



Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2008



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

2007 was another very busy, active and successful one on the handball courts of Ireland and, once again, Irish players performed exceptionally well in the main international events. The Task Teams continued their work in line with the objectives of the Strategic Plan 2002-2007 and late in the year the Council decided to extend the duration of the Plan until 2009 to allow the Teams reach the ambitious targets set in the original report. Niamh Egan took up the post of Promotions Administrator and this appointment has resulted in a much improved media profile for the game.

Some of the main positive features of 2007 were:

- ☺ The successful staging of the FBD Irish Nationals and the FBD Handball Awards at which the 44 Irish World handball champions were honoured.
- ☺ The increase in sponsorship of handball events including the All-Ireland Softball championships.
- ☺ The exceptional number of clubs taking part in Féile na nGael in Kilkenny.
- ☺ The hosting of the Ulster International Open Tournament in the Kingscourt Club.
- ☺ The ongoing development of strong links with the Basque Pelota Federation and the re-establishment of contacts with several national bodies in Europe.
- ☺ The publication of a revamped Top Ace Handball Yearbook.
- ☺ The introduction of a coaching and training programme for a development squad of 32 players between 15 and 20 years of age.
- ☺ The increased demand for coaching courses.

Some areas of concern during the year were:

- ☹ The lack of competitions in many clubs and counties
- ☹ The need to develop juvenile handball in those clubs which have no young players
- ☹ The late completion of some provincial championships
- ☹ The need for better administration and regular meetings in many clubs and several counties
- ☹ The difficulties encountered at Congress
- ☹ The poor standard of a sizeable number of courts throughout the country
- ☹ The lack of attention to ladies handball in some areas

NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Ard Chomhairle was responsible for a total of 212 competitions and there were 30 events in the St Paul's 40 x 20 Open and the One Wall Nationals. The following table shows the full range of competitions for 2007 and it is worth noting that the number of competitions has increased by over 250% since 1986.

National Competitions and Ranking Tournaments

	MALE		FEMALE		MIXED	
Competition	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Juvenile	Total
60 x 30	34	8	8	8	-	58
40 x 20	34	8	8	8	-	58
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	19	-	9	-	-	28
Irish Nationals	8	3	3	3	-	17
One Wall	6	3	2	2	-	13
Opens	9	2	3	3	-	17
TOTAL	124	46	33	38	1	242

In addition to its full complement of domestic competition, Irish handball continued to make excellent progress on the international stage in the USHA Nationals and the USHA Junior Championships while on the European front contacts and competitions were continued with the Basque Pelota Federation and links were maintained with the Italian Federation all of which put additional demands on players and administrators.

60 x 30 Championships

The 60x30 championships were generally successful, although there were no provincial championships in some grades, and produced winners from 15 counties. Dublin with six titles was ahead of four each for Kilkenny and Mayo while Tipperary and Sligo followed with three each. Limerick, Wexford and Offaly had two wins apiece and Waterford, Monaghan, Cork, Wicklow, Galway, Meath and Clare took one title each. The standard of adult and juvenile handball continues to improve in the 40x20 international code but there is a definite need to improve standards in 60x30 and hardball.

Further Success for Eoin Kennedy

Eoin Kennedy from the St Brigid's Club in Dublin won his fifth 60 x 30 All-Ireland Senior Singles title when he defeated Michael Ducksy Walsh of Kilkenny 21-10, 21-6 in a final that did not live up to expectations. He and Egin Jensen retained their Senior Doubles title with 21-5, 21-5 win over Mayo's Dessie Keegan and Kevin Geraghty who deputised for the injured Joe McCann. Dublin also took the Junior Singles title when Ian Griffin had a walkover from the injured Declan Frawley of Clare. John Downey and Seamus Ahern brought the Silver Masters A Doubles medals to the capital with a 21-13, 21-16 win over Clare's Mike Kelly and Charlie Coughlan. In Silver Masters B Doubles Frank Semple and Seamus O'Mahony were victorious over Paul Maher and Kevin Spain, Tipperary, on a 21-17, 21-13 scoreline. Dublins's other win was in Emerald Masters B

Doubles where Peter McTernan and Joe McCahill were too strong for Gary Howard and Jim Quinn from Tipperary, 11-21, 21-13, 21-13.

Paul Mullins from Tipperary won the Intermediate Singles final 21-2, 21-8 against Ollie Cassidy, Mayo, and Pakie Mullins completed a family treble by winning both Emerald Masters titles. He was too good for Dublin's Eugene Kennedy, 21-17, 21-16 in Singles and he and Seán Doyle retained their Doubles title with a 21-15, 21-16 win over Eugene Kennedy and Paddy Murray, Dublin.

Eddie Burke and Michael Clifford took Intermediate Doubles honours for Kilkenny with a 21-8, 21-8 win against Adrian Johnson and Paul Mullins of Tipperary. Michael Ducksy Walsh retained both Masters titles, the singles against Willie O'Dwyer of Tipperary, 21-2, 21-2 and the doubles, with Pat Maher, against the same opponent and Niall Fitzgerald, 21-2, 21-4. Paddy Reilly and Seamus Reade brought the Diamond Masters Doubles medals to Kilkenny when they defeated Greg Sheridan and Patsy Hand of Cavan 21-12, 21-14.

Doubles for Wexford, Limerick and Offaly

Michael Berry from Wexford had an excellent double in the Under 21 grade winning the singles final against Pádraig McGlinchey of Tyrone 21-10, 21-14 and teaming up with Jim Berry to win the doubles title against Pádraig McGlinchey and Barry Devlin 21-10, 21-14. Seamus O'Carroll of Limerick had a fine double in minor; he won the singles final against Ciarán Neary of Kilkenny 21-0, 21-7 and he and CJ Fitzpatrick defeated Ciarán Neary and Keith Bourke 21-0, 21-9 in doubles. The Junior B Singles title was won by David Hope of Offaly; he defeated Adrian Kelly of Clare who made a welcome return to handball 21-15, 21-7 while he and Micheál O'Brien were too good for Shane Hedigan and Brendan Fleming of Cork, 21-14, 20-21, 21-13 in doubles. Waterford won its first Junior Doubles title when Philip Butler and David Walsh had too much skill for Galway's Ollie Conway and Alan Tierney on a 21-20, 21-7 scoreline.

Masters from the West

Mayo won four Masters All-Ireland titles: Kevin Geraghty had a great double winning Golden Masters A Singles 20-21, 21-11, 21-9 against Tom O'Brien of Limerick and he and Martin Cronin won the doubles with a fine 21-9, 21-9 victory over Michael Gleeson and Gerry Spillane of Tipperary. Tom Sweeney won the Masters B Singles gold medal winning 21-12, 17-21, 21-13 against Paul Ryan of Tipperary. Ted Collins completed the Mayo wins when he outscored Eamon McDonnell from Donegal 21-14, 21-15 in the Diamond Masters B Singles final. Francis McCann from Sligo had a very satisfying 21-6, 21-20 win over Pat Ryan, Tipperary, in the Silver Masters A Singles final while Paddy Walsh retained his Ruby Masters title with a 21-7, 21-14 win against Pat O'Brien of Cork. He and Michael Kelly won the doubles medals but, unfortunately, Cork had to concede the game. Galway's only 60x30 title was won by Tony McInerney when he took the Emerald Masters B Singles against Jim Quinn of Tipperary, 19-21, 21-13, 21-14.

John Kirby from Clare was on the winner's rostrum again when he retained his title in the Diamond Masters A grade defeating Paddy Reilly, Kilkenny, 21-2, 21-6. The Masters B Doubles title went to Meath's Jimmy Reilly and John Leahy who defeated Stephen Clarke and Conor Kerr from Tyrone 15-21, 21-18, 21-13. Seán Daly of Cork was victorious in Golden Masters B Singles winning against Gerry McGrath of Wicklow 21-13, 21-14. The latter player had consolation in doubles when

he and Tom O'Malley outpointed Paddy Collins and Andy Purcell of Tipperary 21-16, 21-6 in the final. Conor McDonnell from Monaghan was Ulster's only softball winner: he won the Silver Masters B Singles title at the expense of Frank Macken of Mayo 17-21, 21-13, 21-19.

40 x 20 Championships

As in softball, fifteen counties took honours in the 40 x 20 court with Tyrone, Clare, Mayo and Galway winning four each. Kilkenny and Tipperary won three All-Irelands and Cavan, Wexford and Dublin took two each. The remaining counties were Limerick, Wicklow, Meath, Cork, Roscommon and Sligo. In all, a total of 18 counties won All-Irelands over the two courts.

Cavan Retain Senior Titles

The championships provided some marvellous fare and there was no better play than by Paul Brady of Cavan who was outstanding in retaining the Senior Singles title with a fine 21-13, 21-11 win over Eoin Kennedy of Dublin. He and Michael Finnegan retained the Senior Doubles title for Cavan with a 21-8, 21-10 win against Dessie Keegan and Joe McCann from Mayo. Clare's Diarmaid Nash and Niall Malone were best in a one-sided Minor Doubles final when they defeated Niall Smyth and Ger McGrath from Kilkenny 21-2, 21-3. Conor Cooney and John Cooney took Under 21 Doubles honours for the Banner County defeating Dara Reid and Ciarán Burke of Mayo 21-16, 16-21, 21-8 in the final. John Kirby had another double winning the Diamond Masters A Singles against Pat Clarke, Roscommon 21-7, 21-17 and, with Jimmy Walsh, taking the Diamond Masters A Doubles title with a 21-12, 21-14 win over Kilkenny's Paddy Reilly and Seamus Reade.

Gary McCrory from Tyrone was best in the Under 21 Singles when he won out against Jerome Willoughby of Wicklow 21-9, 11-21, 21-14. The Junior Singles title went to Shane O'Neill from the O'Neill County: he was a shade too good for Paul Flynn (Mayo) in an exciting game, 21-13, 13-21, 21-9. Darragh Daly and Niall Kerr continued the Tyrone successes in their 21-13, 17-21, 21-13 win over Eddie Burke and Eamon Law of Kilkenny in Intermediate Doubles. Ruairí Kelly completed Tyrone's medal haul when he won the Junior B Singles medal in the final against Micheál O'Brien from Offaly, 21-11, 21-12. Limerick's Seamus O'Carroll had a fine year in Minor Singles and finished off with a 21-6, 21-4 win over Ciarán Neary of Kilkenny in the final.

Leinster Successes

Brian Carroll from the Kells Club in Meath fulfilled his ambition to take the Intermediate Singles crown in a well contested final against Ger Coonan of Tipperary 18-21, 21-11, 21-10. Michael Lennon and Pat Quaile added to Wicklow and Coolboy's successes in winning the Junior Doubles medals at the expense of Michael Murphy and Donnacha O'Dea of Cork on a 21-14, 21-13 scoreline. Michael Ducksy Walsh of Kilkenny retained his Masters A titles, the singles being a walkover from the injured Stevie Madden of Antrim while he and Pat Maher defeated John Flynn and Denis O'Neill of Cork 21-7, 21-10 in doubles. Kilkenny also won the Golden Masters A Doubles All-Ireland when former county senior hurlers Johnny Brennan and Joe Hennessy defeated Pat Morris and Chris Hurley of Cork 21-10, 21-13 in the final.

Honours for Munster

Paul McGrath and Denis White from the revived Cashel club in

Tipperary won out in Junior B Doubles in a 21-15, 21-14 clash with Micheál O'Brien and David Hope of Offaly. The Masters B Doubles medals went to John McQuaide and Pat O'Flaherty of Tipperary who defeated John Leahy and Jimmy Reilly of Meath 21-11, 21-19. The Tipperary successes ended with Jim Quinn and Gary Howard winning long-awaited All-Ireland medals in the Emerald Masters B grade when they were too strong for Pat O'Sullivan and Seamus Duffy of Sligo 21-3, 11-21, 21-20. John Hedigan from Cork had a 21-10, 8-21, 21-18 win against Wexford's Pechelli English in the Silver Masters B Singles final. The Silver Masters B Doubles title went to Wexford when Nicky Curran and Tadhg Foran won out against Donal O'Connor and Seamus Donovan from Limerick 21-12, 17-21, 21-15. Wexford's other title came through Tom Rossiter and Tom O'Donoghue in Diamond Masters B Doubles in a 21-18, 21-3 win over Eamon McDonnell and Brendan Temple from Donegal. Eugene Kennedy increased his medal tally by winning the Emerald Masters A Singles title in a fine game against Michael McCarron of Monaghan 18-21, 21-18, 21-13. Paddy Murray won Dublin's second Masters 40x20 medal for 2007 when he defeated Dave Stack of Cork 21-16, 21-10 in Emerald Masters B Singles.

Ten Masters Titles for Connacht

Eamon Conneely from Galway achieved a double in Silver Masters A winning the singles against John Herlihy, Cork, 21-6, 8-21, 21-12 and teaming up with his brother Martin to win the doubles medals against John Herlihy and John Hedigan 21-15, 19-21, 21-18. Peter Mulryan won the Diamond Masters B Singles gold medal with a 21-14, 21-3 victory over Eamon McDonnell of Donegal and Nicholas Clancy took the honours in Ruby Masters Singles winning against Pat O'Brien of Cork 21-15, 21-12. Kevin Geraghty, Mayo, had to be content with a walkover from the injured Pat Morris in the Golden Masters A Singles final thus retaining his title. The Masters B Singles went to Mayo's Tom Sweeney after a 12-21, 21-16, 21-9 contest with Pat O'Flaherty of Tipperary. Pádraig Gillard, also from Mayo, doubled in the Golden Masters grade taking the singles 21-13, 8-21, 21-12 against Martin McEntee from Monaghan and partnering Vincent Hennelly to victory in doubles against Martin McEntee and Peter Larkin 21-15, 21-20. The Emerald Masters Doubles title was claimed by Pat Clarke and Noel Raftery of Roscommon who were too good for Connie Collins and Pakie Mullins of Tipperary on a 17-21, 21-6, 21-17 scoreline. Paddy Walsh and Mick Kelly of Sligo won that county's only 40x20 All-Ireland, that in the Ruby Masters Doubles beating Pat O'Brien and Tim Healy of Cork 21-14, 21-17.

In looking back at the 40x20 championships it is fair to say that this code is strong in most areas but a lot more needs to be done to promote the game at underage level in clubs and counties which have had little success in recent years. The 40x20 code has many advantages over the 60x30 game among them being

- The attraction of newer courts with better facilities as opposed to the older 60x30 courts which have less appealing facilities.
- The international appeal of 40x20 handball.
- The game is more glamorous and spectators generally feel nearer the court than in 60x30 where fewer courts have glass back walls.
- It is easier for a beginner or a juvenile to start playing in a smaller court.

Hardball Championships

The 2007 hardball championships were again very successful and there were very good entries in seven events but there were not enough to warrant the playing of the Masters Doubles. Participation in the minor grade was good and this bodes well for the future of the game and surely gives encouragement to those who have lamented the decline of hardball since the 1980s. However, the question must be asked about how many people, clubs, counties or provinces do anything to promote or encourage hardball. There is no point in complaining about the quality of the game or the lack of players taking part in the national championships if one is not prepared to do something positive to redress the situation. How many clubs offer their players the opportunity to try the game out or to take some coaching sessions? Are there any units willing to undertake some promotion and organisation of hardball? Provincial Councils and County Committees should examine the possibility of running competitions and there must be some Clubs which could do so as well. Perhaps the Competitions Task Team will have some recommendations on the future of 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 justify continuing the championships.

Eoin Kennedy regained the Senior Singles title with a 9-21, 21-10, 21-12 win over Tom Sheridan of Meath. He and Egin Jensen had to fight all the way to overcome the challenge of Vinny Moran and Campbell Brennan of Mayo before winning the Senior Doubles 13-21, 21-9, 21-15. Minor Singles honours went to Seamus O'Carroll of Limerick who defeated his doubles partner CJ Fitzpatrick 10-21, 21-7, 21-20. The Limerick pair had an easy win in Minor Doubles against Stephen Cooney and Paul Keegan from Mayo 21-6, 21-7. Ger Coonan from the Ballina club in Tipperary defeated Chris Doolin of Roscommon in the Junior Singles final 21-15, 21-12 while Ian Griffin and Christy Donnelly of Dublin won the Junior Doubles defeating Chris Doolin and Glenn Walsh 21-11, 21-13. Kevin Geraghty, Mayo, took the Masters Singles against Michael Ducksy Walsh 21-15, 21-19 to wrest the title from the Kilkennyman.

