



**ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND LIMITED**

**5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (VIRTUAL)**

**24<sup>th</sup> April and 15<sup>TH</sup> May 2021**

**VIA ZOOM**

**CONGRESS MINUTES 2021**



**CONGRESS  
2021**

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# Athletic Association of Ireland CLG 5<sup>th</sup> Congress - Virtual

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

## **AGENDA**

- 10.00 - 10.30:** Registration at Log On
- 10.30 - 10.35:** President's Introduction
- 10.35 – 11.00:** Roll Call by County
- 11.00 – 11.10:** Minutes 2018 Congress
- 11.10 – 11.30:** Summary Reports of Principal Committees:
- **Coaching & Development**
  - **Competition**
  - **High Performance**
  - **Juvenile**
- 11.30 – 11.40:** Auditors Report
- 11.40 – 12.10:** **Finance & Risk Report**  
Audited Accounts  
Appointment of Auditors
- 12.10 – 12.40:** **Chief Executive Officer Report**  
New Strategic Plan
- 12.40 – 13.00:** **President's Address**  
New Honorary Life Vice President
- 13.00 – 13.45:** Lunch Break
- 13.45 – 14.15:** Roll Call by County  
Adoption of Standing Orders
- 14.15 – 14.45:** Election Results  
Election of Competition Chair & Committee  
Election of Deputy President
- 14.45 – 17.45:** Motions
- 17.45 – 18.00:** Inauguration of President
- 18.00:** Close of Congress

## Opening of Congress by the AAI President, Georgina Drumm

Distinguished guests and delegates I welcome you all to the Athletics Ireland 2020 postponed Congress. I would like to thank you all personally for your support throughout the past year in particular your attendance at an EGM and AGM to allow Congress to proceed virtually. It was a protracted process but with your encouragement and support we have reached today together.

2020 and first part of 21 has been difficult for all sports including Athletics however we have navigated our way through and now at last we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel. I am extremely proud that any guidance and recommendations on Covid 19 given to our clubs and members were followed and supported.

While we acknowledge our lost friends and families today, I ask you to remember those of our members whose health is compromised at this moment and in particular Life Vice President Chris Wall, we wish them all well and hope that they return to good health, sooner rather than later.

On behalf of the Board and the CEO of Athletics Ireland we would like you to observe a moment of reflection and prayer for all our members and friends that we have lost over the past 3 years. The list is extensive but not necessarily exhaustive.

May they all Rest in Peace.

## List of deceased members

Liam	Doherty	Milford, Cranford	Donegal	Apr-21
Alannah	Dunn	Dundrum South Dublin	Dublin	Apr-21
Michael	O'Brien	Carrick On Shannon	Leitrim	Apr-21
Gillian	Ryan	Thurles Crokes	Tipperary	Apr-21
Jimmy	McDonnell	Tullamore Harriers, Kilbeggan	Westmeath	Apr-21
Mick	Egan	St John's	Clare	Mar-21
Paddy	Coleman	Youghal	Cork	Mar-21
Martin	Gallagher	Rosses	Donegal	Mar-21
Reggie	Walker	Clonliffe Harriers	Dublin	Mar-21
Dan	Murphy	St Brendan's, Ardfert, St John's	Kerry	Mar-21
Ray	McGill	St Conleth's	Laois	Mar-21
Colman	Mooney	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	Mar-21
Oisin	Williams	Borrisokane	Tipperary	Mar-21
Leona	Reville	Kilmore	Wexford	Mar-21
Ann	Byrne	Bree	Wexford	Mar-21
Anthony	Barrett	DCH, Killenaule	Dublin	Feb-21
Philip	Cleary	Sportsworld	Dublin	Feb-21
Gary	Halpin	Kilkenny City Harriers	Kilkenny	Feb-21
Maria	Brady	Kells	Meath	Feb-21
Marion	Feehan	Ferbane	Offaly	Feb-21
John	White	Skibbereen	Cork	Jan-21
Tom	Boshell	Clonliffe Harriers	Dublin	Jan-21
Jerry	Kiernan	Clonliffe Harriers, Listowel	Kerry	Jan-21
Danny	Ferguson	Glenmore	Louth	Jan-21

