

Federation of Irish Sport  
**Annual Review 2013**

# THE ROLE OF SPORT IN IRELAND TODAY

The Federation of Irish Sport is the independent voice for sport in Ireland representing **72 National Governing Bodies of Sport** and **28 Local Sports Partnerships**

## Our Vision

To provide a dynamic and effective voice for Irish Sport, promoting the value of sport to Ireland while providing outstanding representation and services to members

## Our Values

Unity & Leadership,  
Commitment & Service,  
Progressive, Accountability  
& Integrity

## Our Strategic Goals

- To ensure that sport is recognised and used by government as a key tool in the creation of a better Ireland
- To be the independent and authoritative voice of Irish Sport
- To raise public awareness of the contribution of sport and the work of our members to Irish society
- To increase the operational effectiveness of our members
- To strengthen resources through strategic partnerships

### 2013: Irish Sport by Numbers

**€2,400,000,000**  
the contribution of sport to the Irish economy

**€755,000,000**  
generated by Recreational Angling with 150,000 visitors supporting 10,000 jobs

**€202,000,000**  
the value to the Irish economy of overseas golf visitors

**€43,200,000**  
the Irish Sport Council Budget for 2013

**€10,000,000**  
the economic value of the Airtricity Dublin Marathon

**1,064,000**  
people watched the All Ireland Football Final between Dublin and Mayo on RTE

**500,000**  
adults volunteered in Irish Sport each week

**245,333**  
hours of physical activity provided by the GAA in Ireland's schools

**200,000**  
people participated in locally delivered programmes

**40,000**  
jobs supported by Irish Sport

**16,581**  
took part in the An Post Cycle Series in five counties

**2,636**  
primary school coaching sessions delivered by the FAI

**150**  
countries around the world watched the Heineken Cup final at the Aviva Stadium

**67**  
international podium finishes for Irish Athletes in 2013, up from 61 in 2012

**47%**  
of adults participating in sport each week

**5**  
of the top 20 most watched programmes on RTE in 2013 were sports events

**2**  
Cricket Ireland teams qualifying for the men's and women's 20-over World Cup and the Cricket World Cup itself

**1**  
Federation of Irish Sport representing 72 National Sports Organisations and 28 Local Sports Partnerships in Ireland





# A GOOD RETURN ON INVESTMENT NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT

**In 2013 the government invested approximately €75 million in Irish Sport. This figure included €43.2 million in current funding which is the budget administered by the Irish Sports Council which supports high performance sport, the National Governing Bodies of Sport, the Local Sports Partnerships and all of the programmes which these organisations deliver every year. The remainder was invested in the sports capital programme, the continuing development of the National Sports Campus and in the Local Authority swimming pool programme.**

**In 2013, the investment in sport by the government was the catalyst behind:**

- Rob Heffernan's gold medal in the 50km walk at the World Athletics Championships
- The Irish Men's Cricket team becoming the first team ever to win three ICC events in three different formats in a season.
- Ireland Women's Rugby Team winning the Grand Slam for the first time ever
- Fiona Doyle winning silver medal in 100m Breaststroke at the World University Games setting a new Irish Senior Record
- The Irish Junior Eventing Team winning Gold at the European Championships
- Barry Murphy winning bronze medal in 50m Breaststroke at the European Short Course Swimming Championships
- Dan Martin and Nicholas Roche winning stages of the Grand Tours of Cycling
- Martin Irvine became the first Irish cyclist to win a world track title in 117 years, a World Cup gold, winning silver in the points race at the World Championships and a European bronze
- Leinster winning the Amlin Challenge Cup against Stade Francais in front of a crowd of 20,396 at the RDS
- The 13 medals won by Ireland's sailors including a European gold for Annalise Murphy
- Irish Squash Senior Women's team winning a silver medal at the European Team Championships in May, along with a 6th place at the World Championships
- The 15 medals won by Paralympic athletes at Senior World Championships in sports of Athletics, Cycling & Swimming
- Natalya Coyle and Eanna Bailey winning Silver in the Mixed Relay in February, being Ireland's first ever medal at a World Cup competition in Modern Pentathlon
- Aileen Reid's silver medal at the World Series Grand Final in London which was watched by a viewing audience of 41 million
- Jason Quigley winning silver at the World Championships and Irish Boxing winning 20 medals in 2013
- 20,000 participating in Women in Sport programmes
- Daniel McKenna winning the British Rally Championship and Craig Breen finished second in European Rally Championship.
- Jack Kennedy finishing 7th position overall in World Supersport motorcycling



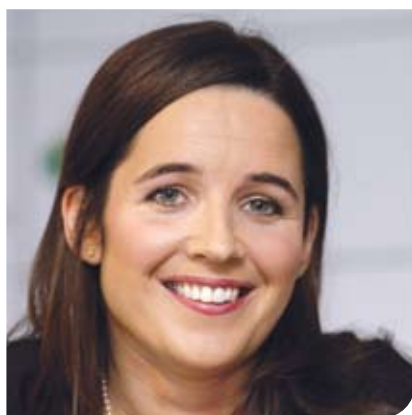
# LIVING BETTER THROUGH SPORT

Sarah O'Connor

Chief Executive Officer, Federation of Irish Sport

***"Sport is important. It enriches all our lives and has the potential to do even more – and it deserves Government support. It should not merely be 'nice to do' if there are funds available."***

**Federation Annual Review 2009**



**Irish sport once again provided some of the highlights of 2013... be it the Irish Women securing the Grand Slam, Tony McCoy riding his 4,000th winner, the achievements of Clare & Dublin winning All-Irelands, Rob Heffernan securing gold at the World Athletics Championships, the list is endless with each and everyone undoubtedly having their own personal favourite. These achievements rightly made the headlines but for the two million Irish people who participate in sport, no doubt they also had their own personal highlights. Whether it was winning a competition or championship across multiple sports, joining a training group, completing a 10k or a triathlon, hill walking or climbing, enjoying our seas, rivers and lakes, sport formed an integral part of their life in 2013.**

Government Investment, which began consistently in 1997, facilitated improved development and administration of sport that is now delivering results both in terms of improved consistency of performance on the international stage as well as increasing participation rates so vital to public health in Ireland. Irish Sport is in a good place and we have sought in the pages that follow to detail some of the work carried out by our member organisations in 2013 designed to ensure that this is sustained.

These improvements cannot however, be taken for granted. Without continued investment in sport from both public and private sources much of this progress could easily become undone. The reality in sport being that the money spent today has a significant impact on the future shape of sport both in terms of participation rates and international success. The contrary is also true. Fail to invest now and we will live to regret it in the future.

It is because of this and because of our innate belief that sport delivers on so many levels for Ireland that the Federation has been passionate in trying to protect the future for Irish sport.

Like all sectors of the economy the last five years have been challenging for Irish Sport with real pressure on all sources of funding whether it is membership subscriptions, sponsorship, broadcasting revenue, ticket sales and of course, the Government funding which is the very life blood of Irish sport on so many levels.

It was against this background that in 2009, the Federation of Irish Sport published its first annual Review of Irish Sport under the title "Why Irish Sport Matters". In it we asked the Government to:

- Minimise the future cuts to current funding.
- Ensure sport was represented at Cabinet.
- Reinstatement of the Sports Capital Programme.
- Develop the National Sports Campus.

Much of this has been delivered and credit must go to Ministers Varadkar and Ring not just for their commitment to and belief in sport but for the progress made to date, particularly in terms of the development of the National Sports Campus and the reinstatement of the Sports Capital Programme. However, it is the first of these requests – the minimising of cuts to current funding – that has proved the most challenging with overall investment levels down 27.1% since 2008.

This funding, most of which is invested in the National Governing Bodies of Sport, the Local Sports Partnerships as well as a number of our elite athletes is crucial because it facilitates the administration and development of sport nationwide through for example:

- Ensuring coaches are properly qualified;
- Supporting grassroots clubs and volunteers;
- Putting in place programmes to attract non-participants into or back to sport as well as systems to spot talent and maximise its potential;
- Running competitive and recreational fixtures as well as domestic and sometimes, international events;
- Attracting additional funding and investment;
- Developing and supporting existing and upcoming international athletes; and
- Representing Ireland in the international sporting community.

***“We strongly believe that sport can have a major role to play in rebuilding confidence in our country. In 2011 there were many examples of how our teams and individuals delivered for us all. We believe sport, properly supported, can do even more.”***

**Federation of Irish Sport Review 2011**

The reality is in Ireland that for many, if not the majority of sports, it is the Government monies that are the key element in allowing this to happen. Irish Sport does recognise that all sporting organisations need to diversify their income sources and it is for this reason, the Federation has also consistently called for a need to attract increased private sector investment into sport.

We would therefore renew our call to the Government commitment to examine the putting in place of a relief to incentivise private sector investment in current sporting projects to mirror the relief already in place for donations by private individuals or entities to capital sporting projects or indeed charitable and arts projects. This is something that was recommended by the Commission on Taxation in their 2009 Report.

Whilst the protection of funding was key to “Why Irish Sport Matters”, the campaign was also designed to raise awareness about just what Irish Sport delivers for Ireland. We are a sports mad country but there is a tendency to think of sport in terms of the sporting activity itself and not the multiple dividends returned to our society as a result of that activity. The Federation believes that because of these ancillary benefits that Irish Sport has a key role to play in the rebuilding of our economy and the restoration of confidence in our society.

It is the Federation’s view however that the full potential of sport can only be maximised if sport is viewed in this wider context – in terms of what it delivers for the economy, public health, tourism, our communities and Ireland’s reputation abroad – examples of the type and nature of this contribution in 2013 are set out in this Annual Review.

It is because of the multi-faceted contribution sport makes to Ireland that the Federation very much welcomes the recent Government announcement by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport that one of the Department’s priorities for sport in 2014 is to begin work on an

overarching long term plan for sport in Ireland - a Masterplan for Sport.

In our Annual Review of Sport in 2012 we called on Government to do just that and to create a cross Government plan designed to co-ordinate all investment and activities relating to sport, thereby ensuring sport is delivering to the maximum for Ireland.

The point we made then, which we believe is as relevant now as it was then, is that “once the plan is agreed that nothing should be done that is outside of that plan”. At all times but particularly when resources are scarce every euro must work as hard as it can to help us deliver on the potential of sport.

In our 2012 Annual Review, we noted that elements of sport impinge on other areas of Government policy such as health, education, tourism and children. How much better could it be if all elements of sport came under the one umbrella, recognising at the same time the role sport has to play in these other areas.