Ladies Championships

The standard of ladies handball continues to improve and it is not an exaggeration to state that as well as having in our ranks the World Open Singles champion of 2003 and 2006, the quality of play of our top juveniles is the best in the world. A relatively small number of coaches are doing tremendous work in coaching girls and promoting juvenile handball; and they have had great successes in Ireland and abroad. The game is ideally suited to girls, especially those who may not like to take part in team sports and it is incumbent on all clubs to be active in making the sport available for young girls. This would benefit the game as a whole as any girls who play handball will be very well disposed to their children taking it up in the future.

Despite the excellent work of dedicated officials and coaches, only six counties shared the honours in ladies handball and when one considers that Kerry, Antrim and Roscommon won 17 of the 20 titles on offer it is evident that much more needs to be done to develop and spread the ladies game.

Kerry took six of the ten softball titles and Ashley Prendiville had an exceptional year winning four titles in intermediate and senior grades. She defeated her clubmate Maria Daly in the Senior Singles final at Ballymacelligott 21-6, 20-21, 21-18. This

partnership was too strong for Patricia Doyle and Shauna Hilley of Wicklow in the Senior Doubles final, the score ending at 21-6, 21-7. Ashley Prendiville defeated Katie Costello of Roscommon 21-9, 21-9 in Intermediate Singles and she and Sharon Daly were victorious in Intermediate Doubles against Katie Costello and Deirdre Donohoe, 21-16, 21-13. Kerry secured the Ladies Junior Singles when Lisa Falvey defeated Hilary Rushe of Roscommon 21-17, 21-10 and she and Cairtriona Casey won the Intermediate Doubles with a 21-2, 21-6 win over Olivia Kilbane and Eithne McHale of Mayo. Minor Singles honours went to Marianna Rushe of Roscommon whose opponent gave her a walkover and she and Leona Doolin also had a walkover in Minor Doubles.

In 40x20 Fiona Shannon retained her Senior Singles title winning out against doubles partner Aisling Reilly 21-14, 21-11. This pairing retained the Senior Doubles All-Ireland 21-4, 21-10 against Eimear Ní Fhalláin and Sinead Gallogly of Kildare. Aisling Reilly also took the Minor Singles medal in a 21-11, 21-11 win over Leona Doolin of Roscommon. The latter player and Marianna Rushe took gold in Minor Doubles 21-16, 21-13 against Sharon Twomey and Edel Murphy of Kerry. Ashley Prendiville brought the Intermediate Singles title to the Kingdom when she defeated Emer Coyle of Roscommon 21-3, 21-9 but Emer Coyle and Deirdre Donohoe turned the tables against Ashley Prendiville and Sharon Daly 21-20, 21-16 in Intermediate Doubles. Kerry had further success when Cairtriona Casey won the Junior Singles event 21-1, 21-15 against Claire Love of Kilkenny. The Kerry girl and partner Lisa Falvey lost out to Carlow's Ciara Mullins and Miriam Ryan in the Junior Doubles final 21-14, 21-14. Pauline Gallagher from Mayo was winner of the Junior B Singles gold defeating Louise Hayes of Clare 21-16, 21-20. The Clare girl and partner Anne-Marie Fitzgerald took the Junior B Doubles title 21-3, 21-10 against Linda Connolly and Laura Mannion of Roscommon.

Club Championships

There was further success for the Ballaghaderreen Club as their teams retained both the 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Open Club titles with basically the same group of players who have come up through the ranks from juvenile level. Great credit is due to the team coach who has given a lifetime of dedicated service to the players and they have the track record to prove it.

Many other clubs have won the Senior or Open club title over the years but the Ballaghaderreen teams successes have been outstanding and demonstrate what can be achieved with the right organisational and coaching support. This does not happen overnight and it can be emulated by other clubs if they put in the effort and make the sacrifices necessary to reach the top level in the game.

The club championships should be much better supported and there is an onus every club to make sure that its players have the opportunity to represent their club in these competitions. It is the only vehicle where the club can play as a club and it is important for club spirit and pride that they take part; and clubs should rise to that challenge every year. It is not a lot to ask and the benefits would be well worthwhile in raising the club profile and in providing meaningful competition for players as a club unit.

The Ballaghaderreen team of Joe McCann, Vinny Moran, Paul Flynn, Dessie Keegan and Campbell Brennan defeated Ballina (Tipperary) in the 60x30 final, 105-69, and were too strong for Gort na Móna (Antrim) in the 40x20 event, 97-76. Williamstown were Junior 60x30 champions after a 100-80

win over Carrickmore and the Junior 40x20 winners were Brackey who defeated Coolboy 98-69. Liscarroll won the Junior B title at the expense of Coolgreany 124-96 and Cavan Gaels defeated St Brigid's, Roscommon 84-22 in the Junior B 40x20 final.

Juvenile Boys Championships

Eight counties won juvenile boys titles, seven of these winning in 60x30 and six in 40x20. Stephen Cooney from Mayo has a marvellous double in Under 16 Singles winning the softball title very easily against Pierce Galvin of Waterford and coming from 10-6 down in the tie-break to defeat Caolán Daly of Tyrone 9-21, 21-3, 11-10 in 40x20. Mayo also won the Under 16 Doubles in 40x20 when Lee Cummins and Ian McLoughlin accounted for Clare's Trevor Vaughan and James McMahon 21-10, 21-5. Cork's duo of Killian Carroll and Conor Hannan had a fine double in Under 14 Doubles. They claimed victory in 60x30 over Mason Clifford and Peter Funchion of Kilkenny 15-8, 15-6 and won 15-3, 15-10 against Mark Healy and Mark Nally of Roscommon in 40x20.

Pádraig O'Carroll and Steven Foley of Limerick took top honours in the Under 16 Softball Doubles final defeating Michael O'Brien and Patrick Funchion of Kilkenny 21-20, 21-12. The Under 14 60x30 Singles final winner was Dean Corrigan from Wexford who outscored Niall Donaghy of Tyrone 15-5, 11-15, 15-9 in the final. Kildare's Niall O'Connor proved his worth in the Under 14 Singles 40x20 final where he defeated Jamie Lynch of Clare 15-11, 15-8. Clare had compensation in the Under 15 grade when Colm Halpin and John Fahy won in 40x20 doubles with a 19-21, 21-11, 11-10 win against Keith Clifford and Graham Clifford from Kilkenny. Clare also collected the Under 17 Doubles medals in the 60x30 court: Alan Leamy and Trevor Vaughan were too good for Dylan Clifford and Gerard McGrath of Kilkenny on a 7-21, 21-10, 11-7 scoreline.

Kilkenny players won three Under 17 titles: the softball singles went to Christopher Dawson who defeated Tom Hanrahan of Waterford 21-5, 21-3 and Mark O'Dwyer won the 40x20 Singles against John O'Keefe of Cork, 21-13, 21-9. Dylan Clifford and Christopher Dawson defeated Tadhg Carroll and Joseph Noonan of Cork 21-20, 14-21, 11-6 in the 40x20 doubles final. Colm Ó Lúing and Seán Ó Sé of Kerry won the Under 15 40x20 Doubles over Pauric Maher and Paul Holden from Kilkenny, 12-21, 21-15, 11-0. The Under 15 40x20 Singles title went to Colm Ó Lúing who defeated John Power from Kilkenny 21-11, 21-2.

The standard of skill, commitment, dedication and endeavour was maintained at a very high level in the juvenile boys championships. We had many excellent displays of top class handball and the prospects are that this will continue into the top adult grades in the future. However, there were several one-sided finals and this is a source of concern. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, it is a great pity that some Clubs have no juveniles at all and one must ask what the future holds for these Clubs: they have a responsibility to promote, develop and organise handball for young people and to ensure that the facilities which have been provided in the past are fully utilised in the future.

It is evident that the good work being done in the winning counties is bearing fruit: success comes only after a lot of hard work in coaching and training young players in the skills of the game. Despite the fact that there were a few one-sided finals, the standard of play is good overall. The current crop of players are very keen and dedicated to improving their game and the work being done by the Coaching Task Team with the

Development Squad and by the provinces with their selected players will become more obvious over the next two to three years.

Juvenile Girls Championships

The 16 girls titles were spread over seven counties with five of them winning in both courts. Limerick, Cork and Clare players had excellent doubles. Martina McMahon showed class beyond her years in winning both Under 14 Singles crowns: she won 15-7, 15-4 against Elaine Egan of Kildare in 40x20 and defeated Sinéad Ní hAinghle of Galway 15-9, 15-1 in 60x30. Aisling O'Keeffe and Catriona Casey from Cork won both Under 14 Doubles titles, the softball against Ciara Mahon and Mary Phelan of Kilkenny, 15-7, 15-4 and the 40x20 against Laura Moore and Claire Grace, also of Kilkenny, 15-8, 15-6. The Under 15 60x30 Singles title went to Lauren O'Riordan of Roscommon, 21-14, 21-11 against Áine Casey of Kerry and she and Joan McHugh won the Under 15 40x20 Doubles with a 21-4, 11-21, 11-4 win over Aoife Gleeson and Elaine Hannon from Clare. Roscommon had further success in the Under 17 40x20 Doubles where their Clare opponents were unable to fulfil the final fixture.

Clare had four wins: Lisa Loughnane and Aisling Fitzgerald combined well to defeat the Mulholland sisters, Rebecca and Claire in the Under 16 Doubles, 21-5, 21-8 and Marie Collins and Aoife Gleeson had a walkover from the Moore sisters from Kilkenny in Under 15 40x20 Doubles. Kate Lynch from Clare won the Under 17 60x30 Singles defeating Maria Corrigan from Mayo 21-16, 21-12 and Edel O'Grady and Aisling Fitzgerald had a 21-16, 21-12 win over Claire Moore and Claire Comerford in Under 17 60x30 Doubles.

Mayo's Amy Corrigan had a fine 21-7, 21-4 win against Lorraine Havern of Down in Under 16 40x20 Singles and Leona Ryder took the Under 15 40x20 gold for Mayo with a 21-8, 21-6 win in her final against Orla Duggan from Clare. Shauna Hilley from Wicklow won another title, this time in Under 16 Softball Singles defeating Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh of Kerry 21-11, 21-10. Kerry had two victories, Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh and Eilís Ní Lúing winning the Under 16 40x20 Doubles title 21-20, 21-13 against Ciara and Clodagh McManamon of Mayo and in Under 17 60x30 Singles Ciara Ní Shé had a good 21-11, 21-20 win against Mayo's Maria Corrigan.

One of the main difficulties in completing the girls championships was the withdrawal of some players due to other games commitments on the same weekends as the handball finals. With the advance notice counties have of the All-Ireland juvenile finals they should be in early contact with the other sports to ensure that no clashes of fixtures occur. It is a poor reflection on handball when finals are conceded due to lack of communication with other sports organisations: more often than not it is handball that suffers and when one considers that we facilitate so many players who take part in other Gaelic sports, by changing fixtures even at short notice, it is disappointing that this is not the case when our players have clashes of fixtures.

Notwithstanding the high level of skill and ability of a large number of juvenile girls, there is still a wide disparity of standards in some grades and this is something which the Provincial Councils should deal with in coaching programmes for the players who are not included in the Development Squad coaching and training sessions. All players need good coaching and there should be more regular competitions for them – apart from provincial and All-Ireland championships.

Juvenile Team Championships

The Juvenile Team Championships were again very popular and are excellent competitions for those players who have not won a provincial championship in any age group. However, every county should be competing in every grade in an effort to increase the numbers playing handball and to improve the standard of the game. The fact that some games were somewhat one-sided should not deter counties from entering: it is only with the experience of playing and competing that players will realise what they need to do to improve and reach their potential and that counties will benefit.

Carlow won the Under 12/13 60x30 final with a 74-54 win against Cork while Clare had a 90-62 win in the same grade in 40x20 against Galway where the ever improving standard of juvenile handball is very impressive and is sure to achieve major results in the near future. Under 14/15 softball winners were Waterford who defeated Kilkenny 79 to 44. The result was reversed in 40x20 with the Noreiders winning 86-39. The Under 16/17 60x30 winners were Wexford who defeated Cork and the Leesiders also lost out narrowly to Kilkenny in the Under 16/17 40x20 final on a 45-41 scoreline.

The Ballaghaderreen Under 16 Girls team won a very notable double in both 40x20 and 60x30 Club finals. Amy Corrigan, Stephanie Coleman, Mary Duffy and Pamela Conroy had the distinction of representing the club in both finals and had comfortable victories over Clooney Quin on each occasion. Connacht won the Girls Under 13/17 60x30 interprovincial with a 110-93 win against Munster to avenge the 40x20 defeat by the same opposition, 108-67, in 40x20 earlier in the year.

Third Level Colleges

The Third Level Colleges Championships continue to go from strength to strength with more players taking part every year. The Irish Handball Council appreciates the wonderful work being done by Pádraig Gaffney and David Smith in promoting College Clubs at Open Weeks and in following up on contacts in every Third Level College after that in their ongoing efforts to spread the game and attract more players into the clubs. They are an example to all in how they approach their work and deserve the thanks of all handball units and personnel as many of the students will go on to become the administrators and leaders of the future: it is in the interests of all clubs and counties to encourage these players to remain on in handball and to take an active part in the administration of the game in the years ahead.

Ger Coonan representing University of Limerick won the Men's Open 40x20 title while Rikki O'Gara of NUIG was best in 60x30 Men's A Singles and Paul Moran from DIT was top player in Men's A in 40x20. The Men's B titles went to Michael Baker of LIT in 40x20 and to John Kennedy of NUIG in softball. David Smith (DCU) and Nevin McCartin (NUIG) took the top spots in Men's 40x20 and softball respectively.

Maria Daly (UCC) won another 40x20 Women's Open Singles and Marianna Rushe, in her first year in college, took the Women's 60x30 Singles for NUIG against her clubmate Katie Costello. The NUIG student doubled when she and Sarah Loughnane won the Women's Doubles in 60x30. Karen Lawlor (UL) won the Women's A 40x20 title while the B and C 40x20 Singles went to Sinéad Gallogly (DCU) and Therese Hearne (UL) respectively. The 60x30 B Singles winner was Joan McNulty from University of Limerick.

With an increasing entry, the team events were well contested with UL winning the A event in 60x30 and SIT/NUIG and DCU

taking the B and C titles. The 40x20 team medals were claimed by NUIG in A, DIT in B and UUI in the C grade. Marianna Rushe and Cairtriona Casey combined to take the Women's A 40x20 Doubles and DIT representatives Lauren Keaver and Sinead Byrne were best in the B Doubles competition.

USHA Collegiates

Another large contingent of Irish players and teams took part in the USHA Collegiate Championships in February. Irish players have made a major impact on the Collegiate scene over the past ten years and their contribution to the US Collegiates is immense. Although the profile of the Irish in the men's events is not as high as in the early part of the decade, the ladies have made a huge impact on the championships. Maria Daly (UCC) won the Women's Open against Eimear Ní Fhalláin in an all-Irish final. Karen Lawlor won the Women's A final against Mary Masalkis of Missouri State University and Lisa Falvey from UL defeated Pam Early of Texas A&M in Women's B. Brian Carroll of DIT was an unlucky 19-21, 21-18, 11-8 loser in the Men's Open final where he found Luis Moreno just too good for him. In the Men's C Singles final Conor O'Riordan from UL lost out to Matthew Acker of Texas A&M, 21-17, 21-14.

All-Ireland Colleges

There was a good spread of colleges in the All-Ireland finals and we had winners from six boys schools in 60x30 and six in 40x20 with 11 schools in all on the winners rostrum, the exception being Castlecomer Community School with Eoghan Hennessy and Pádraig Maher winning Junior Doubles in 40x20 and Intermediate Doubles in 60x30. The Senior 40x20 Singles was won by Pádraig McGlinchey of Omagh CBS and the Senior Doubles went to David Walsh and David Power of St Augustine's College, Dungarvan. Diarmaid Nash representing Cistercian College, Roscrea won the Intermediate Singles in 40x20 and Seamus and Pádraig O'Carroll won the Intermediate 40x20 Doubles for Salesian College, Pallaskenry. The Junior 40x20 Singles winner was Caolán Daly from the Dean Brian Maguire School in Carrickmore.

Dean Corrigan of St Peter's College, Wexford continued that school's fine record in colleges handball when he took the Junior 60x30 Singles medal. Killian Carroll and Conor Hannon who have been a formidable duo for several years at underage level won the Junior 60x30 Doubles title. Stephen Cooney of St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen took top honours in the Intermediate Softball Singles final and Shane Hedigan won the Senior 60x30 title for Doneraile Secondary School. St Kieran's College, Kilkenny is almost always in the roll of honour and 2007 was no exception when Eamon Foley and Ciarán Neary won the Senior Softball Doubles medals.