Padraig	Maye	Ballina, UCD	Sligo	Jan-21
Shaun	Hilmi	Nenagh Olympic	Tipperary	Jan-21
Declan	Roberts	St Abbans, St Laurence O'Tooles	Carlow	Dec-20
Hugo	Duggan	Milford, Finn Valley, Lifford, Cranford, Clonliffe Harriers	Donegal	Dec-20
Michael	Crossan	Letterkenny	Donegal	Dec-20
Joe	Cooper	Clonliffe Harriers, Civil Service	Dublin	Dec-20
John	Crabtree	Liffey Valley, Avondale	Dublin	Dec-20
Eugene	Murnane	Skibbereen	Cork	Nov-20
Frank	Hensel	European Athletics	EA	Nov-20
David	Jolley	Maynooth	Kildare	Nov-20
Brian	Morris	Blackrock	Louth	Nov-20
David	Cunningham	Dunboyne, Liffey Valley	Meath	Nov-20
Ronan	O'Dwyer	Moycarkey Kilcree	Tipperary	Nov-20
Pat	Hooper	Raheny Shamrock	Dublin	Oct-20
Kevin	Griffin	Iveragh	Kerry	Oct-20
Larry	Ryder	Crusaders	Dublin	Sep-20
Ernie	Deacy	Westport	Mayo	Oct-20
Tony	Lee	Tuam	Galway	Sep-20
Anthony	Fitzsimons	Kildare	Kildare	Sep-20
John	Kehoe	Tramore	Waterford	Sep-20
Joe	Synnott	St Annes	Wexford	Sep-20
Paudy	Walsh	Waterford, De La Salle	Waterford	Aug-20
Jenny	O'Neill	St Laurence O'Tooles	Carlow	Jul-20
Ollie	Noone	Newbridge	Kildare	Jul-20
Svein Arne	Hansen	European Athletics	EA	Jun-20
Anne	Cullinane	St Ita's	Limerick	Jun-20
Essie	O'Leary	Bandon, Rising Sun	Cork	May-20
Hugh	Ward	Finn Valley	Donegal	May-20
Michael	Delaney	Raheny Shamrock	Dublin	May-20
Jimmy	Walsh	St Abbans	Laois	May-20
Barry	Ward	Ballinamore	Leitrim	May-20
Jimmy	Beatty	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	May-20
Jerry	Lyons	Templemore	Tipperary	May-20
Patrick (Pa)	Hayden	St Laurence O'Tooles	Carlow	Apr-20
May	Byrne	Tinryland	Carlow	Apr-20
Dan	McCarthy	St Catherine's	Cork	Apr-20
Maurice	Gallagher	Finn Valley	Donegal	Apr-20
Sean	Cowler	Donore Harriers, Crusaders	Dublin	Apr-20
Bill	Devereux	St Michael's	Laois	Apr-20
John	Deffew	Mountmellick	Laois	Apr-20
Noel	Farrell	Mid Roscommon	Roscommon	Apr-20
Paddy	Whelan	Dungarvan	Waterford	Apr-20
Jackie	O'Callaghan	Leevale, Hilltown	Cork	Mar-20
Joan	Hogan	St Flannan's	Tipperary	Mar-20
Cecil	O'Leary	Tramore	Waterford	Mar-20
John	Hayes	Duncannon	Wexford	Mar-20
Claire	Leydon		Tipperary	Feb-21
Mary	Mostyn	Carrick On Shannon	Leitrim	Feb-20

Mary	Meagher	Blarney Inniscarra	Cork	Jan-20
Cameron	Blair	Bandon	Cork	Jan-20
Riobard	O'Dwyer	Beara. Ardroom	Cork	Jan-20
David	White	Crusaders	Dublin	Jan-20
Sean	Grehan	Rathfarnham WSAF	Dublin	Jan-20
Sean	O'Neill	Clonliffe Harriers	Dublin	Jan-20
Mary	Troy	Tullamore College, ISAA	Offaly	Jan-20
Nuala	Mohan	Letterkenny	Donegal	Dec-19
Maeve	Devlin	Raheny Shamrock	Dublin	Dec-19
Sameul	Roquette	Blackrock	Dublin	Dec-19
Christy	Murray	Tralee Harriers	Kerry	Dec-19
Dan	McGrath	West Waterford	Waterford	Dec-19
John	Howlin	Kilmore	Wexford	Dec-19
Peter	Byrne	Bree	Wexford	Dec-19
Dan	Jordan	Ballon	Carlow	Nov-19
Dermot	McCarthy	Tracton	Cork	Nov-19
John	Geoghegan	Donore Harriers	Dublin	Nov-19
Paddy	Joyce	Cushinstown	Meath	Nov-19
Noel	Kehoe	St Laurence O'Tooles	Carlow	Oct-19
Tony	Carton	Bagnelstown	Carlow	Oct-19
Tadhg	Twomey	Rising Sun, Knocknacurra, Bandon	Cork	Oct-19
Ben	Flahive	Leevale	Cork	Oct-19
Mattie	Maloney	Brothers Pearse	Dublin	Oct-19
Ulick	O'Connor	Donore Harriers	Dublin	Oct-19
John	McAdorey	Ballymena & Antrim	Antrim	Sep-19
Craig	Lynch	Shercock	Cavan	Sep-19
Paul	Dillon	Lifford-Strabane	Donegal	Sep-19
Mick	Connolly	Donore Harriers	Dublin	Sep-19
Ade	Adeleke	Naas	Kildare	Sep-19
Noel	Coss	Mountmellick	Laois	Sep-19
Ann	Murray	Mayo	Mayo	Sep-19
Teddy	O'Sullivan	Carraig na bhFear	Cork	Aug-19
Barry	Woodnutt	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	Aug-19
Celine	Conway	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	Aug-19
Shane	O'Donnell	Lifford-Strabane	Donegal	Jul-19
Sean	Kearns	Crusaders	Dublin	Jul-19
Margaret	Grehan	Rathfarnham WSAF	Dublin	Jul-19
Tony	Walsh	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	Jul-19
Joe	Moore	Celtic DCH	Dublin	Jun-19
Eleanor	Ford	Ennis	Claire	Jun-21
Jimmy	Reardon	Donore Harriers	Dublin	Jun-19
Noreen	O'Leary	Clonliffe Harriers	Dublin	May-19
John	Mackey	Kildare, Curragh	Kildare	May-19
Paddy	O'Connell	Limerick	Limerick	May-19
Ena	Tobin	Navan, Drogheda & District	Meath	Apr-19
Mick	Martin	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	Apr-19
Ann	Shannon	Kilmore	Wexford	Apr-19
James	Griffin	St Laurence O'Tooles	Carlow	Mar-19

