennedy, Egin Jensen (Dublin) dft Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan (Meath) 21-5, 21-8
JHS: Damien Martin (Roscommon) dft Jason Tobin (Tipperary) 21-5, 21-3
JHD: Rikki O'Gara, Damien Martin (Roscommon) dft Jason Tobin, Ger Coonan (Tipperary) 21-13, 21-2
MHS: CJ Fitzpatrick (Limerick) dft Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) 15-21, 21-20, 21-7
MHD: Seamus O'Carroll, CJ Fitzpatrick (Limerick) dft Christopher Gavigan, Thomas Flemming (Mayo) 21-3, 21-3
MAS S: Michael Walsh (Kilkenny) dft Willie Pratt (Kilkenny) 21-5, 21-5
MAS D: Michael Walsh, Pat Maher (Kilkenny) dft Ollie Deegan, Pat Coffey (Kildare) 21-6, 21-11

40 x 20

SS: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) 21-19, 21-8
SD: Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Cavan) dft Eoin Kennedy, Egin Jensen (Dublin) 21-15, 21-17
IS: Westmeath (Robert McCarthy) dft Mayo (Joe McCann) 21-9, 14-21, 21-10
ID: Roscommon (Damien Martin, Rikki O'Gara) dft Cork (Colm Jordan, Brendan Fleming) 21-6, 21-12
JS: Laois (Paddy Donovan) dft Galway (Bernie McDonagh) 15-21, 21-6, 21-10
JD: Kilkenny (Brian Manogue, Frank Manogue) dft Galway (Alan Tierney, Bernie McDonagh) 21-11, 21-12
JBS: Offaly (Noel O'Brien) dft Tyrone (Shane O'Neill) 21-19, 21-18
JBD: Clare (Jimmy Close, Dermot Fitzgerald) dft Galway (Kevin Craddock, Trevor Hannan) 21-8, 21-13
U21S: Tyrone (Darragh Daly) dft Wicklow (Jerome Willoughby) 21-6, 21-15
U21D: Tyrone (Darragh Daly, Gary McCrory) dft Cork (John Horgan, James Moakley) 21-12, 21-19
MS: Kilkenny (Richard Hogan) dft Tyrone (Pádraig McGlinchey) 21-16, 12-21, 21-14

MD: Kilkenny (Richard Hogan, Nicholas Anthony) dft Tyrone (Pádraig McGlinchey, Darren Dickson) 21-15, 21-12

MAS: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh) dft Antrim (Stevie Madden) 21-0, 21-4

MAD: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh, Pat Maher) dft Antrim (Stevie Madden, Joe McAllister) 21-7, 21-7

MBS: Roscommon (Cormac O'Brien) dft Tipperary (Pat O'Flaherty) 15-21, 21-10, 21-7

MBD: Mayo (Martin Vahey, JJ Kelly) dft Cork (John Hedigan, Patrick Clancy) 21-14, 21-15

SMAS: Antrim (Billy Silcock) dft Kilkenny (Johnny Brennan) 21-14, 21-10

SMAD: Antrim (Billy Silcock, Thomas Maguire) dft Tipperary (Tony Flaherty, Pat Griffin) 21-6, 21-16

SMBS: Antrim (Anthony Caddell) dft Cork (Brendan Hurley) 21-4, 21-8

SMBD: Antrim (Anthony Caddell, Dominic Caddell) dft Wexford (Fintan Doyle, Richie Culleton) 21-15, 21-10

GMAS: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) dft Wexford (Tony Breen) 21-10, 21-11

GMAD: Offaly (Billy Mullins, Jim Guilfoyle) dft Mayo (Kevin Geraghty, Michael O'Reilly) 21-6, 21-7

GMBS: Antrim (Dermot O'Reilly) dft Dublin (Jimmy Heffernan) 21-19, 21-4

GMBD: Antrim (Seamus Collins, Tom Smith) dft Dublin (Jimmy Heffernan, Eamon O'Brien) 21-10, 17-21 21-6

EMAS: Dublin (Vinny Farrelly) dft Galway (Michael O'Malley) 21-7, 21-4

EMAD: Dublin (Vinny Farrelly, Eugene Kennedy) dft Cavan (Patsy Hand, Greg Sheridan) 21-10, 21-11

EMBS: Limerick (John Frazier) dft Galway (John Kelehan) 21-18, 21-4

EMBD: Tipperary (Connie Collins, Pakie Mullins) dft Sligo (Seamus Duffy, Pat Sullivan) 21-7, 21-12

DMAS: Mayo (Seán Heaney) dft Dublin (John Molloy) 21-8, 21-4

DMAD: Mayo (Seán Heaney, Tom Derrig) dft Wicklow (Paddy Lennon, Dick Doyle) 21-12, 21-12

DMBS: Mayo (John Kenny) dft Wexford (Ger McWilliams) 21-6, 21-9

DMBD: Dublin (Sylvie O'Dowd, Marcus Henry) dft Donegal (Brendan Temple, Eamon McDonnell) 21-7, 21-16

LADIES 60 x 30

LMS: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) dft Roscommon (Marianna Rushe) 21-5, 21-16

LMD: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville, Karen Lawlor) dft Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costello) 11-21, 21-11, 21-10

LJBS: Mayo (Olivia Kilbane) dft Kilkenny (Loretta Murphy) 21-1, 21-4

LJBD: Mayo (Olivia Kilbane, Eithne McHale) dft Wexford (Katie O'Rafferty, Tanya O'Toole) 21-4, 21-5

LJS: Roscommon (Deirdre Donohoe) dft Limerick (Fidelma O'Reilly) 21-4, 21-5

LJD: Roscommon (Deirdre Donohoe, Emer Coyle) dft Limerick (Fidelma O'Reilly, Sarah Flavin) 21-6, 21-8

LIS: Carlow (Ciara Mullins) dft Mayo (Sarah Corley) 21-9, 21-20

LID: Carlow (Ciara Mullins, Miriam Ryan) dft Mayo (Lorraine McHale, Noelle Ruddy) 21-7, 11-21, 21-12

LADIES 40 x 20

LMS: Antrim (Aisling Reilly) dft Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) 21-15, 21-12