In that context all planned expenditure can in the first instance be evaluated against the Masterplan and in particular, whether the proposed spend will deliver against the objectives set out in the plan.

The Federation strongly believe that if this is to happen then all funding will be seen to deliver for all of sport – no matter where the investment is being made or the Government Department or Agency where it has come from.

We continue to live in difficult times however, just as sport has been one of the things to sustain us over the last number of years, the putting in place of a well-developed Masterplan should ensure that sport plays a key role in building a better future for Ireland and her people.

A vision worth striving for and if achieved, a lasting legacy that everyone involved could be proud of.

**SARAH O’CONNOR**

Chief Executive Officer  
Federation of Irish Sport



PAGE 10  
SPORT - THE KEY TO A HEALTHIER IRELAND



PAGE 12  
GREATER INVESTMENT NEEDED TO KEEP CHILDREN IN SPORT



PAGE 14  
BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY



PAGE 16  
SPORT IS BIG BUSINESS



PAGE 18  
ENHANCING OUR REPUTATION WORLDWIDE

# REPORT FROM THE **GLOBAL FORUM**

IRISH SPORT  
SUPPORTS  
**2.08%** OF THE  
WORKFORCE OR

# 40,000 JOBS

*A recent study by A.T. Kearney put the global value of sport at between €350 and €450 billion. This includes infrastructure construction, sporting goods, licensed products and live sports events. The global sports market is growing much faster than national GDP rates around the world and is projected to grow by \$145.3bn between 2010-2015*

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**Given its belief in the impact and potential of sport, the Federation had sought to ensure that sport was included in the programme for the 2013 Global Economic Forum. Ministers Varadkar and Ring agreed and the inclusion of sport for the first time – the 2013 Global Forum being the third time such an event was held – was facilitated by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport who in conjunction with their colleagues in the Department of Foreign Affairs designed a session aimed at discussing the role of sport in addressing other national priorities.**

The session entitled “Promoting the interests of Ireland and its people abroad through Sport” was well attended by Forum attendees reflecting perhaps, the power of sport to generate both interest and debate. The discussion was led by a panel comprised of Paraic Duffy, Hugo MacNeill, Kevin O’Brien, Eugenie Buckley and Martin Naughton. Newstalk’s Ger Gilroy was moderator.

The power of sport to generate economic returns for Ireland through the hosting of appropriate sporting events as well as sport’s ability to create goodwill for Ireland overseas provided the main focus of the discussion. Much was made of the significant economic and reputational success of the Notre Dame v Navy American Football game in September 2012, the fact that sport supports in excess of 40,000 jobs in Ireland, sport’s role in strengthening communities and improving public health as well as its role in promoting Ireland’s culture and identity.

A number of recommendations and ideas for exploration emerged some of which attracted particular interest as detailed below:

- High profile and internationally recognised sports people should be invited by the political leadership to act as tourism ambassadors for Ireland
- Ireland should be promoted as a destination for large scale sporting events
- Irish sport should be promoted globally
- Ireland should explore the possibility of using overseas Irish Sports Teams travelling abroad to promote the country’s economic interests
- The possibility of hosting a “Year of Sport” should be explored
- Mechanisms for supplementing government investment in sport

## Bringing Sport to Ireland

The social and economic benefits of hosting sports events in Ireland was discussed with the example of the Notre Dame v Navy American Football game cited as an example. It was recognised however that the hosting of such events requires co-operation, commitment and investment by a large number of stakeholders including the public. It was recognised that Ireland now has a sporting infrastructure that would facilitate the hosting of large scale events and that there was increased co-operation between sporting bodies which made things possible now that would have been impossible previously. The possibility of establishing a national bidding agency or steering group to co-ordinate these efforts as well as facilitate the exploitation of learnings from both the bidding for and hosting of events was suggested. The success of a similar type body in Denmark was cited as a possible model for Ireland to look at in this context.

## Promoting Irish Sport Abroad

It was widely agreed that the connections created by sport and Irish sportspeople should be utilised to establish trade links and that as a country we should do more to exploit the goodwill created by sport. Reference was made to the GAA’s global expansion which has created a vibrant Irish network overseas with many clubs operating in geographic areas where Ireland is working to establish or strengthen economic links. Ways should be examined at exploiting this network to Ireland’s economic and reputational advantage.



# THE IMPORTANCE OF SPORT AND THE ROLE IT COULD AND SHOULD PLAY IN IRELAND TODAY

**It has always been the contention of the Federation that “Irish Sport Matters”. That was the theme of our first Annual Review five years ago and it has informed every subsequent Review. Not alone does sport matter but the Federation has always believed that it has the potential to deliver even more for Ireland across a range of areas including the economy, the health of the nation and our international standing worldwide.**

**We believe our views are shared by many people. For this year’s Review we asked a wide cross section of people associated with sport as to how they view sport in Ireland and the role it could and should play. Here is a section of comments we received in reply:-**

## Politics

*Sport is hugely important to Ireland and Irish people. It is the lifeblood of many towns and villages throughout the country, especially through participation in the GAA and other community sports. It helps to keep people fit and healthy in mind and body. It brings people together, promotes the enjoyment and mutual benefits of working as a team and nurtures a culture where hard work and effort lead to success. These are qualities which undoubtedly play a part as we create a better Ireland together.*

**An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny TD**

*Sport is hugely important to Irish society, to communities, and to the economy. It brings people together in a way that nothing else can. The Government is also keen to increase participation in sport because of the numerous health and social benefits it brings. The increased Government funding for sport in 2014 comes at a time when there are many calls on limited public resources, and demonstrates our commitment to the sport sector. We also recognise the huge potential of sport as a business. Whether it’s hosting major events, or developing sport science and technology, we want to capitalise on the potential of sport as an industry to create jobs and growth.*

**Dr Leo Varadkar, Minister for Tourism, Transport and Sport**

*Sport is vitally important. It benefits individuals in all sorts of ways in terms of their health and fitness, and their ability to deal with stress and pressure. But it is also a hugely important element in holding communities together and keeping them strong, especially during challenging times. Sport - and the arts also - can be hugely beneficial to individuals but also to the wider community, and that is why I strongly encourage people to get involved in them.*

**Jimmy Deenihan TD, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht**

*The Government is protecting funding for sport as best we can in difficult economic circumstances in recognition of its contribution. Participation in sport can bring health benefits in terms of health and well-being which can in turn produce an economic dividend through reducing the costs to the health sector. The success of Irish*

*athletes on the world stage not only boosts the morale of the country but promotes our image internationally and draws tourism to Ireland from around the world.*

**Michael Ring TD, Minister of State for Tourism and Sport**

*Sport has the unique ability to unite people and places in a manner that cannot be achieved in any other way in our society. Individuals and teams demonstrate a unity of purpose in pursuit of a dream that ignites a sense of good will and pride in place that is unparalleled in lifting the morale of communities. This is done, time and time again, at parish, county, province, national and international level.*

**John O’Mahony, TD**

*Sport is of utmost importance to Ireland. We are a sporting nation. Sport binds individuals together to forge communities. Sporting organisations are at the bedrock of our society. I believe sport can play a crucial role in the creation of a better Ireland. Our grassroots sporting organisations are the modern embodiment of that most Irish of traditions: Meitheal. Sport will continue to keep our communities active and inclusive and I believe that we must nourish and cherish our unique and rich sporting culture in Ireland.*

**Sean Kelly, MEP**

*Through sports we share the thrill of victories and the agony of defeats. Participation in sports defines us, it builds character, it energises the body and soul. Sport ... it keeps us alive!*

**Eamonn Coughlan, Senator**



***“Sport can teach discipline, competitiveness and pride whenever we win or lose.”***

***“Sport is hugely important to Ireland and Irish people. It is the lifeblood of many towns and villages throughout the country, especially through participation in the GAA and other community sports.”***

## Business

Sport is a vitally important element in Irish society because it involves communities and the very fact that in most sports team effort is involved means that people achieve a spirit of collegiality.

**Denis O'Brien, Chairman, Digicel Group**

PCH is a global organization headquartered in Cork, with an operational centre in Shenzhen, China and ten offices around the world. Building a company overseas needs a strong community and for PCH sport has been at the core of that community. Sports clubs, particularly in our case the Shenzhen Celts Gaelic Football Club, has helped our people to network, share ideas, make personal and professional connections, and to showcase Irish culture to local communities in Asia.

**Liam Casey, CEO, PCH International**

Sport is of course important to Ireland and in particular to the health of women. Healthy women are essential to a successful business. In addition, as a former healthcare worker I would advocate everyone to participate in physical activity as this will help reduce the cost to our health service which is in turn good business for Ireland.

**Norah Casey, Chairperson, Harmonia**

Sport can teach discipline, competitiveness and pride whenever we win or lose. It allows us to see the difference between possible and impossible and that we can achieve everything if we really want it.

**Mike Sikorski, CEO, Huggity**

The positive personal and social values learned at a formative age are lessons that shape people for life. However, far too many youngsters are falling through the sporting net in their teens, and governing bodies and government alike need to do more to invest in grass roots infrastructure and facilities that can encourage sustained participation into adulthood. Investing in sport is investing in our own future.

**Niall McEvoy, CEO, Teamer**

In a society, which at times has teetered on the brink, where misguided actions have resulted in dramatic consequences, sport provides certainty. It shapes characteristics which bind and unify people. It develops comradeship and selflessness. It provides a platform where people can contribute to the lives of others, an environment where there is a willingness to pay things forward, to repay what you owe to others. It creates an environment where we look for substance, not fashion. It develops philosophies, not brands, and allows us dream of self-fulfilment. It challenges us to achieve the ambition that lies within us. It is a unique, awe-inspiring blend where a desire to compete is mixed with the desire to cooperate. It makes the moment worth living.

**Jason Cowman, Founder, Kitman Labs**

Sport is one of Ireland's most powerful unifiers. 7 in 10 Irish peoples' favorite sponsorship is in sport, stimulating major investment by Irish business in a move to be part of memories worth millions. Sport helps build trust in people and business and people feel enlivened and are stimulated to live with confidence when sport is at play.

**John Trainor, MD, Onside**

Sport is incredibly important to Ireland and can play an increasing role in the creation of a better Ireland. The other key role that sport can play in Ireland is in fostering inclusiveness. Sport has the ability to cross all socio economic, religious and political divides. Many sports are "all island" incorporating both Northern Ireland and the Republic. This is very important in fostering normal relations between all traditions on this island. The Golfing Union of Ireland and the IRFU are two great examples of this co-operation.