Jack	Dempsey	Youghal	Cork	Feb-19
Jim	King	Donore Harriers	Dublin	Feb-19
Ita	Cox		Wexford	Feb-21
Róisín Mae	O'Donovan	Ballincollig	Cork	Jan-19
Jim	Horgan	St Finbarrs	Cork	Jan-19
John	Fitzsimmons	Crusaders	Dublin	Jan-19
Harry	Thomas	Inchicore, Donore Harriers	Dublin	Jan-19
Mick	Hickey	Dundrum	Tipperary	Jan-19
Brian (Tom)	O'Flynn	Leevale	Cork	Dec-18
George	Williamson	City of Derry Spartans, Oak Leaf	Derry	Dec-18
Leo	Cullen	Letterkenny	Donegal	Dec-18
James (Shay)	Hyland	Clonliffe Harriers, Crusaders	Dublin	Oct-18
Willie	Morris	Athenry, Kilconieron, Derrydonnell, Galway City Harriers	Galway	Oct-18
Freddy	Fox	Raheny Shamrock	Dublin	Sep-18
Jim	Kelly	Life Vice President	Louth	Sep-18
Donal	McMahon	Raheny Shamrock	Dublin	Aug-18
Bob	Joyce	Dundrum South Dublin	Dublin	Aug-18
Noel	Keane	Sportsworld	Dublin	Aug-18
Sinead	Brody	Galway City Harriers, Athenry	Galway	Aug-18
Kathleen	Larkin	Tullamore Harriers	Offaly	Aug-18
Fr John	O'Donnell	Life Vice President	Donegal	Jul-18
Sue	McCormack	Letterkenny	Donegal	Jul-18
Tom	Brady	Tracton	Cork	May-18
Tony	O'Callaghan	Killybegs	Donegal	May-18
John	Lawlor	Civil Service	Dublin	May-18
Jimmy	Fogarty	Moycarkey Kilcree	Tipperary	May-18
Karen	Breen	Donore Harriers	Dublin	Apr-18
Todd	Murphy			
Gerri	Mc Loughlin			

I would like to extend my thanks to Minister Jack Chambers for his support to the Association and the time taken from his busy schedule to prepare an address for us today, which we will now share with you and then proceed to the business of the day.

## TOTAL MEMBERS REGISTERED PER COUNTY AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

The number of registered members as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2019 was used to calculate the voting strength of each County.

Province	County	Total	Voting Strength
	* Antrim	4361	22
	* Armagh	676	4
	Carlow	1033	6
	Cavan	577	3
	Clare	1670	9
	Cork	8227	42
	* Derry	1272	7
	Donegal	2603	14
	* Down	2567	13
	Dublin	9999	50
	* Fermanagh	400	2
	Galway	4287	22
	Kerry	1538	8
	Kildare	2748	14
	Kilkenny	1760	9
	Laois	1286	7
	Leitrim	774	4
	Limerick	1468	8
	Longford	249	2
	Louth	2296	12
	Mayo	2634	14
	Meath	4612	24
	Monaghan	1502	8
	Offaly	1776	9
	Roscommon	761	4
	Sligo	1549	8
	Tipperary	2324	12



* Tyrone	880	5
Waterford	1686	9
Westmeath	980	5
Wexford	1941	10
Wicklow	1664	9
Munster		4
Connaught		4
Ulster		4
Leinster		4
AAI Board		16
<b>Total</b>		<b>407</b>

**\*Information supplied by Athletics Northern Ireland**

**Due to technical difficulties the roll call was deferred until the afternoon session.**

**Minutes of 2018 Congress**

**No Matters Arising**

**Proposer John Cronin Seconder George Maybury**

**No questions were received in advance of Congress relating to the various reports distributed in advance.**

## Coaching & Development Committee Report 2018 - 2021

### Presented by Brid Golden – Committee Chair

The past three years have been very progressive but also extremely challenging for Coaching and Development within Athletics Ireland. The additional funds that have been channelled into coaching and development as a result of the increase in registration fees since January 2019 have enabled us to develop our coaching and development structures and significantly expand and enhance activity at all levels on our coaching pathway. The pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges which required transforming the types of Coaching and Development support being provided. Innovative methods of delivery moved online, and it was heartening to see the engaging levels of remote support during this challenging period.