LMD: Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Katie Costello) dft Kerry (Ashley Prendiville, Karen Lawlor) 21-17, 20-21, 21-10

LJBS: Limerick (Sarah Flavin) dft Mayo (Sarah Corley) 21-11, 21-3

LJBD: Limerick (Fidelma O'Reilly, Sarah Flavin) dft Mayo (Olivia Kilbane, Lorraine McHale) 21-3, 21-6

LJS: Roscommon (Deirdre Donohoe) dft Carlow (Ciara Mullins) 21-6, 21-14

LJD: Roscommon (Emer Coyle, Deirdre Donohoe) dft Carlow (Ciara Mullins, Miriam Ryan) 21-7, 21-10

LSS: Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Maria Daly (Kerry) 21-11, 21-11

LSD: Fiona Shannon, Aisling Reilly (Antrim) dft Maria Daly, Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) 21-10, 21-12

60 x 30 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Open: **Ballaghaderreen**, Mayo (Dessie Keegan, Paul Flynn, Vincent Moran, Campbell Brennan) dft **O'Loughlins**, Kilkenny (Eddie Burke, Michael Clifford, Timmy Clifford, David Clifford) 87-65

Junior: **Clogh**, Kilkenny (Michael Maher, Colm Love, Daniel Love, William Love, Andrew Lawlor) W/O **St Coman's**, Roscommon (Niall McGrath, Glenn Walsh, Chris Doolin, Neil McDermott)

Junior B: **O'Loughlins**, Kilkenny (John Morrissey, Kirk Greene, Seamie Phelan, Michael Falsey, Jimmy Long) dft **Curraghboy**, Roscommon (Paul Kelly, Ger Walsh, Phlip O'Connor, Cormac O'Brien) 99-71

40 x 20 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Open: **Ballaghaderreen**, Mayo (Dessie Keegan, Vincent Moran, Paul Flynn, Joe McCann, Campbell Brennan) dft **Kells**, Meath (Walter O'Connor, Tom Sheridan, Brian Carroll, Gary McConnell) 103-55

Junior: **Carrickmore**, Tyrone (Ryan Daly, Darragh Daly, Gary McCrory, Pádraig McGlinchey) dft **Ballydesmond**, Cork (Michael Murphy, Danny Healy, Donnacha O'Dea, Denis Quinn, Michael O'Dea, Joseph O'Keeffe) 102-78

Junior B: **Brackey**, Tyrone (Shane O'Neill, Ruairi Kelly, Mark McCartan, Barry Devlin) dft **Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty**, Waterford (Philip Butler, David Walsh, David Power, David Hickey, Jason Healy) 88-56

BUACHAILLÍ 60 x 30

- U14S: Limerick (Pádraig O'Carroll) dft Mayo (Niall Burke) 15-2, 15-1
- U14D: Kilkenny (Luke Greene, Keith Clifford) dft Tyrone (Michael Donaghy, Ruairí Loughran) 15-7, 15-2
- U15S: Tyrone (Caolán Daly) dft Cork (John O'Keeffe) 21-14, 21-18
- U15D: Kilkenny (David Delahunty, Patrick Funchion) dft Mayo (Lee Cummins, Oliver Lynn) 21-13, 21-11
- U16S: Tipperary (Fergal Collins) dft Tyrone (Paul Donnelly) 21-6, 21-8
- U16D: Limerick (Seamus O'Carroll, CJ Fitzpatrick) dft Mayo (Shane McDermott, Kieran McCormack) 21-5, 21-5
- U17S: Cork (Shane Hedigan) dft Mayo (Paul Keegan) 21-9, 21-1
- U17D: Kerry (Colm Ó Muirheartaigh, Cian Counihan) dft Mayo (Patrick Corley, Dara Ruane) 21-7, 15-21, 11-6

CAILÍNÍ 60 x 30

- U14S: Mayo (Amy Corrigan) dft Westmeath (Aoife McCarthy) 15-7, 15-7
- U14D: Wexford (Sandra Kelly, Mairéad Elmes) dft Cork (Aisling O'Keeffe, Caitríona Casey) 7-15, 15-14, 15-1
- U15S: Kildare (Louise Walsh) dft Mayo (Mary Duffy) 21-12, 21-7
- U15D: No Competition
- U16S: Kerry (Sharon Twomey) dft Galway (Tracey Fahy) 21-2, 21-1
- U16D: Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe) dft Wicklow (Shauna Hilley, Sandra Barnes) 21-5, 21-20
- U17S: Mayo (Pauline Gallagher) dft Kerry (Ciara Ní Shé) 21-14, 21-5
- U17D: Clare (Sarah Loughnane, Kate Lynch) dft Roscommon (Linda Connolly, Laura Mannion) 21-19, 21-1

BUACHAILLÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Pádraig O' Carroll (Limerick) dft Fiontán Ó Curraoin (Galway) 15-8, 15-2.
- U14D: Kilkenny (Brian Campion, Luke Greene) dft Roscommon (Cian Connolly, Mark Healy) 15-4, 15-1
- U15S: Mayo (Ian McLoughlin) dft Cork (John O' Keeffe) 21-17, 14-21, 11-10.
- U15D: Wexford (Mark Maher, Peter Hughes) dft Down (Michael O'Hare, Gary Bagnall) 21-5, 21-6
- U16S: Tipperary (Fergal Collins) dft Mayo (Stephen Cooney) 21-3, 21-5
- U16D: Clare (Diarmuid Nash, Niall Malone) dft Tyrone (Paul Donnelly, Seán O'Kane) 21-1, 21-11
- U17S: Shane Hedigan (Cork) dft Thomas Turley (Armagh) 21-7, 21- 18
- U17D: Kilkenny (Eoin Ryan, Ciarán Neary) dft Down (Derrick McCarthy, Jarlath McCarthy) 21-13, 16-21, 11-9

CAILÍNÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Mayo (Amy Corrigan) dft Westmeath (Aoife McCarthy) 12-15, 15-1, 15-0

