

FEDERATION OF IRISH SPORT **REVIEW 2011**

## Delivering pride and passion at home and overseas

**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.**



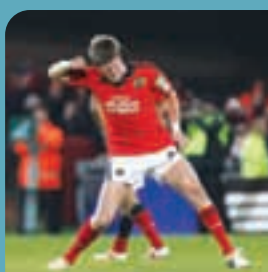
## Our Mission

The Federation of Irish Sport (the "Federation") was established by the National Governing Bodies of Sport ("NGBs") in 2002 to act as representative body for all sporting organisations and to provide an independent voice for sport.

Membership is open to NGBs as well as sporting organisations whose primary purpose is the promotion of sport and/or physical recreation on a non-commercial basis. The membership is currently comprised of in excess of 70 NGBs and 30 Local Sports Partnerships.

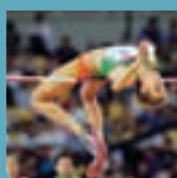
The Federation is committed to:-

- Representing the interests of the sporting community to government;
- Raising political awareness as to the benefit of sport as a force for good in society;
- Influencing the development of effective sports policy;
- Building the capacity of member organisations.



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# Delivering a strong return on investment

**In 2011 the Government invested €46.87 million in Irish sport. So what did the taxpayer get for their investment?**

- Irish sportsmen and sportswomen competed with distinction in 70 different countries around the world.
- 30 different sports hosted international events in Ireland.
- 280 million homes in 140 countries watched the Solheim Cup while a further 200 million in 100 countries watched the UEFA Europa League Final in the Aviva Stadium.
- Sports tourism generated in excess of €800 million.
- 1.4 million people tuned into the All Ireland Football Final.
- RTE TV dedicated 1,000 hours to sport in 2011 while the Irish Times carried over 2,000 pages of coverage of sport during the year.
- Ireland's cricket team made us all proud beating England at the World Cup in India, chasing down the biggest total in a World Cup ever to do so.
- Ireland's elite sportsmen and sportswomen won 56 medals at European or World Championship level over the past 12 months.
- Ireland's soccer team qualified for next year's Euro Championships. In 2008 the finals of the Euro Championships were watched by hundreds of millions of people worldwide with audience share regularly topping 70% in participating countries.
- Rory McIlroy and Darren Clarke won two of the season's four golf majors and in the process ensured that Ireland as a golf destination would be top of mind for golfers worldwide.
- 84% of the available TV audience tuned into Ireland's match against Australia in the Rugby World Cup whilst it was the most watched TV subscription programme in Australian TV history.
- Almost 40% of the population (1.7 million) participated in sport on a regular basis with a further 270,000 volunteers ensuring that Irish sport happened on a weekly basis.
- Sport stimulated €1.8 billion of household expenditure – and supports in excess 38,000 jobs.

**And that is only a small cross section of what sport delivered. Irish sport matters. In fact it has never mattered more!**



# Sport can be a catalyst for a better future

**Two years ago Irish Sport appealed to the government to recognise the importance of sport and what it does for our country.**

The appeal, which was on behalf of all in Irish sport, focused on protecting the funding for Irish sport and also the importance of giving sport a voice at the cabinet table. It was an appeal that was made again last year.

Funding to sport has been significantly reduced, falling from a peak of €311 million in 2008 to €86.4 million for 2011. The Sports Capital Programme has been suspended for 3 years and the construction of sporting facilities at the National Sports Campus has yet to commence. But more than that there has been a failure to engage with sport, to grasp sports potential as a force for good in our society not to mention a lack of acknowledgment of sports true impact away from the field of play.

A depressing scenario and one which was confirmed to us when sport, despite our request, was not deemed of sufficient worth to be included at the recent Global Economic Summit in Dublin Castle. We cannot change the past but like all committed sportspeople we would like to be involved in shaping the future and we believe sport can do

just that – help shape the future of our country.

We fully understand that these are difficult times for our country and that difficult decisions have to be taken. We are not asking to be treated differently. We are, however, asking that the powers that be listen to what we have to say for we truly believe that sport can have a major role to play as we look for ways out of our current plight.

Irish Sport strongly believes that sport can do a great deal more. We believe Irish sport can play a key role – in many different ways – as we face into the huge task of re-building confidence in Ireland and the Irish economy.

The Government has outlined some priorities in relation to sport. It would be our contention that these are in no way ambitious enough and they do not recognise the contribution sport can and indeed should play in the future of the country.

The Federation strongly believes that the Minister's priority should be to enable sport to deliver on its full potential for Ireland across a whole series of different headings. These include:-

- The improvement of public health
- The promotion of sports tourism

- The re-building of communities
- The creation of a more positive image for Ireland both domestically and internationally

Our vision is an Ireland in which sport is allowed realise its full potential. We believe the Government should support that view, embrace it and help us achieve it.

As we have said in recent years our goal has been to protect current funding for Irish sport and to ensure that sport continues to have a voice at the Cabinet table.

We now believe that our own ambitions are also too limited. Yes, of course, we need continued Government funding but then that is a good investment. Government investment is the seed capital that currently delivers a return of €149 for every €100 received.

Irish sport realises that the Government continues to have to make difficult decisions in relation to funding. Sport has already taken massive hits and we would contend that any further curtailment in the investment is going to damage sport – and its potential hugely.

## Irish Sport strongly believes it has a real role to play in...

## ...creating a positive image for Ireland

56 medals won by Irish athletes in international competition around the world in 2011.

We believe that as a priority the Government should bring together all of the key players in Irish sport with a view to developing a master plan for the next five years. Once agreed nothing should be done outside that master plan. It is about creating a vision for what sport in Ireland.

Sport knows best as to what it needs if it is to deliver on its potential. At the same time we readily acknowledge that if the Government is to continue funding it that guarantees are needed as to what the return might be.

In order to enable sport to deliver its full potential we believe that the Government needs to look seriously at a whole range of different objectives.

We understand that it is the government's intention to reintroduce a €30 million sports capital programme in 2012. It is vital that this money is allocated strategically in line with the needs and resources of the sports community to ensure that maximum value is derived from new and improved sporting facilities. We believe that in these times of limited resources that the Government must consult with the individual sports bodies regarding the proposed distribution of these monies. In this way the investment will be made where they can and will most benefit the further development of the sports. Sport is best positioned to assist government in ensuring the maximisation of the return on any such capital investment.

By including some of these in future plans it should be possible eventually to re-look at how sport is currently funded.

Among the areas that should be explored in any future plans for sport should be:

- National Governing Bodies must be asked to seriously input into the decision making process regarding the new round of the Sports Capital Programme to ensure maximum benefit to Irish Sport from any additional or improved facilities
- A commitment to review the current disbursement of National Lottery proceeds with a view to ring fencing a given annual percentage for sport.
- A plan to incentivise the private sector with a view to getting them to invest in sport. This must include a review of the exclusion of amateur sport from the definition of charitable purpose in the Charities Act 2009.
- The cultivation of philanthropy in sport.
- The linking of public health goals to sports participation ensuring that participation rates are measured annually to facilitate performance analysis. This should be underpinned by the development of a National Physical Activity Strategy which would include specified sports participation levels among both children and adults.

- The development of the National Sports Campus.
- The ensuring of accessibility of schools sports facilities to community based sports groups such as clubs.
- Increased involvement with the EU in relation to sport including facilitating access by Irish organisations to EU sports funding, ensuring Irish representatives at all EU meetings on sport and the hosting of the EU Sports Forum during the presidency of the EU.
- Development of a national sports inclusion policy with particular emphasis on people with disability.
- In conjunction with the Tourism Section of the Department expanding the sports tourism initiative including the development of a specific sports bidding entity (such as Sport Denmark which is now successful in two of every three bids it makes).
- The creation of a national sports intern scheme together with a sports qualification programme which would facilitate the obtaining of sports funding qualifications by the unemployed.

While looking into all of the above Government must prioritise current funding to sport as distributed through the Irish Sports Council. To cut the funding further would have disastrous effects for Irish sport and minimise sport's ability to deliver consistent returns for Ireland.

Signed by:

Páraic Duffy, GAA

John Delaney, FAI

Patrick Hickey, OCI

Matt English, Special Olympics

Philip Browne, IRFU

Pat Finn, GUI

Liam Harbison, Paralympics

Sarah O'Connor,  
Federation of Irish Sport

## ...enhancing public health

Regular participation in sport is equivalent to being 14 years younger in health terms.

## ...stimulating tourism

Sports Tourism is the fastest growing sector in the global travel industry worth \$600 billion per year.

## ...contributing to economic recovery

Sport in Ireland supports 38,500 jobs and contributes 1.4% to GDP.