**Conor Mallaghan, CEO, Carton House Resort**

There's nothing like the excitement of sport to set your pulse racing. This passion is hardwired into Irish people and not only defines our culture but also showcases Ireland on the world stage. Whether it's Thomond Park, Croke Park or just a Sunday morning kick around, there's nothing like sport to get the juices flowing.

**Patrick Kennedy, CEO, Paddy Power**

***“We also recognise the huge potential of sport as a business. Whether it's hosting major events, or developing sport science and technology, we want to capitalise on the potential of sport as an industry to create jobs and growth.”***

# THE IMPORTANCE OF SPORT AND THE ROLE IT COULD AND SHOULD PLAY IN IRELAND TODAY

## Media

*The evidence that sport has a material benefit to the country is overwhelming. Thinking coldly about the pure economics of the situation then investment in sport makes sense as a health, tourism, education and social policy.*

**Ger Gilroy, Sports Editor,  
Newstalk**

*I believe the State should concentrate its investment in sport in encouraging as many people as possible to participate in sport, rather than to facilitate them as spectators.*

**Vincent Browne, Journalist**

*Sport at international level can have a galvanising effect on the country like nothing else and that can be true in defeat as well as victory; just think back to the excitement generated by the rugby team's performance against the All Blacks last November. At a recreational level, the positive short and long term health benefits to leading an active, sporty lifestyle are so obvious they hardly need explaining.*

**Eoin McDevitt, Second Captains**

*The role of sport in Ireland now goes beyond words, providing a range of benefits for health and wellbeing beyond anything previous imagined. This starts from the young child and continues through to adulthood, whether that is on the field of play or standing on the sidelines offering encouragement. And now more than ever that role of sport in Ireland needs to be not only fostered but appreciated by all involved, from political heights all the way down.*

**Ian O'Riordan, Sports Reporter,  
The Irish Times**

*State funding of sport has two basic purposes: to fund elite sport to keep Ireland competitive internationally, and to promote participation levels and healthier lifestyles. On both counts, Ireland is a long way off where it should be, and this is almost entirely because there is not just a lack of vision, but worse still, a failure of imagination. Politicians and policy makers have struggled to actually see sport for what it is. Sport is good for Ireland. It is good for our sense of wellbeing, it is good for our sense of identity, it is good for our national sense of purpose, and - yes it's ok to say it - it's good for our economy.*

**John Greene, Sports Editor,  
Sunday Independent**

## Philanthropy

*In a world consumed by electronic connectivity, where we are constantly in touch but all alone, sport offers an outlet for the most basic of our human desires and engages us with each other in (mostly) honest endeavour. Through these sporting interactions we learn about ourselves and others, we dig deep and ask questions, and understand to treat the two impostors of victory and defeat with unanimity.*

**Kingsley Aikins, Diaspora  
Matters**

*Sport makes a critical contribution both to the Irish economy and to Irish tourism, and is one of the greatest generators of social capital in the country. The exciting thing about sport*

*is not just what it does now, but the huge potential it has to mobilize and unite communities across the country, improve individual wellbeing, and deliver more growth in tourism and to make an even greater contribution to the Irish economy. Sport is an essential part of Ireland now but it can also be a much bigger part of a better Ireland.*

**Seamus Mulconry, Executive  
Director, Philanthropy Ireland**

*Sport is indispensable to Irish society as at its core sport and activity feeds the soul of our people. Sport is Art. If we were to invest in sport and other forms of artistic self-expression alone as our national health strategy I am convinced we would eradicate all the symptoms of dis-ease that afflict our people and as a result would create an abundantly healthy nation.*

**Tony Griffin, Clare Hurling All  
Star and Social Entrepreneur**

*The importance of sport for our country has never been greater. The inner, unseen benefits it gives to those struggling with their mental health is enormous. With the genuine emphasis on the development of the overall person, a sporting group or organisation can help to cultivate the fertile ground that can empower its members to live their lives from the inside out and help to make this world a more fulfilling and enriching experience for us all.*

**Conor Cusack, Cork Hurler  
and Mental Health Advocate**

***"The role of sport in Ireland now goes beyond words, providing a range of benefits for health and wellbeing beyond anything previous imagined."***

***“The promotion of active participation in sport and healthy lifestyles in the community is an area that I am deeply passionate about and something which I believe needs to be prioritised.”***

## Sport

Sport holds a unique place in Irish life. Nothing has the ability to unite a nation or divide opinion than the power of sport. Sport permeates every aspect of Irish life and is part of our identity, our values, our culture. Sport is the one true constant. Investing in sport has enormous social, economic, environmental and societal benefits. Only sport has the ability to contribute to our physical and mental wellbeing while playing a hugely significant role in the development of the economy, environment and society in the creation of a better Ireland.

**John Treacy, Olympic Silver Medalist and CEO, Irish Sports Council**

The promotion of active participation in sport and healthy lifestyles in the community is an area that I am deeply passionate about and something which I believe needs to be prioritised. I believe the status of sport in our society, and particularly in the education system, needs to be developed and elevated as it is in other countries. The 2009 ESRI report on sport in Ireland stated that the importance of physical education in schools needs to be underlined with national standards, and that sports policy also needs to reflect a holistic vision which integrates, supports and encourages all those involved in the provision of sport and exercise for children.

**Dessie Farrell, Dublin All Ireland Winner and CEO, GPA**

Sport unites people in a way nothing else can. On the field you leave difference behind and play for a common goal. In that way, sports are the great equalizer bringing together rivals and breaking down barriers. When everyone is given equal opportunity to transform their life through sport... regardless of their ability or disability... then we help define our social fabric, where tolerance, acceptance, togetherness, helpfulness, and advocacy become standard components of a past, present and future Ireland.

**Mary Davis, Regional President, Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia**

Sport is very important to Ireland for a number of reasons, firstly to give the people of Ireland an outlet to meet, compete and socialise in a fun environment. Secondly, it underpins a large part of the Irish economy. Golf in particular and the tourism associated with it contributes a lot to the Irish Exchequer.

**Paul McGinley, European Ryder Cup Captain 2014**

Sport is the glue that binds communities and unites the country. At its best it embodies our spirit as a nation.

**Martin O'Neill, Ireland Manager**

Sport offers many positive benefits to society, not only as a source of fun and enjoyment but perhaps more importantly within communities where it can be linked to a reduction in youth crime and delinquency. I have seen first-hand how success galvanises a country, and creates a feel-good factor. When representing Ireland in London 2012 – I was overwhelmed at the amount of support and positive feedback we received and I was only too happy to be giving something back.

**Jason Smyth, Paralympic Gold Medalist**

***“Sport is the glue that binds communities and unites the country. At its best it embodies our spirit as a nation. “***

I believe sport is extremely important to Ireland. Unlike some other nations, we are delighted when we are victorious in almost any sport in which we're involved, and because we're such a small country, those victories do really lift the national mood and make us feel better about ourselves.

**Cian O'Connor, Olympic Bronze Medalist**

Ireland without sport would be a country without soul. It makes us tick and gives us some of our best collective memories.

**Robbie Keane, Ireland Captain**

I compete in all corners of the World. You can be sure in China or New Zealand there'll be pockets of Irish people screaming support. The support at London 2012 and the 2013 World Triathlon Championships in London from Irish men and women was deafening. Sport matters.

**Aileen Reid, Olympic Triathlete**

Sport helps define us as a nation. It is in no way elitist. Sport is for everyone. Yet it is something we are in danger of taking for granted. Sport does not just happen. Sport needs to be planned, managed, financed and delivered. Government investment in Irish sport commenced in 1997 – we have come a long way since then with increased access to sport and improved consistency on the international stage. Investment in sport is an investment in the health and well-being of the country. We need sport more than ever.

**Federation of Irish Sport Review 2010**

Sport is an important cornerstone for the improvement of Irish Society. A more active Ireland would be a better Ireland not just for the sake of sport but for the wider impact it would have on our overall quality of life.

**Federation of Irish Sport Review 2012**



# SPORT - THE KEY TO A HEALTHIER IRELAND



**There is undoubtedly a growing recognition in Ireland of the role sport could, and should be playing in helping tackle our very real health problems. Whilst these problems are not unique to Ireland nevertheless they are problems of concern both in the short term but also for the long term health of the nation.**

The World Health Organisation has highlighted obesity as the greatest public health challenge of the 21st century. Since the 1980s the prevalence of obesity in Europe has tripled – it is estimated that in Europe 50% of people are overweight with 20% of them falling into the obese category.

In Ireland the figure is 60% of the population either overweight or obese. A frightening statistic. But the problem is not just being overweight; it is what this leads to. Physical inactivity leading to overweight and obesity is estimated to be the principal cause of 21% to 25% of breast and colon cancers; 27% of diabetes and 30% of heart disease. Physical inactivity costs €150-€300 per citizen according to two EU studies whilst the Report of the National Taskforce on Obesity indicated that the direct and indirect economic costs of premature deaths associated with obesity may be costing the state as much as €4bn. In Ireland:-

- Only 32% of Irish adults are meeting the National Physical Activity Guidelines
- 79% of people over 50 are obese
- 12% of the adult population are sedentary
- 47% of adults are physically active, up from 34% in 2009

We must find ways of encouraging people to stay physically active throughout their lives. Equally we must find ways of getting those who have dropped out of sport to become involved once again.

This must be one of the cornerstones of any National Physical Activity Plan and of course for the proposed Masterplan for Irish Sport.