- U14D: Clare (Lisa Loughnane, Marie Collins) dft Mayo (Clodagh McManamon, Ciara McManamon) 15-8, 15-11
- U15S: Galway (Tracey Fahy) dft Kilkenny (Rebecca Mulholland) 21-5, 21-17
- U15D: Roscommon (Anna Keenan, Cliona McHugh) dft Clare (Aoife Gleeson, Ashling Fitzgerald) 4-21, 21-14, 11-6
- U16S: Sharon Twomey (Kerry) dft Avril McNamee (Donegal) 21-5, 21-1.
- G16D: Kerry (Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Edel Murphy) dft Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe) 21-20, 21-8
- U17S: Clare (Anne-Marie Fitzgerald) dft Mayo (Pauline Gallagher) 21-18, 9-21, 11-10
- U17D: Roscommon (Linda Connolly, Laura Mannion) dft Kilkenny (Claire Moore, Claire Comerford) 21-20, 21-13

60 x 30 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- U12/13: Kilkenny** (Dylan Walsh, Enda Morrissey, Andrew O'Dwyer, Stephen O'Dwyer, Keith Clifford, Niall McGrath, Cian Ryan, Peter Funchion) dft **Cork** (Killian Carroll, Conor Hannon, Patrick Herlihy, Denis O'Neill, Colm Kearney, Daniel Relihan, Ciarán Buckley, Michael Hedigan) 73-65
- U14/15: Limerick** (Stephen Foley, Tom McMahon, Enda Frawley, Darragh Lyons, Liam O'Rourke, Joseph Stack, Seán Browne, John Ryan) dft **Kilkenny** (Paul Buggy, Pauric Maher, Michael Fennelly, David Lafford, Donal O'Farrell, Paul Holden, Pauric Walsh) 74-63
- U16/17: Waterford** (Conor Moloney, Tom Hanrahan, Arthur McDonagh, Anthony Butler, Marco Hanrahan, Patrick Fennell) dft **Kilkenny** (Seán Holohan, Christy Dawson, Pat Rowe, Aidan Martin, Gary Delaney) 45-39
- Girls U16 Club: Ballaghaderreen**, Mayo (Amy Corrigan, Stephanie Coleman, Maria Corrigan, Mary Duffy, Pamela Conroy, Kathleen Regan) dft **St Coman's**, Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Linda Connolly, Laura Mannion, Anna Keenan, Siobhán Daly, Hilary Rushe) 101-76

GIRLS U13/17 INTERPROVINCIAL

- Connacht** (Jennifer Fahy, Lauren O'Riordan, Amy Corrigan, Pamela Conroy, Stephenie Coleman, Mary Duffy, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Deirdre Donohoe, Marianna Rushe, Maria Corrigan:) dft **Munster** (Caitríona Casey, Aisling O'Keeffe, Aine Casey, Martina Mc Mahon, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Lisa Loughnane, Kate Lynch, Ciara Ní Shé, Aisling Hannon, Sarah Loughnane, Hazel Prendiville, Cornelia Prendiville) 117-76

40 x 20 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- U12/13: Cork** (Conor Hannan, Killian Carroll, Pat Herlihy, Ryan Harkin, Jamie O'Connor, Colm Kearney, Denis

O'Neill, Michael Hedigan) dft **Galway** (Martin Mulkerrins, Rudhán Ó Beara, Luke Murray, Paul Davis, Michael Lawlor, Macdara Ó Béara) 98-46

U14/15: Kilkenny (Keith Bourke, Keith Clifford, Pauric Maher, John Power, David Delahunty, Donal O'Farrell) dft **Tyrone** (Michael Donaghy, Ruairí Loughran, Brian Maguire, Dermot McCullagh, Cahir McCullagh, James Ghent) 90-26

U16/17: Clare (Gerry Cooney, John Kennedy, Paul Healy, Killian Duggan, Danny Maguire) dft **Cavan** (Cormac McMahon, Colm Smith, Ciaran Smith, Ronan Foley) 60-30

Girls U16 Club: St Coman's, Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Linda Connolly, Anna Keenan, Laura Mannion, Siobhan Tully) dft **Ballaghaderreen**, Mayo (Mary Duffy, Maria Corrigan, Stephanie Coleman, Amy Corrigan) 98-76

Girls U13/17 Interprovincial

Connacht (Ciara Carthy, Rebecca Murphy, Amy Corrigan, Clodagh Mc Manamon, Tracy Fahy, Stephenie Coleman, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Marianna Rushe, Deirdre Donohoe, Anna Keenan, Pauline Gallagher) dft **Munster** (Caitríona Casey, Martina Mc Mahon, Aine Casey, Lisa Loughnane, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Aisling Hannon, Kate Lynch, Edel Murphy, Sharon Twomey, Anne-Marie Fitzgerald, Ciara Ní Shé, Marie Collins) 105 -102

FÉILE NA nGAEL

Boys 60 x 30 Division 1: Clogh, Kilkenny (Eoghan Hennessy, Pauraic Maher, Pádraig Walsh, Paul Buggy Braninnain Buggy) dft **Cappagh**, Limerick (Pádraig O'Carroll, John Wall, Cormac O'Shea, Stephen Foley) 42-28
Skills Winner: Pádraig O'Carroll (Cappagh)
Runner-up: Eoghan Hennessy (Clogh)

Boys 40 x 20 Division 1: Kells, Kilkenny (John Power, Peter Funchion, David Lafford, Andrew O'Dwyer, Seán O'Dwyer) dft **Tulla**, Clare (Colm Halpin, John Fahy, David McInerney, Colm McGrath, Evan Corbett) 42-6
Skills Winner: Keith Kavanagh (Coolboy)
Runner-up: Peter Funchion (Kells)

Boys 40 x 20 Division 2: Mallow, Cork (Conor Hannan, Killian Carroll, Partick Herlihy, Jamie O'Connnor, Ciaran Buckley) dft **Newport**, Mayo (Niall Burke, John Sammon, Damian Ryder, Gearoid Hughes, Fergal Hughes) 37 -34
Skills Winner: Killian Carroll (Mallow)
Runner-up: Colm Kindregan (Friary/Abbeyside/ Ballinacourty)

Boys 40 x 20 Division 3: Indreabhán, Galway (Fiontán Ó Curraoin, Fiach Ó Béarra, Peadar Óg Ó Griofa, Stiofán Ó Béarra, Macdara Ó Béarra) dft **Moycullen**, Galway