As with the boys championships, the girls winners reflected the strength of club handball in their areas. Amy Corrigan from St Nathy's College won the Junior 60x30 Singles and her schoolmates Stephanie Coleman and Pamela Conroy were victorious in Junior Softball Doubles. Convent of Mercy girls from Roscommon were to the fore in three events; Leona Doolin and Hilary Rushe won the Senior Softball Doubles title, Linda Connolly and Anna Keenan won gold in Junior 40x20 Doubles and best of the teams in Senior 40x20 Doubles were Katie Costello and Deirdre Donohoe. Shauna Hilley from Coláiste Bhríde in Carnew won the Junior 40x20 Singles and the Senior 60x30 Singles titles. Aisling Reilly representing Meán Scoil Feirste was winner of the Senior 40x20 Singles title.

Sincere thanks go to the Clubs which look after handball in

and for schools and to those schools which make the effort to promote the sport and to facilitate their pupils in playing in the Colleges events. The second level schools need to do a lot more to promote and organise handball and should not have to depend on local clubs to carry out the task of bringing players to games when they are representing schools. It is an added bonus for the schools when clubs are involved but the clubs should not cause schools to depend totally on them to look after schools handball.

I must acknowledge the work done by the provincial schools handball organisers in contacting the schools, seeking entries and organising the competitions. This can be an onerous task when faced by the demands of an overcrowded schools games and academic schedule and the requirements made on pupils to play other games. It is critical that the organisers ensure that competitions are run off in time to facilitate the making of the All-Ireland fixtures: it still happens that fixtures have to be issued without the names of some provincial winners: this is not good for the image of the game and does nothing to promote Colleges handball. It is also very unfair to opponents who do not know who they are playing, sometimes until the other player/s arrive at the semi-final venue.

Féile na nGael

Féile na nGael was hosted exceptionally well by Carlow, Laois and Kilkenny Clubs 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. The host 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 general arrangements and the organisation of the games.

Entries in Féile were among the highest ever and the parade was never better supported by handball clubs. It is to be hoped that this trend continues as it is a great shop window for juvenile handball and is a wonderful vehicle for promoting the game at juvenile level. The addition of three extra divisions to cater for the larger entry was very welcome and should be continued. The entries from a few new counties were very heartening and bode well for the future of the game in those areas: congratulations to the coaches and clubs on their efforts and results.

There has been a suggestion that there should be a handball Féile on its own and that we not take part in Féile na nGael in future, part of the reason being that handball is not seen at all apart from those teams which take part in the parade. It is something which merits consideration but any decision to withdraw from the festival should not be taken lightly: there are major advantages in being linked to the Féile but these should be reviewed and the pros and cons of having a handball Féile should be thoroughly examined as it would allow far more teams to take part in a national handball festival: as it is, only one team from a county can take part in 40x20 or softball – apart from the clubs in the host counties.

It may be costly, in financial terms, to take part in Féile but it is well worth while doing so as the experience of playing so many others is a huge boost for the players involved and will stand to them in facing other challenges in the older age brackets.

The Castlebridge Club from Wexford set the standard in Boys 60 x 30 winning the final against Tuamgraney from Clare, 42-21. Ballymote from Sligo made a very fruitful first time entry to Féile and won the 60x30 Division Two title with a 42-23 win against Talbot's Inch, Kilkenny. Kells from Kilkenny took the Boys 40 x 20 Division One honours with a 42-34 victory over

Mallow who won the title the previous year. The Division Two title went to Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty from Waterford who defeated Moycullen, Galway 30-21. Division Three winners in 40x20 were from the St Mellan's Club in Monaghan who defeated Na Fianna, Dublin 42-16 while the Division Four medals went to Moone from Kildare won 42-11 against Kells, Kilkenny in the final.

Ballydesmond retained the Girls 40 x 20 Division One title defeating Clogh, Kilkenny rather easily in a one-sided final.. Clooney from Clare surrendered their Girls 40 x 20 Division Two crown being defeated by Indreabhán from Galway, 40-35 in a well contested final. Kingscourt from Cavan took the Girls Division Three medals winning 31-29 against Kells, Kilkenny.

FBD Irish Nationals

The 2007 FBD Irish Nationals were again very successful attracting over 300 entries in the 17 events from 13 and Under to Golden Masters. The large round of Qualifiers was played at regional venues over one weekend and the final stages were hosted at Kilkenny, Laois and Carlow venues where the games were planned, hosted and organised very well. Our thanks to all host clubs and their officials as well as the Organising Committee, led by Con Moore, for the playoffs and finals.

There has been some criticism of the method of seeding players, making draws and arranging fixtures for the Nationals. If the games were organised on the same basis as the USHA or Canadian Nationals and held over four or five days it would be much easier to organise the fixtures and make sure that players from the same clubs and counties did not meet in the early rounds: this is not always possible in the regional system where players from the same region may be in the same section of a draw.

One point to be noted is that when the Junior Nationals were held in Kingscourt some years ago there were several objections from some people to having to stay at a venue for several days rather than over two weekends. This meant loss of time at work and additional accommodation and associated costs for those involved. However, many Irish players are prepared to take holidays to take part in the USHA Nationals and if we could adopt the same attitude for our Nationals it would be worth seeing how it would work out on a trial basis. A major advantage would be that players and supporters would focus on one area for the Nationals and this would generate social and coaching activities as well as providing the opportunity for holding refereeing training.

Tony Healy won his third Men's Open title and Fiona Shannon her seventh Women's Open and her fourth in a row. Brian Carroll from Meath won the Men's A title. Paul Moran from the Naomh Mhuire Club in Kildare won the Men's B and Deirdre Donohoe from St Coman's in Roscommon was best in the Ladies B event. Cork's Donnacha O'Dea was the Men's C winner and the Masters B title went to another Corkman, John Hedigan. Kevin Geraghty of Mayo won his second Golden Masters A Nationals title and Martin McEntee from Monaghan was champion in Golden Masters B. Ashling O'Keeffe from Cork, Mayo's Amy Corrigan, Shauna Hilley from Wicklow and Ashley Prendiville of Kerry won the Girls 13/15/17/19 and Under titles and the corresponding Boys grades were won by Niall O'Connor (Kildare), Caolán Daly (Tyrone), Diarmaid Nash (Clare) and Conor Duff (Tyrone).

We wish to acknowledge the sponsorship 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 promoting and supporting the event over the period of their sponsorship.

One-wall Nationals

Coiste Chontae Shligigh again hosted the One Wall Nationals in July and again did an excellent job in organising the venues – despite being forced to go further afield due to the additional numbers taking part. The event is now a regular part of the handball calendar for numerous players and is also a great social weekend. The thanks of all players and supporters is due to the Organising Committee and to Connell Cannon and John McLoughlin in particular who do Trojan work each year to ensure that the games go off like clockwork. The venue officials were very diligent in organising the games and great credit is due to them for their work and to those who supplied refreshments throughout the Tournament.

Charly Shanks from Armagh defeated his fellow countyman James Doyle in the Men's Open final on a 15-7, 15-3 scoreline. Ashley Prendiville of Kerry showed her versatility in winning the Ladies Open over Katie Costello (Roscommon) 15-5, 15-14 thus reversing the 2006 result. Darragh Daly (Tyrone) and Niall Gordon (Longford) were best in the Men's B and C Singles respectively and Martin Bruen (Roscommon) and Moran Darcy (Galway) topped the Golden Masters and Diamond Masters grades. Best in the Boys competitions were Darren Doherty of Monaghan in Under 12, Keith Kavanagh of Wicklow at Under 14, Caolán Daly from Tyrone in Under 16 and Diarmaid Nash (Clare) in Under 18. The winning girls were Cianna Ní Churraoin from Galway in the Under 14 final, Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) in Under 16 and Leona Doolin (Roscommon) in Under 18.

Tournaments

One of the main features of handball in past decades was the staging of several tournaments throughout the country and many of these are treasured memories for the older generation of players. These provided marvellous handball and social occasions and are remembered with fondness in many parts of the country. Clubs were famed for their annual tournaments which attracted players from all parts and spectators thronged to venues to watch the action and savour the atmosphere. Although times have changed in Ireland in the past generation there is still room for many more tournaments, especially during the summer months when softball can be played despite the many other attractions of modern life and living.

The clubs which hold tournaments find them very beneficial for their own clubs and members and more clubs should be encouraged to initiate such events. It is no longer good enough to expect Central and Provincial Councils to organise championships and tournaments while there is a great need for additional events, especially in areas where there are so few clubs that they do not have any meaningful games other than in provincial and national competitions. The plethora of All-Ireland championships, especially in overage, has spelled the decline in tournaments and there are so many championships that there is little room for tournaments at present. This is an area which the Competitions Task Team must address and tailor the calendar to facilitate the organisation of more tournaments.

The Kingscourt Club with the support of sponsors Envirogreen, myhomedubai and M Donnelly made a major decision to host the inaugural Ulster International Open in February and this was a milestone in the development and presentation of handball events. The inclusion of players from

the USA in both male and female Opens was very significant and is something which is to be encouraged in major events in Ireland in future. For several decades Irish players have been taking part in US Nationals and other tournaments in North America and it is now time for the Americans to reciprocate. The demand for and the appeal of good handball was widely acknowledged by the very large attendances at the Tournament. Great credit is due to the club for taking the initiative in staging the event and while it was not possible to host it again in 2008 the standard has been set for the future and for others to follow.

Venues and Refereeing

On behalf of the Handball Council and of our players I wish to acknowledge the enormous help given by the many voluntary officials throughout the country who officiate and take on the unenviable and thankless 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 2007 to ensure that this was achieved.

Referees must know and understand the rules and avail of any opportunity to take a refereeing course which will be available in 2008 to all counties and provinces under the Coaching Task Team. Refereeing standards should be uniform: it is essential that players are treated in the same manner in regard to the application of various rules and that the standards are of the highest quality. Referees deserve the respect of players and spectators as they carry out a difficult job and they should get the credit they deserve: but this must be earned as well as expected.

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. Many of the courts which were built between 1960 and the 1990s are in urgent need of upgrading in order to attract new members, especially juveniles, into the game. Facilities which were acceptable many years ago are no longer good enough – unless they are constantly maintained and upgraded in line with modern standards.

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.

Some clubs continue to improve their facilities and a few are in the process of planning or building new courts or upgrading the existing ones. The Facilities Task Team will be developing criteria for courts and can advise Clubs which are embarking on various improvements.

Handball Clubs should take advantage of the trend in GAA Clubs to erect hurling walls and other facilities which can also be used for handball, especially One Wall. Some GAA County Committees and Provincial Councils are developing Centres of Excellence with several training pitches and other facilities and County Committees should be aware of any such developments and ensure that handball is included in them as well.

USHA Nationals and Juniors

It was another historic year for Irish players at the USHA Nationals: Paul Brady won the Men's Open Singles for the third time in succession with a 21-18, 21-12 win against Seán Lenning. Tony Healy and Ricky McCann regained the Open Doubles title they won in 2005 – and taken by Paul Brady and Michael

Finnegan in 2006 – defeating Seán Lenning and Luis Moreno 21-18, 21-18 in a magnificent final. Johnny Willoughby teamed up with Mike Leiter of the USA to win the B Doubles crown and Donnacha O'Dea of Ballydesmond took top honours in the C Singles final against John O'Connor of Limerick 21-15, 21-9. Egin Jensen enhanced his reputation in international competition when he won the Senior Singles title 21-9, 21-20 against Chris Tico of the USA. Michael Ducksy Walsh took the Masters title in a 21-8, 21-6 contest with Mike McDonald of the USA. Egin Jensen and Michael Ducksy Walsh were best of the field in the Masters Doubles winning 21-7, 21-7 against Mike Wells and John Stoffel in the final.

In the USHA Juniors Aisling Reilly, representing Ireland, won the Girls 19 and Under round robin in which Leona Doolin took silver. Both girls combined to win the 19 and Under Doubles very easily in a round robin playoff against Kira Toxopeus and Pepukai Jones of Edmonton. Amy Corrigan of Mayo reversed the result of the Irish trials at 15 and Under when she defeated the official Irish representative, Catriona Casey in the last of the round robin games. The Nash brothers were very successful in the boys events: Diarmaid partnered by Niall Malone won the 17 and Under Doubles title in a good final against Luis Cordova and Tyree Bastidas of Mexico and New York respectively and Barry won gold in the 13 and Under grade, Singles against Alejandro Serrano of California and Doubles with Dylan Walsh of Kilkenny in a 21-15, 21-4 win against Avery Haskell and Patrick Sutherland of Kansas.

It must be pointed out that this was the least successful official Irish boys team for a very long time and that the standard of the American Juniors has overtaken the Irish players in the very recent past. Our record has been very impressive for over 20 years but we have to take note and be aware of this challenge for the future. The 2009 World Championships will be a critical test for the strength of our Junior players and we will have to prepare well for that event.

Our thanks and appreciation and that of the players and their parents and families go to Team Manager Michael Ducksy Walsh for his very thorough preparation of the team and also to Niamh Egan, Assistant Manager for their combined management of the team during the Juniors in Tucson. The whole party are indebted to Pat Kirby and his wife for their welcome and hospitality during the Juniors and to Ciarán McCrystal, a Tyrone man living in the USA, for his annual trip to the Juniors and his special interest in the Irish team and all other Irish players.

The Irish team of Eoin Kennedy, Tony Healy, Owen McKenna, Dessie Keegan, Charly Shanks and Michael Ducksy Walsh performed very well to clinch Ireland's first victory in the Casey/Lawlor Cup in late 2007 with an 11 points to 10 win over their US opponents – Allan Garner, Luis Moreno, Seán Lenning, Emmett Peixoto, Naty Alvarado and John Bike.

Progress in European handball

2007 saw the greatest increase yet in the interest and participation of other countries in our game. Of necessity this involves the One Wall code but should also spawn interest in the Four Wall code. In Europe the step is easily made as there are almost one hundred 40x20 courts on the Continent which are currently being used for racquetball, and many of these countries have handball games of their own.

In March the Dutch Kaats Federation sent an official delegation to the FBD Nationals to discuss future cooperation and they invited Willie Polanco, US One Wall champion, to

coach and demonstrate at their clubs. They have set up a website to coordinate world handball news and, echoing the Irish origins of the game, have started to play street handball.

The European Pelote Federation, whose main activity is a hand tennis game, held European Championships in Belgium in September and introduced One Wall as part of their programme. European members of this Association, including France and Spain, took part in their World Games in Ecuador in October and One Wall was part of the programme.

Through Tom O'Connor, International Officer, the Irish Handball Council has developed close ties with the Basque Federation and they have become heavily involved in the One Wall game—we have joined their International Federation and this has put us in touch with many countries in the Caribbean and the Americas who are showing great interest in the game. In December the Basques hosted a four country International One Wall for men, women and U-18's in a stunning complex built exclusively for One Wall. The event was won by the US but the Basque handballers are quickly catching up and the standard of the Irish players has fallen behind due to lack of competition, lack of coaching and the need for better preparation of Irish teams, all of which are difficult to manage due to our packed calendar and the fact that we have four codes.

The Italians, building on their successful Tournament of 2006 held their international separate from their own Nationals. An astonishing nine countries took part and the quantum rise in standards was remarkable. Present at the Tournament were the Cultural Attachés from the Embassies in Rome and officials attending from such diverse countries as Malta, Albania, Mongolia and Liberia were much taken with the skill, simplicity and low cost of the sport.

Attending the Italian and Basque Tournaments this year were teams from the English Fives Association to which they sent the winners of their own Nationals held in June. Fives have adopted One Wall as part of their programme and have set up a special committee, City Fives, to promote the game. This is based on the New York Inner City Association programme led by Paul Williams and the English body has obtained funding from local Councils and the Sports Ministry to introduce handball in schools in London. The Welsh also sent a team to the Italian games and are hoping that the attendant publicity at home will kick-start an expansion of the game in Wales.

Publicity and Awards

With the appointment of Niamh Egan as Handball Promotions Administrator in May, 2007 the amount of publicity for handball increased hugely and made a big impact in the national media. It was encouraging to see results published in the Irish Times and regular features in the Irish Independent, The Irish News, The Irish Examiner and The Star

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 contributes to the Irish News. Chris Curran, Ciaran Curran and Michael McGee write excellent contributions for various magazines. Peter Dennehy is our main correspondent for the Irish Examiner and other papers in the Cork region. Aidan Crowley provides copy for several newspapers and supplies results to them also. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to each and every one of them.