It must be acknowledged that more people are exercising and the credit for this to a large extent is due to the work of the Local Sports Partnerships, the programmes and the initiatives being put in place by the individual sports and not least of all by the work of the 500,000 volunteers that ensure Irish sport happens. Some of the initiatives we saw in 2013 included:-

- 150,000 participated in locally delivered programmes run by Local Sports Partnerships
- 49,542 are members of Athletics Ireland, up 17% on 2012
- 10,879 people introduced to sailing through ISA's nationwide participation initiatives
- 3,300 people in 36 clubs and 60 schools took part in Cycling Ireland's Sprocket Rocket Programme which teaches core cycling skills to kids aged 7-11
- 1,262 girls took part in 'Tricks 4 Sticks' Hockey programme in 14 geographical areas in the past year over 6-10 weeks
- 8,500 members of Triathlon Ireland, up from 2,000 in 2007
- 12,000 primary school children took part in Basketball Ireland's mini-basketball in its first year of operation
- 70,000 race entries for triathlons in 2013

*We must find ways of encouraging people to stay physically active throughout their lives.*



- 600+ teams have competed in 'SpikeBall' competitions and blitzes in the last year run by Volleyball Ireland
- 40,414 members of Cricket Ireland, up from 20,000 in 2007
- 20,000 female participants took part in local Women in Sport programmes
- 10,000 young people and 200 teachers and youth group leaders participating in 'Street Handball' seminars nationwide
- 3,000 women participated in the 4th West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon
- 6,500 taking part in the 4 events on the weekend of the Sean Kelly Tour of Waterford, with over 40% coming from Waterford itself
- 19,000 members of Cycling Ireland, a four-fold increase in five years
- 40,717 women participating in the Flora Women's Mini Marathon 2013, with participants raising €14m for charity
- 50,000 active surfers in Ireland



# GREATER INVESTMENT NEEDED TO KEEP **CHILDREN IN SPORT**





**In September 2013 the ESRI published “Keeping Them in the Game: Taking Up and Dropping Out of Sport and Exercise in Ireland”. The report published with the assistance of the Irish Sports Council is undoubtedly timely, given the worrying statistics in relation to children dropping out of sport - and the opportunities presented by the Government’s commitment to produce a National Physical Activity Plan and Master Plan for Sport in Ireland this year.**

It is perhaps worth repeating what we wrote in our Annual Review last year. “Four out of five Irish children do not meet the Department of Health and Children’s National Physical Activity Guidelines for maintaining and improving their current and future health. Over 300,000 children on the island of Ireland are either overweight or obese. Children, who are obese between the ages of six months and five years have a 25% chance of being obese as adults. If children are obese over the age of six the chance of being obese as adults increases to 50% whilst this becomes 80% for obese adolescents”.

Sobering statistics. The problem must be tackled for the ESRI Report shows that while some 88% of children are regularly involved in sporting activity at primary school, this percentage declines rapidly during secondary school years and even more markedly as young adults going to college or entering the workforce.

Undoubtedly sport continues to make progress in attracting children to stay involved or to try new sports, however much greater investment is needed. Amongst the success stories for sport in this area in 2013 were:-

- 46,000 hours of physical activity delivered by the GAA in Munster Schools – the equivalent as would be delivered by the employment of 62 PE Teachers generating a value of €2.2 million per year
- 500 schools took part in 8 week Play Rugby Programme supported by IRFU’s Development Officers
- 250 primary teachers trained in mini basketball by Basketball Ireland
- 100% increase in Junior Membership of Triathlon Ireland in 2013
- 49% growth in schools Volleyball programme since 2008 with 473 schools now participating in Spikeball
- Irish Table Tennis Association hosted the Primary Schools Six Nations, where Ireland won 3 of 4 gold medals on offer
- 19,700 school children bowled free in 26 bowling centres throughout Ireland as part of National Tenpin Bowling Week
- 1,450 children completed the ‘Kids Run for Fun’ 1 mile and 2k, organised by Limerick Sports Partnership
- 90% of primary schools avail of the GAA Coaching Programme which delivers coaching in schools in 6 to 10 week blocks
- 1,020 primary schools children representing over 60% of the primary schools throughout the county involved in the SSRP Annual Athletics Festival, with many children linking into athletic clubs for sustained participation in Athletics
- 13 schools now play in the Ulster Development Schools League as a direct result of the Donegal Community Rugby Project – there were none beforehand
- 81,033 the number of children at 1,040 Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps nationwide
- 1,514 primary school children across 46 Primary Schools in Cork City and County took part in the Cork Safer Cycling programme
- The Irish American Football Association’s ‘Schools Flag Football’ programme delivered 320 hours of coaching to over 1,000 children in 19 schools in 2013
- 2,636 primary school coaching sessions delivered by the FAI impacting over 130,000 children
- 15,120 students have participated in the Aviva Schools Mile Challenge, in 112 secondary schools

*Children, who are obese between the ages of six months and five years have a 25% chance of being obese as adults.*



# BUILDING AN **INCLUSIVE SOCIETY**



**It has long been recognised that sport has the ability to bring people together, to create communications and to foster relationships that can last a lifetime. Sport is great for breaking down barriers and for helping create a truly inclusive society.**

It has been estimated that in Ireland there are as much as 20% of the population who have disabilities ranging from mild to severe, physical to mental. Time and again sport has shown the way in helping integrate those suffering from disability into the wider community.

Just think back to the Special Olympics World Summer Games held over ten years ago now. The legacy lives on with Ireland embracing the ethos of Special Olympics in a unique way. Equally the legacy of the London 2012 Paralympics and the performance of the Irish team have ensured that the achievements of our Paralympians rank equally with all of our sportsmen and sportswomen.

And our facilities are also becoming more inclusive. At one end of the spectrum there are the superb facilities offered by our premier stadia which have built in disability features throughout. This is now being replicated throughout the country where the recent re-opening of the Sports Capital Programme will undoubtedly accelerate the process and bring the 'Sport for All' dream closer to reality.

In addition, sport reaches out to many marginalised sectors of Irish society and programmes have been developed by NBGs and Local Sports Partnerships to ensure a more inclusive society. Examples of inclusion initiatives undertaken by Irish Sport in 2013 were:-

- Cerebral Palsy Sport Ireland's Football Team finishing 4th in the Intercontinental Cup
- A team of 14 athletes and 8 coaches represented Special Olympics Ireland at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in South Korea in January and brought back three gold, six silver and two bronze medals
- 400 clubs in communities across the island of Ireland continue to support over 10,000 athletes who train and compete in 15 different sports run by Special Olympics Ireland
- 1,500 athletes, selected after regional competition, were represented at the launch of Special Olympics Ireland Limerick Games 2014 in the University of Limerick which will be held in June 2014 with the support of 3,000 volunteers
- 230 Traveller men and women have participated in Fitness programmes including 5 month Step Challenge, Bootcamp, Handball and Health and Nutrition run by Limerick Sports Partnership
- 10 new Football for All Clubs established allowing 300 kids with varying disabilities access to regular training and competition
- 360 new participants involved in sport and physical activity through the SSRP 'Active Centres' programme at 2 community centres in rural areas of County Sligo
- 120 participants in the Traveller Women Community Health Programme run by Wexford Sports Partnership
- 100 girls in 12 teams took part in FAI Late Night Leagues in a pilot project in Dublin that can now be rolled out nationally
- Transplant Team Ireland won 34 medals and finished 14th on the medal table at the World Transplant Games in Durban, South Africa
- Team Ireland competed at the 22nd International Deaflympic Summer Games in Bulgaria
- Vision Sports Ireland hosted 'Mayfest', a 2 day event where Ireland's (and further afield) vision impaired came and tried different sports
- Irish Wheelchair Association Sport hosting the European Wheelchair Rugby Zonal Qualifiers in Gormanston Co Meath

*It has been estimated that in Ireland there are as much as 20% of the population who have disabilities*





# SPORT IS **BIG BUSINESS**



**As we have said year after year sport is business – BIG BUSINESS. A recent study by A.T. Kearney put the global value of sport at between €350 and €450 billion. This includes infrastructure construction, sporting goods, licensed products and live sports events. The global sports market is growing much faster than national gross domestic product (GDP) rates around the world and is projected to grow by \$145.3bn between 2010-2015. The worldwide sports events market alone was worth €45 billion in 2009.**

In Ireland sport supports 40,000 jobs and contributes €2.4 billion to GDP while employing 2.08% of the workforce. Sport's contribution to our economy is of course facilitated by government investment which last year was €75 million. The return in revenue alone is spectacular – and that is without all the other tangible benefits sport contributes to our nation every year.

The above figures only partially take in the major spend that is generated by sports tourism each year. As was pointed out earlier in this report, the tourism revenue generated by the two sports of angling and golf alone amounts to almost €1 billion.

And then there are the very substantial revenues generated by events such as the All-Ireland Finals, Football internationals (Euros and World Cup games in particular), Rugby's 6 Nations Championship, Autumn Internationals and Heineken Cup, not to mention one off events like the Europa League Final (2011), the Emerald Isle Classic US Football game (2012) and the Heineken and Amlin Cup finals (2013).

The statistics for 2013 show just how big a contribution sport makes to the Irish economy demonstrating the potential to generate even more:-

- Voluntary sport supports the employment of 8,826 persons including approximately 1,500 people within the NGB & LSP sector alone
- 22,000 overseas fans travelled to Dublin as part of a 70,000 strong contingent attending the Amlin Challenge Cup and Heineken Cup finals, generating €21m for the economy
- 27% increase in those employed as professional athletes or sports officials since 2006
- 313 people employed in Games Development by the GAA compared to 20 in 1991
- 938 jobs supported for every €1 million invested by government
- €1 out of every €60 generated and earned in the European Union is sports-related
- €818 million is spent annually by Ireland's 12,000 voluntary sports clubs, leagues and branches in the Irish economy on goods & services
- €200 million is the approximate turnover by Irish NGBs each year with an estimated €40 million of this going directly back to government in PAYE, PRSI & VAT
- €12 the return generated for every €1 spent by the GAA on coaching – in 2012 the total return on investment was €54 million
- €350 - €550 million – the economic value of Ireland's sporting volunteer workforce
- €202 million the amount generated for the Irish economy by overseas golf visitors – with only 21% of the spend being on "golf-related" activities
- €755 million generated by Recreational Angling each year, with 150,000 visitors supporting 10,000 jobs
- 3,500 cyclists participated in the An Post Meath Heritage Cycle tour, with 350 volunteers, and an economic value to Meath of €1.52m
- €11.7m is the value of the 245,333 hours of physical activity provided by the GAA in Ireland's schools
- €10m is the value of the Dublin City Marathon to the economy

*The sports industry today spans the field of play—from the food and memorabilia stands at the stadium, to media rights and sponsorships. The many participants in this market are competing for a bigger slice of a pie worth as much as €450 billion*  
A.T. Kearney





# ENHANCING OUR REPUTATION WORLDWIDE





**During the sporting debate at the Global Irish Economic Forum it was noticeable how the participants strongly endorsed the important role our sporting teams, sportsmen and sportswomen are playing in creating a positive image for Ireland abroad.**

Over the past twelve months sport proudly flew the flag for Ireland in some 70 countries worldwide whilst people from almost the same number also visited Ireland for official sporting activities during the same period and this excludes the countless visitors who plan their own trip to play golf, to fish, to walk our beautiful countryside or simply to follow sport. It all adds up to major enhancement of the image of Ireland in other countries.

And it is not just our most famous personalities in the highest profile sports that are flying the flag. The emergence of Ireland in sports such as cricket has opened up whole new possibilities. The impact of the Irish cricket team in India and Pakistan has been well documented.

More recently the Irish Ladies Cricket teams were playing in Qatar, Ireland's Cyclists were in Mexico while our Weightlifters, Ice Skaters and Judoka won medals in Estonia, Australia and Mauritius.