I would like to thank our Coaching and Development team for all their dedicated work for our athletes, coaches, and clubs. This team led by Pat Ryan has expanded and the department is currently serviced by eleven Regional Development Officers working all around the country.

#### Coaching & Development Team

Pat Ryan

Director of Coaching & Development

Dermot McGranaghan

Donegal, Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim.

Conor Wilson

Galway, Mayo, Clare

Grace Lynch

Limerick, Kerry, Cork

Colin Byrne

Waterford, Tipperary, Wexford, Laois

Shane Aston

IT Carlow and Carlow, Kilkenny.

Paul McKee

Wicklow, Kildare, Meath, Louth

David Matthews

NIA and Dublin

Bashir Hussain

AIT and Westmeath, Offaly, Longford, Roscommon

Gerard O'Donnell and Colette Quinn

Dublin City Council and Dublin

Lilly-Ann O'Hora Women in Sport

Their activity includes organising workshops, coach education, club development initiatives and target group sessions.

## Coach Education

There has been a large number of courses at all levels of our Coach Education Structure over the last two years as detailed below:

	2018		2019		2020	
	Courses	Participants	Courses	Participants	Courses	Participants
Athletic Leader	29	415	25	409	5	76
Assistant Coach	22	341	33	587	14	352
Endurance Coach	8	123	6	108	6	140
Level1	10	195	10	188	4	75
Level 2	1	67	1	64		
Level 3			1	35		
Total	70	1141	76	1386	29	643

## Workshops

In addition, other workshops included the following:

Activity	Workshops	Participants
Run, Jump, Throw Workshops	26	605
Intermediate / Advanced Workshops	15	225
Coaching Network Days	3	170
Webinars	19	Attendance range per webinar 50-1000

## Sports Capital Grant & Club Finance workshops

These workshops are aimed at increasing awareness of the Sports Capital grant. Athletics clubs are poorly represented among the recipients, and we hope to address this imbalance. Eleven workshops have been held nationwide. Advice and behind the scenes support via phone and zoom meetings was also provided to many applicant groups.

## Regional Squads

These squads are active in the four regions and attendance remains strong. The addition of the overnight residential element has been enthusiastically received. The pandemic restricted the activity of the regional squads in 2020. Some sessions did proceed when restrictions permitted activity of this type.

## Club Development Meetings

County Development workshops were launched in 2019 and have been held in 4 counties to date. There have been over 65 club development meetings held nationwide.

### **Fit4Class**

This programme provides primary schools with a ten-week programme introducing primary school pupils to athletic based activities. The programme reaches 30K children each year. This has been improved to include a 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> class programme which is more event specific.

### **Coaching Resources**

The AAi Coaching Resources have expanded to include injury prevention and hurdles along with the original relay presentation. Further event resources are planned. A large number of online resources and instructional videos covering a range of events and conditioning sessions are being created by our Coaching and Development team on a very regular basis throughout the pandemic. These have been released on social media. This has been a positive outcome of this very challenging period.

An S&C manual has been developed which supports the advanced workshop on the topic. 2000 copies have been distributed to clubs and coaches nationwide. A second print run will increase the coverage.

A Coaching Diary for Teenage Athletes has been developed.

### **NIA Live**

This is grown from approximately 70 athletes per meet to 450+ athletes. It provides opportunities for athletes ranging from international competitors to club stalwarts. The addition of the juvenile section has proved a welcome addition. Plans were in place to run this programme again in 2021 however the restrictions at the time forced the cancellation of these plans.

### **Primary Schools Athletics**

South Dublin Schools Athletics Programme was organised in association with South Dublin Sports Partnership in 2019 and 2020. 25 schools participated in the athletics coaching programme over 5 weeks each year. There were in excess of 3,000 pupils involved. Fingal Sports Partnership have also successfully adopted the programme with 400 children per week involved in the first phase.

A pilot programme 'Track & Field at the NIA' attracted 15 schools and over 500 participants.

### **The Daily Mile**

The Daily Mile initiative has been hugely successful. Almost 1000 Primary Schools have joined the programme since April 2018. I wish to congratulate and thank Anthony White and Frank Grealley for their fantastic work on this very successful programme.

### **Dublin Support Coach Network**

This programme is being run in association with Dublin County board. The programme is ready to pilot with the local clubs. Designated coaches will assist clubs in coaching events where they lack experience or expertise.

### **National Development Throws Squad**

This squad launched in late 2019. It provides opportunities for club athletes and their coaches to learn and improve in a squad environment. A similar group for the jumps events is currently being planned and activity in this area has commenced.

## **Sportshall**

The Sportshall programme is run in conjunction with the LSP network. This programme culminates in a national final with 14/15 counties participating. Local events take place in other counties also. Sportshall activity was not able to proceed throughout the pandemic.