(Máirtín Ó Maoilchiaráin, Micheal Ó Leathlobhair, Alan Ó Ceallaigh, Pádraig Ó hÓgain, Jonathon Ó Fatharta) 42 -23

Skills Winner: Niall O'Connor (Naomh Mhuire, Leixlip)

Runner-up: Stiofán Ó Béarra (Indreabhán)

Girls 40 x 20 Division 1: Ballydesmond, Cork (Caitríona Casey, Aisling O'Keeffe, Shauna Kelly, Siobhán Clifford, Karina Cronin) dft **Newport**, Mayo (Clodagh McManamon, Ciara McManamon, Leona Ryder, Ursula Sammon) 38-37

Skills Winner: Clodagh McManamon (Newport)

Runner-up: Aisling O'Keeffe (Ballydesmond)

Girls 40 x 20 Division 2: Clooney, Clare (Marie Collins, Aine McNamara, Lisa Loughnane, Aoife Gleeson) dft **Cappagh**, Limerick (Martina McManon, Aoife O'Sullivan, Niamh Foley, Laura Mooney, Amanda Geoghegan) 36-27

Skills Winner: Martina McMahon (Cappagh)

Runner-up: Lauren O'Riordain (St Coman's, Roscommon)

COMÓRTAS GAEL LINN

Winner: **Ballydesmond**, Corcaigh (Caitríona Casey, Colm Kearney) dft **Naomh Mhuire**, Leixlip (Elaine Egan, Niall O'Connor) 62-14

Plate: **Loughmacrory**, Tír Eoghain (Cloghadh Donaghy, Niall Donaghy) dft **Cappagh**, Luimneach (Martina Mc Mahon, John Wall) 27-17

COMMUNITY GAMES

Girls U- 13: Winners: Ballymacelligott, Kerry. Runners-up: Knock, Mayo

Boys U- 13: Winners: Kilkishen, Clare. Runners-up: Roscommon /Kilteevan, Roscommon

Girls U-15: Winners: Ballaghaderreen, Mayo. Runners-up Termonmagurk, Tyrone

Boys U-15: Winners: Termonmagurk, Tyrone. Runners-up Burrishoole, Mayo

ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

Buachaillí 60 x 30

JS: Caolán Daly (Dean Maguire College, Carrickmore) dft Luke Greene (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) 21-5, 21-5

JD: Graham Clifford, Keith Clifford (Scoil na mBráithre, Cill Chainnigh) dft Sam Edbrook, Colm Halpin (St Joseph's, Tulla) 6-21, 21-8, 11-8

IS: Seamus O'Carroll (Salesian College, Pallaskenry) dft Stephen Cooney (St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen) 21-4, 21-9

ID: Mark O'Dwyer, Niall Smyth (Scoil Aireagail, Ballyhale) dft Conor Moloney, Tom Hanrahan (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-11, 21-17

TORTHAÍ 2006 (continued)

- SS:** Shane Hedigan (Nagle Rice Secondary School, Doneraile) dft Patrick Nolan (Scoil na mBráithre, Cill Chainnigh) 21-9, 21-20
- SD:** David Walsh, David Power (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) dft Ciarán Neary, Eamonn Foley (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) 21-5, 21-3

Cailíní 60 x 30

- JS:** Leona Doolin (Mercy Convent, Roscommon) dft Lisa Loughnane (Rice College, Ennis) 21-0, 21-2
- JD:** Linda Connolly, Laura Mannion (Mercy Convent, Roscommon) dft Rebecca Mulholland, Claire Mulholland (Kilkenny College) 21-17, 20-21, 11-10
- SS:** Marianna Rushe (Mercy Convent, Roscommon) dft Ashley Prendiville (Presentation Secondary, Tralee) 21-15, 21-16
- SD:** Deirdre Donohoe, Katie Costello (Mercy Convent, Roscommon) dft Aisling Hannon, Kate Lynch (St Joseph's, Tulla) 21-7, 21-9

Buachaillí 40 x 20

- JS:** Stephen Cooney (St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen) dft David Delahunty (Coláiste Eamon Rís, Callan) 11-21, 21-11, 11-6
- JD:** Diarmuid Nash, Danny McGuire (Cistercian College, Roscrea) dft Grant Deeney, Paul Keegan (St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen) 21-12, 21-3
- IS:** Pádraig McGlinchey (Omagh CBS) dft Seamus O'Carroll (Salesian College, Pallaskenry) 21-14, 21-18
- ID:** Darragh Reid, Ciarán Burke (Rice College, Westport) dft David Walsh, John Walsh (St Augustine's College, Dungarvan) 21-14, 21-18
- SS:** Richie Hogan (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) dft Darragh Daly (Dean Maguire College, Carrickmore) 21-5, 21-13
- SD:** Brian Donaghy, Michael Donnelly (Dean Maguire School, Carrickmore) dft Kirk Greene, Stephen Shortt (St Kieran's College, Kilkenny) 21-15, 21-16

Cailíní 40 x 20

- JS:** Shauna Hilley (Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew) dft Amy Corrigan (St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen) 21-19, 16-21, 11-3
- JD:** Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Kate Lynch, Aisling Hannon (St Joseph's, Tulla) 21-8, 21-8
- SS:** Deirdre Donohoe (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Claire Love (Castlecomer CS) 21-14, 21-6
- SD:** Marianna Rushe, Katie Costello (Convent of Mercy, Roscommon) dft Claire English, Colette Dormer (Borris CS) 21-1, 21-4

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 60 x 30

- Men's A:** Ger Coonan (UL) dft Rikki O'Gara (NUIG) 21-3, 21-3
- Ladies A:** Eimear Ní Fhallúin (UCD) dft Lisa Falvey (UL) 21-4, 21-7