Below are just some of the athletes and teams that represented Ireland with distinction around the world:-

- Rob Heffernan winning gold medal in 50km walk at World Athletics Championships in Moscow
- Derval O'Rourke and Ciaran O'Lionard winning bronze medals at the European Indoor Championships in Gothenburg, in the 60m hurdles and 3,000m respectively
- Fiona Doyle winning silver medal in 100m Breaststroke at the World University Games in Kazan setting a new Irish Senior Record
- Barry Murphy winning bronze medal in 50m breaststroke at the European Short Course Swimming Championships
- Caroline Ryan winning bronze at Track Cycling World Cup in Mexico
- Clara Peters bringing home Ireland's First International Ice Skating Medal, taking Bronze in the Ladies Singles event in Australia
- Mel Lawther coming 8th in the World Archery Championships in Turkey
- Scott Evans winning the Cyprus International Tournament
- The Basketball Ireland Premier League Men's Senior Representative team travelled to Birmingham to play their counterparts from the English Basketball League and were victorious
- Shauna Weldon winning a gold medal in the solo event at the World Baton Twirling International Cup in the Netherlands
- Derek Burnett won Bronze in Olympic Trap at the European Championships in Germany
- Sarah Lavin winning Silver at the Junior European Championships in Italy in the 100 metres hurdles
- Ireland being the first-ever country to win 3 global tournaments in the 3 different cricket formats in a single year and, by doing so, qualifying for the men's and women's 20-over World Cup and the Cricket World Cup itself
- Ireland's Croquet team winning the 4 Nations Championship and Andrew Johnston reaching the semi-final of the Croquet World Championship
- Paul O'Donovan winning a Bronze medal at the World Under 23 Rowing Championships and Claire Lambe finishing 4th in the European Rowing Championships
- Clarence Kennedy winning 3 bronze medals in the snatch, clean and jerk and total categories in the 94kg class at the European Junior Weightlifting Championships, the first Irish athlete to do so
- The Irish Judo Association took home 3 medals from the African World Cup with Olympian Lisa Kearney winning gold
- Bryan Keane winning a World Cup Triathlon Silver in Japan
- Joe Ward winning Bronze at the World Boxing Championships in Kazakhstan to go with Jason Quigley's Silver
- Andrew Smyth achieved the highest individual all-around score ever by an Irish Gymnast at the Artistic World Championships in Belgium
- Irish Tug of War Team came 4th at the World Championships in Colombia
- Ireland ranked no.1 in Tatami Sport at the World Combat Games in Russia

*Over the past twelve months sport proudly flew the flag for Ireland in some 70 countries worldwide*



# CREATING A RETURN ON THE TAXPAYERS INVESTMENT

**Note: Total Irish Sports Council (ISC) Funding includes Core Grant Funding, High Performance Funding, Direct Athlete Funding and Women in Sport Funding, please refer to Irish Sports Council website for a detailed breakdown [www.irishsportsCouncil.ie](http://www.irishsportsCouncil.ie)**

## Angling Council of Ireland

[www.anglingCouncilireland.ie](http://www.anglingCouncilireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €10,000

Participants: 15,000

Highlight 2013: Hosting the Predator Boat 2013 World Championships in Enniskillen. The event was an outstanding success and with that experience behind us we look forward to hosting 25 nations in Cork for World Feeder Championships 2014.

## Archery Ireland

[www.archery.ie](http://www.archery.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €48,500

Participants: 4,000

Highlight 2013: In September hosting the First All Ireland Series Final with 600 attendees and just one week later Mel Lawther coming 8th in the World Championships in Turkey.

## Athletics Ireland

[www.athleticsireland.ie](http://www.athleticsireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €1,952,000

Membership: 49,542

Highlights: Rob Heffernan winning Gold at the World Championship 50km walk. Sarah Lavin, Silver in Junior European Championships in the 100m hurdles. Kelly Proper, four Gold medals in the National Outdoor Championships. Rose-Anne Galligan breaking Sonia O'Sullivan's national 800m record, running 2.00.69. Opening of the Athlone I.T. International Indoor Arena. Development Athletes showing significant progress: Sean Tobin, Phil Healy, David Cussen, Louise Shanahan, Aislinn Crossey, Ruairi Finnegan, Marcus Lawlor, Alana Lally, Zak Irwin, Shane Fitzsimons, Siofra Cleirigh-Butner, Laura Ann Costello.

## Australian Rules Football League of Ireland

[www.arfli.com](http://www.arfli.com)

Participants: 410

Highlight 2013: Hosting the European Championship in Dublin, which Ireland won with the last kick of the tournament to beat Great Britain by a point.

## Badminton Ireland

[www.badmintonireland.com](http://www.badmintonireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €480,734

Participants: 17,000

Highlight 2013: High Performance claimed 4 International titles. Membership has grown for the second consecutive year and the new School programme 'Shuttletime' has been a great success. Looking forward 2014 welcoming Para Badminton to the Paralympics schedule.

## Basketball Ireland

[www.basketballireland.ie](http://www.basketballireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €693,289

Participants: 41,250

Highlight 2013: The Basketball Ireland Premier League Mens Senior Representative played the English Basketball League as a curtain-raiser to the English Cup Final. In front of a 5,000 capacity crowd Ireland won 83-81. Bord Gais Neptune from Cork ended a 21 year wait when they won the Men's National Cup Final in the National Basketball Arena.

## Baton Twirling Sport Association of Ireland

[www.btsai.ie](http://www.btsai.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €16,518

Participants: 660

Highlight 2013: Individuals and teams represent Ireland at European and World Championships, two silver and one gold medal. With the help of our WIS grant we completed our Roadshow, and had it performed for the first time at our National Championships. The Roadshow went on the road and two clubs developed as a result in Portlaoise and Bailieborough.

## Bowling League of Ireland

[www.irishlawnbowls.ie](http://www.irishlawnbowls.ie)

ISC Funding: €24,590

Participants: 2,200

Highlight 2013: Hosting of British Isles (BIBC) Championships and Centenary International Series, for only the third time in its 100 year history. They were held at Crumlin Bowling Clubs. Over the 6 days, 360 players from Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales, Jersey & Guernsey participated. Ireland won the Singles and was runner-up in the International series.

## Camogie Association

[www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €384,283

Participants: 100,000

Highlight 2013: Unified camogie/hurling sponsorship by Liberty Insurance of All Ireland Championships and unified sponsorship by AIB of Camogie and GAA All Ireland Club Championship series.

## Canoeing Ireland

[www.canoe.ie](http://www.canoe.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €360,043

Participants: 3,000

Highlight 2013: Canoeing Ireland International Liffey Descent, hosting a leg of the International Canoe Federation Marathon Classic Series. Junior Paddle Fest saw 400 junior paddlers introduced to all 7 canoe disciplines. We had paddlers represent Ireland at World and European Championships in Slalom, Sprint, Marathon, Canoe Polo, Wild Water Racing & Free Style. Canoeing Ireland qualified a place in the Youth Olympics for the first time.

## Cerebral Palsy Sport Ireland

[www.cpsi.ie](http://www.cpsi.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €91,151

Participants: 110

Highlight 2013: CPSI Football Team Finish 4th in the Intercontinental Cup. It was a competition that proved to the management of the team and CPSI that the young team have a huge future in front of them.

## Cricket Ireland

[www.cricketireland.ie](http://www.cricketireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €487,760

Participants: 40,414

Highlight 2013: Being the first-ever country to win 3 global tournaments in the 3 different cricket formats in a single year and, by doing so, qualifying for the men's and women's 20-over World Cup and the Cricket World Cup itself.

## Croquet Association of Ireland

[www.croquetireland.com](http://www.croquetireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €5700

Participants: 300

Highlight 2013: Ireland's emphatic win in the 4 Nations Championship, the first for ten years, our Andrew Johnston reaching the semi-final of the World Championship and the development of new lawns in Kerry and Dublin.

## Cycling Ireland

[www.cyclingireland.ie](http://www.cyclingireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €571,105

Participants: 19,300

Highlight 2013: Track World Championship Title, First Track World Cup Gold Medal and First Elite Women's Medal, Stage wins in Tour de France and Vuelta Espana. Confirmation of Giro d'Italia start for 2014.

## Deaf Sports Ireland

[www.deafsportsireland.com](http://www.deafsportsireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €61,196

Participants: 500

Highlight 2013: Ireland was represented well at the International Deaflympic Summer Games being held in Bulgaria. In 2014, the fourth year of our current strategic plan, we will be building on the achievements of 2013 to provide even more sporting/leisure activities to the Deaf community.

## Football Association of Ireland

[www.fai.ie](http://www.fai.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €2,840,000

Participants: 450,000

Highlight 2013: Playing England (1-1) for the first time since 1995. Qualification of our underage sides. Ruud Dokter appointed International High Performance Director. The appointment of Martin O'Neill and Roy Keane.

## GAA Handball

[www.gaahandball.ie](http://www.gaahandball.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €105,051

Participants: 14,871

Highlight 2013: Handball was included in the World Games for the first time. GAA Handball played a pivotal role in this development. An Irish Ladies & Mens team travelled to Columbia to take part.

## Gaelic Athletic Association

[www.gaa.ie](http://www.gaa.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €2,536,477

Participants: 506,537

Highlight 2013: The exceptional standards of games at inter-county levels was a direct reflection of the positive impact of the GAA's 'Go Games' model for child players, which was introduced over 10 years ago.

## Golfing Union of Ireland

[www.gui.ie](http://www.gui.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €429,600

Participants: 162,000

Highlight 2013: Ireland won the Boys Home Internationals at Forest Pines in Lincolnshire, battling with Scotland to a draw and then defeating England and Wales to win the title for the first time since 2010, and only the fourth time in the event's history.

## Gymnastics Ireland

[www.gymnasticsireland.com](http://www.gymnasticsireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €305,673

Participants: 14,000

Highlight 2013: Andrew Smith made history at the Artistic World Championships posting the highest individual all-around score for an Irish competitor at a World Championships.

## Horse Sport Ireland

[www.horsesportireland.ie](http://www.horsesportireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €1,282,978

Participants: 24,142

Highlight 2013: Irish Junior Eventing Team wins Gold at European Championships, Elizabeth Hayden wins Individual Silver. Irish Pony Showjumping Team wins Bronze at European Championships, Susan Fitzpatrick wins Individual Gold medal. Bertram Allen winning Individual Silver medal at Junior European Showjumping Championships. Irish Showjumping Team winning Spruce Meadows Nations Cup and taking third place at Furusiyya Nations Cup Global Final. Aoife Clarke winning Blenheim Palace Horse Trials with Fenya's Elegance (ISH). National Horse Sport Arena opens at National Sports Campus in Abbotstown.