# Restoring Confidence in Ourselves and the Economy



**Sarah O'Connor**  
CEO  
The Federation of Irish Sport

**Over the past two years the Federation has created an end of year document for submission to the Government. In the document we looked at how sport had performed over the past 12 months and in essence sought to demonstrate the value the government, and ultimately the taxpayer gets for the relatively small investment that the state makes annually in Irish sport.**

Given the current economic climate we feel that such a report, or annual report, as we like to think of it, is ever more essential. We do realise that funding in all areas is under pressure and that sport can not be an exception. We fully accept that.

At the same time we are very much of the opinion – and this is the opinion shared right across the Irish sporting community – that sport even in its current form provides terrific value for a state investment of less than €87 million annually.

It is an investment that is essential to the future well-being of Irish sport as it is the funding that initially provides the programmes that lead to sport unearthing new talents; talents that are then nurtured by the funding to create the high performance sportsmen and sportswomen that do our country proud year in year out.

It is an accepted fact throughout the sporting world that if we stop funding developmental programmes, even for a few years, that the effects will not be seen immediately but will be there for all to see in eight to ten years down the road.

I believe it is fair to say that if the Golfing Union of Ireland for instance were not in a position to fund their development programmes that we would not be experiencing the highs of recent years. When we have all been proud of the exploits of Padraig Harrington, Graeme McDowell, Rory McIlroy and Darren Clarke – all of whom have been quick to acknowledge the importance of the GUI in their early career path.

*Rory McIlroy, with the US Open trophy, and Darren Clarke, with the British Open trophy, before beginning their round's at the 2011 Discover Ireland Irish Open Golf Championship – Pro Am, Killarney Golf & Fishing Club, Killarney, Co. Kerry.*



*Ireland's Kevin O'Brien, who hit the quickest hundred in World Cup history, celebrates after their side's victory over England. 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup.*



The same story is seen throughout Irish sport. As you will see in this report the last twelve months have seen Irish sportsmen and sportswomen compete at the highest level all over the world and in doing so have raised all our spirits in these depressing times.

Who can forget the Irish cricket team beating England at the World Cup in India; Leinster winning the Heineken Cup; Munster the Magners League; Conor Niland putting Irish tennis on the world stage in Wimbledon and Flushing Meadow; our rugby team beating Australia in the World Cup in New Zealand; Rory McIlroy and Darren Clarke with their Open wins in the US and the UK, the Irish amateurs at the Walker Cup in Scotland; Ireland's soccer team perform heroically all over Europe; the boxers in Baku, or indeed, the emerging talent of Ireland's up and coming world class athletes including the Maguire Twins at the Junior Solheim Cup, Annalise Murphy continuing to take the sailing world by storm not to mention success on the track and in the pool at the European Youth Olympic Games in Turkey.

They all made us proud of being Irish and in the case of the diaspora provided a timely reminder of all the good things about Ireland.

And their exploits are of course only one apart of the Irish sporting story. It was also a year in which Ireland welcomed both the Solheim Cup and the UEFA Europa League Final – events which while not having Irish participants in them, beamed images of Ireland to countries all over the world, never mind attracting many visitors to our shores.

Sports tourism is the fastest growing niche in the global tourist industry and with a little more support could be a major factor in our economic recovery. We have the products – golfers worldwide want to play links golf and Ireland has some 30% of all the links courses in the world.

And the story does not end there. Sport should be for everyone and the more the government invests in general recreational sports programmes the better the health of the nation. In the UK it is estimated that physical inactivity costs up to 11% of the health budget. At a time when the experts are saying that Ireland is facing a major problem with obesity sport could and should be a highly cost effective and sustainable public health intervention.

As we have said many times in the past SPORT MATTERS. It is good for the economy; it enhances our image abroad; It has the potential to improve health; and in these difficult times it is one of the few areas that lights up the day and makes up feel better about ourselves and our future.

As I hope you will see in our annual report Irish sport is in a relatively healthy state. To remain there it does however require the government to engage more fully with it and to fully embrace its potential.



Sarah O'Connor,  
Federation of Irish Sport

**“Happily Irish Sport is in a relatively healthy state. To remain there it does however require the government to engage more fully with those involved across the sporting spectrum. Together we believe we can unlock the true potential of Irish Sport, a potential that can have a major role to play in restoring both our confidence and our economy.”**

*EURO 2012  
Qualifiers Play-Off*

*Estonia vs Republic  
of Ireland – Ireland's  
Robbie Keane scores  
a penalty.*



*Alan Brogan,  
Dublin, celebrates  
at the final whistle.  
GAA Football  
All-Ireland Senior  
Championship Final,  
Kerry v Dublin, Croke  
Park, Dublin.*





# Generating a return on investment

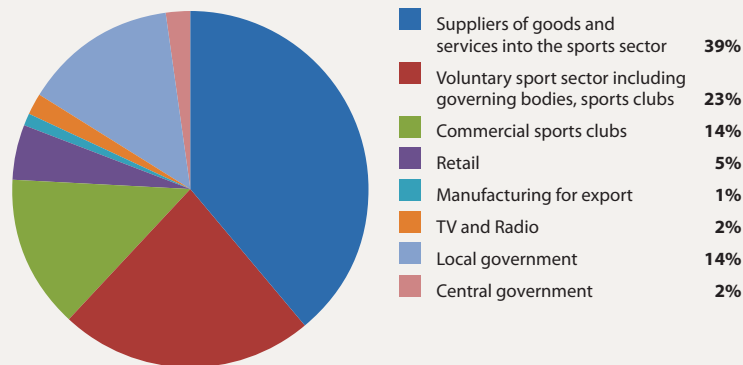
**In straightened times such as those currently being faced by Ireland it is important that we all play our part to try a help create a better Ireland. Sport is keenly aware of this reality. Sport is however dependent on Government to assist in developing the environment in which to allow sport to flourish.**

This is because the impact of sport stretches well beyond the white lines of any sports field or the walls of any sports facility. Sport is a contributor to Ireland's economy delivering a return on every euro invested. The sports industry globally is valued at \$114 billion and is growing. Its value is expected to reach \$133 billion by 2013.

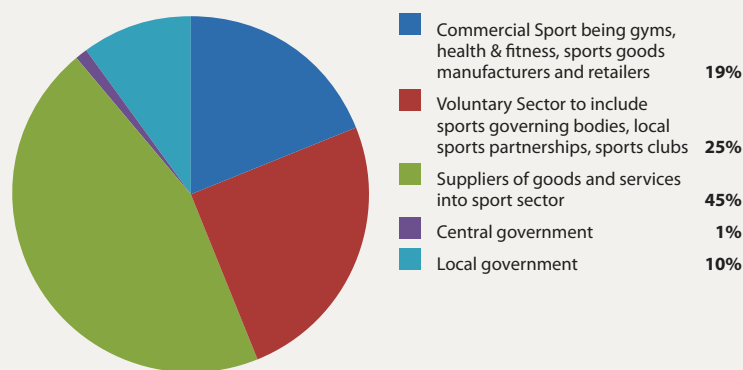
In Ireland sport has not traditionally been seen as an industry. This is perhaps because sport in Ireland is largely fuelled by a volunteer effort. The reality is however that it is a valuable contributor to the Irish economy.

Sports contribution to Ireland's economy is facilitated by a total government investment in 2011 of €86 million of which the €46.87 million distributed through the Irish Sports Council is the vital seed capital from which all else follows. A return to the Exchequer of €149 for every €100 invested.