Several players have cooperated with Niamh to be interviewed on various radio and TV stations and the Council is grateful to them for this: it is only with the assistance of players that publicity can be generated to the maximum and they must

realise that they have a part to play in securing that publicity. Many county and Club PROs can be relied on for weekly features in their areas. John McLoughlin provides an excellent results service for followers of the game; we appreciate all that he does to publicise the sport.

It is very important that our players are rewarded and recognised for their contribution to the game through award schemes: they provide great enjoyment and entertainment for our supporters and they give a huge commitment to developing their skills and fitness to reach their potential. I would strongly encourage provinces, counties and Clubs which do not already do so to honour their stars in an annual awards presentation. It is done at all levels in so many sports and it is incumbent on handball units to do likewise.

Sponsorship

There is no doubt but that sponsorship is crucial in the development and presentation of handball events and in seeking publicity for the game. This was evident in the case of the M Donnelly All-Ireland softball finals in September when Ladbrokes, Gaelic Telecom and O'B Sport also supported the finals. The press launch in advance of the Senior Singles final generated a good deal of press and radio coverage and the Irish Times published a main feature on Michael Ducksy Walsh in the lead up to the game. There was an additional sense of excitement about the finals, due in great measure to the pairing of Eoin Kennedy and Ducksy and this attracted the largest attendance to the Senior Singles final for over a decade.

It is incumbent on any unit to give a proper return to sponsors in measure with their financial and other input to handball. It no longer suffices to accept a cheque and run competitions without giving something meaningful in return: otherwise, the sponsorship will not be repeated and the game will suffer as a result. Sponsors can bring their own benefits to the sport and we must seek out ways in which this can be done to the advantage of handball. There is a need for guidelines for handball units in relation to sponsorship and this is something which the Promotions Task Team might examine and produce recommendations for general distribution.

The Handball Council thanks its sponsors for their support during 2007 and we hope that relationships which were established will continue to be fruitful for them and for handball.

FBD All-Star Award

The FBD Handball All Star Awards for 2006 was another 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, FBD. Brian Carthy, RTE Gaelic games correspondent was a very efficient Master of Ceremonies and added a professional dimension to the awards ceremony. In addition to the Annual Awards, all Irish winners at the 2006 World Championships were honoured with special presentations to mark their achievements.

It may be time to review the Awards which have been in place since 1994: as with any scheme, the gloss may go off the occasion or off the Awards and we need to be conscious of new dimensions which could be added to them from time to time: perhaps the GAA's 125th Anniversary in 2009 might be an occasion when we could take stock of the current range of Awards and see how they can be enhanced.

Paul Brady received the double accolade of Player of the Year and International Player of the Year in keeping with his

excellent achievements in winning the All-Ireland 40x20 Senior Singles and Doubles titles, in retaining the World Open Singles title – the first player to do so – and on winning the USHA Nationals Open Singles for the second time. Fiona Shannon won her sixth Player of the Year (female) award following her victories in the All-Ireland 40x20 Singles and Doubles finals and in retaining her World Open Singles crown.

Having won all six Masters titles on offer, Michael Ducksy Walsh of Kilkenny was the Masters Player of the Year. After a fantastic year's achievements at national and international levels Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) and Diarmaid Nash (Clare) were chosen as the Young Players of 2006.

John Gaffney from the Ballaghaderreen Club in Mayo was the Hall of Fame recipient in recognition of his contribution to handball in his club which has dominated the Open Club Championships in both courts for the past five years and contributed in no small way to the successes of the juvenile girls in his club. Billy Love of the Clogh Club in Kilkenny had a great record in coaching juveniles in his club and county and was named as Coach of the Year. Official of the Year was Robert Maguire from Antrim who served as Ulster Administrator and Cathoirleach for several years. Club of the Year was Ballydesmond which had particular successes in provincial, national and international competition as well as developing its facilities to a high standard. The Special Achievement Award went to Tim Healy from the Liscarroll Club in Cork in recognition of his amazing contribution to the planning, hosting and organisation of the Liscarroll Juvenile Tournament each year.

- **Young Player (Female):** Marianna Rushe (Roscommon)
- **Young Player (Male):** Diarmaid Nash (Clare)
- **Player of Year (Female):** Fiona Shannon (Antrim)
- **Player of Year (Male):** Paul Brady (Cavan)
- **Masters Player of Year:** Michael Walsh (Kilkenny)
- **International Player:** Paul Brady (Cavan)
- **Hall of Fame:** John Gaffney (Mayo)
- **Coach of Year:** Billy Love (Kilkenny)
- **Special Achievement:** Tim Healy (Cork)
- **Official of Year:** Robert Maguire (Antrim)
- **Club of Year:** Ballydesmond (Cork)

Task Teams

At the end of 2007 the Handball Council Strategic Plan for 2002 to 2007 was extended for two more years to allow the Teams to achieve the ambitious targets set out in the Plan. Directors who had been in office from the beginning had come to the end of their term of office and new Directors were appointed. Some Teams made a great deal of progress and the new Directors are reviewing the tasks that remain to be fulfilled. I wish to thank and congratulate all Directors on their achievements and wish the current Teams well in their work programmes. One main difference for the next two years of the Plan will be that each Director will be required to present a written report for each Ard Chomhairle meeting. In addition, the Review Group will be very proactive in monitoring the progress of each Team.

Having completed a range of Code of Ethics courses, the Development Team carried out Administration courses in some provinces and are planning further courses. The Coaching Task Team delivered three Level One coaching courses and ten Foundation courses attended by 38 and 113 coaches respectively. The Team also developed a Code of Conduct for players

travelling to international tournaments and set out criteria for grant aid for senior players to avail of medical and physiotherapy support. The Team also selected 32 boys and girls for specialised coaching and training sessions each of whom benefited from the Irish Sports Council grant scheme. The Facilities Team worked on criteria for the inclusion of handball facilities in GAA regional centres and had an input in the area of precast hurling walls which can also be used for handball and developed criteria for One Wall courts.

The Competitions Task Team gathered information on the state of competitions and outlined some recommendations for the organisation of All-Ireland Masters championships. The Sponsorship and Marketing Team had a major input into the staging and presentation of the All-Ireland Softball finals in September and raised sponsorship for these events. The Team had several meetings and decided on plans to raise further sponsorship under agreed terms of reference. The Promotions Team developed some initiatives which will come to fruition over the coming year: the Ball Girls promotion for Transition Year students is proving very popular and will raise the profile of the game. Handball for Hurlers, Serves for Women and Handball for All promotions have been planned and there will be Summer Coaching Camps in Gormanston College in 2008 as well as a Roadshow to introduce potential new members to handball.

Administration

With the changes in GAA rules on the duration of officer positions it is incumbent on all counties and provinces to make provision for a regular turnover of officers. Positions cannot be held for more than five years and the involvement of younger personnel must be encouraged and acted upon. We have a wealth of talent available to take up positions... provided they are given the opportunity. Young people are well educated, skilled in many and varied spheres of technical expertise and willing and able to undertake responsibilities in the organisation.

It is a matter of some concern that a number of counties do not have any or regular meetings. This is a serious situation and leaves counties open to the possibility of operating in a less than effective way. All clubs and members are entitled to be part of a democratic process and should expect that this is facilitated by the Coiste Contae. It is easy for units to go from day to day without any proper structure in place: players are generally happy to play the game but they should ensure that the administration is in place as well to protect the interests of both players and county.

It is equally important that clubs have regular meetings – they are the owners of substantial properties and they must act in accordance with rule to protect their interests. It would be a very good exercise if every Coiste Contae carried out a review of the general performance of its clubs, something which the Provincial Councils might supervise as part of their role.

Congress

Congress 2007 will be remembered for many reasons, not least the controversy regarding nominations, the election of the Uachtarán Tofa, the many queries on the 2006 accounts and the follow-up to Congress. It is fair to say that for many years there were no significant difficulties regarding Congress. The procedures were standard and people came and took part without any apprehension. In 2007, however, things were different and the election of Uachtarán Tofa took place in a tense atmosphere in which a very small number of delegates who were not entitled

to vote took part in the election. This had repercussions for several months and the matter was finally put to rest when an agreement was reached to the satisfaction of the defeated candidate.

There were several queries on the 2006 accounts: many of these were raised in an aggressive manner which did not help the review of the subject matter. The accounts were fully audited by the GAA auditor under the standard legal requirements, were fully in order and were properly signed off by the handball officers.

In a review of Congress, the Management Committee decided on a number of procedures to streamline matters so that any difficulties will be dealt with in an agreed manner. It was decided that all county delegates will be seated according to a published plan of the Congress hall and that any observers will be accommodated in another area. It is hoped that these and other changes will facilitate the smooth running of Congress in the future.

Top Ace Yearbook

The new look Top Ace Handball Yearbook was published in December and provided an excellent record of the year's happenings in most areas of activity. The full colour publication was a big leap forward in the presentation of handball material and set a standard for the future of handball literature. In fact, the publishers have decided that they will submit the next edition for adjudication in a best sports publication competition.

The inclusion of several feature articles was excellent and the many good quality action shots certainly enhanced the copy. Additional advertising and the revenue gained meant that the Yearbook was published on a break-even basis.

The cooperation of all counties and provinces is required to ensure that the Yearbook is a success into the future: all county PROs must keep a record of the activities in their counties and provide a full report in good time for editing and publishing. No doubt, Top Ace can and will be improved to include more features and articles of relevance to a wide range of readers.

Our thanks to all those who contributed articles for Top Ace and to people who forwarded photographs to complement them. I wish to pay a special tribute to the Editorial Committee of Niamh Egan, Tom O'Connor, Cólín Duffy, Paul Fitzpatrick and David Smith for their input: without their cooperation and expert help and it would not have been possible to produce Top Ace.

Camann Láthchleas Gael

In each of the past three years the Council has received an annual grant of €100,000 from our parent body: this was supplemented very significantly in 2007 with an additional grant of over €143,000. This financial support has been vital for the ongoing operations of the Council. The Association has advised on many handball matters at Management Committee level and an Uachtarán, Nioclás Ó Braonáin, in particular, has been very much in touch with handball matters throughout the past year. The GAA has reviewed plans and proposals for the new handball facilities at Croke Park and although there have been some delays in securing part of the location for the new complex, the plans are going ahead and include all the proposals submitted by the Handball Council.

Ba mhaith le Comhairle Liathróid Laimhe na hÉireann fíor-bhuíochas a ghabháil le hArd Chomhairle agus le Coiste Bainistí CLG as ucht an tacaíocht sin atá riachtanach chun liathróid láimhe a chur chun cinn. Gabhaimid buíochas faoi leith do

Nioclás Ó Braonáin, Uachtarán CLG, a chabhraigh go mór linn i rith na bliana agus a bhí i láthair ag cluichí agus ar ocaídhí speisialta eile.

Ár mbuíochas freisin do Liam Ó Maolmhichíl, Ard Stiúrthóir as ucht a gcuid suime i gcúrsaí liathróid láimhe i gcoitinne agus an chomhairle a fuaireamar uaidh tríd na blianta agus guímid gach rath air taréis dó éirí as a phost. Fáiltímid roimh Paraic Ó Dufaigh mar Ard Stiúrthóir agus tá súil againn go mbeidh tréimhse fiúntach aige ina phost. Buíochas, freisin, do foireann na hard oifige as ucht an chabhair a thug said dúinn go minic i 2007.

The Irish Handball Council wishes to acknowledge the financial and other support received from the Provincial Councils and Coistí Contae who supported their handball units in many ways. The recognition of handball in many awards presentations is very welcome; there are many other ways in which handball can be recognised by GAA units but handball must play its part in the Association as a whole by being more active in the general affairs of clubs and counties throughout the country.

Liam Ó Máirtín, the GAA Management Committee representative on Ard Chomhairle CLG, has given great support and encouragement to handball and his wise contributions and input at our Council meetings is very valuable and we express our thanks to him for this.

Our thanks to the GAA Provincial Councils for the very significant financial 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 GAA venues and by other means to enable handball units to promote, develop and organise the game. Handball units must play their part in the wider Association and it is vital that they are represented at all county GAA Board meetings and at Provincial Council level as well.

Insurance

The insurance cover available under the GAA is of vital importance to all handball units. We must take every precaution to ensure that our Clubs and officials are fully protected in the event of any damage to or loss of property. This is also essential 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. Clubs must display 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 was never more important in handball than when Eamon Law died while playing handball in Kilkenny and the fact that a family can benefit from the Scheme is crucial in providing some financial assistance in such unfortunate circumstances. While on this subject, it is only fair, right and fitting to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of Michael Ducksey Walsh and a local committee in raising a very significant amount of money to assist Eamon's family.

The Injury Scheme is most worthwhile and many players have benefited very significantly from it. Any handball injuries must be reported fully and properly and there can be no claims which do not arise from handball. The Scheme must be guarded and protected in the interests of all GAA players and our units.

Roger Clancy from the GAA Insurance Section has given several seminars at provincial level for the benefit of handball units and this has raised awareness of the responsibilities of everyone in maintaining facilities in proper order and in being

part of the various GAA Schemes for Public Liability, Employer Liability and Player Injury. Despite this awareness, some clubs still do not have all the necessary insurance cover in place and would be liable to severe financial exposure in the event of any accident or claim on the club. It should be the responsibility of all Provinces and County Boards to ensure that every club unit has the proper cover in place so that all its officers are protected and that the interests of the club are not put at risk.

Sports Council

The Irish Handball Council is grateful to the Irish Sports Council (ISC) for its support for handball over the past year: the Annual Grant of over €108,000 was vital to the administration and development of the organisation and essential in providing the services needed to assist our units and personnel to work at all levels of handball. The special grant of €14,000 for player development has facilitated the organisation of coaching and training sessions for a squad of 32 underage players and the grant of €5,000 for selected senior players is also very welcome. The ISC has been to the forefront of the development of sports policy in Ireland and takes account of developments from countries around the world in moving Irish sport forward. The Council tends to concentrate its resources on the major and international sports, as influenced by government policy, but there should be much more emphasis on the minor sports; those which are strongest seem to benefit most but the minor organisations 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 the occasion required. Our thanks and appreciation to John Treacy, CEO, and his staff for their help and guidance throughout 2007. A special word of thanks is due to Diane Fay in the NGB unit for her help and guidance and to her colleagues in the NGB unit. 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 during his term of office. His personal interest in meeting venue officials, club and county officers and players was very much appreciated. He took time to meet them at every opportunity and has been very conscious of their role in the organisation and there were very few finals during his three year term of office where he was not in attendance.

The Uachtarán continued the development of strong links with the Basque Pelota Federation and other national associations and led Irish teams to compete in internationals against the Basques Country and Italy as well as the 2006 Waterford Crystal World Handball championships.

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 Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. It is only right and fitting that we acknowledge the immense support and encouragement he received from his family over the past three years.

Uachtarán Nua

Coming from a very strong handball background in his native Sligo, and having been involved in the game wherever he served

as a member of An Garda Síochána, Tony Hannon brings a vast amount of experience as an administrator to the position of Uachtarán. He has been Club Secretary and Chairperson in the progressive and successful St Coman's and was Roscommon and Connacht Chairperson as well as serving on national committees and as National Children's Officer. He has always been a keen player and will be conscious of the needs of players and their needs. We wish him well on taking up office and know he will be very committed and dedicated to his role as Uachtarán of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann.

Na Mairbh

During the past twelve months several prominent handball officials and players went to their eternal reward. Tommy O'Brien who was Uachtarán of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann from the GAA Centenary Year of 1984 to 1987 died at the time of writing. He was Leinster Secretary for over 30 years and served on several Leinster and national committees. Tommy had a lifetime association with Kilkenny GAA and Camogie and hosted weekly sports programmes on local radio. He was an excellent Master of Ceremonies and was always in demand for special events in his native Kilkenny. He was coach, advisor and mentor to Michael Ducksy Walsh who won 38 All-Ireland Senior medals, providing Tommy with some of his most treasured memories.

Kilkenny and Irish handball suffered a huge blow on Thursday 31 May, 2007 when Eamon Law died while playing handball at Talbot's Inch. He was an excellent hurler and handballer and won the following national titles:

- 1988 & 89 Minor 40 x 20 Doubles with DJ Carey
- 1991 Under 21 40 x 20 Doubles with Graham O'Brien
- 1992 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 National Leagues with Kilkenny
- 1997 Intermediate 60 x 30 Doubles with Pearse O'Keefe
- 1998 Junior Hardball Doubles with Eddie Burke

He will be remembered as a much loved, well respected, fair-minded person and a very talented player who enjoyed playing. He revelled in good company to which he contributed greatly with his sense of humour and attitude to life and living and his musical and singing talents.