## Horseshoe Pitchers Association of Ireland

Total ISC Funding: €3,900

Participants: 600

Highlight 2013: Highlight for the HPAI was the international event, in which an Irish selection traveled to Leeds, England to compete and succeed against a very strong English selection at the end of May 2013.

## Ice Skating Association of Ireland

[www.isai.ie](http://www.isai.ie)

Participants: 250

Highlight 2013: Clara Peters bringing home Ireland's First International Medal taking Bronze in the Ladies Singles event in Australia.

## Irish Amateur Boxing Association

[www.iaba.ie](http://www.iaba.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €1,498,300

Highlight 2013: Jason Quigley winning silver & Joe Ward winning Bronze at the World Boxing Championships best ever result for the IABA in this hotly contested championship. This, on top of the 2 gold and 2 silver at the Europeans for Nevin, Quigley, Barnes and Conlon capped a fantastic year for the IABA.

## Irish Fencing Federation

[www.irishfencing.net](http://www.irishfencing.net)

Total ISC Funding: €37,785

Participants: 1,300

Highlight 2013: Our highlight was the Irish Open Championships which incorporated an FIE Men's Epee International Satellite competition which attracts fencers from all over the world - we had Australians, South Americans, and representatives of many European countries taking part, with 12-15 different countries making up half the entries and the balance being Irish, giving good experience to our Irish fencers.

## Irish Amateur Wrestling Association

[www.irishwrestling.org](http://www.irishwrestling.org)

Total ISC Funding: €14,762

Highlight 2013: Alex Dolly recently won the 2013 British Senior Championships in Welshpool, England. Dolly had a perfect sweep and went a perfect 4-0 in the 84kg freestyle tournament, he never allowed a single point throughout the championship.

## Irish American Football Association

[www.americanfootball.ie](http://www.americanfootball.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €24,190

Participants: 2,300

Highlight 2013: The IFAA expanded from 13 to 16 teams clubs playing competitive American football, with a further 3 clubs due to start in 2014. It hosted two high profile events involving visiting overseas teams, the EFAF Atlantic Cup tournament and The Gathering Bowl, both played at Tallaght Stadium.

## Irish Cheersport Association

[www.irishcheersport.wix.com](http://www.irishcheersport.wix.com)

Participants: 1,200

Highlight 2013: The season started with a major international competition in Galway which attracted squads from as far as Boston. National Pom Dance Squad went to Worlds in Orlando, Florida. This year, International coaches conducted camps throughout Ireland.

## Irish Clay Pigeon Shooting Association

[www.icpsa.ie](http://www.icpsa.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €46,125

Participants: 600

Highlight 2013: Derek Burnett won Bronze in Olympic Trap at the European Championships, Ireland won the Governor General Cup (first competed for in 1931) and came runners up in The Mackintosh Trophy.

## Irish Flying Disk Association (Ultimate Frisbee)

[www.irishultimate.com](http://www.irishultimate.com)

Participants: 500

Highlight 2013: The Ireland National Mixed Beach team won silver at the European Championships of Beach Ultimate in Spain in June. This is Ireland's first medal in Ultimate Frisbee.

## Irish Hockey Association

[www.hockey.ie](http://www.hockey.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €664,714

Participants: 40,000

Highlight 2013: Irish Hockey made great strides from an structural and organisational point of view, the highlight being the incorporation of the organisation. Irish Hockey successfully hosted and ran the Girls U18 Europeans, the men qualified for World League 3 and also finished 6th in Europe retaining their status in top flight European Hockey.



## Irish Ice Hockey Association

[www.iiha.org](http://www.iiha.org)

Participants: 250 members

Highlight 2013: Men's senior team finished 4th in the world championships in South Africa in April.

## Irish Inline Hockey

[www.inlinehockeyireland.org](http://www.inlinehockeyireland.org)

Participants: 500

Highlight 2013: First official national team went to IIHF world championship qualifiers. Both mens and ladies teams qualified for the 2014 world championships. IHI and our northern sister association NIHA united to form a single body.

## Irish Judo Association

[www.irishjudoassociation.ie](http://www.irishjudoassociation.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €112,429

Participants: 1907

Highlight 2013: The Irish Judo Association took home Gold, Silver & Bronze at the African World Cup, High Performance athlete Lisa Kearney took Gold fighting at U52kg & National Squad Members Caoimhin Thompson took Silver in the men's U73kg, Eoin Fleming taking the Bronze in the same category. These are the first male medals at this level to be won in over 20 years by Irish players.

## Irish Kidney Association – Sport

[www.ika.ie](http://www.ika.ie)

Participants: 60

Highlight 2013: Transplant Team Ireland won 34 medals and finished 14th on the medal table at the World Transplant Games in Durban, South Africa.

## Irish Ladies Golf Union

[www.ilgu.ie](http://www.ilgu.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €166,930

Participants: 43,000

Highlight 2013: Ireland won the gold medal at European Seniors (O50) and Senior Home Internationals. Ireland also beat England at all of Women's, Girls (U18) and Seniors (O50) levels for the first time ever. In its 4th year, the High Performance programme is reaping rewards at U16 level.

## Irish Martial Arts Commission

[www.martialarts.ie](http://www.martialarts.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €31,875

Participants: 20,000

Highlight 2013: It was one of the most competitively successful years for Kickboxing in Ireland (under the auspices of IMAC) who have improved their international standing and ranking over the last six years. At the 2013 Sport Accord World Combat Games (held every 3 years) Ireland was ranked 1st in Tatami Sport (Mat based). Irelands medalists were- Shauna Bannon and Robbie Mc Menamey, Gold, Mark McDermott, Silver and Des Leonard, Bronze.

## Irish Olympic Handball Association

[www.olympichandball.org](http://www.olympichandball.org)

Total ISC Funding: €41,412

Participants: 2,500

Highlight 2013: IOHA hosted Euro qualifier, Ireland's National Men's team compete against Estonia and Belgium. Hosted a gathering event, 3 English teams and 1 German team played Men's National team with 2 Irish and 2 English ladies teams played. European Handball Federation's Congress meeting which will be held in Dublin in September 2014.

## Irish Orienteering Association

[www.orienteering.ie](http://www.orienteering.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €45,350

Participants: 3,000

Highlight 2013: Nicholas Simonins result representing Ireland where he was the 33rd at the Long Distance Final at the World Championships in Finland; the continuing development of schools orienteering in Ireland which is going from strength to strength and the establishment of new permanent orienteering courses throughout the country.

## Irish Rugby Football Union

[www.irishrugby.ie](http://www.irishrugby.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €3,187,120

Participants: 153,000

Highlight 2013: The Grand Slam success of the Irish Women's Team in the 2013 RBS 6 Nations was the stand-out achievement of the year. Winning three games away from home against Wales (12-10), Scotland (30-3) and Italy (6-3) as well as historic victories over England (25-0) and France (15-10) clearly illustrates the very special nature of Ireland's first ever Women's Grand Slam.

## Irish Sailing Association

[www.sailing.ie](http://www.sailing.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €1,130,894

Participants: 19,500 members

Highlight 2013: Winning 13 medals at international level including 8 Gold. Hosting 4 major international events; the Laser Europeans, Disabled Sailing Worlds, J24 Worlds and Mirror Worlds. Introducing 10,879 people to sailing through our nationwide participation initiatives.

## Irish Surfing Association

[www.isasurf.ie](http://www.isasurf.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €62,150

Participants: 1,000

Highlight 2013: Hosting the surfing event at the World Police Fire Games & gold medals for bodyboarders, Darragh Mc Carter and Claire Reilly at the event. Continued international acclaim for big wave surfing at Mullaghmore. 50,000 active surfers in Ireland.

## Irish Squash

[www.irishsquash.com](http://www.irishsquash.com)

Total ISC Funding: €152,290

Participants: 2,285

Highlight 2013: Senior Women's team winning a silver medal at the European Team Championships, along with a 6th place at the World Championships. Several juniors ranked in the top 10 in Europe at different age groups from U13 to U19, David Ryan was ranked No. 1 U17 in 2013.

## Irish Table Tennis Association

[www.irishtabletennis.com](http://www.irishtabletennis.com)

Total ISC Funding: €142,020

Participants: 3,250

Highlight 2013: Continued roll-out of ISC supported participation projects at schools level, top class hosting of Primary Schools Six Nations, Ireland won 3 of 4 gold medals, launch of new 4 year Strategic Development Plan, relocation to Sport HQ and announcement of the National Multi-Sport Indoor Sports Arena at the National Sports Campus.

## Irish Taekwondo Union

[www.taekwondoireland.ie](http://www.taekwondoireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €44,700

Participants: 1,500

Highlight 2013: First Irish Open Korean Ambassadors Cup at which the World famous Korean Kukkiwon demonstration team performed for the crowd. The Korean ambassador to Ireland was also in attendance.

## Irish Ten Pin Bowling Association

[www.tenpinireland.com](http://www.tenpinireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €25,000

Participants: 1,873

Highlight 2013: Celebrating 50 Years of Tenpin Bowling in Ireland with a program emphasis on development and awareness. Key elements were: New Youth Development Program and the National Tenpin Bowling Week.

## Irish Tug-of-War Association

[www.irishtugofwar.com](http://www.irishtugofwar.com)

Total ISC Funding: €22,425

Participants: 700

Highlight 2013: National youths team best result finishing 4th out of 36 teams at the GENSB Games in Germany. National mens squad 4th place at the World Games in Colombia. Entered a National Mixed 4x4 team at the European Championships for the first time proving development in the sport.

## Irish Underwater Council

[www.diving.ie](http://www.diving.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €62,567

Participants: 2115

Highlight 2013: CFT celebrated it's 50th Anniversary this year. A number of events marks this important milestone including regional dive rallies and a gala dinner dance. Opening out of new Archives.

## Irish Water Safety

[www.iws.ie](http://www.iws.ie)

Funding: €20,000

Participants: 1,000

Highlight 2013: Irish Lifesaving Senior and Junior Teams placed 7th and 8th at European Championships, a total of 10 European medals. Won the Youth Celtic Cup in September. Record numbers of participants all over Ireland ranging in age from 8 to adult training and also competing in regional and national competitions.

## Irish Wheelchair Association- Sport

[www.iwasport.com](http://www.iwasport.com)

Total ISC Funding: €266,956

Participants: 1,623

Highlight 2013: Hosting the European Wheelchair Rugby Zonal Qualifiers in Gormanston Co Meath. The feedback was very positive with regard to the competition organisation.