- Men's B:** Rob Farrelly (NCAD) dft Niall Gordon (DIT) 15-10, 15-8
- Ladies B:** Caitríona Casey (NUIG) dft Sarah Corley (SIT) 15-10, 15-13
- Men's C:** Chris Gavigan (SIT) dft Oisín Walsh (DCU) 15-3, 15-5
- Men's A Team:** DIT (Brian Carroll, Cormac Smyth, Paul Moran, Johnny Westlake) dft UL (Donnacha Maguire, Ger Coonan, Chris Doolin, Conor O'Riordan) 70-57
- Men's B Team:** DIT (Pádraig Cahill, Niall Goron, Tommy McGrath, Emer Coyle) dft DCU (Steve Marken, David Smith) 60-21
- Men's C Team:** UL (Brian O'Leary, Cian Byrne, Seán Breen, Barry Aird) dft DCU 67-42
- Men's A Plate:** Ollie Cassidy (ITT) dft Chris Doolin (SIT) 15-9, 15-7
- Men's B Plate:** John Murphy (UCD) dft Conor O'Riordan (UL) 3-15, 15-12, 11-5
- Men's C Plate:** Peter Bonner (DIT) dft Joe Gallagher (Rathmines College) 15-8, 15-9
- Ladies Doubles:** Eimear Ní Fhallúin, Caitríona Casey (UCD/NUIG) dft Aisling Mc Mahon, Ursula Quinn (UL) 15-6, 15-9

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 40 x 20

- Men's Open:** Charly Shanks (QUB) dft Brian Carroll (DIT) 21-9, 21-14
- Men's A:** Ger Coonan (UL) dft Chris Doolin (SIT) 15-8, 15-5
- Men's B:** Niall Mc Grath (SIT) dft Shane Hennelly (UCD) 15-11, 15-4
- Men's C:** Ronan Costelloe (DIT) dft Danny O'Riordan (DCU) 2-11, 11-3, 11-7
- Men's Challenger:** Martin McIntyre (NUIG) dft Shane Kiely (UCC) 11-2, 11-4
- Men's Contender:** Dan Leahy (DCU) dft Joe Gallagher (Rathmines College) 11-5, 11-4
- Women's Open:** Maria Daly (UCC) dft Eimear Ní Fhallúin (UCD) 21-16, 21-13
- Women's A:** Caitríona Casey (NUIG) dft Sharon Daly (UL) 15-8, 15-7
- Women's B:** Sinéad Gallogly (DCU) dft Rachel Gibbons (SIT) 11-7, 11-1
- Women's C:** Siobhán Traynor (TCD) dft Sinéad Carroll (DCU) 15-1, 15-0
- Men's A Team:** DIT (Brian Carroll, Paul Moran, Paul Fitzpatrick, Cormac Smyth) dft UCD (Shane Hennelly, Patrick Finnegan, Patrick Clerkin, James Egan) 78-65
- Men's B Team:** DIT (Niall Gordon, Tommy McGrath, Emer Coyle, Pádraig Cahill) dft UL/GMIT (C Nolan, C O'Riordan, D Reid, T Cummings) 68-59

Men's C Team: UL/LIT (M Linehan, M O'Donovan, M Laker, P Flynn) dft DCU (S Gallogly, D Smith, D Leahy, A Travers) 79-47

Ladies A Doubles: Emer Coyle, Sinéad Gallogly (DIT/DCU) dft Karen Lawlor, Lisa Falvey (UL) 15-11, 15-9

Ladies B Doubles: Ursula Quinn, Therese Hearn (UL) dft Meaghan Fritz, Aisling McMahon (UL) 15-9, 15-14

USHA NATIONAL COLLEGIATES

Men's Open: Ricardo Diaz (USA) dft Brian Carroll (DIT) 18-21, 21-18, 11-6

Men's A/B: Billy O'Donnell (USA) dft Chris Doolin (SIT) 12-21, 21-15, 11-10

Women's Open: Courtney Peixoto (USA) dft Eimear Ni Fhallúin (UCD) 10-21, 21-20, 11-7

Women's B: Sinéad Gallogly (DCU) dft. Sarah Corley (SIT) 21-17, 21-14.

FBD IRISH NATIONALS

B13: Eoghan Hennessy (Kilkenny) dft Patrick O'Carroll (Limerick) 21-5, 21-13

B15: Diarmuid Nash (Clare) dft Shane Hedigan (Cork) 21-10, 21-19

B17: Pádraig McGlinchey (Tyrone) dft Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) 21-6, 21-9

B19: Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Brian Carroll (Meath) 21-9, 21-12

G13: Caitríona Casey (Cork) dft Martina McMahon (Limerick) 21-4, 21-5

G15: Leona Doolin (Roscommon) dft Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) 21-17, 21-16

G17: Aisling Reilly (Antrim) dft Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) 21-11, 21-1

G19: Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) dft Lisa McAleer (Tyrone) 21-9, 21-4

Mas B: Pat O'Flaherty (Tipperary) dft John Hedigan (Cork) 21-7, 21-19

GMB: Pat Buckley (Cork) dft Gearóid Ó Fatharta (Galway) 21-6, 21-11

GMA: Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) dft Billy Mullins (Offaly) 12-21, 21-18, 11-9

Men's A: Séamus Ó Tuama (Antrim) dft Brendan Fleming (Cork) 21-19, 10-21, 11-8

Men's B: Gary McCrory (Tyrone) dft Chris Doolin (Roscommon) 7-21, 21-14, 11-10

Men's C: Ruairí Kelly (Tyrone) dft Donnacha O'Dea (Cork) 21-15, 21-9

Ladies B: Fidelma O'Reilly (Limerick) dft Aine O'Gorman (Dublin) 21-5, 21-7

Ladies Open: Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Maria Daly (Kerry) 21-7, 21-5

Men's Open: Tony Healy (Cork) dft Paul Brady (Cavan) 6-21, 21-18, 11-5

ONE-WALL NATIONALS

Boys U14: Michael Donaghy (Tyrone) dft Fiontán Ó Curraoin (Galway) 15-12, 15-13

Girls U14: Amy Corrigan (Mayo) dft Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) 15-5, 15-3

Boys U16: Ian McLoughlin (Mayo) dft Caolán Daly (Tyrone) 10-15, 15-5, 11-6

Girls U16: Leona Doolin (Roscommon) dft Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) 15-8, 15-10