Paddy Grogan from Carrickmore, Co Tyrone died on 3rd March, 2008 after a short illness. He was the driving force behind the foundation of the Carrickmore Club and was very active as club coach, advisor and mentor until his illness in early 2008. He was also very involved in community organisations and was a keen Irish language enthusiast and an excellent musician and story teller. He was a very strong proponent of the One Wall code and established links with a number of European Federations during the past few years which will be of great benefit to the game in the future.

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 her other family members.

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.

Many players and officers lost family members during the year and these were 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 bhúochas 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; they have a very onerous workload and it is only fitting that their contribution is acknowledged. County officers, too, are very generous with their time and give a great commitment to the games and the organisation: without that commitment it would be impossible to carry out the work of the Council at grassroots level.

My thanks to Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí for his professional expertise and time-consuming work in managing the Council's finances. His knowledge of financial matters is a very valuable asset to the organisation and he keeps strict control on the Council's accounts at all times.

My thanks and appreciation to Tomás Breathnach, Uachtarán, for all his personal help and advice to me during the past three years. He was of immense help and support during some difficult moments and I am grateful for his interest and encouragement at all times.

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.

I wish to thank Niamh Egan for her invaluable work since she took up her position in May, 2007. She has developed good working relationships with a wide range of media personnel and provided an excellent service to the media in general. She has developed several initiatives which will be of immense benefit to handball and provides good communications links with all handball units.

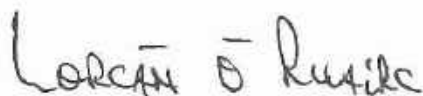
Finally, I would like to wish all clubs, counties, provinces and handball personnel a very successful year ahead in 2008.

Focal Scoir

In general, in life as well as in sport, difficulties are hardly ever as bad as they seem and opportunities are seldom as good as they are made out to be. People's attitudes determine the view they take on how they perceive things and in handball we have to take the optimistic view that we can set positive targets for the game and that we can achieve them. Targets must be realistic, tempered by wisdom and experience but not hidebound by what happened in the past. Tradition does not always make for the best way forward in today's world: it has its place and must be part of any equation and it must be remembered that what was adequate in some past situations will not meet the requirements of the modern game.

Positive criticism of handball and all that goes with the game is always welcome. We must review our practices and procedures regularly so that we do not remain prisoners of the past. Criticism

for the sake of criticism is detrimental to the organisation and helps nobody: it destroys confidence, engenders mistrust, undermines the organisation and takes from the ethos and fabric of our units. Handball is a wonderful life-long game, "the Perfect Game". We have a responsibility to past and future generations to safeguard it in every way possible, whether in administration, promoting or playing handball. We must look to the future with renewed confidence and put our difficulties behind us as we approach the 125th Anniversary of the foundation of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, a time when handball can make great strides forward within the great Association which gave strength and confidence to the fledgling Irish Handball Council in 1924.



LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, Riarthóir Náisiúnta.

NA RÚIN

1. That "GAA" be inserted before Central Council in Bye-Law 2 and Bye-Law 13 (H). (Ard Chomhairle).
2. That Section (D) (Management Committee) be deleted from Bye-Law 4 and that the following be added to Bye-Law 4: "N.B. Where the above terms are used in these Bye-Laws they refer to Handball unless otherwise specifically stated". (Ard Chomhairle).
3. That the words "Ard Chomhairle" be replaced by "Central Council" in Bye-Law 6 and any subsequent Bye-Laws. (Bye-Laws 8, 16, 17 x 2, 33 (A), 47 (P)). (Ard Chomhairle).
4. That the first sentence in Bye-Law 8 be amended as follows: "A Club must have at least ten full members before it can affiliate to the County Committee or Provincial Council as appropriate". (Ard Chomhairle).
5. That in Bye-Law 9 the words "three months" be replaced by "48 weeks". (Ard Chomhairle).
6. That the affiliation fee for Clubs be increased to 15.00 each year payable to the County Committee. Bye-Law 10 refers. (Ard Chomhairle).
7. That the first sentence of Bye-Law 13 (A) be amended to read "The Annual County Convention shall be held before 31st December". (Ard Chomhairle).
8. That the words "members and the GAA County Secretary" be inserted after "County Committee" in Bye-Law 13 (E). (Ard Chomhairle).
9. That the word "present," be inserted after the words "votes of those" in Bye-Law 13 (F). (Ard Chomhairle).
10. That the words "and/or" be deleted from Bye-Law 14 (A). (Ard Chomhairle).
11. That the words "where such position exists" be inserted after "Central Council representative" in Bye-Law 14 (A). (Ard Chomhairle).
12. That the following be added to Bye-Law 14 (A) "All members shall have voting rights". (Ard Chomhairle).
13. That the following addition be made to Bye-Law 14 (A): "The County Committee shall appoint annually a County Competitions Control Committee consisting of five members. It shall be responsible for all arrangements for the control of any matter arising from competitions under the jurisdiction of the County Committee, including disciplinary matters other than those reserved to the GAA County Hearings Committee. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing Objections and Counter Objections. It shall consider and make recommendations to the County Committee on applications for transfers and grading within the county. Requests for a Hearing shall be heard by the Provincial Handball Hearings Committee". (Ard Chomhairle).
14. That the words "Subject to GAA County Committee Bye-Laws" be inserted in Bye-Law 14 (B) before "such representative shall have full voting rights". (Ard Chomhairle).
15. That the words "to the GAA County Committee" be added to the end of Bye-Law 14 (C). (Ard Chomhairle).
16. That the words "the conclusion of" be inserted in Bye-Law 14 (D) after "A County Committee shall hold office until..." (Ard Chomhairle).
17. That the affiliation fee of 12.70 per club be increased to 15.00 in Bye-Law 14 (F). (Ard Chomhairle).
18. That the following be added to the end of Bye-Law 14 (G): "...and to the GAA Provincial and Central Councils". (Ard Chomhairle).
19. That the words "and/or" be deleted from Bye-Law 16. (Ard Chomhairle).
20. That the word "should" be replaced by "shall" in Bye-Law 16. (Ard Chomhairle).
21. That the word "members" be inserted after "Provincial Council" in Bye-Law 19. (Ard Chomhairle).
22. That the words "and/or" be deleted from Bye-Law 20. (Ard Chomhairle).
23. That the following be inserted in Bye-Law 20: "The Provincial Council shall appoint annually a Provincial Competitions Control Committee which shall consist of five members. It shall be responsible for all arrangements for the control of any matter arising

from competitions under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Council and matters arising from same, including disciplinary matters other than those reserved to the GAA Provincial Hearings Committee. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing Objections and Counter Objections from competitions under its control. Requests for a Hearing shall be heard by the Provincial Handball Hearings Committee". (Ard Chomhairle).

24. That the following be inserted in Bye-Law 20: "A Provincial Council shall appoint a Provincial Hearings Committee consisting of five members none of whom shall be a member of the Provincial Competitions Control Committee or Management Committee, save that the Provincial Administrator may act as a non-voting Secretary to the Hearings Committee when dealing with appeals. It shall adjudicate on all Disciplinary matters where a Hearing is requested, relating to the Enforcement of Rules arising from matters under the jurisdiction of the relevant County Competitions Control Committee and Provincial Council Competitions Control Committee.

Exception: A Hearing of an Objection/Counter Objection is a matter for the Provincial Competitions Control Committee. It shall hear all appeals against decisions of County Committees". (Ard Chomhairle).

25. That "Activities Committee" be replaced by "Competitions Control Committee" and that "Promotions Committee and Facilities Committee" be added to Bye-Law 22. (Ard Chomhairle).

26. That the word "with" be replaced by the word "without" in Bye-Law 23. (Ard Chomhairle).

27. That the fee of 6.35 be replaced by a fee of 7.50 in Bye-Law 24 (A). (Ard Chomhairle).

28. That the words "and Bye-Laws" be added to Bye-Law 27 (C). (Ard Chomhairle).

29. That Bye-Law 30 be amended as follows after the first sentence: "The Committee may put a motion in order where there is a failure to quote the numbers of Rules and/or Bye-Laws affected, or where there are minor clerical errors. (Counties shall be advised in writing of the reason for a Motion not being in order – already in text) and, subject to a time-limit determined by Central Council, shall be afforded an opportunity to resubmit the motion for the consideration of the Motion Committee". Final sentence to remain the same. (Ard Chomhairle).

30. That the words "and/or Bye Laws" be inserted in Bye-Law 31 (A) after the words "existing Rules". (Ard Chomhairle).

31. That the word "Motions" be replaced by the words "New and amended Bye-Laws..." in Bye-Law 31 (G). (Ard Chomhairle).

32. That the word "Secretaries" be replaced by the word "Administrators" in Bye-Law 37 (A). (Ard Chomhairle).

33. That Bye-Law 37 (B) be deleted and be replaced by the following:

"The Central Competitions Control Committee shall consist of An Riarthóir, the four Provincial Administrators and two other members appointed by the Central Council. It shall have a three year term of office.

It shall be responsible for all arrangements and the control of any matter arising from competitions under the jurisdiction of the Central Council and matters arising from same, including disciplinary matters other than those functions reserved to the GA A Central Hearings Committee. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing Objections and Counter Objections, from competitions under its control. Requests for a Hearing shall be heard by the Central Hearings Committee. The Central Hearings Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, appointed by the Management Committee, and four members appointed by the Central Council. It shall adjudicate on all Disciplinary matters where a Hearing is requested, relating to the Enforcement of Rules arising from matters under the jurisdiction of the Central Council.

Exception: A Hearing of an Objection/Counter Objection is a matter for the Central Competitions Control Committee.

It shall hear all appeals against decisions of Provincial Committees". (Ard Chomhairle).

34. That the word "Association" be replaced by the words "Irish Handball Council" in Bye-Law 38. (Ard Chomhairle).

35. That the words "entitled to vote" be inserted after "those present" in Bye-Law 40. (Ard Chomhairle).

36. That the word "present" be inserted after "two-thirds of those" in Bye-Law 40. (Ard Chomhairle).

37. That the second sentence in Bye-Law 42 be deleted and replaced by the following: "The award rests with the relevant Competitions Control Committee acting on his report". (Ard Chomhairle).

38. That the words "and Bye-Laws" be inserted after "Rules" in Bye-Law 44. (Ard Chomhairle).

39. That Bye-Law 50 (B) be deleted. (Ard Chomhairle).

40. That Bye-Law 52 (B) be deleted. (Ard Chomhairle).

41. That the words "Subject to Rule 143 GAA Official Guide 2007" be inserted at the beginning of Note in Bye-Law 60. (Ard Chomhairle).
42. That the fee of 63.50 be increased to 200.00 in Bye-Law 61 in line with GAA Rule. (Ard Chomhairle).
43. That the four weeks period be reduced to two weeks in Bye-Law 32 in relation to the issue of the Riathóir's Report, Audited Accounts, the Agenda and the list of Nominations and Motions. (Ard Chomhairle).
44. That the word "Doubles" be inserted after "Singles" and the word "Singles" be inserted before the word "Doubles" in the second part of Bye-Law 49 (A) (iii). (Ard Chomhairle).
45. That eyeguards be compulsory in all grades of hardball, and up to 18 years of age in softball. (Ard Chomhairle).
46. That Bye Law 49 (B) (i) be amended to read: "A Junior B player shall not have won a provincial and/or All-Ireland Singles or Doubles championship in Minor, Under 21, Junior, Intermediate or Senior or an All-Ireland in Junior B Singles or Doubles or a provincial championship in Junior B Singles or Doubles within four full playing seasons of the championship being contested". (Tír Eoghain).
47. That Bye Law 49 (C) (v) be amended to read: "A Junior player in Singles or Doubles championship shall not have won a Minor, Under 21, Intermediate or Senior All-Ireland championship ever, shall not have won a Junior Singles or Doubles All-Ireland championship in the previous four full seasons and if player had represented his/her county in Intermediate or Senior championships must be regraded by Central Council on the recommendation of his/her Provincial Council". (Tír Eoghain).
48. That Bye Law 49 (D) be amended to include: "Players who won Intermediate Singles or Doubles All-Ireland championship four or more years previous to the current championship provided the player has not won an All-Ireland Singles or Doubles Senior championship and is not for a minimum of two calendar years in the top 16 ranked players in senior". (Tír Eoghain).
49. That Ard Chomhairle form a Fixtures Committee made up of the four provincial secretaries and that a list of approved venues and referees be used to make all championship fixtures. (Comhairle Uladh).
50. That the wording of Bye-Law 33 (A) be amended to include: "the Director of the Sponsorship & Marketing Task Team and the National Children's Officer, the G.A.A. Liaison Officer, all with voting rights". (Sligeach).
51. That the following be added to Bye-Law 26: "unless he/she is present as a County delegate". (Sligeach).
52. That a Masters B player who wins a Masters B Doubles title be allowed play in Masters B Singles. (Muigheo).
53. "That Over 70 Singles and Doubles championships be inaugurated in 40x20 and 60x30". (Gaillimh).
54. That the Ladies Senior Singles 40x20 Title/Cup be named "Julie Long Cup". (Ath Cliath).

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

14 March 2008

A Cháirde

We have examined the records of an Chomhairle for the year ended 31 December 2007.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to €443,173. Expenditure came to €312,977 leaving an Operating Surplus of €130,196. In the preceding year there was an operating surplus of €25,656. As compared with that year the following were the principal variations in Income and Expenditure:

INCOME	Increase €	Decrease €
County Committee and Members	17,212	
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants		30,000
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Supplementary Grants	143,487	
Sponsorship and Subscriptions	6,319	
Other Income	7,777	
EXPENDITURE		
Competition Expenses	21,744	
International	11,364	
World Championship Expenses		40,288
Administration and General	37,677	

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of An Chomhairle at 31 December 2007 had a value of €201,929. Liabilities at the same date including bank overdraft of 142,706 came to €155,818. The assets exceeded liabilities by €46,111.

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 2007

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

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

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

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

14 March 2008

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 2007 which comprise the Statement of Management Responsibilities, the Revenue Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on 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 Management Responsibilities 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, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. 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 purposes of our audit and whether the financial statements 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. 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. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs at 31 December 2007 and of its surplus for the year then ended.

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

O'CONNOR & ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Harcourt Centre,
Harcourt Road, Dublin.
14 March, 2008.

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2007

	Schedule	2007 €	2006 €
INCOME			
County Committee and Members		43,365	26,153
Gate Receipts		10,234	6,837
Irish Sports Council Grants	1	108,582	107,366
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants	2	100,000	130,000
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Supplementary Grant		143,487	—
Sponsorship and Subscriptions		29,000	22,681
Advertising		500	700
Sundry Sales		(1,800)	1,822
Yearbook		(1,529)	(857)
Other Income		11,334	3,557
		<u>443,173</u>	<u>298,259</u>
Expenditure			
Competition Expenses		40,596	18,852
International		20,706	9,342
World Championship Expenses		—	40,288
Provincial Open Tournament Grants		1,270	635
3rd Level Grants		635	1,270
Juvenile		5,123	6,389
Promotional Materials		18,366	15,219
Trophies		21,192	18,327
Meetings and Officials' Travel		33,864	27,211
Provincial Grants		2,540	2,540
Coaching, Leadership and Development		7,795	3,317
Ceannaras Grants		—	6,000
Administration and General	3	158,436	120,759
Depreciation		2,454	2,454
		<u>312,977</u>	<u>272,603</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS		130,196	25,656
Provision – Loan to Galway Handball Board		—	(22,855)
Balance at beginning of year		(84,085)	(86,886)
Balance at end of year		<u>46,111</u>	<u>(84,085)</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

14 March 2008

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2007

	Note	2007 €	2006 €
FIXED ASSETS	3	4,907	7,361
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		1,780	3,868
C.L.G. Development Scheme		—	127
Loans to Clubs		—	571
Debtors and Prepayments		43,658	18,539
Cash and Bank Balances		151,584	197,703
		<u>197,022</u>	<u>220,808</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Court Construction Grants		—	2,731
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Development Grant		—	63,487
Creditors		13,112	19,757
Bank Overdraft		142,706	222,790
		<u>155,818</u>	<u>308,765</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		<u>41,204</u>	<u>(87,957)</u>
NET ASSETS/ (DEFICIT)		<u>46,111</u>	<u>(80,596)</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated Fund / (Deficit)	4	46,111	(84,085)
Development Fund		—	3,489
		<u>46,111</u>	<u>(80,596)</u>

Cisteoir: Cionnaith Ó Chonbhuí.