## Ladies Gaelic Football Association

[www.ladiesgaelic.ie](http://www.ladiesgaelic.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €390,513

Participants: 153,911

Highlight 2013: 2013 marked our 40th ever championship season. Our first All Ireland Final was played in 1974 with our 40th taking place in Croke Park on September 29th. As part of the celebrations for this milestone we, in conjunction with the Irish Cancer Society, set a world record for Most People Wearing Bandanas in One Place. Over 25,000 people in attendance to see Offaly, Cavan and Cork claim All Ireland titles.

## Motorcycling Union of Ireland

[www.motorcycling-ireland.com](http://www.motorcycling-ireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €67,509

Participants: 2,500

Highlight 2013: Skerries Rider Michael Sweeney took the Manx Grand Prix by storm, also managed podium finishes at Tandragee, Glanmire, Skerries, Walderstown and Armoyle. Jack Kennedy 7th position overall in World Supersport. Ladies team competed for the first time in Trials de Nations in France, Kate Callaghan, Michelle Hanlon finished 11th in the World Ladies Championship.

## Motorsport Ireland

[www.motorsportireland.com](http://www.motorsportireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €138,834

Participants: 3,600

Highlight 2013: Daniel McKenna won British Rally Championship and Craig Breen finished second in European Rally Championship.

## Mountaineering Ireland

[www.mountaineering.ie](http://www.mountaineering.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €204,469

Participants: 11,509

Highlight 2013: Strategic Development Plan (2014 – 2017), the retention of the Coillte estate in state ownership, a world number 1 ranked climber, roll-out of Lowland Leader and Climbing Wall Awards and the 'Get Ireland Walking' initiative.

## National Aero Club of Ireland

[www.aeroclub.ie](http://www.aeroclub.ie)

Participants: 1,000

Highlight 2013: It was a most difficult year for NACI, simply surviving in the face of the obstacles that we encountered was our biggest achievement.

## National Target Shooting Association

[www.targetshooting.ie](http://www.targetshooting.ie)

Participants: 400

Highlight 2013: The participation in international competitions (including ISSF and IPC) in UK, Germany, Spain and Luxembourg. Two of our members, Caroline O'Brien and Seán Baldwin, were successful in reaching finals.

## Paralympics Ireland

[www.paralympics.ie](http://www.paralympics.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €910,000

Highlight 2013: 15 medals won by Paralympic athletes at Senior World Championships in sports of Athletics, Cycling & Swimming. Gold medals won include: Jason Smyth at 100m & 200m, Michael McKillop at 800m & 1500m, Darragh McDonald at 400m Freestyle.

## Pentathlon Ireland

[www.pentathlon.ie](http://www.pentathlon.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €190,000

Participants: 150

Highlight 2013: Natalya Coyle and Eanna Bailey winning Silver in the Mixed Relay, being Ireland's first ever medal at a World Cup competition. AWAS became the official sponsor of Pentathlon Ireland Team in October. Opening of National Pentathlon Centre at Nationals Sport Campus in October and 2013 Nationals held at the venue. Recruitment of Robert Mooney as our first General Manager.

## Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland

[www.ppui.ie](http://www.ppui.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €63,070

Participants: Approximately 8,000 members

Highlight 2013: Launching our new Strategic Plan for 2013-2016 and having it approved by our membership. This plan will be the foundation for progressive development of the PPUI in the coming years.

## Raquetball Association of Ireland

[www.raquetball-ireland.com](http://www.raquetball-ireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €10,907

Participants: 2,000

Highlights 2013: Very successful European Championships in Italy in 2013, winning both Men's and Ladies Team events and the individual singles and doubles titles.

## Republic of Ireland Billiards and Snooker Federation

[www.ribsa.ie](http://www.ribsa.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €66,000.

Participants: 418.

Highlight 2013: Staging 2013 IBSF (International Billiards and Snooker Federation) World Team and 6 Reds Championships in Carlow.

## Rowing Ireland

[www.rowingireland.ie](http://www.rowingireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €624,137

Participants: 3,500

Highlight 2013: The establishment of a completely new staff and structure within the organisation in 2013. The excellent performance of Paul O'Donovan in winning a Bronze medal at the World Under 23 Championships and Claire Lambe finishing 4th in the European Championships.

## Special Olympics Ireland

[www.specialolympics.ie](http://www.specialolympics.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €1,200,000

Participants: 10,000 Athletes, 400 Clubs, 8,500 Family members, 26,500 Volunteers

Highlight 2013: A team of 14 athletes and 8 coaches represented Special Olympics Ireland at the Special Olympics World Winter Games in South Korea in January and brought back three gold, six silver and two bronze medals. Over 400 clubs in communities across the island of Ireland continue to support over 10,000 athletes who train and compete in 15 different sports. 1,500 athletes, selected after regional competition, were represented at the launch of Special Olympics Ireland Limerick Games 2014 in the University of Limerick which will be held in June 2014.

## Student Sport Ireland

[www.studentsport.ie](http://www.studentsport.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €60,000

Participants: 2,000

Highlight 2013: World University Games: Fiona Doyle's silver medal in the 100m breaststroke, Andrew Meegan's four national senior records in the pool, Chris Bryan's 7th place finish in the 10k Open Water swim, Monika Dukarska's 4th place in the Women's Senior Sculls. Seven athletes reaching the final of their respective track events to the 5th and 6th place finish of the men's and women's football. Rebranding to Student Sport Ireland and extensive committee restructuring. Major All Ireland Research Contract awarded in December.

## Swim Ireland

[www.swimireland.ie](http://www.swimireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €1,462,178

Participants: 14,125

Highlight 2013: Fiona Doyle's Silver medal at the World University Games in July 2013 and Barry Murphy's Bronze Medal at the European Short Course Swimming Championships in December 2013. Launched "Swim for a Mile Challenge" which will encourage adults across the country to get into the pool and train to swim a mile over 12 weeks culminating in 5 main events in Cork, Limerick, Galway, Bangor and Dublin. 54% female membership.

## Tennis Ireland

[www.tennisireland.ie](http://www.tennisireland.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €515,835

Participants: 70,000

Highlight 2013: Ireland began their 2013 Davis Cup campaign in February with a hard-fought 3-2 win over Estonia, with Sam Barry (21) defeating Marek Marksoo in straight sets in the final and fifth rubber to secure the win and a quarter final place against Finland.

## Triathlon Ireland

[www.triathlonireland.com](http://www.triathlonireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €415,750

Participants: 8,450

Highlight 2013: Aileen Reid's silver medal at the World Series Grand Final in London, Bryan Keane became the first Irish man to stand on the World Cup podium when he claimed silver in Ishagaki, Japan. What's thought to have been the largest ever team to represent Ireland travelled to the World Championships in London where 277 elite and age group athletes acquitted themselves brilliantly alongside 40 other nations. Amongst the squad for the first time were 4 Paratriathletes, marking a significant step in the process of qualifying a team for the Paralympic Games in Rio.

## Vision Sports Ireland

[www.visionsports.ie](http://www.visionsports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €35,787

Participants: 230

Highlight 2013: MayFest was a highlight, we chose our core sports, added specific non-core activities and invited Ireland's vision impaired to come and try. The favourite activities were tandem cycling, tenpin bowling, archery, athletics and indoor rowing. It was a weekend when we all enjoyed ourselves so much that we are going to do it all again in May 2014 only this time it will be a 3 day event!

## Volleyball Ireland

[www.volleyballireland.com](http://www.volleyballireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €241,018

Participants: 1,142

Highlight 2013: This years Beach Volleyball proved to be a real highlight. We held events throughout the summer in the following locations, Bundoran, Donegal, Portmarnock, Dublin, Woodstown, Waterford, Dollymount. Participation nights where held on Dollymount Beach in Dublin. The attendance at these participation nights were fantastic, with over 50 people attending one night. Establishment of Ireland's first Sitting Volleyball court in the Irish Wheelchair Association's Sports Centre in Clontarf, Dublin.

## Weightlifting Ireland

[www.weightliftingireland.com](http://www.weightliftingireland.com)

Total ISC Funding: €19,400

Participants: 549

Highlight 2013: Clarence Kennedy won 3 bronze medals in the snatch, clean and jerk and total categories in the 94kg class at the European Junior Championships, the first Irish athlete to do so. Adam O' Mahony came 4th in the 85+kg class at the European U15 Championships.

## Active Donegal

[www.activedonegal.com](http://www.activedonegal.com)

Total ISC Funding: €194,829

Highlight 2013: Active Donegal's (DSP) Innovative Programme for Sport and Recreation, focused on 13 community / sport club cluster groups. Each delivering their own community sport participation project where they engaged with 1,485 participants to deliver a full range of sporting events, and a comprehensive education and training programme to 626 people. From the work of the programme many new clubs have now been established and strengthened especially in cycling, boxing and water sports.

## Cavan Local Sport Partnership

[www.cavansportspartnership.ie](http://www.cavansportspartnership.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €127,129

Participants in programmes: 12,770

Highlight 2013: Run with Catherina, Cavan Walking Festival, over 1,000 people took part in the walk, including visitors from other countries, Operation Transformation, Sports Club Grant Scheme, Cavan Sports Partnership Strategic Plan 2013-2015, Ulster Sports Museum opening.

## Clare Sports Partnership

[www.claresportspartnership.ie](http://www.claresportspartnership.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €183,742

Participants in programmes: 3,200

Highlight 2013: Development of the Clare Ladies Cycling Club. This brand new club was set up initially as the 0-60km group, with the goal of the ladies cycling the 60km route in our An Post Tour de Burren Sportive. Not only did they achieve that, some went on to greater distances such as the Ring of Kerry.

## Cork Sports Partnership

[www.corksports.ie](http://www.corksports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €328,026

Highlight 2013: Basketball Development officer, Ciaran O'Sullivan appointed in January 2014, Project Weight loss, 'Angling for All' Programme in Fermoy for People with Disabilities, 1,514 primary school children across 46 primary schools in Cork City and County participated in the Cork Safer Cycling Programme. The main focus of the programme is to provide cycling education and training to primary school children of all abilities in Cork City and County.

## County Carlow Local Sports Partnership

[www.carlowsports.ie](http://www.carlowsports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €164,263

Highlight 2013: In 2013 County Carlow Local Sports Partnership secured funding totalling approx €70,000 to upgrade playgrounds to 'universal access' standard through the installation of play equipment adapted to be more accessible. This is a significant step in ensuring that people of all abilities have opportunities to play and exercise in our local parks making them more inclusive and family friendly.