## **The Diversity Games**

This competition provides opportunities for schools, primary and secondary, with significant numbers of immigrant children, to enjoy athletics. The flagship events involved c.800 children from 10 counties in the AIT arena. The teams averaged 45% immigrant membership. These children are encouraged to participate with their local clubs.

## **Women in Sport**

A Women in Sport officer was appointed, Lilly-Ann O'Hora. Lilly-Ann has completed the Forerunners programme which aimed to foster leadership among female club members. 28 members completed the pilot programme. Girl's Squad is a similar programme which initially involves TY students in 5 secondary schools. The Fit4Mothersandothers is a joint programme with the LGFA to promote exercise and activity among their members with a focus on attracting them to our clubs. Lily Ann is also leading a Female Leadership Programme in conjunction with European Athletics.

## **Virtual Programmes**

A number of virtual programmes have been successfully rolled out throughout the pandemic with very pleasing levels of engagement. 65 clubs participated in our 'RDO Challenge in May / June 2020 with over 120 clubs participating in the 'Club Cross Country Challenge' in Autumn 2020. 'Runuary' and 'February Club Challenge' are some of the programmes rolled out to date in 2021.

## **Webinars**

Regular webinars have been held throughout the pandemic on a very broad range of topics. These webinars have been enlightening and well attended and have offered a wonderful connection for coaches and club officials at a time when gathering in a physical capacity was not possible.

## **Covid 19 Advice for Clubs**

The Coaching and Development team have offered a continued service of advice for clubs in dealing the ongoing challenges presented by Covid 19.

## **High Performance Coaching**

Our High-Performance coaching structure led by Paul McNamara has seen significant developments in our structures. The appointment of three full time event co-ordinators for sprints, endurance and field event groupings has been very positive. These co-ordinators lead the development of the coaching pathway at all levels for their event groups, and in conjunction with Jacqui Freyne at the Pathway level. The co-ordinators are Dave Sweeney - Field Events, Daniel Kilgannon – Sprint Events and Matt Lockett – Endurance Events. Part time co-ordinators Michael Lane (walks) and Hayley Harrison (hurdles) also do valuable work for their event groups. I wish to thank Paul, Jacqui, Dave, Daniel, Matt, Michael, and Hayley for their dedicated work for our coaching programme. We are fortunate to have such a capable and hardworking team enhancing the work of our Coaching and Development team.

Our Coach Mentoring Programme for coaches of our high-performance athletes is another element of our coaching programme that has been enabled as a result of the increased funding

for coaching. This programme is being successfully rolled out across many event groupings with national and international mentors working with our coaches on a regular basis. Mentors to date have included -

Field Events: Sergej Litvinov, Malcolm Fenton, John Shepard, Fuzz Caan, Terry McHugh, Don Babbitt

Endurance: Stephen Seiler, Steve Magness, Steve Vernon, Craig Winrow, Robert Denmead, Alan Storey, Chris Jones

Sprints: Ralph Mouchbahani, Jacques Borlee, Stuart Hogg, James Horan, Kate Kirby, John Cleary, Clare Brady, Ciara McCallion, Stuart Hogg, James Horan, Stephen McGuire, Tonya Buford-Bailey, Dan Pfaff along with input from service providers Kate Kirby, John Cleary, Clare Brady, Ciara McCallion and Jessie Barr.

We will be seeking to extend this programme going forward.

Our relay programme has expanded significantly since the appointment of our Sprints Coordinator, Daniel Kilgannon. We have had increased numbers of relay teams represent Ireland at major championships and a World Junior silver medal for our ladies' team was a welcome reward for all our hardworking coaches in area of sprints and relays.

Since 2019 David McCarthy has led the 4x400m coaching team alongside Daniel at senior level and Jacqui Freyne at Pathway level, with Drew Harrison, Brian Corcoran, Paul McKee and Paraic Duffy currently serving as 4x400m coaches.

Daniel Kilgallon's role, since 2019, has become more hands-on and he now coaches the Men's and Women's 4x100m relay teams at Senior & U23 alongside Karen Kirk, while Dean Adams and Kevin Cogley lead the U20 teams currently. Daniel is also tasked with coaching and building a supported performance sprints group which can provide a target for emerging performance athletes.

The Endurance Coordinator, Matt Lockett has overseen significant squad activity for our endurance athletes prior to the outdoor season and before the cross-country season in 2019. Squad activity proved challenging during the pandemic.

Warm weather training camps have been held in 2018 and 2019 for our endurance athletes along with our junior high-performance athletes. Due to Covid 19, these squads could not go ahead as planned in 2020.

Athletics Ireland have been progressing the development of strategic coaching links with some 3<sup>rd</sup> level colleges, notably DCU. Further development of coaching links with 3<sup>rd</sup> level colleges is planned and will be very welcome.

Development of our clubs and success for our athletes would not be possible without the thousands of volunteer coaches who work weekly with our athletes at all levels. Our sport is indebted to all of these coaches working at development, intermediate and high-performance levels.

Sincere thanks to all those who travelled in a coaching capacity with Irish teams to championships over the last three years. We have had a very successful two years of international championships. International activity in 2020 was almost non-existent due to Covid 19.