Riarthóir Náisiúnta: Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

14 March 2008

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2007

1. GOING CONCERN

The repayment of the bank overdraft is dependent on the support of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. An Chomhairle's officers are currently 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

	Equipment	Office Total
COST		
At 31 December 2006	13,998	13,998
At 31 December 2007	13,998	13,998
DEPRECIATION		
At 31 December 2006	6,637	6,637
Charge for year	2,454	2,454
At 31 December 2007	9,091	9,091
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2007	4,907	4,907
At 31 December 2006	7,361	7,361
	2007	2006

4. ACCUMULATED FUND

Balance at beginning of year	(84,085)	(86,886)
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	130,196	2,801
Balance at end of year	46,111	(84,085)

SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2007

2007 2006

SCHEDULE 1:

Irish Sports Council Grants

Annual Grant	108,582	107,366
Carding Scheme	19,000	24,000
	127,582	131,366
Less: Distributable		
Carding Scheme	(19,000)	(24,000)
	108,582	107,366

SCHEDULE 2:

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants

Ard Chomhairle Annual	100,000	130,000
-----------------------	---------	---------

SCHEDULE 3:

Administration and General Expenses

Staff Costs	114,463	90,195
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	16,013	13,028
Postage and Telephone	6,147	6,791
Audit and Accountancy Fees	5,672	4,500
Bank Interest and Charges	854	775
Consultancy Fees	6,655	—
World Affiliation Fees	347	—
All-Ireland Tickets	3,220	1,380
Miscellaneous	415	1,624
Ceannáras Repairs	4,650	2,466
	158,436	120,759

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

TORTHAÍ 2007

60x30

MS: Limerick (CJ Fitzpatrick) dft Kilkenny (Ciarán Neary) 21-0, 21-7

MD: Limerick (CJ Fitzpatrick, Seamus O'Carroll) dft Kilkenny (Ciarán Neary, Keith Bourke) 21-0, 21-9

U21S: Wexford (Michael Berry) dft Tyrone (Pádraig McGlinchey) 21-8, 21-16

U21D: Wexford (Michael Berry, Jim Berry) dft Tyrone (Barry Devlin, Pádraig McGlinchey) 21-10, 21-14

JBS: Offaly (David Hope) dft Clare (Adrian Kelly) 21-15, 21-7

JBD: Offaly (Micheál O'Brien, David Hope) dft Cork (Shane Hedigan, Brendan Fleming) 21-14, 20-21, 21-13

JS: Dublin (Ian Griffin) W/O Clare (Declan Frawley) Scr Inj

JD: Waterford (Philip Butler, David Walsh) dft Galway (Ollie Conway, Alan Tierney) 21-20, 21-7

IS: Tipperary (Paul Mullins) dft Mayo (Ollie Cassidy) 21-2, 21-8

ID: Kilkenny (Eddie Burke, Michael Clifford) dft Tipperary (Paul Mullins, Adrian Johnson) 21-8, 21-8

SS: Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Michael Ducksy Walsh (Kilkenny) 21-10, 21-6

SS: Eoin Kennedy, Egin Jensen (Dublin) dft Dessie Keegan, Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) 21-5, 21-5

MAS: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh) dft Tipperary (Willie O'Dwyer) 21-1, 21-2

MAD: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh, Pat Maher) dft Tipperary (Willie O'Dwyer, Niall Fitzgerald) 21-2, 21-4

MBS: Mayo (Tom Sweeney) dft Tipperary (Paul Ryan) 21-12, 17-21, 21-13

MBD: Meath (John Leahy, Jimmy Reilly) dft Tyrone (Stephen Clarke, Conor Kerr) 15-21, 21-18, 21-13

SMAS: Sligo (Francis McCann) dft Tipperary (Pat Ryan) 21-6, 21-20

SMAD: Dublin (John Downey, Seamus Ahern) dft Clare (Mike Kelly, Charlie Coughlan) 21-13, 21-16

SMBS: Monaghan (Conor McDonnell) dft Mayo (Frank Macken) 17-21, 21-13, 21-19

SMBD: Dublin (Frank Semple, Seamus O'Mahony) dft Tipperary (Paul Maher, Kevin Spain) 21-17, 21-13

GMAS: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) dft Limerick (Tom O'Brien) 20-21, 21-11, 21-9

GMAD: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty, Martin Cronin) dft Tipperary (Michael Gleeson, Gerry Spillane) 21-9, 21-9

GMBS: Cork (Seán Daly) dft Wicklow (Gerry McGrath) 21-13, 21-14

GMBD: Wicklow (Gerry McGrath, Tom O'Malley) dft Tipperary (Paddy Collins, Andy Purcell) 21-16, 21-6

EMAS: Tipperary (Pakie Mullins) dft Dublin (Eugene Kennedy) 21-17, 21-16

EMAD: Tipperary (Pakie Mullins, Seán Doyle) dft Dublin (Eugene Kennedy, Paddy Murray) 21-15, 21-16

EMBS: Galway (Tony McInerney) dft Tipperary (Jim Quinn) 19-21, 21-13, 21-14

EMBD: Dublin (Peter McTiernan, Joe McCahill) dft Tipperary (Gary Howard, Jim Quinn) 11-21, 21-13, 21-13

DMAS: Clare (John Kirby) dft Kilkenny (Paddy Reilly) 21-2, 21-6

DMAD: Kilkenny (Paddy Reilly, Seamus Reade) dft Cavan (Greg Sheridan, Patsy Hand) 21-12, 21-14

DMBS: Mayo (Ted Collins) dft Donegal (Eamon McDonnell) 21-14, 21-15

DMBD: No championship

RMS: Sligo (Paddy Walsh) dft Cork (Pat O'Brien) 21-7, 21-14

RMD: Sligo (Paddy Walsh, Michael Kelly) W/O Cork (Pat O'Brien, Tim Healy) Scr

HARDBALL

MHS: Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) dft CJ Fitzpatrick (Limerick) 10-21, 21-7, 21-20

MHD: CJ Fitzpatrick, Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) dft Stephen Cooney, Paul Keegan (Mayo) 21-6, 21-7

JHS: Ger Coonan (Tipperary) dft Chris Doolin (Roscommon) 21-15, 21-12

JHD: Ian Griffin, Christy Donnelly (Dublin) dft Chris Doolin, Glenn Walsh (Roscommon) 21-11, 21-13

SHS: Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) dft Tom Sheridan (Meath) 9-21, 21-10, 21-12

SHD: Eoin Kennedy, Egin Jensen (Dublin) dft Vincent Moran, Campbell Brennan (Mayo) 13-21, 21-9, 21-15

MAS S: Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) dft Michael Walsh (Kilkenny) 21-15, 21-19

MAS D: No championship

40x20

MS: Limerick (Seamus O'Carroll) dft Kilkenny (Ciarán Neary) 21-6, 21-4

MD: Clare (Diarmuid Nash, Niall Malone) dft Kilkenny (Niall Smyth, Ger McGrath) 21-2, 21-3

U21S: Tyrone (Gary McCrory) dft Wicklow (Jerome Willoughby) 21-9, 11-21, 21-14

U21D: Clare (Conor Cooney, John Cooney) dft Mayo (Dara Reid, Ciarán Burke) 21-16, 16-21, 21-8

JBS: Tyrone (Ruairi Kelly) dft Offaly (Micheál O'Brien) 21-11, 21-12

JBD: Tipperary (Paul McGrath, Denis White) dft Offaly (Micheál O'Brien, David Hope) 21-15, 21-14

JS: Tyrone (Shane O'Neill) dft Mayo (Paul Flynn) 21-13, 13-21, 21-9

JD: Wicklow (Michael Lennon, Pat Quaile) dft Cork (Donnacha O'Dea, Michael Murphy) 21-14, 21-13

TORTHAÍ 2007 (continued)

IS: Meath (Brian Carroll) dft Tipperary (Ger Coonan) 18-21, 21-11, 21-10

ID: Tyrone (Darragh Daly, Niall Kerr) dft Kilkenny (Eddie Burke, Eamon Law) 21-13, 17-21, 21-13

SS: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) 21-13, 21-11

SD: Paul Brady, Michael Finnegan (Cavan) dft Dessie Keegan, Joe McCann (Mayo) 21-8, 21-10

MAS: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh) W/O Antrim (Stevie Madden) Scr Inj

MAD: Kilkenny (Michael Walsh, Pat Maher) dft Cork (John Flynn, Denis O'Neill) 21-7, 21-10

MBS: Mayo (Tom Sweeney) dft Tipperary (Pat O'Flaherty) 12-21, 21-16, 21-9

MBD: Tipperary (Pat O'Flaherty, John McQuaide) dft Meath (John Leahy, Jimmy Reilly) 21-11, 21-19

SMAS: Galway (Eamon Conneely) dft Cork (John Herlihy) 21-6, 8-21, 21-12

SMAD: Galway (Eamon Conneely, Martin Conneely) dft Cork (John Herlihy, John Hedigan) 21-15, 19-21, 21-18

SMBS: Cork (John Hedigan) dft Wexford (Pechelli English) 21-10, 14-21, 21-16

SMBD: Wexford (Nicky Curran, Tadhg Foran) dft Limerick (Donal O'Connor, Seamus Donovan) 21-12, 17-21, 21-15

GMAS: Mayo (Kevin Geraghty) W/O Cork (Pat Morris) Scr. Inj.

GMAD: Kilkenny (Johnny Brennan, Joe Hennessy) dft Cork (Pat Morris, Chris Hurley) 21-10, 21-13

GMBS: Mayo (Pádraig Gillard) dft Monaghan (Martin McEntee) 21-13, 8-21, 21-12

GMBD: Mayo (Pádraig Gillard, Vincent Hennelly) dft Monaghan (Martin McEntee, Peter Larkin) 21-15, 21-20

EMAS: Dublin (Eugene Kennedy) dft Monaghan (Michael McCarron) 18-21, 21-18, 21-13

EMAD: Roscommon (Pat Clarke, Noel Raftery) dft Tipperary (Connie Collins, Pakie Mullins) 17-21, 21-6, 21-17

EMBS: Dublin (Paddy Murray) dft Cork (Dave Stack) 21-16, 21-10

EMBD: Tipperary (Jim Quinn, Gary Howard) dft Sligo (Pat O'Sullivan, Seamus Duffy) 21-3, 11-21, 21-20

DMAS: Clare (John Kirby) dft Roscommon (Pat Clarke) 21-7, 21-17

DMAD: Clare (John Kirby, Jimmy Walsh) dft Kilkenny (Paddy Reilly, Seamus Reade) 21-12, 21-14

DMBS: Galway (Peter Mulryan) dft Donegal (Eamon McDonnell) 21-14, 21-3

DMBD: Wexford (Tom Rossiter, Tom O'Donoghue) dft Donegal (Eamon McDonnell, Brendan Temple) 21-18, 21-3

RMS: Galway (Nicholas Clancy) dft Cork (Pat O'Brien) 21-15, 21-12

RMD: Sligo (Paddy Walsh, Mick Kelly) dft Cork (Pat O'Brien, Tim Healy) 21-14, 21-17

LADIES 60x30

LMS: Roscommon (Marianna Rushe) W/O Wexford (Niamh Murphy) Scr

LMD: Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Leona Doolin) W/O Wexford (Niamh Murphy, Fiona Holohan) Scr

LJBS: Clare (Anne Marie Fitzgerald) dft Laois (Aisling Behan) 21-12, 15-21, 21-7

LJBD: Clare (Anne Marie Fitzgerald, Sarah Loughnane) dft Laois (Aisling Behan, Ciara Dowling) 21-13, 21-7

LJS: Kerry (Lisa Falvey) dft Roscommon (Hilary Rushe) 21-17, 21-10

LJD: Kerry (Caitriona Casey, Lisa Falvey) dft Mayo (Eithne McHale, Olivia Kilbane) 21-2, 21-6

LIS: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) dft Roscommon (Katie Costello) 21-19, 21-9

LID: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville, Sharon Daly) dft Roscommon (Katie Costello, Deirdre Donohoe) 21-16, 21-13

LSS: Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) dft Maria Daly (Kerry) 21-6, 20-21, 21-18

LSD: Maria Daly, Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) dft Patricia Doyle, Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) 21-6, 21-7

LADIES 40x20

LMS: Antrim (Aisling Reilly) dft Roscommon (Leona Doolin) 21-11, 21-11

LMD: Roscommon (Marianna Rushe, Leona Doolin) dft Kerry (Sharon Twomey, Edel Murphy) 21-16, 21-13

LJBS: Mayo (Pauline Gallagher) dft Clare (Louise Hayes) 21-16, 21-20

LJBD: Clare (Louise Hayes, Anne-Marie Fitzgerald) dft Roscommon (Linda Connolly, Laura Mannion) 21-3, 21-10

LJS: Kerry (Caitriona Casey) dft Kilkenny (Claire Love) 21-1, 21-15

LJD: Carlow (Ciara Mullins, Miriam Ryan) dft Kerry (Lisa Falvey, Caitriona Casey) 21-14, 21-14

LIS: Kerry (Ashley Prendiville) dft Roscommon (Emer Coyle) 21-3, 21-9

LID: Roscommon (Emer Coyle, Deirdre Donohoe) dft Kerry (Ashley Prendiville, Sharon Daly) 21-20, 21-16

LSS: Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Aisling Reilly (Antrim) 21-14, 21-11

LSD: Fiona Shannon, Aisling Reilly (Antrim) dft Eimear Ní Fhalláin, Sinead Gallogly (Kildare) 21-4, 21-10

60x30 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Open: Ballaghaderreen, Mayo (Joe McCann, Vinny Moran, Paul Flynn, Dessie Keegan, Campbell Brennan) dft Ballina, Tipperary (Ger Coonan, Martin McInerney, John McQuaide, Fergal Collins) 105-69

Junior: Williamstown, Galway (Alan Tierney, Ollie Conway, Declan Connaughton, Paul McHugh, Pat Conway) dft Carrickmore, Tyrone (Ryan Daly, Gary McCrory, Darragh Daly, Pádraig McGlinchey, Caolán Daly) 100-80

Junior B: Liscarroll, Cork (John Hedigan, Shane Hedigan, John Flynn, Seán Daly, Thomas O'Neill) dft Coolgreaney, Wexford (Darren O'Toole, Jimmy O'Rourke, Ned Connors, Damien Kelly, Brian Shortall) 124-96

40x20 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Open: Ballaghaderreen, Mayo (Dessie Keegan, Paul Flynn, Vinnie Moran, Joe McCann) dft Gort na Móna, Antrim (Ricky McCann, John McGarry, Paddy Crothers, Eddie Mallon, Martin Osborne) 97-76

Junior: Brackey, Tyrone (Shane O'Neill, Barney Corcoran, Barry Devlin, Ruairí Kelly) dft Coolboy, Wicklow (Michael Lennon, James Gregan, Christopher Doyle, Jerome Willoughby, Pat Doyle) 98-69

Junior B: Cavan Gaels, Cavan (Paul Fitzpatrick, Pádraig Cahill, Eddie Halligan, Patrick Clerkin, Barry Phair) dft St. Brigid's, Curraghboy, Roscommon (Paul Kelly, Billy Kelly, Philip O'Connor, Pádraig Coyle) 84-22

BUACHAILLÍ 60x30

- B14S: Wexford (Dean Corrigan) dft Tyrone (Niall Donaghy) 15-5, 11-15, 15-9
- B14D: Cork (Conor Hannan, Killian Carroll) dft Kilkenny (Mason Clifford, Peter Funchion) 15-8, 15-6
- B15S: Cork (Arthur O'Neill) dft Galway (Fiontán Ó Curraoin) 21-16, 21-4
- B15D: Kerry (Colm Ó Lúing, Seán Ó Sé) dft Kilkenny (Pauric Maher, Paul Holden) 12-21, 21-15, 11-0
- B16S: Mayo (Stephen Cooney) dft Waterford (Pierce Galvin) 21-1, 21-0
- B16D: Limerick (Pádraig O'Carroll, Steven Foley) dft Kilkenny (Michael O'Brien, Patrick Funchion) 21-20, 21-12
- B17S: Kilkenny (Christopher Dawson) dft Waterford (Tom Hanrahan) 21-5, 21-3
- B17D: Clare (Alan Leamy, Trevor Vaughan) dft Kilkenny (Dylan Clifford, Gerard McGrath) 7-21, 21-10, 11-7

CAILÍNÍ 60x30

- G14S: Limerick (Martina McMahon) dft Kildare (Elaine Egan) 15-7, 15-4
- G14D: Cork (Aisling O'Keeffe, Catriona Casey) dft Kilkenny (Ciara Mahon, Mary Phelan) 15-11, 15-8
- G15S: Roscommon (Lauren O'Riordain) dft Kerry (Áine Casey) 21-14, 21-11
- U15D: Clare (Marie Collins, Aoife Gleeson) W/O Kilkenny (Nicola Moore, Laura Moore) Scr
- G16S: Wicklow (Shauna Hilley) dft Kerry (Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh) 21-11, 21-10