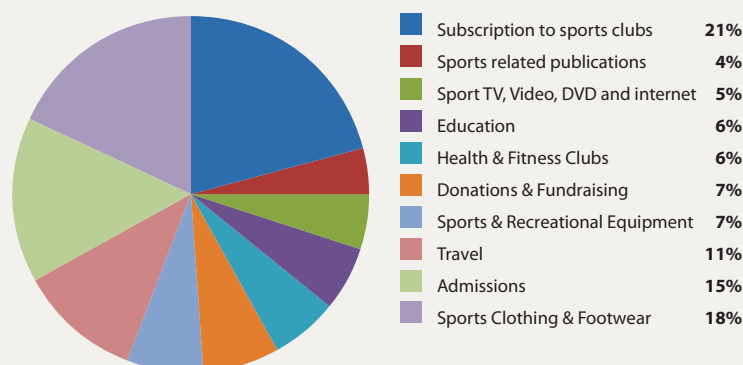
**Sport and sport related spending supports in excess of 38,000 jobs equalling 2% of total Irish employment:**



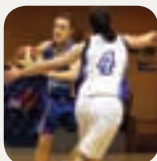
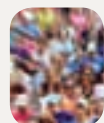
**Sport contributes €1.8 billion to GDP made up of:**



**Sport and sport related spending stimulates €1.9 billion of household spending each year:**



*Graphs reproduced from the Indecon Assessment of the Economic Impact of Sport In Ireland with the permission of the Irish Sports Council.*





# €494m

the amount spent by hikers/  
walkers in Ireland each year



# €3m

dividend to Donegal from  
hosting of Euro Surf Team  
Championships



# €110m

value of golf tourism  
to Ireland each year



# €46.87m

2011 budget of Irish Sports Council



# €25m

Economic impact on Dublin  
from Europa League Final



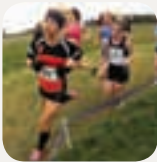
# €132m

spent by anglers visiting  
Ireland each year



# €8.5m

estimated dividend  
to Dublin businesses  
as a result of Dublin's  
victory in the All Ireland  
Final



# €60m

media value of coverage  
received by Ireland due to  
international broadcasting  
of Solheim Cup



# €322m

minimum value of sport-  
related volunteering activity  
to Ireland

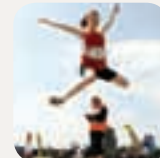
# €51m

value to Dublin of the  
2011 Ireland v England  
Six Nations Match



# €1.4b

estimate of the amount  
spend by the Dept. of  
Health due to physical  
inactivity



# €114m

spend by cycling tourists in  
Ireland each year

# A more active Ireland is a healthier Ireland

**The WHO provide that 6% of deaths globally are due to physical inactivity. In Australia it estimate that for every 1% of the population that becomes physically active 127 deaths from cardiovascular disease, diabetes and certain cancers can be avoided.**

Obesity is becoming an increasing problem in Ireland with 1 in 5 Irish children and adults being obese. €400 million is spent each year on treating obesity. People who engage in moderate physical activity are 14 years younger in health terms than those who do nothing at all.

There are therefore significant short, medium & long term benefits to our public health system from getting more Irish people physically active more often. Irish Sport is looking to play its part...

- 367,000 children took part in more than 48,000 "Go Game Blitzes" run by the GAA
- FAI have implemented the Buntús Programme in over 1,500 primary schools in the Republic of Ireland in local sports partnership areas
- 185,080 people took part in Athletics Ireland Licensed Events from 5k to Marathons
- Youth Rugby has grown by 27% since 2009
- 30% growth in the number of registered women soccer players since 2008
- 28 new clubs and 614 new athletes have been added to the Special Olympics programme in the last 12 months
- Connacht branch of the Cricket Ireland established due to the growth of the game in the region
- 1,006 GAA Cúl Camps took place with 80,000 children participating
- Participation in Judo on track to increase 22% in 2011
- 27,000 entries into Basketball Ireland's national cups last year
- Over 600 new children provided with an opportunity to play table tennis through the Junior Challenger Series together with a 16% increase in the number of girls playing competitions
- 5 new swimming clubs established with over 60 training courses delivered nationwide to qualify coaches and teachers

- 1,127,500 people use Dublin City Council sport and leisure facilities
- Over 1200 involved in Irish Water Safety Events in 2011
- Growth in number of affiliated triathlon clubs from 45 to 61 with a 10% increase in overall membership
- The GUI's Most Improved Golfer Programme saw entries in excess of 6,500
- Over 300 primary school children in 10 schools participated in the Irish American Football Associations Schools Flag Football Programme
- An Post Meath Heritage Cycle Tour has seen increase of 519% in participation since 2009.







# 185,080

people took part in Athletics Ireland Licensed Events from 5k to Marathons

# 600

Over 600 new children provided with an opportunity to play table tennis through the Junior Challenger Series together with a 16% increase in the number of girls playing competitions

# 10%

Growth in number of affiliated triathlon clubs from 45 to 61 with a 10% increase in overall membership

# 367,000

children took part in more than 48,000 "Go Game Blitzs" run by the GAA

# 28

new clubs and 614 new athletes have been added to the Special Olympics programme in the last 12 months

# 27%

growth in youth rugby since 2009



# Irish Sport something for everyone

While everyone enjoys basking in the successes of Irish Sport both at home and abroad, the foundation of all of Irish sport lies in the work carried out day in day out in every area of the country.

For every sportsman, sportswoman or team we celebrate for making it to the top there are literally hundreds of thousands of men, women and children enjoying the camaraderie, the craic and the challenges provided by sport at all levels throughout the country.

Just think, some 1,700,000 people on this island participate in active sport at some level across over 70 different sports week in week out every year. That they are enabled to do so is down to the innovative programs devised by sports' governing bodies, and the Local Sport's Partnerships, and delivered by the 270,000 volunteers that week in week out are there to give advice, prepare facilities and supervise training and games and thus ensure SPORT HAPPENS.

And it does happen in parks, in pools, on sea, on shore in proper sports grounds, in village halls and in a myriad of different locations.

Sport thrives in communities the length and breadth of the land – it binds communities and helps us all through the dark days.

For most boys and girls sport starts at primary school level where teachers first introduce them to the at least one sport. The next step is generally to join a local club where a wider range of skills are acquired. These are then supplemented at secondary level where new sports

are often introduced, then honed in one of the more than 12,000 sports clubs dotted across Ireland.

The seeds have been sown and hopefully nurtured. By now the truly talented will normally have been selected to join an academy or an elite programme.

For everyone else there are their own version of 'playing for Ireland', 'winning an All Ireland' or 'competing in the Olympic Games'.

What Junior soccer player does not covet winning their own league or cup, or better still winning an FAI Junior Cup medal?

What club GAA player does not dream of winning a county title or playing in an ALL Ireland Club final at Croke Park?

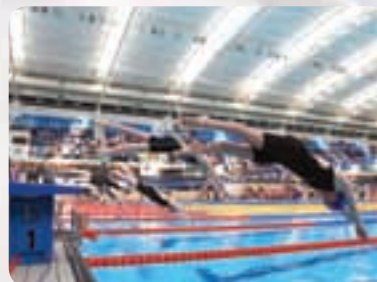
For rugby there is an AIL title or even an Irish cap playing for the club international side!

Every sport has its own Everest, and its more minor peaks to conquer. Everyone has their dream!

It is all part of the rich canvas of Irish sporting life. Sport also drives domestic tourism. In Canada it is estimated that 38% of domestic tourism is directly attributable to sport.

**All of this adds to the revenues generated by sport at every single level never mind the huge contribution sport also makes to the health of the nation.**

- 141 sanctioned Triathlons took place across Ireland in 2011
- 93 athletic clubs nationwide offering Fit4Life Training to recreational runners
- 597 Teams took part in the FAI Junior Cup
- 2652 matches in the Ulster Bank All Ireland Rugby League
- 20,000 Camogie fixtures
- 114 Special Olympics Events
- 2,000 sailors compete in Dublin Bay on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays during the summer season
- 565 clubs play over 10,500 hockey matches each year
- 25,075 people took part in 36 Athletics Ireland events hosted nationwide
- 2,042 entries into National Swimming Galas.







# 70

different sports played in  
more than 12,000 clubs

# 130,000- 150,000

competitive GAA fixtures  
each year

# 38%

of all domestic tourism in  
Canada directly attributable  
to sport



**Consistent  
& sustained  
international  
success**



**56**

medals at all levels across  
all sports in 2011





# Being the best that we can be

Sport allows people to dream. We need to give our sportspeople just like Ireland itself the opportunity to reach their full potential. Government investment in Irish Sport commenced in 1997. The high performance systems currently in place across our Olympic sports were put in place following the Athens Games in 2004. The results of that investment are now being seen with increased consistency in performance on the international stage across all sports.