Significant work and consultation has taken place to create our Strategic plan for 2021-2028. Coaching & Development has a central focus in this plan and is one of the main strategic pillars for the organisation going forward.

I wish to sincerely thank the delegates who, in April 2018, voted at our congress in favour of increasing the registration fee by €3 per member. These funds have been ringfenced for Coaching and Development. The additional funding has enabled so much additional coaching activity to happen at all levels from grassroots to high performance. The Director of Coaching & Development along with the Director of High Performance have invested these additional funds very wisely. Solid structures have been put in place in a short space of time. This investment will reap dividends for our athletes and clubs for years to come. We will continue to use this funding to build on what has been achieved to date.

I would like to thank the members of the Coaching and Development Committee for the last three years, Brian Corcoran, Teresa McDaid, Fintan Reilly, Mary Barrett, Seamus Flynn, Eamon Harvey, John Farrelly, Stephen Fleming, David McCarthy, Jim Corcoran & Neil Martin. Dermot McGranaghan who was elected in 2016, resigned from the committee on becoming a full time RDO with Athletics Ireland as is required by our constitution. Many members of the committee undertook to lead work and research on various initiatives which has been very helpful and always much appreciated.

I would like to thank our CEO Hamish Adams and our President Georgina Drumm for their advice, assistance, and support over the last three years. Their commitment to achieving our objectives in Coaching and Development has been much appreciated. I wish Georgina the very best as she completes her term as President.

Brid Golden, March 2021

Report Proposed By: **John Cronin**

**Seconded by: Neil Martin**

## Competition Committee Report presented by John Cronin (Chair)

John Cronin Chair  
Bernie Dunne  
Patsy Kelly  
Tim Ahern

Pat Hooper (RIP †)  
Paddy Marley  
Patricia Griffin  
Ray Flynn

Brendan McDaid  
Andrew Lynam  
Ronnie Quigley

Since our last Congress in Carrick-on-Shannon in 2018, we have facilitated over sixty Competition days. This report intends to give a flavour of the highly successful activities over the main categories of Competition under the auspices of the Competition Committee: Cross Country, Road, Race Walking Road, Outdoor Track & Field and Indoor Track and Field. The end of the report covers other areas.

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

#### **Senior and Junior Championship**

2018: 25 November                      Abbotstown  
2019: 24 November                      Abbotstown

There was a great day of competition when we returned to Abbotstown for the third year in a row for the 2018 Championships. The individual Champions were: Senior Men- Kevin Dooney (Raheny Shamrock), Senior Women- Ciara Mageean (UCD), Junior Men- Darragh McElhinney (Bantry), Junior Women- Sarah Healy (Blackrock Dublin). Team wise Raheny Shamrock won the Senior Men completing a hat trick with Leevale taking the Women's Senior and Clonliffe Harriers winning the Junior Men. Waterford won the Junior Women's title.

The 2019 edition also produced a great day of competition. The individual Champions were: Senior Men- Liam Brady (Tullamore Harriers), Senior Women- Fionnuala McCormack (Kilcoole), Junior Men- Darragh McElhinney (UCD), Junior Women- Jodie McCann (Dublin City Harriers). On the team front Clonliffe Harriers regained the Senior Men's title last won in 2015, with Leevale taking the Senior Women completing a hat trick, Waterford retained the Junior Women, and Clonliffe Harriers won the Junior Men. Unfortunately, the 2019 Senior & Junior Club Champions were not able to represent Ireland in the 2020 European Clubs competition as the event was cancelled due to the lack of an available host venue.

The use of Abbotstown continued to bring some challenges; the absence of a host club has left the preparation of the venue in the hands of a few dedicated volunteers, who deserve sincere thanks from all of us for this. The absence of infrastructure has led to the need for temporary structures. Thankfully unlike the first 2 editions, the traffic problems were resolved in 2018 & 2019. Due to the bad weather forecast there was a requirement to make late changes to traffic management in 2019, which involved incorporating a "park and ride" facility which worked well.

The Competition Committee has proposed a motion to the Board for inclusion in the Congress motions that if an U23 medalist finishes in the top three positions in the Senior race that they are awarded the appropriate medal in both categories.

#### **Novice Championship**

2018: 15 December                      Navan  
2019: 15 December                      Dunboyne



This continues to be a very popular Championship with 411 finishers in 2018 and 350 finishers in 2019. The 2018 edition was held on a Saturday Both editions were held at well-appointed venues and courses in Co Meath, hosted by Meath County Board in 2018 and Dunboyne A.C. in 2019. In 2018 we were very lucky to have the Championships just finished before Storm Deirdre arrived.

### **Intermediate and Masters Championship**

2019: 3 February	Dundalk
2020: 8 February	Rathdrum

Like 2018 the Championships were held together on one day, in 2019 the number of Intermediate Finishers dropped to 98 recovering to 136 in 2020. The Masters Championships had 398 finishers in 2019 and 465 in 2020. Again, the Championships were hosted at well-appointed venues and courses, hosted by Louth County Board in 2019 and Wicklow County Board in 2020. In 2020 we were incredibly lucky to have the Championships just finished before Storm Ciara arrived.