Boys U18: Dara Reid (Mayo) dft Stephen Ryder (Mayo) 15-13, 15-2

Men's C: Michael Donnelly (Tyrone) dft Jerome Willoughby (Wicklow) 15-10, 15-10

Men's B: Paul Fitzpatrick (Cavan) dft Shane Bruen (Sligo) 15-4, 15-14

Men's Open: Robert McCarthy Jr (Westmeath) dft David King (Carlow) 7-15, 15-10, 11-8

Ladies Open: Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) dft Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) 15-13, 15-5

Masters: Francis McCann (Sligo) dft Robbie McCarthy (Westmeath) 14-15, 15-14, 11-9

G Masters: Peter Larkin (Monaghan) dft Martin Bruen (Roscommon) 15-12, 15-6

D Masters: Nicholas Clancy (Galway) dft Pauraic Maye (Sligo) 15-3, 15-5

ST PAUL'S GOLDEN GLOVES

Men's Open: Dessie Keggan (Mayo) dft Ricky McCann (Antrim) 20-21, 21-19, 11-0

Ladies Open: Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Aisling Reilly (Antrim) 21-2, 21-8

Men's B: Ian Griffin (Dublin) dft Darragh Daly (Tyrone) 21-11, 21-13

Men's C: Marty Osbourne (Antrim) dft John O'Connor (Limerick) 20-21, 21-20, 11-9

Masters A: Stevie Madden (Antrim) Round Robin winner

Masters B: Martin McEntee (Monaghan) dft Gerry O'Neill (Antrim) 21-7, 21-14

Golden Masters: Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) dft Billy Silcock (Antrim) 21-14, 21-7

Boys 19U: Kirk Greene (Kilkenny) dft Jerome Willoughby (Wicklow) 15-21, 21-10, 11-5

Boys 17U: Brian Donaghy (Tyrone) dft Paul Donnelly (Tyrone) 21-4, 21-9

Boys 15U: Stephen Cooney (Mayo) dft Caolán Daly (Tyrone) 21-18, 16-21, 11-7

Girls 19U: Aisling Reilly (Antrim) dft Lisa McAleer (Tyrone) 21-12, 21-7

Girls 15U: Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) dft Louise Walsh (Kildare) 21-3, 21-18

AISEIRI BENEFIT TOURNAMENT

Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Tony Healy (Cork) 21-16, 12-21, 11-8

WATERFORD CRYSTAL WORLD HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

ONE-WALL FINALS

B/C Doubles: Egoitz Amentigi, Garikoitz Erroizenea (BSC) dft Ryan Daly, Robbie McCarthy, Snr (Tyrone/Westmeath) 21-18, 21-2.

Masters Singles: Paul Williams (USA) dft Robbie McCarthy, Snr (Westmeath) 21-7, 21-9.

Boys 17: Thomas Turley (Armagh) dft Evan Brown (USA) 16-21, 21-16, 11-9.

Boys 15: Tyree Bastidas (USA) dft Ian McLoughlin (Mayo) 21-5, 21-1.

Boys 15 Doubles: Caolán Daly, Michael Donaghy (Tyrone) dft Brant Bidegain, Keith Kavanagh (USA/Wicklow) 21-12, 21-11.

Boys 13: Peter Funchion (Kilkenny) dft Brant Bidegain (USA) 21-11, 20-21, 11-9

Coed 11: Patrick McCrory (Tyrone) dft Ciara Mahon (Kilkenny) 21-2, 21-7.

Girls 19: Anastasia Oleynik (USA) dft Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) 21-16, 21-3.

Girls 19 Doubles: Leona Archibald, Karen Lawlor (Westmeath/Kerry) dft Marie Therese O'Neill, Claire Love (Kilkenny) 21-9, 7-21, 11-3.

Girls 17: Sarah Au (USA) dft Claire Love (Kilkenny) 21-3, 21-2.

Girls 15: Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) dft Amy Corrigan (Mayo) 21-10, 21-5.

Girls 15 Doubles: Mary Duffy, Shauna Hilley (Mayo/Wicklow) dft Amy Corrigan, Maria Corrigan (Mayo) 11-21, 21-6, 11-3.

Women's B Singles: Maighréad Ní Riabhaigh Ó Dúill (Armagh) dft Aine Gorman (Dublin) 21-17, 9-21, 11-5

FOUR-WALL FINALS

Men's Open: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Tony Healy (Ireland) 21-7, 21-11.

Women's Open: Fiona Shannon (Ireland) dft Anna Christoff (USA) 21-13, 21-11.

Men's Open Doubles: Tony Healy, Eoin Kennedy (Cork/Dublin) dft Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Ireland) 18-21, 21-13, 11-8.

Women's Open Dbls: Lisa Fraser, Jessica Gawley (Canada) dft Fiona Shannon, Sibeal McKenna (Ireland) 21-7, 21-8.

Men's A: Joe McCann (Mayo) dft Noel McHugh (Galway) 21-7, injury def.

Men's A Doubles: Declan Frawley, Colm Jordan (Clare/

Cork) dft Joe McCann, Campbell Brennan (Mayo) 21-7, 12-21, 11-10.

Men's B: Eddie Burke (Kilkenny) dft James Brady (Cavan) 21-19, 21-7.

Men's B Doubles: Cormac Smyth, Richie Walsh (Wexford/Wicklow) dft James Brady, Ryan Daly (Cavan/Tyrone) 21-15, 21-14.

Men's C: Shane O'Neill (Tyrone) dft David Walsh (Waterford) 21-5, 21-4

Men's C Doubles: Ruairí Kelly, Shane O'Neill (Tyrone) dft Jerry Guiney, Chris Hurley (Cork) 21-10, 12-21, 11-4.

Masters Singles: Michael Ducksy Walsh (Kilkenny) dft Egin Jensen (Dublin) 21-13, 21-14.

Masters Doubles: Michael Ducksy Walsh, Egin Jensen (Kilkenny/Dublin) dft John Stoffel, Steve Dykes (USA) 21-8, 21-9.

Masters B: Cormac O'Brien (Roscommon) dft Stephen Brown (Canada) 21-8, 21-3.

Masters B Doubles: John Hedigan, Pat O'Flaherty (Cork/Tipperary) dft Anthony McCann, Cormac O'Brien (Antrim/Roscommon) 21-5, 21-19.