## Dublin City Sports Network

[www.dublincity.ie](http://www.dublincity.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €237,655

Participants in programmes: 10,350

Highlight 2013: 200 people signed up to the Lord Mayor's 5 Alive Challenge with five road races ranging from 2-5 miles from 1st January to 6th April. 87 participants, ranging from 17-76 years old, including the Lord Mayor, completed all five races and 149 completed four. The Challenge concluded with a reception hosted by the Lord Mayor on April 19th where everyone received a Certificate. We got great feedback, even being asked to continue on to bring the Challengers to the Dublin Marathon!

## Dun Laoghaire- Rathdown Sports Partnership

[www.dlrsportspartnership.ie](http://www.dlrsportspartnership.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €144,700

Highlight 2013: DLR Community 5K took place on Saturday the 12th October around Kilbogget Park with over 1,000 participants of all abilities, ages and backgrounds. Kicking off Social Inclusion Week in the County, this unique event was a great opportunity for everyone to get out, be active and make new friends.

## Fingal Sports Office

[www.fingalsports.ie](http://www.fingalsports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €143,801

Highlight 2013: Fingal Future Olympians, 6 programmes and 930 participants. 17 programmes for people with disabilities, 7 older adults programmes, 69 coach education programmes.

## Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership

[www.kerryslp.ie](http://www.kerryslp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €135,687

Participants in programmes: 3,897

Highlight 2013: Scoil Ghníomhach/Active School is a partnership initiative with agencies working together for the sole benefit of the student population in Kerry. Aim is to engage 1st year JCPE students of all abilities in physical activity, whereby the students focus is on peer encouragement, all working towards improving health related components of fitness.

## Kilkenny Recreation and Sports Partnership

[www.krsp.ie](http://www.krsp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €168,885

Participants in programmes: 4,613

Highlights: Smarter Travel 2013, promoting active transport (cycling and walking) in schools and the city. Mountain Bike Taster Sessions was organised in conjunction with Kilkenny's newest cycling club, Crucial Mountain Biking. A Fun City Cycle was held to highlight the cycle paths in the city. Inclusion Camp, children with disabilities overcame some great challenges including working in a completely new group in new surroundings and participating in many new activities. Kilkenny Trails Festival, almost 1,500 participants took part.

## Kildare Sports Partnership

[www.kildare.ie](http://www.kildare.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €127,287

Highlight 2013: Refugee Integration Project: Kildare Sports Partnership helped to facilitate the integration through sport & physical activity of 35 Sudanese & Eritrean immigrants. The immigrants were displaced from Libya following the overthrow of Col. Gaddafi and ranged in age from 1 year old to 70 years of age found life integrating into their new surroundings in Naas very difficult.

## Laois Sports Partnership

[www.laoissports.ie](http://www.laoissports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €178,538

Participants in programmes: 11,464

Highlight 2013: Active Schools Week, whereby primary schools were invited to set themselves an Activity Challenge for the week. As part of the Challenge, schools who promoted the theme of "inclusion" had the opportunity to win €1,000 worth of sports equipment for their school. St Patricks BNS in Portllington emerged as winners.

## Leitrim Sports

[www.leitrimsports.ie](http://www.leitrimsports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €135,610

Highlight 2013: Two Sports Development Coaches coordinating and managing the delivery of the sports and recreational programmes in Leitrim Schools. The Women's Active, Leitrim Disability Sports Forum, Goal 2 Friendship programme explored religious, cultural and ethnic diversity through recreational and classroom activity, where local professional sports stars educated children on different cultures, religions and languages and making new friends through Sport.

## Limerick Sports Partnership

[www.limericksports.ie](http://www.limericksports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €370,000

Highlight 2013: As part of the great Limerick Run we hosted a 'Kids Run for Fun' with a 4 week prep programme in the primary schools 1,450 kids 4 - 12 completed the 'Kids Run for Fun' 1 Mile and 2K, with 580 kids completing the 4 week prep! 1,500 kids are/have participated in the Sports Hall Athletics programme!

## Louth Local Sports Partnership

[www.louthslp.ie](http://www.louthslp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €103,037

Highlight 2013: 741 students representing 24 schools took part in the second annual Louth Primary Schools Cross Country.

## Mayo Sports Partnership

[www.mayosports.ie](http://www.mayosports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €209,000

Participants in programmes: 15,000

Highlight 2013: Over 300 Men aged 30 plus are currently engaged in the Men on the Move Physical Activity Programme in 9 locations across the county. In addition 3,000 women participated in the 4th West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon supported by Sonia O Sullivan.



## FEDERATION OF IRISH SPORT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Meath Local Sports Partnerships

[www.meathsports.ie](http://www.meathsports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €193,232

Participants in programmes: 11,182

Highlight 2013: Full staff compliment maintained delivering a broad range of programmes across multi disciplines. 3,500 cyclists on the An Post Meath Heritage Cycle tour, 350 volunteers, economic value of tour to Meath: €1,520,630. National Award for Disability Sport.

### Monaghan Local Sports Partnership

[www.monaghansports.ie](http://www.monaghansports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €128,320

Participants in programmes: 2,000

Highlight 2013: A number of highlights included community groups setting up their own activity programmes following initial interventions by the Sports Partnership e.g. Wetlands Running Group, yoga classes for women aged 50+, soccer skills for adults with a disability.

### North Tipperary Sports Partnership

[www.ntsp.ie](http://www.ntsp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €169,080

Participants in programmes: 6,000

Highlight 2013: Tipperary Link for Life was launched in May 2013 by Eamonn Coughlan and John Treacy. Tipperary Link 4 Life emphasises the benefits of physical activity for the mental health and well-being of every person. Physical activity and participation in clubs, organisations and fitness classes offers the opportunity to improve self-confidence, self-esteem and over all well-being by socialising and connecting with the people, the facilities and the amenities in the area.

### Offaly Sports Partnership

[www.offalysports.ie](http://www.offalysports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €135,131

Participants in programmes: 2,500

Highlight 2013: The Partnership has delivered a minimum of 20 different programmes to a wide range of target groups in 2013. Among the programmes delivered were Sportshall Athletics primary, and meet and train. The Partnership also supported the delivery of programmes as part of the Gathering, Offaly Mental Health Week and Positive Ageing Week.

### Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership

[www.sligosportandrecreation.ie](http://www.sligosportandrecreation.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €253,436

Participants in programmes: 14,650

Highlight 2013: The 4th An Post Tour of Sligo cycle in May, with 2,500 cyclists participating. 109 extra-curricular school sports programmes facilitated through Youth Sport West. 360 new active participants through the SSRP 'Active Centres' programme at 2 community centres in rural Sligo. 'Sligo Fit 4 Life Women's 5K Series' was hosted by SSRP in conjunction with 4 Athletics Clubs with 742 participants. 1,020 primary school children representing over 60% of primary schools throughout Sligo involved in the SSRP Annual Athletics Festival.

### South Dublin County Local Sports Partnership

[www.sdscsp.ie](http://www.sdscsp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €129,097

Highlight 2013 The development of a new Parkrun in Lucan, in partnership with South Dublin County Council, providing 200+ runners every week with a free, timed 5k run, staffed by volunteers. In partnership with DCU, the implementation

of the YPATH (Youth Physical Activity Towards Health) programme in 7 secondary schools in the county. YPATH offers students a comprehensive PE programme and measures 11 indices of fitness

### South Tipperary Sports Partnership

[www.stsp.ie](http://www.stsp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €151,960

Participants in programmes: 2,957

Highlight 2013: Over 900 women participated in the Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon organised by STSP & NTSP. Nenagh athlete and Dublin Mini Marathon winner Siobhan Doherty started and won the event (in 35.17). The event has grown over 4 years with the success of the many 'Meet and Train' groups feeding into this event in huge numbers. Every participant, from a 35 minute to a 2 hour finishing time, left with a great sense of achievement and having had an excellent experience, which is what it is all about.

### Waterford Sports Partnership

[www.waterfordsportspartnership.ie](http://www.waterfordsportspartnership.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €219,924

Highlight 2013: WSP was engaged by the Smarter Travel Go Dungarvan project to develop and deliver the behavioural change programme for the active travel element of the project. 2013 saw the continued growth of the Sean Kelly Tour of Waterford with over 6,500 taking part in the four events over the weekend and, significantly for WSP, 2,695 (over 40%) participants came from Waterford. Participation in cycling in County Waterford is at an all-time high.

### Westmeath Sports Partnership

[www.westmeathsports.ie](http://www.westmeathsports.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €146,798

Highlight 2013: Our 5km support kit travelled the length and breadth of the county, assisting clubs, organizations, charities and schools in delivering over 35 5km events with over 4,000 people of all ages and abilities participating. 'Meet and Spin' programme saw a huge growth this year. The new programme 'Meet and Train KidZ' pilot was a great success with the kids and their parents training together over the cold winter months.

### Sports Active Wexford

[www.wexford.ie](http://www.wexford.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €118,486

Participants in programmes: 11,433

Highlight 2013: Traveller Women Community Health Programme- Active leaders programme. The programme was designed in partnership with Wexford local development, Go for Life, the Irish Heart Foundation and Sports Active Wexford. The Group have been working on the Active Leaders Programme for six months and have developed leadership skills in Physical activity to impact on their working relationship with their Community Groups, where they have impacted on the life and culture of 120 participants in their programme.

### Wicklow Local Sports Partnership

[www.wicklowlsp.ie](http://www.wicklowlsp.ie)

Total ISC Funding: €114,917

Highlight 2013: The Irish Times and Pfizer Healthcare Healthy Town Initiative by the Irish Times and Pfizers which Wicklow Local Sports Partnership was an active participant. The eight week initiative combined health promotion events and physical activities to encourage the people of Wicklow to improve their health and wellbeing.

**Chairperson:**  
Sarah O'Shea

**Secretary:**  
Sarah Keane

**Treasurer:**  
Brendan Waters

Harry Hermon

Warren Deutrom

Ciaran Gallagher

Cillian Smith

Thos McDermott

Liam Harbison

**Staff:**  
Sarah O'Connor, Chief Executive Officer

Conn McCluskey, Support Services Officer

Elaine Mooney, Administrator



*The voice of Irish sport*

*"The reason sport is important to Ireland is because it gives hope in times of despair, joy in times of sadness and over the past number of years sport has been the one constant in an ever changing Ireland. People need sport, Ireland needs sport and the creation of a better Ireland will only be achieved with sport playing a central role."*

**AP McCoy**

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