**One year out from the Beijing Olympics Irish athletes won 19 medals at all levels across all sports that figure for 2011 is 56...**

BRIAN GREGAN	ATHLETICS	SILVER MEDAL AT EUROPEAN U23 ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
BEN KIELY	ATHLETICS	GOLD MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS
MEGAN KIELY	ATHLETICS	BRONZE MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS
KARL GRIFFIN	ATHLETICS	BRONZE MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS
SARAH LAVIN	ATHLETICS	BRONZE MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS
RUAIRI FINNEGAN	ATHLETICS	GOLD MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS
SIOFRA CLEIRIGH BUTTNER	ATHLETICS	SILVER MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS
CIARA MAGEEAN	ATHLETICS	SILVER MEDAL AT EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
KATE VEALE	ATHLETICS	GOLD MEDAL WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS
CATHERINE WALSH	CYCLING	MEDAL AT UCI WORLD TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS
SHANNON MCCURLEY	CYCLING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN U23 TRACK CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS
MARK ROHAN	CYCLING	GOLD MEDAL AT PARACYCLING WORLD CUP
MARK ROHAN	CYCLING	GOLD MEDAL AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (ROAD)
MARK ROHAN	CYCLING	GOLD MEDAL AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (TT)
CATHERINE WALSH	CYCLING	BRONZE MEDAL AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
COLIN LYNCH	CYCLING	GOLD MEDAL AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
TEAM IRELAND	HORSE SPORT	EUROPEAN CHILDREN ON HORSES JUMPING TEAM GOLD
TEAM IRELAND	HORSE SPORT	SILVER MEDAL TEAM EUROPEAN JUMPING PONY CHAMPIONSHIPS
TEAM IRELAND	HORSE SPORT	SILVER MEDAL YOUNG RIDER EUROPEAN EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIPS
DAVID HANNIGAN	HORSE SPORT	BRONZE MEDAL YOUNG RIDER EUROPEAN EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIPS
BERTRAM ALLEN	HORSE SPORT	SILVER MEDAL INDIVIDUAL EUROPEAN JUMPING PONY CHAMPIONSHIPS
TEAM IRELAND	HORSE SPORT	SILVER MEDAL TEAM EUROPEAN EVENTING PONY CHAMPIONSHIPS
JODIE O'KEEFE	HORSE SPORT	BRONZE MEDAL INDIVIDUAL EUROPEAN EVENTING PONY CHAMPIONSHIPS
HELEN KEARNEY	HORSE SPORT	BRONZE MEDAL PARA EQUESTRIAN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
RAY MOYLETTE	BOXING	GOLD MEDAL AT EUROPEAN BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
JOE WARD	BOXING	GOLD MEDAL AT EUROPEAN BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
JOHN NEVIN	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN JUNIOR BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
LUKE THOMAS	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN JUNIOR BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
MARTIN CONROY	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN JUNIOR BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
MICHAEL O'REILLY	BOXING	SILVER MEDAL EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS
GARY SWEENEY	BOXING	SILVER MEDAL EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS
JOE FITZPATRICK	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS
JACK MORRISSEY	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS
STEPHEN BROADHURST	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS
MICHAELA WALSH	BOXING	BRONZE WOMENS WORLD YOUTH BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
KATIE ROWLAND	BOXING	BRONZE WOMENS WORLD YOUTH BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
AUSTEJA ACCUEITA	BOXING	BRONZE WOMENS WORLD YOUTH BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
JOHN JOE NEVIN	BOXING	BRONZE MEDAL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
KATIE TAYLOR	BOXING	GOLD MEDAL EUROPEAN BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS
BRENDAN CUSACK	FENCING	BRONZE MEDAL AT JUNIOR WORLD CUP
JENNY EGAN	CANOEING	SILVER MEDAL AT CANOE WORLD CUP
LISA MAGUIRE	GOLF	GOLD MEDAL EUROPEAN AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS
STEPHANIE MEADOWS	GOLF	SILVER MEDAL EUROPEAN AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS
ANNALISE MURPHY	SAILING	BRONZE MEDAL IN SAIL FOR GOLD REGATTA
SEAFRA GUILFOYLE	SAILING	SILVER MEDAL EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
PATRICK CROSBIE	SAILING	BRONZE MEDAL TOPPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
MICHAEL MCKILLOP	ATHLETICS – PARALYMPICS	GOLD MEDAL AT IPC WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
CATHERINE O'NEILL	ATHLETICS – PARALYMPICS	MEDAL AT IPC WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS
BETHANY FIRTH	SWIMMING – PARALYMPICS	SILVER MEDAL AT EUROPEAN SWIM CHAMPIONSHIPS
DARRAGH MCDONALD	SWIMMING – PARALYMPICS	BRONZE MEDAL AT EUROPEAN SWIM CHAMPIONSHIPS
SIOBHAN MCCROHAN	ROWING	BRONZE MEDAL ROWING WORLD CUP
HOLLY NIXON	ROWING	SILVER MEDAL ROWING WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
SYCERIKI MCMAHON	SWIMMING	GOLD MEDAL AT SWIMMING EUROPEAN JUNIORS
SYCERIKI MCMAHON	SWIMMING	GOLD MEDAL AT SWIMMING EUROPEAN JUNIORS
SYCERIKI MCMAHON	SWIMMING	SILVER MEDAL AT SWIMMING EUROPEAN JUNIORS
BRIAN O'SULLIVAN	SWIMMING	BRONZE MEDAL AT EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPICS

## Flying the flag for Ireland around the world

**During the course of 2011 Irish sportsmen and sportswomen, competing both individually or as members of teams, proudly represented Ireland in over 70 (yes SEVENTY) countries worldwide from Andorra to Zimbabwe, across every Continent. As ever wherever they appeared they proved to be wonderful ambassadors for our country.**

And wherever they competed they were joined by the wider family of Irish fans, there to support them in their efforts and to ensure that everyone knew about this small country of ours that has forever boxed above its weight in the world of sport. While it can be often taken for granted our fans also are ambassadors and continue to do us proud in the way the support their heroes.

While many travel from Ireland in support of their favorite teams and individuals recent years have seen an upsurge in support as members of the vast Irish diaspora join in to re-affirm their Irishness and to ensure that no one can be in doubt that the Irish are in town.

One has only to think back to the recent Rugby World Cup in New Zealand when it seemed that every stadium in which Ireland played became a home stadium, a sea of green and a source of pride for the country. Just ask a New Zealander who their favourite visiting fans were!

Today Ireland continues to create a real impression in sport all over the world. Who would ever have foreseen the progress made by our cricketers. They beat England in India – an emerging world economy and probably the most passionate cricket nation in the world!

You could not buy that publicity.

Rory McIlroy, winning the US Open – Ireland winning six majors in five years. Katie Taylor winning another title. Aileen Morrisson recovering from injury to return to World Cup Triathlon Podiums, Lisa & Leona Maguire setting ladies amateur golf alight, Madeline Perry reaching a career high ranking of 3rd in the World, Declan Lynch & Billy Twomey in the top 10 of the World Showjumping Rankings, Sean O'Brien named as European Rugby Player of the Year. The list is endless.

Fantastic ambassadors one and all – and all helped on the way by their respective governing bodies and the funding invested in Irish sport over the years

**Our international sportspersons at all levels represent Ireland across the globe every year acting as some of the very best ambassadors a country could hope to have. This year sport took Ireland to:**

**Andorra**  
Olympic Handball  
Euro 2012 Qualifier

**Argentina**  
World Amateur Golf  
Team Championship

**Antigua**  
Antigua Sailing Week  
2011

**Armenia**  
Euro 2010 Qualifier

**Australia**  
ISSF Rifle/Pistol/  
Shotgun World Cup  
Triathlon World Cup  
Event  
Gold Coast Swimming  
Invitational  
UCI Paracycling World  
Cup  
IPC Shooting World  
Cup  
Mirror Class Sailing  
World Championships

**Austria**  
Special Olympics  
European Alpine Skiing  
Event

**Azerbaijan**  
World Boxing  
Championships

**Bahrain**  
Volvo Golf Champions

**Belgium**  
Hasselt Youth Table  
Tennis Open

Belgian Swimming  
Nationals  
FEI ParaEquestrian  
European  
Championships  
5 Star FEI Show  
Jumping World Cup

Para Dressage  
European  
Championships

**Brazil**  
World Military Games  
World Rally  
Championship

**Bulgaria**  
Biathlete World  
Championships  
IIHF World Women's  
Championship  
Division V

**Canada**  
Canadian Swimming  
Nationals  
UCI Paracycling World  
Cup

**Chile**  
ISSF Shotgun World  
Cup

**China**  
ISSF Shotgun World  
Cup  
World University  
Games  
ITU Continental Cup  
Event  
World Swimming  
Championships  
Pentathlon World Cup  
Tour of China

**Costa Rica**  
Costa Rica Tennis Open

**Czech Republic**  
European Veterans  
Table Tennis  
Championships  
NBTA European  
Championships  
European Boys Golf  
Team Championship  
European Youth  
Orienteering  
Championships  
European U 23  
European Athletics  
Championships  
Sprint Canoe K1 5km  
I.C.F World Cup  
IWAS World Juniors  
Games

**Croatia**  
ITTA Paralympic  
European  
Championships  
IIHF World  
Championship  
Division II

ISAF Youth World  
(Sailing)

**Cyprus**  
U-21 Men's Football  
Team

**Denmark**  
European Deaf Football  
Championship  
European Junior  
Lifesaving  
Championships  
UCI World Paracycling  
Road World  
Championships