### **Autumn Open Cross Country**

2018: 21 October	Abbotstown
2019: 20 October	Abbotstown

This event has completed its third and fourth editions at the purpose-built cross-country course in Abbotstown. In 2018 the event was showcased by wins from Sean Tobin (Clonmel) and Shona Heaslip (An Ríocht) in the Senior Races with the honours going to Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) and Emma O'Brien Sli Cualann in the Junior Race.

2019 saw the Senior events won by Conor Bradley (City of Derry Spartans) and Abbie Donnelly (England) with the Junior events taken by the exciting prospects Efreem Gidey (Clonliffe Harriers) and Grace Carson (Mid Ulster).

2019 also saw the addition of the SPAR Experience to the event, which brought much colour and more participants to the day.

With the absence of a host club, the preparation of the venue was in the hands of a few dedicated volunteers like the Senior and Junior Championships held a month later, on both occasions. Liam Hennessy is to be thanked for looking after the international element and Matt Lockett for looking after the Junior element. This event continues to grow as an international event and is a valid stepping-stone on the pathway to the European Cross-Country Championships held each December. We are always grateful to Fingal for their sponsorship of this event.

### **Cross Country Club of the Year**

This was introduced in the 2015/2016 season to encourage participation; it takes the form of a league table with points awarded for finishing complete teams.

For 2018/2019 the winning club was Raheny Shamrock with 59 clubs finishing at least one complete team during the cross-country season. Sportsworld finished complete teams in 10 of the 11 categories which was the highest number of complete teams.

For 2019/2020 the winning club was Raheny Shamrock again winning on 51 points (the highest recorded so far) with 46 clubs finishing at least one complete team during the cross-country season. Raheny Shamrock also finished complete teams in 10 of the 11 categories which was the most.

Congratulations to Raheny Shamrock who have won the award in three of the five seasons. We would encourage more clubs to have a go for the 2020/2021 season.

## **ROAD**

### **Road Relays Championship**

2018: 22 April	Raheny
2019: 28 April	Raheny
2020: 19 April	Raheny

For the 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Championships returned to Raheny in 2018. Across all categories 92 teams finished with Raheny Shamrock taking the honours in the Senior Men and Dundrum South Dublin in the Senior Women.

In 2019 116 teams finished across all categories. In the Senior Men like the previous year Raheny Shamrock came though on the last lap to win the title, while Donore Harriers won the Senior Women's title.

In 2018 and 2019 Raheny Shamrock won the Paddy Boland trophy for the best overall club.

For the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Championships will return to Raheny in 2020 on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, Covid permitting, which is after the deadline for this report. On this occasion the M50 + race will have their own slot at the start of the day.

### **Half Marathon Championship**

2018: 12 August	Dublin
2019: 11 August	Dublin

Both editions of these Championship were incorporated into the Rock 'N' Roll event. As the name would suggest it is a festive occasion with the half marathon as part of a series of races over the weekend. From 2017 the race moved away from the Bank Holiday weekend.

The 2018 winners were David Flynn (Clonliffe Harriers) 68:51 and Catriona Jennings (Letterkenny) 82:25 and the 2019 winners were Yared Derese (Carrick Aces) 64:59 and Angela McCann (Clonmel) 80:14.

### **Marathon Championship**

2018: 28 October	Dublin
2019: 29 October	Dublin

Held in conjunction with the Dublin Marathon, there is great cooperation with the Dublin Marathon organisation led by Jim Aughney. Each year AAI man a desk at the Expo to capture as many bib numbers as possible for athletes in the AAI Championship, this would be made much easier if athletes declared their club at the point of entry.

The 2018 winners were Mick Clohisey (Raheny Shamrock) 2:15:58 and Lizzy Lee (Leevale) 2:35:05 and the 2019 winners were Stephen Scullion (Clonliffe Harriers) 2:12:01 and Aoife Cooke (Eagle) 2:32:54.

For 2020 Dublin Marathon have introduced a “Good for Age” entry for Athletics Ireland athletes to enable a later entry for those that fit that criterion.

### **10K Championship**

2018: 15 April	Phoenix Park, Dublin
2019: 14 April	Phoenix Park, Dublin
2020: 5 April	Phoenix Park, Dublin

In 2018 it was held in conjunction with the Great Run organisation and hosted by the Celtic DCH club.

The winners were Brian Maher (Kilkenny City Harriers) 30:20 and Shona Heaslip (An Ríocht) 34:52.

In 2019 the Athletics Ireland Recreation Department took over the Great Ireland Run in partnership with Celtic DCH. The winners were Hiko Tonosa (Dundrum South Dublin) 30:41 and Catherina Mullen (Metro St Brigids) 34:53.

The 2020 event which was due to be held in the Phoenix Park, Dublin on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April has been postponed due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation. At the time of writing a proposed rescheduled date was not available.