G16D: Clare (Lisa Loughnane, Aisling Fitzgerald) dft Kilkenny (Rebecca Mulholland, Claire Mulholland) 21-5, 21-8

G17S: Kerry (Ciara Ní Shé) dft Mayo (Maria Corrigan) 21-11, 21-20

G17D: Roscommon (Linda Connolly, Siobhán Tully) W/O Clare (Aisling Hannon, Leah O'Keeffe) Scr

BUACHAILLÍ 40 x 20

- U14S: Kildare (Niall O'Connor) dft Clare (Jamie Lynch) 15-11, 15-8
- U14D: Cork (Killian Carroll, Conor Hannan) dft Roscommon (Mark Healy, Mark Nally) 15-3, 15-10
- U15S: Kerry (Colm Ó Lúing) dft Kilkenny (John Power) 21-11, 21-2
- U15D: Clare (Colm Halpin, John Fahy) dft Kilkenny (Keith Clifford, Graham Clifford) 19-21, 21-11, 11-10
- U16S: Mayo (Stephen Cooney) dft Tyrone (Caolán Daly) 9-21, 21-3, 11-10
- U16D: Mayo (Lee Cummins, Ian McLoughlin) dft Clare (Trevor Vaughan, James McMahon) 21-10, 21-5
- U17S: Kilkenny (Mark O'Dwyer) dft Cork (John O'Keeffe) 21-13, 21-9
- U17D: Kilkenny (Dylan Clifford, Christy Dawson) dft Cork (Tadhg Carroll, Joseph Noonan) 21-20, 14-21, 11-6

CAILÍNÍ 40x20

- U14S: Limerick (Martina McMahon) dft Galway (Sinéad Ní hAinlighe) 15-9, 15-1
- U14D: Cork (Aisling O'Keeffe, Catriona Casey) dft Kilkenny (Laura Moore, Claire Grace) 15-8, 15-6
- U15S: Mayo (Leona Ryder) dft Clare (Orla Duggan) 21-8, 21-6
- U15D: Roscommon (Lauren O'Riordan, Joan McHugh) dft Clare (Aoife Gleeson, Elaine Hannon) 21-4, 11-21, 11-4
- U16S: Mayo (Amy Corrigan) dft Down (Lorraine Havern) 21-7, 21-4
- U16D: Kerry (Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Eilís Ní Lúing) dft Mayo (Clodagh McManamon, Ciara McManamon) 21-20, 21-13
- U17S: Clare (Kate Lynch) dft Mayo (Maria Corrigan) 21-16, 21-9
- U17D: Clare (Edel O'Grady, Aisling Fitzgerald) dft Kilkenny (Claire Comerford, Claire Moore) 21-16, 21-12

60x30 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Under 12/13: Carlow (Daniel O'Leary, Jim O'Leary, Adam Nolan, Cian Lawlor, Martin Mullins, Andrew Beaton) dft Cork (Daniel Relihan, Michael Hedigan, Dennis O'Neill, Ryan Harkin, Patrick Herlihy, Darren Whelan, Killian O'Connor, Mark O'Connor, John Brosnan) 74-54

Under 14/15: Waterford (Daragh O'Connell, Ross Dunforth, Philip Cashin, Colm Kindregan, Barry McCullagh, Josh Young Veale, David Collins, Evan Collins) dft **Kilkenny** (Michael Conville, Breannainn Buggy, Cian Ryan, Seán Foley, Keith Walsh, Shane Walsh) 79-44

Under 16/17: Wexford (Mark Maher, Jason Murphy, Peter Hughes, Matthew O'Toole) dft **Cork** (Tadhg Carroll, Joe Noonan, Eoin Douglas, John Casey, Dennis O'Rourke, Ian Finnegan) 56-43

Girls U16 Club: Ballaghaderreen, Mayo (Amy Corrigan, Stephanie Coleman, Mary Duffy, Pamela Conroy, Sarah Coleman) dft **Clooney Quin**, Clare (Seonagh O'Brien, Elana O'Brien, Paula Loughnane, Lisa Loughnane, Orlaith Duggan, Aisling Hannon) 84-30

GIRLS 60x30 U13/17 INTERPROVINCIAL

✕ **Connacht** (Ciara Ní Churráin, Sara Coleman, Lauren O' Riordan, Catherine Hanlon, Amy Corrigan, Róisín Ní Chonghaile, Stephanie Coleman, Mary Duffy, Hilary Rushe, Leona Doolin, Rochelle Mullany, Maria Corrigan) dft **Munster** (Martina Mc Mahon, Cornelia Prendeville, Ashling O' Keeffe, Áine Casey, Lisa Loughnane, Catriona Casey, Ashling Hannon, Ashling Fitzgerald, Ciara ní Shé, Sarah Cunningham, Alana O' Brien, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh) 110-93 ✕

40 x 20 JUVENILE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Under 12/13: Clare (Barry Nash, Patrick Fitzgerald, Barry McMahon, Colm McGrath, Colin Crehan, Jamie Shanahan) dft **Galway** (Michael Lalor, Ruadhan Ó Béarra, Cathal Ó Maoláin, Maidhc Ó Conghaile, Eanna Keleghan, John Lalor) 90-62

Under 14/15: Kilkenny (Paul Buggy, Seán Foley, Mason Clifford, Keith Walsh, Pauric Walsh, Paul Holden, Michael O'Keeffe, Pauric Maher.) dft **Waterford** (Colm Kindregan, Barry McCulloch, Dara O'Connell, David Collins, Evan Collins, Luke Faulkner, John Flynn, Tom Aird) 86-39

Under 16/17: Kilkenny (Gary Delaney, David Cummins, Peter Landy, Aidan Martin, Dan Breen, Cathal English) dft **Cork** (John Casey, Denis O'Rourke, Ian Heffernan, Eoin Douglas, John Hurley) 45-41

Girls U16 Club: Ballaghaderreen (Amy Corrigan, Stephanie Coleman, Mary Duffy, Pamela Conroy) dft **Clooney Quin** (Ashling Hannon, Lisa Loughnane, Paula Loughnane, Naomi Lonergan, Orlaith Duggan) 100-53

GIRLS 40x20 U13/17 INTERPROVINCIAL

✕ **Munster** (Martina McMahon, Cornelia Prendiville, Catriona Casey, Aisling O'Keeffe, Marie Collins, Lisa Loughnane, Áine Casey, Louise Ní Mhuirheartaigh, Eilís Ní Lúing, Aisling Hannon, Edel Murphy, Hazel Prendiville) dft **Connacht** (Jennifer Fahy, Ciara Carthy, Sinéad Hanley, Lauren O'Riordain, Amy Corrigan, Leona Ryder, Stephanie Coleman, Anna Keenan, Mary Duffy, Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe, Rebecca Murphy) 108-67

FÉILE NA nGAEL

Boys 60x30 Division 1: Castlebridge, Wexford (Dean Corrigan, Cory Murphy, Walter Lawlor, Kevin Byrne, Pádraig Foley) dft **Tuamgraney**, Clare (Shane McGrath, Ciaran Malone, Adrian O'Donnell, Patrick Fitzgearld, Barry Nash) 42-21

Skills Winner: Fergal Lalor, Talbot's Inch, Kilkenny
Runner-up: Cory Murphy, Castlebridge, Wexford

Boys 60x30 Division 2: Ballymote, Sligo (Colm McCann, Matthew Davey, Martin Davey, Stephen Booth, Conor Meehan) dft **Talbot's Inch**, Kilkenny (Fergal Lalor, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Seán Butler, Enda O'Donoghue, Shane O'Brien) 42-23

Skills Winner: Adrian O'Donnell, Tuamgraney, Clare
Runner-up: Stephen Booth, Ballymote, Sligo

Boys 40x20 Division 1: Kells, Kilkenny (Peter Funchion, Conor O'Dwyer, Andrew O'Dwyer, Michael O'Keeffe, PJ Trant) dft **Mallow**, Cork (Conor Hannon, Pat Herlihy, Killian Carroll, Ciaran Buckley, Darren Whelan) 42-34.

Skills Winner: Keith Kavanagh, Coolboy, Wicklow
Runner-up: Peter Funchion, Kells, Kilkenny

Boys 40x20 Division 2: Friary/Ballinacourty/Abbeyside, Waterford (Evan Collins, Colm Kindregan, David Collins, Gary McCullagh, John Flynn) dft **Moycullen**, Galway (Martin Mulkerrins, Patrick Hogan, Patrick Walsh, Michael Lawlor, Alan Kelly) 30-21

Skills Winner: Michael Lawlor, Moycullen, Galway
Runner-up: Padhraig Ó hAnlí, Indreabhán, Gaillimh

Boys 40x20 Division 3: St. Mellan's, Monaghan (Christopher McKenna, Fergal O'Neill, Pádraig McKenna, Darragh McGinn, Seán O'Hagan) dft **Na Fianna**, Dublin (John Walsh, Naoise Greene, Pearse Caulfield, Cory Fay, Cian Daly) 42-16

Skills Winner: Pádraig McKenna, St. Mellan's, Monaghan
Runner-up: Martin Mullins, Tinryland, Carlow

Boys 40x20 Division 4: Moone, Kildare (Eugene Mahon, Ciarán Nolan, Emmett O'Keeffe, Mikey Wall, Larry Wall) dft **Kells**, Kilkenny (Eddie Blake, Alan Funchion, Conor McMorro, Jamie Hogan, Alan Broderick) 42-11

Skills Winner: Brian Mahon, Clogh, Kilkenny
Runner-up: Joseph Varley, Brian Boru's, Dublin

Girls 40x20 Division 1: Ballydesmond, Cork (Aisling O'Keeffe, Shauna Kelly, Catriona Casey, Siobhan Clifford, Carina Cronin) dft **Clogh**, Kilkenny (Mary Phelan, Lynsey Wilson, Ciara Mahon, Rachel Hogan, Eleanor Murphy) 42-8

Skills Winner: Martina McMahon, Cappagh, Limerick
Runner-up: Ciara Mahon, Clogh, Kilkenny

Girls 40x20 Division 2: Indreabhán, Gaillimh (Clíodhna Ní Eidhin, Sinéad Ní Ainlí, Neasa Ní Mhaoláin, Ciara Ní Churraín, Roisín Ní Chonghaile) dft **Clooney Quin,** Clare (Orlaith Duggan, Paula Loughnane, Shauna O'Brien, Naomi Lorrigan, Alana O'Brien) 40-35
Skills Winner: Orlaith Duggan, Clooney, Clare
Runner-up: Neasa Ní Mhaoláin, Indreabhán, Gaillimh

Girls 40x20 Division 3: Kingscourt, Cavan (Emma Gargan, Katie Corrigan, Orla McCabe, Lisa Marie Farrelly) dft **Kells,** Kilkenny (Cáit Broderick, Hazel Cuddihy, Marie Walshe, Suzanne Power, Emer Fennelly) 31-29
Skills Winner: Marie Walsh, Kells, Kilkenny
Runner-up: Lisa McKenna, Na Fianna, Dublin

ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

BUACHAILLÍ 60x30

JS: St Peter's College, Wexford (Dean Corrigan) dft Salesian College, Pallaskenry (Pádraig O'Carroll) 21-17, 12-21, 11-3
JD: Patrician Academy, Mallow (Killian Carroll, Conor Hannan) dft Coláiste Eamonn Rís, Callan (Cian Ryan, Keith Walsh) 21-10, 21-12
IS: St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen (Stephen Cooney) dft Scoil Aireagail, Ballyhale (Ger McGrath) 14-21, 21-8, 11-0
ID: Castlecomer CS (Eoghan Hennessy, Pádraig Maher) dft St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen (Grant Deeney, Paul Keegan) 21-15, 21-10
SS: Doneraile Secondary (Shane Hedigan) dft Kells CS (Gary McConnell) 21-6, 21-8
SD: St Kieran's College, Kilkenny (Eamonn Foley, Ciarán Neary) dft St Augustine's College, Dungarvan (Conor Moloney, Tom Hanrahan) 21-12, 21-8

CAILÍNÍ 60x30

JS: St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen (Amy Corrigan) dft Castlecomer CS (Mary Phelan) 21-6, 21-8
JD: St Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen (Stephanie Coleman, Pamela Conroy) dft St Mary's Secondary School, New Ross (Sandra Kelly, Roseanne Boland) 21-14, 21-12
SS: Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew (Shauna Hilley) dft Convent of Mercy, Roscommon (Linda Connolly) 21-8, 21-4
SD: Convent of Mercy, Roscommon (Leona Doolin, Hilary Rushe) dft St Joseph's, Tulla (Kate Lynch, Aisling Hannon) 21-6, 21-4

BUACHAILLÍ 40x20

JS: Dean Brian Maguire School, Carrickmore (Caolán Daly) dft St Joseph's, Tulla (Trevor Vaughan) 21-16, 21-5

JD: Castlecomer CS (Pádraig Maher, Eoghan Hennessy) dft St Joseph's, Tulla (Sam Edbrook, Colm Halpin) 15-21, 21-12, 11-1
IS: Cistercian College, Roscrea (Diarmuid Nash) dft Secondary School, Scariff (Niall Malone) 21-20, 21-14
ID: Salesian College, Pallaskenry (Seamus O'Carroll, Pádraig O'Carroll) dft Scoil Aireagail, Ballyhale (Mark O'Dwyer, Niall Smith) 21-17, 21-20
SS: Omagh CBS (Pádraig McGlinchey) dft Rice College, Westport (Shane Heraty) 21-12, 21-8
SD: St Augustine's College, Dungarvan (David Walsh, David Power) dft Dean Brian Maguire School, Carrickmore (Brian Donaghy, Seán O'Kane) 21-18, 21-16

CAILÍNÍ 40x20

JS: Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew (Shauna Hilley) dft Convent of Mercy, Roscommon (Leona Doolin) 18-21, 21-17, 11-8
JD: Convent of Mercy, Roscommon (Linda Connolly, Anna Keenan) dft St Mary's Secondary School, New Ross (Amanda Kelly, Sandra Kelly) 21-18, 21-18
SS: Meán Scoil Feirste, Belfast (Aisling Reilly) dft Convent of Mercy, Roscommon (Marianna Rushe) 21-10, 21-11
SD: Convent of Mercy, Roscommon (Katie Costello, Deirdre Donohoe) dft St Joseph's Tulla (Aisling Hannon, Kate Lynch) 21-11, 21-12

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES (CAOLL) 60x30

Men's A Singles: Riklci O'Gara (NUIG) dft Chris Doolin (SIT) 4-21, 21-15, 11-1
Men's B Singles: John Kennedy (NUIG) dft Niall Gordon (DIT) 15-3, 15-8
Men's C Singles: Nevin McCartin (NUIG) dft Oisín Walsh (DCU) 4-15, 15-10, 11-5
Men's A Team: UL (Ger Coonan, Ollie Cassidy, Cathal Hannon, Charlie Nolan, Donnacha Maguire) dft DIT (Brian Carroll, Paul Moran, Niall Gordon, Cormac Smyth) 56-24
Men's B Team: SIT/NUIG (Chris Gavaghan, Brian Quigley, Marianna Rushe, Joe Gallagher) dft DCU (David Smith, Cathal Walsh, Dan Leahy, Ciarán O'Sullivan, Oisín Walsh) 63-51
Men's C Team: DCU (Stephen Travers, Joseph Gannon, Oisín Walsh, Orla Gaffney) dft DIT (Eamon Clarke, Shane Hayes, Robert Whyte, Aidan Melia) 60-44
Men's A Plate: Rob Farrelly (NCAD) dft Paul Moran (DIT) 21-8
Men's B Plate: Cathal Hannon (UL) dft Cathal Walsh (DCU) 21-7

- Men's C Plate:** Stephen Travers (DCU) dft Pádraig Early (NUIG) 21-4
- Ladies A Singles:** Marianna Rushe (NUIG) dft Katie Costello (DIT) 15-7, 8-15, 11-3
- Ladies Doubles:** Marianna Rushe, Sarah Loughnane (NUIG) dft Eimear Ní Fhallúin, Orla Gaffney (UCD/DCU) 12-15, 15-12, 11-0
- Ladies B Singles:** Joan McNulty (UL) dft Sarah Loughnane (NUIG) 15-9, 15-2