**Dominican Republic**  
Racquetball Junior  
World Championships

**Dubai**  
Six team women's  
cricket tournament  
IWAS World Junior  
Games

**Ecuador**  
Ecuador Tennis Open

**England**  
ICTSC Home Countries  
International  
Tournament  
ECB Women's Cricket  
County Championship  
Triathlon World  
Championship Series  
Lakenheath  
Racquetball Open  
Pentathlon World  
Cup Final  
European Pentathlon  
Championships  
NBTA International  
Championships  
IFDS World Sailing  
Championships  
British Amateur  
Golf Championship  
5 Star FEI Show  
Jumping World Cup  
British Open  
Championship  
World Junior Rowing  
Championships  
Wimbledon

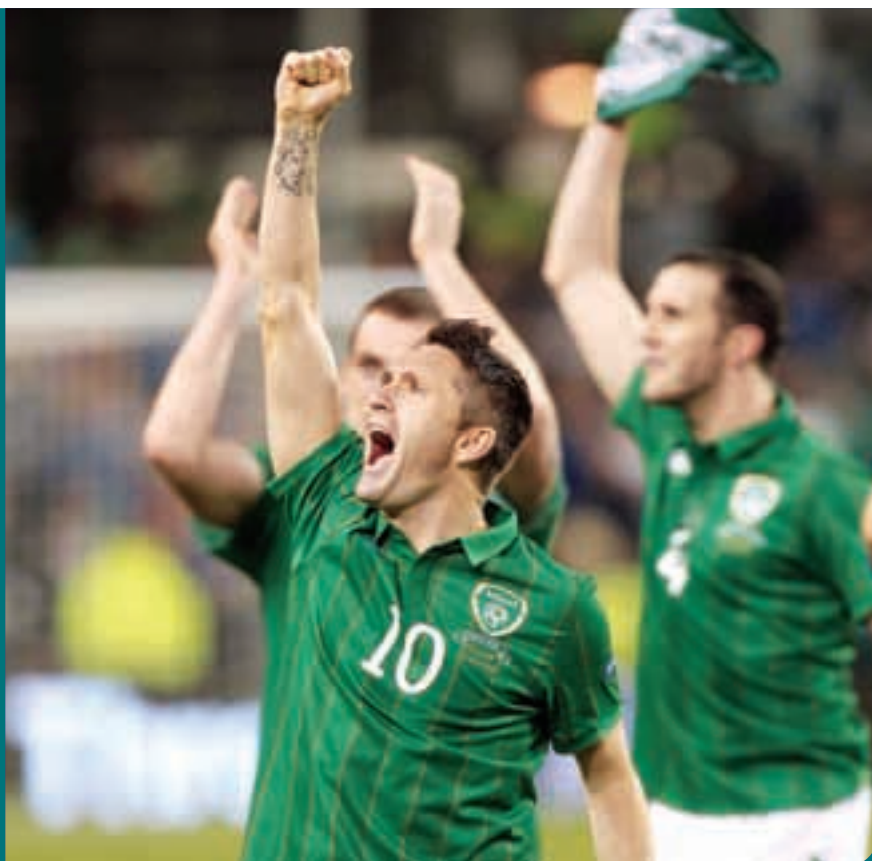
*Republic of Ireland captain  
Robbie Keane leads the team  
in celebration after qualifying  
for EURO 2012*

# 70

During the course of 2011 Irish sportsmen and sportswomen, competing both individually or as members of teams, proudly represented Ireland in over 70 countries worldwide

# 2nd

Ireland were widely seen as the New Zealand's second favourite team at the Rugby World Cup 2011



Badminton World Championships

#### **Estonia**

Euro 2012 Qualifier

#### **Finland**

EUC Futsal

Nordic tour World Orienteering Cup Events

5 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

Squash European Team Championships

#### **France**

U18 FIRA European Championships

FITASC World Championships

Mountaineering Ireland International Meet

FIH Champions Challenge II

Insep Invitation Hockey 6 Nations

Ozone Chabre Open Paragliding Competition in Laragne

French Pentathlon Open

World Orienteering Championships

Nimes International Archery Tournament

European Field Archery Championships

5 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

World Fencing Championships

Six Nations Rugby

World Youth Athletics Championships

Papa Archery European Championships

#### **Germany**

European Wrestling Championships

Triathlon World Championship Series

Flensburg Youth Table Tennis Open

European Hockey Championships

Hamburg Racquetball Open

European Racquetball Championships

FINA/Arena World Cup

German Pentathlon Open

IPC Swimming

European Championships

5 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

#### **Greece**

Special Olympics World Summer Games

#### **Guernsey**

ICC European U17 Challenge Series

#### **Hong Kong**

Hong Kong Squash Open

#### **Hungary**

ETU Junior European Cup

Triathlon World Cup Event

Hungarian Indoor Pentathlon Championships

European Youth A Pentathlon Championships

European Young Golf Masters

#### **India**

ICC Cricket World Cup

#### **Isle of Man**

Isle of Man TT

#### **Isle of Wight**

Commodores Cup

#### **Israel**

European Open Water Cup

European Open Water Championships

#### **Italy**

IRB Junior World Cup

FITASC European Championships

Italian Racquetball Open

Seven Hills Swimming Meet

Pentathlon World Cup UCI World Paracycling Track Championships

World Coarse Fishing Championships

World Feeder Fishing Championships

Italian U16 Golf Championship

Archery World Championships

5 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

Six Nations Rugby

#### **Japan**

Triathlon World Championship Series

Triathlon World Cup Event

ITU Continental Cup Event

#### **Jersey**

ICC European U19 Challenge Series

#### **Jordan**

World Rally Championship – Kevin Meeke & Paul Nagle

#### **Kazakhstan**

Judo World Cup

#### **Kenya**

ITU Continental Cup Event

#### **Korea**

World University Equestrian Championship

ITU Continental Cup Event

Para Table Tennis World Championships

#### **Liechtenstein**

UEFA U-21 Qualifier

#### **Lithuania**

Scott Evans – Lithuanian International 2011

#### **Luxembourg**

Luxembourg Table Tennis Open

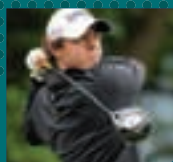
#### **Macedonia**

European U-16 Boys Basketball Championships

#### **Malaysia**

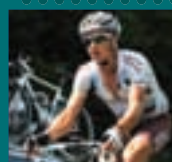
Maybank Malaysian Squash Open





**PGA Tour Chief of Operations, Andy Pazder speaking on Rory McIlroy's decision to re-join the PGA Tour in 2012**

*"Rory is an immense talent and for a person to win the U.S. Open by eight shots, he certainly captivated the fans in the U.S. and frankly around the world. So to have him potentially as a member next year is very important, and if it works out we will be quite happy with that."*



**Nicholas Roche on competing in the Irish National Championships, July 2011**

*I remember former pro Mark Scanlon saying that winning the nationals and getting to wear the shamrock jersey for a year was like having a target on your back in the pro races, but I think it's important for the Irish jersey to be seen in the big pro races and was disappointed not to be able to wear it in this year's Tour. The nationals though, were a perfect exercise to finish off my pre-Tour preparation.*



**James Cluskey speaking about Conor Niland, becoming the 1st Irishman to qualify for the main draw at Wimbledon since 1984**

*"Seeing him there was special. I knew he could do it. We all knew he could do it. I was playing with Sam (Barry) at a futures in Spain when it was going on, you know a 10k (€10,000 prize fund). It was tough. The conditions were tough. The hotel was not that good. I remember talking to him (Conor). He'd been there. He'd been through all that and he's come out the other side. It made us proud. It was special just seeing one of our own there."*



**www.centralsportsnews.com on Katie Taylor's 5th European Championship win**

*"The third round was another cagey affair. However, Taylor, once again showing remarkable composure, patiently build on her advantage en route to a unprecedented haul of European gold medals for an Irish athlete. The Bray woman, who was boxing out of the blue corner tonight, has now won three World, five European and four European Union titles – all in-a-row."*