Vet. Mas. Doubles: Chris Roberts, Vern Roberts (USA) dft Billy Silcock, Thomas Maguire (Antrim) 21-13, 21-10.

Golden Singles: Dave Steinberg (USA) dft Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) 21-16, 21-12.

Golden Doubles: Landon Curry, Chuck Reeve (USA) dft Martin Bruen, Billy Mullins (Roscommon/Offaly) 21-5, 21-6.

Vet. Golden: Chuck Reeve (USA) dft Eugene Kennedy (Dublin) 21-14, 21-10.

Women's A: Theresa McCourt (USA) dft Deirdre Donohoe (Roscommon) 21-4, 21-9.

Women's B Dbls: Emer Coyle, Deirdre Donohoe (Roscommon) dft Jan Breed, Deb Forrester (USA) 21-17, 21-3.

Women's C: Sarah Flavin (Limerick) dft Claire Love (Kilkenny) 9-21, 21-6, 11-4.

Women's C Dbls: Claire Love, Marie Therese O'Neill (Kilkenny) dft Susan Keegan, Maria McCarthy (Dublin) 21-4, 21-15.

Boys 19: Robert McCarthy (Ireland) dft Brian Carroll (Meath) 21-13, 11-21, 11-7.

Boys 19 Doubles: Robert McCarthy, Brian Carroll (Westmeath/Meath) dft Jonathan Camacho, Billy O'Donnell (USA) 21-7, 21-3.

Boys 15: Diarmuid Nash (Ireland) dft Luis Cordova (Mexico) 21-15, 17-21, 11-9.

Boys 15 Doubles: Niall Malone, Diarmuid Nash (Clare) dft Shane Hedigan, Dara Ó Súilleabháin (Cork/Kerry) 21-15, 21-13.

Boys 13: Pádraig O'Carroll (Limerick) dft Daniel

- Boys 11: Cordova (Mexico) 21-19, 21-10.
Patrick McCrory (Tyrone) dft Eric Campbell (USA) 21-15, 21-13.
- Girls 19: Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) dft Ashley Prendiville (Ireland) 21-11, 21-14.
- Girls 19 Doubles: Ashley Prendiville, Aisling Reilly (Kerry/Antrim) dft Karen Kelly, Lisa McAleer (Tyrone) 21-1, 21-0.
- Girls 17: Aisling Reilly (Ireland) dft Katie Costello (Roscommon) 21-0, 21-5.
- Girls 17 Doubles: Katie Costello, Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) dft Maria Dugas, Kira Toxopeus (Canada) 21-6, 21-2.
- Girls 15: Leona Doolin (Ireland) dft Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) 21-13, 21-11.
- Girls 15 Doubles: Leona Doolin, Shauna Hilley (Roscommon/Wicklow) dft Anna Keenan, Louise Walsh (Roscommon/Kildare) 21-8, 21-7.
- Girls 13: Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Aine Casey (Kerry) 21-5, 21-9.
- Girls 11: Martina McMahon (Limerick) dft Ciara Mahon (Kilkenny) 21-4, 21-1.

USHA NATIONALS

- Men's Open: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Naty Alvarado (USA) 21-2, 21-17
- Men's Open Doubles: Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Cavan) dft Eddie Chapa, Eddie Silveyra (USA) 21-9, 20-21, 11-4

USHA JUNIORS

- Boys 19 S: Luis Moreno (Tucson) dft Robert McCarthy (Ireland) 21-7, 21-19.
- Boys 15 S: Gary McConnell (Ireland) dft Caolán Daly (Tyrone) 20-21, 21-19, 11-10.
- Boys 13 S: Brant Bidegain (CA) dft Keith Kavanagh (Wicklow) 19-21, 21-18, 11-6.
- Boys 11 S: Barry Nash (Clare) dft Alejandro Serrano (San Jose) 21-18, 21-18.
- Women's 19 S: Round Robin: First: Ashley Prendiville (Ireland) dft Aimee Ulbert (Des Plaines, IL) 21-8, 21-6; Bailey Chandler (Nixa, MO) 21-0, 21-2; Katie Sedgwick (Tucson) 21-1, 21-3.
- Women's 17 S: Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) dft Pauline Gallagher (Ireland) 21-7, 21-7.
- Women's 15U S: First: Shauna Hilley (Ireland) dft Audra McKinney (AZ) 21-0, 21-0; Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath), 21-0, 21-3; Promise Rivas (St. Louis), 21-0, 21-1; Cynthia Grieco (St. Louis), 21-1, 21-1.

Second: Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Promise Rivas (St. Louis), 21-0, 21-0; Cynthia Grieco (St. Louis) 21-0, 21-4; Audra McKinney (Tucson) 21-1, 21-1.

Boys 19U D: Robert McCarthy, Billy O'Donnell (Ireland/NY) dft Luis Moreno, Armando Ortiz (AZ) 21-18, 21-17.

Boys 17U D: Tyree Bastidas, Luis Cordova (NY/TX) dft. Diarmuid Nash, Gary McConnell (Ireland) 16-21, 21-14, 11-5.

Boys 15U D: Stephen Cooney, Caolán Daly (Mayo/Tyrone) dft Daniel Cordova, Oscar Olivas (TX/AZ) 18-21, 21-14, 11-8.

Boys 13U D: Brant Bidegain, Keith Kavanagh (CA/Wicklow) dft John Audet, Jordan Shapiro (CAN/AZ) 21-1, 21-11.

Girls 19U D: Pauline Gallagher, Marianna Rushe (Mayo/Roscommon) dft Shauna Hilley, Ashley Prendiville (Ireland) 21-17, 21-8.

US OPEN OF HANDBALL

Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Naty Alvarado (USA) 20-21, 21-17, 11-6

BASQUE COUNTRY INTERNATIONAL

One-Wall: Basque Country (R Ularte, E Amantegi, A Goenaga, Alior Erauskin, Iker Etxeberria, E Hvizi) dft **Ireland** (Darragh Daly, Damien Martin, Ger Coonan, James Doyle, Eoin Kennedy, Dessie Keegan) 105-76

Compromise Rules Pelota: Basque Country (Ointaz Gonzales, Mikel Olaetxea, Vgalz Renobales Mikel Gonzales, Iler Gandiaga, Ander Martin) dft **Ireland** (Darragh Daly, Damien Martin, Ger Coonan, Eoin Kennedy, Dessie Keegan, James Doyle) 120-55

ITALIAN ONE-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eoin Kennedy, Dessie Keegan (Ireland) dft Michele Giamcaola, Martino Parone (Italy) 21-8



JULIE BEHAN (LONG), R.I.P.