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 40x20

- Men's Open:** Ger Coonan (UL) dft Séamus Ó Tuama (QUB) 12-21, 21-20, 11-3
- Men's A:** Paul Moran (DIT) dft John Horgan (UCD) 15-10, 15-9
- Men's B:** Michael Baker (LIT) dft Conor O'Riordan (UL) 15-10, 15-10
- Men's C:** David Smith (DCU) dft Shane Hayes (NUIG) 13-15, 15-10, 11-10
- Men's Challenger:** John Hurley (SIT) dft Patrick Rawsome (DCU) 15-14, 15-2
- Men's Contender:** Seamus McKiernan (DIT) dft James Fitzgerald (UL) 15-5, 15-1
- Men's Open Split:** Patrick Finnegan (UCD) dft Neil McDermott (St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra) 15-14, 15-6
- Women's Open:** Maria Daly (UCC) dft Emer Coyle (DIT) 21-12, 21-2
- Women's A:** Karen Lawlor (UL) dft Caitríona Casey (NUIG) 21-6, 15-21, 11-3
- Women's B:** Sinéad Gallogly (DCU) dft Siobhan Byrne (DIT) 15-2, 15-3
- Women's C:** Therese Hearne (UL) dft Orla Gaffney (DCU) 15-1, 6-15, 11-3

IRISH COLLEGES 40x20 TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

- A Team:** NUIG (Riki O'Gara, John Kennedy, Kevin Craddock, Ciaran Burke) dft UUI (Darragh Daly, Paddy Sherry, Seán Digney, Pádraig McClinchey, Brian Donaghy) 60-57
- B Team:** DIT (Shane Heraty, Emer Coyle, Peter Bonner, Katie Costello) dft DCU (David Smith, Dan Leahy, Ciaran O'Sullivan, Cathal Walsh) 60-28
- C Team:** UUI (Kevin McCarthy, Brian Digney, Pearse Lawlor, Seán Digney) dft NUIG (Nevan McCartin, Mark Farrell, Clifford Yip, Darren O'Neill) 87-53
- Ladies A Doubles:** NUIG (Marianna Rushe, Caitríona Casey) dft UL (Karen Lawlor, Deirdre Donohoe) 21-7, 21-9
- Ladies B Doubles:** DIT (Laura Keaver, Sinéad Byrne) dft NUIG (Michelle Gaffney, Michelle Hennigan) 21-7, 21-11

USHA COLLEGIATES

- Men's Open:** Luis Moreno (Pima CC) dft Brian Carroll (DIT) 19-21, 21-18, 11-8
- Men's C:** Matthew Acker (Texas A&M) dft Conor O'Riordan (UL) 21-17, 21-14
- Women's Open:** Maria Daly (UCC) dft Eimear Ní Fhallúin (UCD) 21-1, 21-11
- Women's Open Doubles:** Aimee Ulbert, Lindsay Ross (Lake Forest) dft Emer Coyle, Aifric Naughton (DIT) 21-13, 21-9
- Women's A:** Karen Lawlor (UL) dft Mary Masalkis (Missouri State) 21-2, 21-9
- Women's B:** Lisa Falvey (UL) dft Pam Early (Texas A&M) 21-3, 21-3

FBD IRISH NATIONALS

- Boys 13U:** Niall O'Connor (Kildare) dft Keith Kavanagh (Wicklow) 19-21, 21-17, 11-1
- Boys 15U:** Caolán Daly (Tyrone) dft Darragh Ó Súilleabháin (Kerry) 21-11, 21-11
- Boys 17U:** Diarmaid Nash (Clare) dft Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) 21-17, 21-6
- Boys 19U:** Conor Duff (Tyrone) dft Jerome Willoughby (Wicklow) 15-21, 21-9, 11-10
- Girls 13U:** Ashling O'Keeffe (Cork) dft Martina McMahon (Limerick) 15-21, 21-19, 11-4
- Girls 15U:** Amy Corrigan (Mayo) dft Clodagh McManamon (Mayo) 21-9, 21-10
- Girls 17U:** Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) dft Louise Walsh (Kildare) 21-15, 21-11
- Girls 19U:** Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) dft Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) 21-8, 21-18
- Masters B:** John Hedigan (Cork) dft Pat O'Flaherty (Tipperary) 21-17, 13-21, 11-10
- GMA:** Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) dft Johnny Brennan (Kilkenny) 21-19, 21-12
- GMB:** Martin McEntee (Monaghan) dft Peter Larkin (Monaghan) 21-10, 12-21, 11-2
- Men's C:** Donnacha O'Dea (Cork) dft Micheál O'Brien (Offaly) 21-15, 10-21, 11-8
- Men's B:** Paul Moran (Kildare) dft Pat O'Donnell (Wicklow) 21-10, 20-21, 11-6
- Men's A:** Brian Carroll (Meath) dft Vincent Moran (Mayo) 21-15, 18-21, 11-7
- Ladies B:** Deirdre Donohoe (Roscommon) dft Katie Costello (Roscommon) 21-19, 21-11
- Ladies Open:** Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Eimear Ní Fhallúin (Kildare) 21-2, 21-15
- Men's Open:** Tony Healy (Cork) dft Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) 21-14, 21-9

TORTHAÍ 2007 (continued)

IRISH ONE WALL NATIONALS

- Men's Open: Charly Shanks (Armagh) dft James Doyle (Armagh) 15-7, 15-3
- Ladies Open: Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) dft Katie Costello (Roscommon) 15-5, 15-14
- Men's B: Darragh Daly (Tyrone) dft Niall Flynn (Longford) 15-7, 9-15, 11-3
- Men's C: Niall Gordon (Roscommon) dft Damien O'Connor (Longford) 15-11, 15-9
- Golden Mas: Martin Bruen (Roscommon) dft Brian Havern (Down) 15-3, 15-10
- Diamond Mas: Morgan Darcy (Galway) dft Nicholas Clancy (Galway) 15-5, 15-14
- BU12: Darren Doherty (Monaghan) dft Patrick McCrory (Tyrone) 4-15, 15-6, 11-9
- BU14: Keith Kavanagh (Wicklow) dft Niall O'Connor (Kildare) 15-9, 15-13
- BU16: Caolán Daly (Tyrone) dft Stephen Cooney (Mayo) 15-2, 15-5
- BU18: Diarmaid Nash (Clare) dft Niall Malone (Clare) 15-3, 15-1
- GU14: Cianna Ní Churraoin (Galway) dft Jenna Donohue (Galway) 15-5, 15-14
- GU16: Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) dft Lorraine Havern (Down) 15-8, 14-15, 11-4
- GU18: Leona Doolin (Roscommon) dft Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) 8-15, 15-14, 11-3

MUNSTER 60x30 OPEN

- Men's Open: Robert McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Dominick Lynch (Kerry) 21-5, 21-8
- Jnr A/B D: Donnacha O'Dea, Shane Hedigan (Cork) dft Micheál O'Brien, Conor O'Brien (Offaly) 21-19, 18-21, 11-10
- BU19: Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) dft Fergal Collins (Tipperary) 21-12, 21-17
- BU15: Eoghan Hennessy (Kilkenny) dft Pádraig O'Carroll (Limerick) 21-17, 21-19
- GU19: Marianna Rushe (Roscommon) dft Ashley Prendiville (Kerry) 21-16, 7-21, 11-9
- GU15: Catriona Casey (Cork) dft Martina McMahon (Limerick) 21-6, 21-2.

ULSTER INTERNATIONAL OPEN

- Men's Open: Tony Healy (Cork) dft Eoin Kennedy (Dublin) 21-14, 21-3
- Ladies Open: Anna Christoff (USA) dft Maria Daly (Kerry) 21-6, 21-15
- Men's A: Johnny Willoughby (Wicklow) dft Vincent Moran (Mayo) 15-10, 3-15, 15-8
- Men's B: Ruairí Kelly (Tyrone) dft Chris Doolin (Roscommon) 15-2, 15-14

- Men's C: Shane Hedigan (Cork) dft Paul Hedderman (Limerick) 15-5, 15-6
- Men's 35: Niall Kerr (Tyrone) dft Fergal Coughlan (Clare) 15-4, 15-0
- Boys U15: Pádraig O'Carroll (Limerick) dft Colm Ó Lúing (Kerry) 15-4, 15-2
- Boys U 17: Seamus O'Carroll (Limerick) dft Diarmaid Nash (Clare) 15-6, 15-12
- Girls U 17: Louise Walsh (Kildare) dft Leona Doolin (Roscommon) 15-9, 15-12
- Golden Mas A: Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) dft Billy Silcock (Antrim) 15-12, 3-0 Retd Inj.
- Masters A/B Doubles: Dominic Sheridan, Martin McEntee (Cavan/Monaghan) dft Jimmy Reilly, John Leahy (Meath) 15-8, 14-15, 11-6

GOLDEN GLOVES

- Men's Open: Tony Healy (Cork) dft Ricky McCann (Antrim) 21-7, 7-21, 11-9
- Ladies Open: Fiona Shannon (Antrim) dft Aisling Reilly (Antrim) 21-11, 21-7
- Men's B: Ollie Conway (Galway) dft Pádraig McGlinchey (Tyrone) 21-12, 21-13
- Men's C: Barry Devlin (Tyrone) dft Jim Cunningham (Down) 21-14, 21-11
- Golden Mas: Kevin Geraghty (Mayo) dft Billy Silcock (Antrim) 16-21, 21-11, 11-0
- Masters B: Steve Roberts (Antrim) dft Dermot Doolin (Roscommon) Retd Inj.
- Boys 19U: Diarmaid Nash (Clare) dft Brian Donaghy (Tyrone) 21-4, 21-5
- Boys 17U: Shane Hedigan (Cork) dft Niall Malone (Clare) 21-18, 17-21, 11-9
- Boys 15U: Eoghan Hennessy (Kilkenny) dft Fiontán Ó Curraoin (Galway) 21-10, 21-8
- Girls 17U: Shauna Hilley (Wicklow) dft Leona Doolin (Roscommon) 21-14, 21-10
- Girls 15U: Amy Corrigan (Mayo) dft Erin Connolly (Armagh) 11-21, 21-1, 21-2

US OPEN OF HANDBALL

- Open Singles: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Seán Lenning (USA) 13-21, 21-5, 11-10
- B Singles: Paddy Donovan (Laois) dft Jaime Murillo (USA) 21-12, 17-21, 11-7
- C Singles: Michael Donovan (Laois) dft Gary Lopez (USA) 14-21, 21-14, 11-9.
- 60 Singles: Morgan Darcy (Galway) dft Rick Moldover (USA) 18-21, 21-15, 11-8.
- B Doubles: Nigel Neilan, Oisín Naughton (Roscommon) dft. Larry Borunda, Abel Carrillo (USA) 21-12, 21-18.

USHA NATIONALS

- Open Singles: Paul Brady (Cavan) dft Seán Lenning (USA) 21-18, 21-12
- Open Doubles: Tony Healy, Ricky McCann (Cork/Antrim) dft Seán Lenning, Luis Moreno (USA) 21-18, 21-18
- B Doubles: Johnny Willoughby, Mike Leiter (Wicklow/USA) dft Scottie Moler, Randy Moler (USA) 21-20, 21-16
- C Singles: Donnacha O'Dea (Cork) dft John O'Connor (Limerick) 21-15, 21-9
- Seniors Singles: Egin Jensen (Dublin) dft Chris Tico (USA) 21-9, 21-20
- Masters Singles: Michael Walsh (Kilkenny) dft Mike McDonald (USA) 21-8, 21-6
- Masters Doubles: Michael Walsh, Egin Jensen (Kilkenny/Dublin) dft Mike Wells, John Stoffel (USA) 21-7, 21-7

USHA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

- B13S: Barry Nash (Clare) dft Alejandro Serrano (San Jose, CA) 14-21, 21-17, 11-1
- B13D: Barry Nash, Dylan Walsh (Clare/Kilkenny) dft Avery Haskell, Patrick Sutherland (Kansas) 21-15, 21-4
- B15D: John Audet, Daniel Corcova (Ont/Mexico) dft Eoghan Hennessy, Calet Trujillo (Ireland/AZ) 21-15, 21-17
- B17D: Diarmaid Nash, Niall Malone (Clare) dft Luis Cordova, Tyree Bastidas (Mexico/NY) 21-18, 21-15
- G13/15S: Round Robin Final Amy Corrigan (Mayo) dft Catriona Casey (Ireland) 21-6, 21-9
- G17/19: Round Robin Final Aisling Reilly (Ireland) dft Leona Doolin (Ireland) 21-4, 21-12
- G19D: Round Robin Final Aisling Reilly, Leona Doolin (Ireland) dft Kira Toxopeus, Pepukai Jones (Edmonton, Alberta) 21-1, 21-0

CASEY LAWLOR CUP

Ireland dft USA 11-10

15 Minute Matches (1 point each)

Owen McKenna lost to Allan Garner 13-8

Dessie Keegan dft Luis Moreno 11-10

Eoin Kennedy dft Seán Lenning 23-8

20 Minute Match (1point)

Tony Healy, Charly Shanks dft Emmett Peixoto, Naty Alvarado, Jnr 15-14

Masters Exhibition Match (3 points)

Michael Ducksy Walsh dft John Bike 21-16, 21-6

3 Point Matches (Two games to 15, tie break to 11)

Owen McKenna lost to Luis Moreno 15-3, 15-6

Charly Shanks lost to Allan Garner 5-15, 15-6, 11-8

Dessie Keegan dft Emmett Peixoto 15-10, 15-6

Eoin Kennedy dft Naty Alvarado, Jnr 15-14, 15-14

Tony Healy lost to Seán Lenning 15-7, 15-6

BASQUE COUNTRY INTERNATIONAL ONE-WALL TOURNAMENT

Women's Junior Singles

Semi-finals: Leona Doolin lost to Danielle Daskalakis (USA) 13-15, 15-12, 7-3; Marianna Rushe lost to Sarah Au (USA) 15-5, 15-9

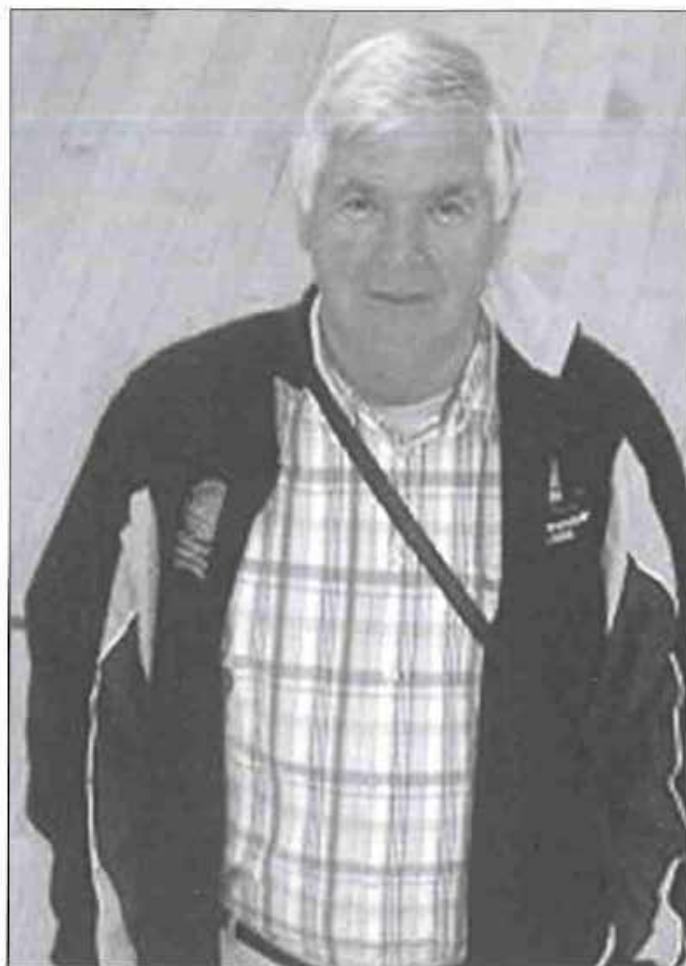
3rd - 4th play off: Marianna Rushe dft Leona Doolin 15-5, 15-7

Women's Junior Doubles Final: Sarah Au, Danielle Daskalakis (USA) dft Marianna Rushe, Leona Doolin 13-15, 15-13, 7-4





The late Tommy O'Brien pictured during his Presidency in 1986.



Pádraig Ó Grúdaín a fuair bás ar 3ú Márta, 2008.



At the launch of the Ulster Open in Croke Park were Kilkenny hurler Cha Fitzpatrick, Seán Lenning (USA), Emmet Peixoto (USA), Allan Garner (USA), Mayo footballer Conor Mortimer and Paul Brady.