## Flying the flag for Ireland around the world (continued)

### Mexico

Triathlon World Cup Event

IIHF World U18 Championship Division III

### Monaco

5 Star Show Jumping World Cup Qualifier

### Morocco

ITU Continental Cup Event

### Netherlands

ICC European Women's Cricket Championship

World Table Tennis Championships

Target Shooting

European Short Course Championships

European Open Water Cup

CPIRSA 7-Side World Championships

European Amateur Golf Championships  
European Junior Lazer Championships

### New Zealand

ICTSF World Sporting Championships

IPC Athletics World Championships

Rugby World Cup

### Norway

WBTF World Championships

Nordic tour World Orienteering Cup Events

5 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

### Peru

World Junior Surfing Championship

### Philippines

ITU Continental Cup Event

World Junior Swimming Championships

### Poland

Polish Senior Pentathlon Championships

European Junior Pentathlon Championships

Junior World Orienteering Champs

3 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

European Eventing Pony Champs

### Portugal

FINA Open Water World Cup

European Amateur Team Golf Championship

Portuguese Amateur Golf Championship

### Portugal O Week

European Show Jumping Championships

Junior European Eventing Championships

### Qatar

Qatar Open Squash  
U-15 Youth Football Team

### Romania

European U-16 Girls Basketball Championships

### Russia

Senior Pentathlon World Championships

Table Tennis European Youth Championships

European Football Championship Qualifiers

### Scotland

ICTSC Home Countries International Tournament

Cricket Tri-Nations Series

Women's Hockey Celtic Cup

Celtic up Triangular Coarse Fishing Event  
Dundee Stars' Spring Classic Ice Hockey Tournament

Four Nations U16 Development Golf Matches

Six Nations Rugby

Scottish 6 Day Orienteering Competition

Young Rider European Eventing Championships

Shinty International

### Serbia

European Junior Swimming Championships

### Singapore

Singapore Masters Squash

### Slovenia

ISSF Shotgun World Cup

ESC European Championships

WUC Golf

FISA World Rowing Championships

FIG Salamunov Memorial World Series Cup

### South Korea

World Athletics Championships



Madeline Perry claimed her ninth WISPA title at the CIMB Singapore Masters, fighting past giant-killer Laura Massaro in the final. Perry may not have been many people's favourite for the title at the start of week, coming into the tournament having lost in straight games to Joelle King in the first round of the CIMB Malaysian Open the previous week. However, as she has shown time and again in the last few years, at the age of 34 she is still at the top of her game.

**RTE Sport on Madeline Perry's Victor at the CIMB Singapore Masters in August 2011**

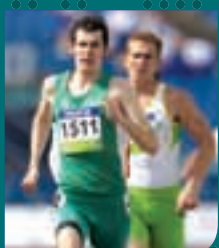


Ireland's Kevin O'Brien hit the fastest hundred in World Cup history to sentence shell-shocked England to an astounding three-wicket defeat at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium tonight. O'Brien (113) came to the crease when damage limitation seemed the best his team could hope for, after they lost three wickets for eight runs to falter to 111 for five in apparently vain pursuit of 327 for eight. But he responded with an innings of immense power, smashing six sixes and 13 fours in a 50-ball hundred and dominating a stand of 162 in 17 overs with Alex Cusack (47).

**The London Independent on Ireland's win over England at the ICC Cricket World Cup, March 2011**

"Sometimes it can be more difficult when you are expected to deliver but Michael executed his plan perfectly and the result is a much appreciated gold medal for the Irish – and a world record," he said.

**Irish Team Manger James Nolan speaking about Michael McKillop's gold medal at the IPC World Athletic Championships held in Christchurch, January 2011**



The victory at Eden Park painted the roads out of Sandringham green as the Blarney Army marched into downtown Auckland to roar about their role in their team's success.

**New Zealand Herald on the Irish Support at the Ireland v Australia match at RWC, 2011**



#### South Africa

Alfred Dunhill Championship & South African Open – Golf

#### Spain

European University Championships Beach Volleyball

European Junior Triathlon Championships

European Triathlon Championships

ITU Continental Cup Event

Men's Hockey Test series against The Netherlands

Spanish Swimming Nationals

Mare Nostrum Swimming Meet

Sant Boi Pentathlon International

European Lifesaving Championships

UCI Paracycling World Cup

IPC Shooting World Cup

Spanish Amateur Golf Championship

European Show Jumping Championships

#### Sri Lanka

Women's Cricket Quad Series

#### Sweden

World Transplant Games

FINA/Arena World Cup

Nordic tour World Orienteering Cup Events

Swedish O-Ringen

5 Star Show Jumping World Cup Qualifier

World Transplant Games

#### Switzerland

EUC Tennis

World Triathlon Sprint Championship

World Triathlon Team Championship

Deaf Futsal Championship

NBTA World Championships

5 Star FEI Show Jumping World Cup

Rowing World Cup

#### Thailand

Thailand Open, Tennis

Trinidad and Tobago

FIFA Women's U17 World Cup

#### Turkey

World Wrestling Championships

2011 Winter University Games

ITU Continental Cup Event

European Open Water Cup

European Youth Olympics Festival

Archery World Cup

European Boxing Championships

Womens World Youth Boxing Championships

#### USA

Racquetball Junior World Championships

Indianapolis Swimming Grand Prix

Charlotte Ultraswim

Pentathlon World Cup

WBTF International Cup

America Junior Golf Championship

US Golf Open

Dressage World Cup Qualifier

US Tennis Open

#### Ukraine

Kharov Badminton International 2011

#### UAE

2 Star Arab World Cup Show Jumping League

#### Wales

ICTSC Home Countries International Tournament

Men's Hockey Celtic Cup

Celtic Swimming Tri-Nations

Celtic Cup Surf Lifesaving Championships

Boys Golf Home Internationals

Orienteering Home International

Heineken Cup Final

Six Nations Rugby

#### Zimbabwe

ICC Intercontinental Cup

ODI Cricket Series

# Playing host to the world in Ireland

**Sport brings people to Ireland. An estimated 143,000 golfers visit each year creating an economic dividend of €110 million. Visiting cyclists spend €114 million, hikers and walkers €494 million and anglers €132. Research from the British Tourism Authority indicates that a “sports tourist” spends approximately £900 per trip as opposed to the £500 spend per trip by an “ordinary tourist”. So whilst our athletes fly the flag for Ireland around the world sport also succeeds in bringing the world to Ireland...**

## Clare:

European Powerboat Racing Championships

## Cork:

Team Racing World Championships (Sailing)

Sovereigns Cup (Sailing)

Bord Gais Cork City Marathon

6 Munster Rugby Matches

Cork City Sports (Athletics)

## Donegal:

European Team Surfing Championships

## Dublin:

Europa League Final

Star European Championships (Sailing)

Topper World Championships (Sailing)

European Croquet Championships

International Rules Series

Davis Cup (Tennis)

European Flag Football Development Conference (American Football)

Men's 4 Nations Championships (Hockey)

FIH ESB Electric Ireland Men & Women

Champions Challenge (Hockey)

European Youth Boxing Championships

Euro 2010 Qualifying Matches against

8 Rugby Internationals

National Lottery Race Series & Marathon

Hungry v Great Britain Water Polo Training Camp & International Fixtures

Dublin International Horse Show – FEI Nation's Cup

All Ireland Football & Hurling Championships

17 matches involving Leinster Rugby

U19 World Cup Global Qualifier (Cricket)

13 Men Senior International Soccer Fixtures

5 Women's Senior International Soccer Fixtures

Irish Open (Tennis)

Irish Open (Squash)

Kickboxing World Championships

Liffey Descent (Canoeing)

Players Tour Championship Final (Snooker)

WDF World Championship (Darts)

BWF Yonex Irish International

(Badminton)

All Ireland Football & Hurling Finals

Lingafit International Training Camp (Judo)

Women's Six Nations Championship

**Galway:**

17 Connacht Rugby Fixtures

Galway Ironman

Connemara Marathon

## Kerry:

Irish Open (Golf)

Rás na mBan – international women's stage cycling race

An Post Rás (cycling)

## Limerick:

International Rules Series

Junior & Cadet Six Nations Table Tennis Championships

European Duathlon Championships

14 Munster Rugby matches

Ballyhoura International Walking Festival

## Longford:

Clay Pigeon Olympic Skeet Home Countries International Tournament

## Louth:

European Badminton Senior Championships

## Mayo:

Gaelforce West – the largest one day adventure race of its kind in the world

## Meath:

Clay Pigeon Home Countries International Tournament

Irish Ladies Open (Golf)

Solheim Cup

Tattersalls International Horse Show

## Sligo:

Fireball World Championships (Sailing)

Golf Home International Series

## Waterford:

Sean Kelly Tour of Waterford (cycling)

## Wexford:

European DTL Championships (Clay Pigeon Shooting)

Wexford International Lifesaving Competition

# \$600bn

the value of the global sports tourism industry

# 66%

success rate of Sports Event Denmark – a joint venture between the Danish Government & Sport – in bidding for sports events

# €3m

dividend to Donegal from hosting of European Team Surfing Championships in Bundoran





## A diverse sporting community

# Creating a return on the taxpayer's investment

The monies invested by the taxpayer in the Irish Sports Council allow it to distribute core, high performance and women in sport grants to the National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships the proceeds of which are the seed capital for all else that follows.