17.6.1980 – 4.3.2007

passing of Julie Behan (nee Long) was mourned by all players and officials all over the country as well as by the large numbers of people who attended her funeral and funeral Mass in Corduff and burial in Glasnevin Cemetery.

Julie's handball titles were the following:

- All-Ireland U 14 Singles
- All-Ireland U16 Singles, USHA Juniors 15U
- USHA 17U
- Irish Nationals 17U
- Irish One Wall 17U
- European One Wall
- World 17U
- Irish Nationals 17U
- USHA Juniors 19U

Julie was also a finalist in the Women's B Doubles at the World Championships. Apart from her playing career, she had a great interest in coaching juveniles in her Club, Naomh Mairtin in Blanchardstown. Her other interests were Irish music – she was a Leinster champion and All-Ireland champion – music, singing and fashion.

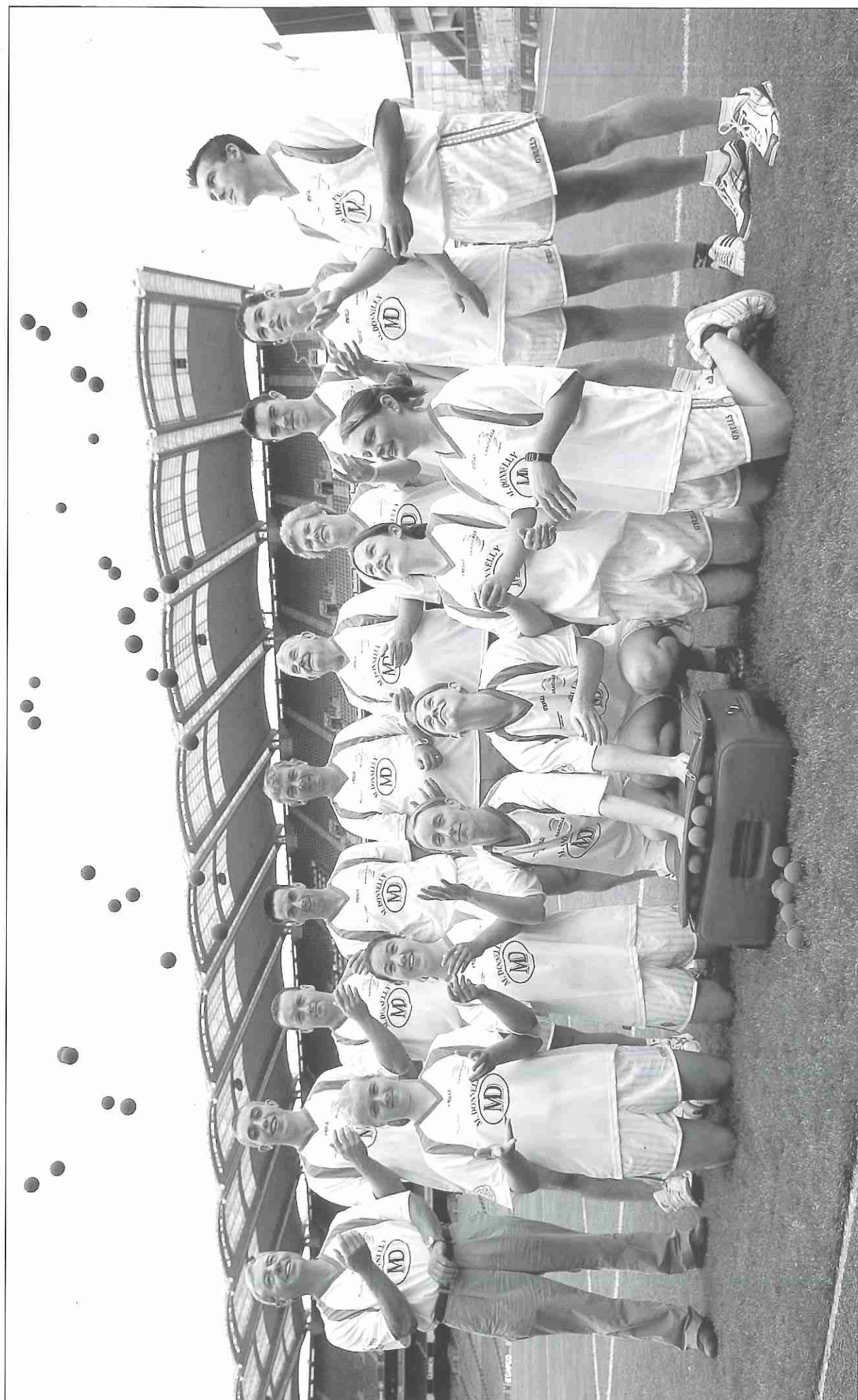


Julie receives her Young Player of the Year Award for 1995 from Con Moore, Uachtarán. Also in picture are Martin O'Halloran, Gaelsport magazine, Brídín Uí Mhaolagáin, Uachtarán CLL na mBan and John Foley, CEO Waterford Crystal.

We extend the sympathy of the handball world to her husband Gary, her children Amy and Sophie, her parents Anthony and Rosaleen and her sisters Antoinette and Vanessa.

Ar dheis Dé i measc na naomh go raibh a hanam dílis.





Members of the M Donnelly Irish team and officials prior to the Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships – *Back row:* Seán McEntee (Coach), Robert McCarthy, Michael Finnegan, Paul Brady, Tony Hayes (Manager), Tom Walsh (Uachtarán), Anne Naughton (Assistant Manager), Pádraig McGlinchey, Diarmuid Nash, Tony Healy. *Front Row:* Aisling Reilly, Ashley Prendiville, Fiona Shannon, Sibéal McKenna, Leona Doolin, Maria Daly.