### Angling Council of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €15,000

The Irish Shore Angling team won the 2010 World Championships in South Africa

### Athletics Association of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €976,679

High Performance Funding – €831,000

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €301,250

Women in Sport Funding – €40,000

Kate Veale won the gold medal in the 5km walk at the World Youth Championships

### Australian Rules Football League of Ireland

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

Both the Irish Senior Men and Ladies Australian Rules Football teams won their respective AFL International Cups

### Badminton Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €334,902

High Performance Funding – €70,000

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €63,500

Women in Sport Funding – €86,000

Niall McVeigh won the 2011 Parabadminton Singles World Championship

### Basketball Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €590,349

Women in Sport Funding – €227,040

Capacity attendance at the Basketball Ireland National Cup Finals which were shown live on TV

### Baton Twirling Association of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €13,849

Women in Sport Funding – €5,000

Three medals at the NBTA European Championships in the Czech Republic

### Bowling

Richard Leonard became the first Bowling League of Ireland player to win the British Isles Singles title



### Bowling League of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €26,000

Richard Leonard became the first Bowling League of Ireland player to win the British Isles Singles title

### Camogie Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €169,826

Women in Sport Funding – €19,000

Over 20,000 camogie games were played across all levels throughout Ireland during 2011

### Cerebral Palsy Sport Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €58,314

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €124,000

19 teams took part in the 5th National Boccia League – up from 4 in the opening season

### Colleges and Universities Sports Association of Ireland

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

Five Irish records were broken at the World University Games in Shenzhen, China

### Community Games

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

Core Grant Funding – €283,800

Women in Sport Funding – €36,000

The Community Games caters for young people in 800 communities throughout 30 counties

### Cricket Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €388,238

High Performance Funding – €80,000

Ireland beat England at the Cricket World Cup in Bangalore by chasing down the biggest target in the competition's history

### Croquet Association of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €5,760

Ireland's Mark McLnerney became the first Irish person to win a Croquet World Championship

### Motorsport

Craig Breen won the 2011 Rally Deutschland WRC Academy Race





## Cycling

Mark Rohan voted the International Paralympic Committee's Athlete of the Month for September after winning gold in both the H1 handcycling Road Race and Time Trial at the UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships in Roskilde, Denmark.



## Cycling Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €331,422  
High Performance Funding – €322,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €340,667

Three World Para-Cycling Championship titles were won by Irish cyclists in 2011

## Football Association of Ireland

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

Grant Funding – €3,158,400  
Women in Sport Funding – €192,274  
30% growth in registered female players since 2008

## GAA Handball Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €94,000  
Women in Sport Funding – €10,000  
GAA Handball were named as hosts of the 2012 World Handball Championships which will see 2,000 competitors from 33 countries due to take part

## Gaelic Athletic Association

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

Grant Funding – €2,966,640  
Over 338,000 players are registered with the GAA

## Golfing Union of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €98,208  
High Performance Funding – €285,000  
Team Ireland Golf Trust Funding – €157,000

Alan Dunbar & Paul Cutler were members of the 2011 winning Walker Cup Team

## Horse Sport Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €827,974  
High Performance Funding – €540,000  
Billy Twomey & Derek Lynch inside the world Top 10 showjumpers

## Horseshoe Pitchers Association of Ireland

Core Grant Funding – €4,000

A sport for life – the Horseshoe Pitchers Association of Ireland had a successful trip to international event in Leeds, England

## Ice Skating Association of Ireland

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

Ireland's Clara Peters finished in the top 20 in the Nebelhorn Trophy with a personal best

## Irish Airsoft Association

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

The Black Ace Chronicles was a multi part event held throughout the year to get players to travel the country and see what other sites had to offer

## Irish Amateur Archery Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €23,158  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €12,000  
John Smith reached the final 16 of the World Student Games breaking the Irish 15 arrows shot at 50m record along the way

## Irish Amateur Boxing Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €325,000  
High Performance Funding – €744,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €539,000  
Women in Sport Funding – €16,000  
Three Irish boxers qualified for the 2012 Olympic Games & Katie Taylors wins 5th consecutive European Championship

## Irish Amateur Fencing Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €22,264  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €7,250

Brendan Cusack wins a bronze medal at World Cup in France in February 2011

## Irish Amateur Weightlifting Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €16,704  
Four new weightlifting clubs opened in the last 12 months

## Irish Amateur Wrestling Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €15,609  
As part of a cross-border initiative hosted an American Wrestling Team for matches in Dublin & Belfast

## Irish American Football Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €22,000  
Women in Sport Funding – €2,000  
The IAFA succeeded in bringing a number of high profile events to Ireland for 2012 including the Navy v Notre Dame College football game, which will be played in Aviva Stadium and the Global International Football Tournament involving 8 U.S. high school and college teams

## Irish Blind Sports Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €13,849  
Women in Sport Funding – €5,000  
The Ireland partially sighted 5 a side futsal team finished in fifth position at the IBSA World Championships in Turkey

## Irish Canoe Union

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

Core Grant Funding – €254,512  
High Performance Funding – €129,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €71,000  
Over 400 paddlers took part in the 2011 Liffey Descent

## Irish Clay Pigeon Shooting Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €35,000  
High Performance Funding – €70,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €35,000  
Ireland Teams and individual shooters dominated the European DTL Championships

## Irish Deaf Sports Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €64,706  
Ireland Deaf Football team finished 7th at the European Deaf Football Championship in Denmark

## Gymnastics Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €224,199  
Women in Sport Funding – €70,000  
Kieran Behan the bronze medal on floor at the 2011 FIG Salamonov Memorial World Series Challenge Cup

## Irish Hockey Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €246,027  
High Performance Funding – €446,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €30,000  
Women in Sport Funding – €75,68  
Irish Men finished 5th in the European Championships at Monchengladbach in August 2011 – their highest ever ranking beating world no. 5's Spain and Olympic Silver Medallists

## Irish Ice Hockey Association

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

The first ever Irish Senior Women's National Team took part in the World Championship played in Sofia, Bulgaria in March 2011

## Camogie

Over 20,000 camogie games were played across all levels throughout Ireland during 2011



## Creating a return on the taxpayer's investment (continued)

### Judo

*World Cup Bronze Medal for Lisa Kearney in Almaty Kazakhstan*



### Irish Judo Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €74,469

High Performance Funding – €10,000

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €12,000

**World Cup Bronze Medal for Lisa Kearney in Almaty Kazakhstan**

### Irish Kidney Association

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

Transplant Team Ireland won a total of 43 medals, including 13 gold, at the World Transplant Games

### Irish Ladies Golf Union

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

Core Grant Funding – €46,316

High Performance Funding – €118,000

Women in Sport Funding – €40,000

**Sisters Lisa and Leona Maguire represented Europe in the Junior Solheim Cup**

### Irish Martial Arts Commission

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

Core Grant Funding – €23,650

Women in Sport Funding – €4,000

**Over 400 competitors took part in the National Karate Championships**

### Irish Olympic Handball Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €35,712

**Street Handball being rolled out in over 20 primary schools across Limerick**

### Irish Rugby Football Union

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

Grant Funding – €2,771,120

Women in Sport Funding – €141,000

**Leinster won the Heineken Cup, Munster the Magners League whilst Sean O'Brien was named European Rugby Player of the Year**

### Irish Sailing Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €328,750

High Performance Funding – €567,000

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €92,000

Women in Sport Funding – €28,000

**ISAF Team Racing World Championships was held in Schull, Co. Cork. 22 teams of 6 sailors from 8 countries raced against each other in over 400 races**

### Irish Surfing Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €72,000

Women in Sport Funding – €15,000

**The Irish Surf Association successfully hosted the Euro Surf Championships in Bundoran, Co Donegal**

### Irish Squash

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

Core Grant Funding – €180,000

Women in Sport Funding – €14,000

**Madeline Perry won her ninth WISPA title at the CIMB Singapore Masters and reached a career high number three in the world rankings**

### Irish Table Tennis Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €106,656

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €8,000

Women in Sport Funding – €45,000

**Funded athlete Paul McCreery qualified for the World Junior Championships and Amanda Mogeey reached the Quarter-Final stage of the World Championships Consolation event**

### Irish Taekwondo Union

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

Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €50,000

**Three new Taekwondo clubs established in Cork, Cavan & Wexford**

### Irish Ten Pin Bowling Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €25,000

**The 2011 Irish Open attracted competitors from 15 different countries**

### Irish Tug-of-War Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €23,000

**The Ireland 680kilo men's team won the gold medal at the European Championships**

### Irish Underwater Council

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

Core Grant Funding – €59,125

Women in Sport Funding – €8,000

**The Irish Underwater Council hosted Dive Ireland 2011 Expo with a host of international speakers as well as a full trade show and conference**

### Irish Water Safety

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

**Oisín McGrath won 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze medals at European Championships 2011**

### Irish Wheelchair Association – Sport

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

Core Grant Funding – €255,306

**A team of nine junior athletes competed at the World Junior Games in Dubai winning 2 gold, 3 silver & 4 bronze medals**

### Ladies Gaelic Football

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

Core Grant Funding – €200,064

Women in Sport Funding – €212,850

**900 women from 74 different teams took part in the Gaelic4Mothers National Blitz**

### Motorcycling Union of Ireland

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

**Eugene Laverty claimed six podium finishes throughout 2011 in the Superbike World Championship**

### Motorsport Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €136,224

**Craig Breen won the 2011 Rally Deutschland WRC Academy Race**

### Mountaineering Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €206,152

Women in Sport Funding – €15,000

**Mountaineering Ireland hosted six overseas meets throughout the year**

### National Aero Club of Ireland

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

**The NACI hosted General Conference of Federation Aviation Internationale in Dublin**

### Orienteering Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €47,951

**Ireland were represented by ten athletes at the 2011 World Orienteering Championships in France**

### Paralympics Ireland

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

Core Funding €450,000

High Performance Funding €490,000

**Four World Champions**

### Pentathlon Ireland

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

High Performance Funding: €40,000

**Natalya Coyle was one of three Modern Pentathletes who won an Olympic Scholarships for London 2012**

### Wheelchair Sport

*A team of nine junior athletes competed at the World Junior Games in Dubai winning 2 gold, 3 silver & 4 bronze medals*





### Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €66,688

Ireland took the top three places in the European Pitch and Putt Strokeplay Championship

### Racquetball Association of Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €15,802

Ireland won seven gold medals at the European Racquetball Championships Bad Tolz, Germany

### ROI Snooker & Billiards Association

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

Core Grant Funding – €70,000

Round eight of the professional snooker Players Tour Championship took place in Killarney

### Rowing Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €218,698

High Performance Funding – €553,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €84,000

Women in Sport Funding – €17,700

Ireland's Lightweight Women's Sculler Siobhan McCrohan won the bronze medal at the Lucerne World Cup whilst Holly Nixon won silver at the World Junior Championships

### Shooting Sports Association of Ireland

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

13 Irish shooters took part in the WA1500 World Championships in Sweden and returned with 13 medal between them

### Special Olympics Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €1,500,000

European Summer Games in Warsaw, Poland, where Team Ireland won 10 gold, 8 silver and 11 bronze medals and 14 personal bests were achieved by the 9 track & field athletes

### Swim Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €886,900

High Performance Funding – €544,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €101,250

Women in Sport Funding – €100,000  
Barry Murphy qualified for London 2012 & Synericka McMahon won 3 medals at the Junior European Swimming Championships

### Tennis Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €376,900

High Performance Funding – €185,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €12,000

Conor Niland became the first Irishman in the modern era to qualify for the main draw at Wimbledon

### Triathlon Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €100,000

High Performance Funding – €196,000  
Direct Athlete Investment Funding – €36,000

Women in Sport Funding – €70,000

Successfully hosted the European Duathlon Championships in Limerick in April 2011

### Volleyball Ireland

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

Core Grant Funding – €194,573

Women in Sport Funding – €85,140

The Irish Junior men's volleyball team represented Ireland on the European stage for the first time in 7 years

### Active Donegal

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

900 adults and young people participated in an Innovative Sports Project with six community groups in Co Donegal, focusing on providing a platform for community groups and sports clubs to come together to deliver participation sports programmes

### Cavan Local Sports Partnership

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

Over 160 people attended the West of Cavan for Cavan's first Walking Festival organised Cavan Sports Partnership and the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark

### Clare Sports Partnership

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

2,200 People cyclists took part in the Tour de Burren which was worth a quarter of a million to the local economy

### Cork Sports Partnership

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

The Cork Sports Partnership hosted the 6th annual "SportsAbility Day" in the Cork Institute of Technology

### Tug-of-War

*The Ireland 680kilo men's team won the gold medal at the European Championships*



### County Carlow Local Sports Partnership

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

2,200 People cyclists took part in the Tour de Burren which was worth a quarter of a million to the local economy

### County Limerick Local Sports Partnership

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

Over 500 people attended two family fun days

### Dublin City Sports Network

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

Over 8,500 people of all ages and abilities took part in the first ever Sky Ride – opportunity for members of the public to ride their bikes through the city's traffic-free streets

### Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Sports Partnership

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

Coach/Volunteer training, including a Club Development Seminar, Child Protection Training was given to over 300 sports volunteers

### Fingal Local Sports Partnership

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

980 students representing 26 schools took part in the race day of the Fingal Primary School Athletics League

### Kerry Recreation and Sports Partnership

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

Over 500 took part in the Valentia Island Triathlon in May 2011

### Kilkenny Recreation and Sports Partnership

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

The Tour de Kilkenny took saw over 670 cyclists from all over Ireland take part

### Kildare Sports Partnership

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

600 secondary school students and their teachers took part in the Conor McCormack Memorial Run

### Laois Sports Partnership

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

400 children took part in an Inter-cultural Inter-schools Gaelic Day

### Leitrim Sports

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

200 people participated in the Lough Rinn 10k mini-marathon, the first ever mass participation event for the Leitrim Sports Partnership

### Limerick City Local Sports Partnership

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

The Midwest Older Adults Sportsfest was hosted in the University of Limerick

### Volleyball

*The Irish Junior men's volleyball team represented Ireland on the European stage for the first time in 7 years*



## Creating a return on the taxpayer's investment (continued)

### Olympic Handball

*Street Handball being rolled out in over 20 primary schools across Limerick*



### Louth Local Sports Partnership

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

Girls in Action designed to increase participation amongst teenage girls rolled out in 10 secondary schools

### Mayo Sports Partnership

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

Over 4,000 women took part in the West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon

### Meath Local Sports Partnerships

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

2,000 cyclists took part in the An Post Meath Heritage Cycle Tour 2011

### Monaghan Local Sports Partnership

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

Be Active After School Programme offered in nine schools across the county up from 4 in 2010

### Offaly Sports Partnership

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

160 players took part in the FAI Schools 5-a-Side National Finals in Tullamore

### Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership

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

1,000 primary school children take part in Super Value Athletics Fest 2011 in October

### South Dublin County Local Sports Partnership

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

National Roll out of Link2BeActive scheme which allows unemployed people access sports facilities at discounted rates. 28 facilities in South County Dublin now signed up with 500 people benefitting from the scheme.

### South Tipperary Sports Partnership

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

Tipperary Women's Mini Marathon saw over 570 women taking part

### Waterford Sports Partnership

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

Over 5,000 people took part in the Sean Kelly Tour of Waterford

### Westmeath Sports Partnership

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

Destination Mullingar showcased 25 sports which were available over a week long period

### Sports Active Wexford

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

120 people took part in a "Come & Try" Sports Ability Day with Tag Rugby, Boccia, Wheelchair Soccer & Adapted Kurling all on show for participants to try

### Wicklow Local Sports Partnership

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

100 people with intellectual, sensory and physical disabilities participated in the second annual Wicklow Disability Sports Day

### Badminton

*Ireland's Chloe Magee in action during the Yonex Irish International Badminton Championships, Baldoyle Badminton Centre, Dublin*





## **Delivering pride and passion at home and overseas**

**Irish Sport is delighted that the government has decided to re-instate the Sports Capital Programme. The sum of €30 million can make a real difference – but only if it is invested in the right areas. We believe that in these times of limited resources that the Government must consult with the individual sports bodies regarding the proposed distribution of these monies. In this way the investment will be made where they can and will most benefit the further development of the sports. Sport is best positioned to assist government in ensuring the maximisation of the return on any such capital investment.**



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**“Sport makes a contribution to our society more than just on the playing field. The economy, tourism, employment and health of our nation are also significant beneficiaries. The statistics prove that sport is business, particularly in the area of tourism. Our sports people are in a powerful position. They are highly respected throughout the world. They generate good will. They open doors to a cross-section of business and political leaders. They can be more successful in creating partnerships, fostering relationships and breaking down barriers yet there appears to be no role for sport in helping to revitalise Ireland’s economy.”**

Senator Eamonn Coghlan, Seanad Éirean, 4th October 2011