### **New Road Championships**

Following a successful motion to Congress in 2018, two new road Championships took place for the first time in 2019: 5K, 5 mile, a third the 10-mile Championship was last held in 1989.

### **5K Championship**

2019: 6 May	Phoenix Park, Dublin
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The Championship took place as part of the Irish Runner 5K and the inaugural winners were Kieran Kelly (Raheny Shamrock) 14:45 and Catherina McKiernan (Annalee) 17:15. This was Catherina’s sixteenth National Senior title, last winning the Inter Club Cross Country in 2004, fifteen years previously.

### **5-mile Championship**

2019: 15 June	Phoenix Park, Dublin
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The Championship took place as part of the Irish Runner 5 mile and the inaugural winners were Mick Clohisey (Raheny Shamrock) 24:02 and Sally Forristal (St Josephs) 29:27.

### **10-mile Championship**

2019: 15 June	Phoenix Park, Dublin
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The Championship took place as part of the Irish Runner 10 mile and the winners were David Flynn (Clonliffe Harriers) 49:55 and Niamh Clifford (Star of the Laune) 60:01. This Championship last took place in 1989.

### **RACE WALKING ROAD**

#### **20km Championship (Men & Women)**

2018: 8 December	St Anne’s Park, Raheny
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2019: 30 June (Men)	Leeds, GBR.
2019: 7 December (Women)	St Anne's Park, Raheny
2020: 7 March	St Anne's Park, Raheny

### **30km Championship (Men)**

2018: 8 December	St Anne's Park, Raheny
2019: 7 December	St Anne's Park, Raheny

The 2018 edition was hosted by Raheny Shamrock in St Anne's Park, the numbers in the Senior Championships had increased and it was held in conjunction with a development day which resulted in nearly 70 race walkers starting, with the non-Seniors categories finishing at age-appropriate distances. Like the previous year, positive feedback was received about going forward with this date and model in the future. Brendan Boyce (Finn Valley) completed the Men's double in the 20K/30K in 1:29:34/2:14:11 while Kate Veale (West Waterford) won the Women's 20K title in 1:37:54.

Following World Athletics introduction of qualification bonus points for winning National Championships, the 2019 Men's 20K took place in Leeds, GBR as part of the British Grand Prix of Race Walking with Cian McManamon (Westport) taking the title in 1:25:32.

The 2019 30K Men's Championship was won by Brendan Boyce (Finn Valley) in 2:21:24, the day was again shared with a development day for walkers and some overseas guests resulting in over 60 race walkers participating.

To avail of the World Athletics qualification bonus points the 2020 20K Championships were brought forward to March. David Kenny (Farranfore Maine Valley) won the Men's title in 1:23:07 and Kate Veale (West Waterford) completed a hat trick of Women's titles in 1:56:06.

Like 2018, the 2019 and 2020 home-based Championships were hosted by Raheny Shamrock.

The Competition Committee has proposed a motion to the Board for inclusion in the Congress motions that a 10K Championship for Masters be introduced to take place during the Senior 20K Championship.

## **OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD**

### **Senior Championship**

2018: 28 & 29 July	Morton Stadium, Santry
2019: 26 & 27 July	Morton Stadium, Santry

Following on from 2017, RTE televised a live slot on the Sunday evening and again the weather provided excellent conditions for the athletes and the spectators. Capturing the headlines were Thomas Barr (Ferrybank) winning his 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive 400m Hurdle's title in a Championship Record of 49.56 and Ciara Mageean (UCD) completing an outstanding 800m/1500m double. Also competing doubles were Leon Reid (Menapians) 100m/200m, Elizabeth Morland (Cushinstown) Long Jump/Javelin and Michaela Walsh (Swinford) Shot Put/Hammer. Michelle Finn (Leevale) produced a European Championship qualification standard when winning the 3000m steeplechase in 9:46:19 which rewrote Fionnuala McCormack (Britton)'s 10-year-old Championship Record by over 5 seconds.

Tight finishes were in vogue with Ryan Forsyth (Newcastle & District) pipping Hiko Tonosa (Dundrum South Dublin) by one hundredth of a second in the 5000m, while Gina Akpe-Moses (Blackrock Louth) prevailed over Joan Healy (Bandon) by two thousandth of a second in the 100m.

The 2019 edition again featured a live slot on RTE on the Sunday evening and once again a glorious summers evening presented itself to showcase our athletes both to the sizeable crowd and on National TV. A change to the timetable enabled live coverage of the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m & 400m Hurdle's finals for both genders with the other track events shown as highlights with also coverage of the majority of the field event winners.

Thomas Barr's enforced absence due to injury opened the door for two of his long-time domestic rivals; Paul Byrne (St Abban's) and Jason Harvey (Crusaders). In a "Race for the Ages" Paul who was on the podium in five of his previous eight attempts finally achieved the coveted gold medal when he overcame Jason's valiant attempt by five hundredths of a second. For the second year in a row the Men's 5000m resulting in a highly competitive race with the silver medalist from the previous year Hiko Tonosa (Dundrum South Dublin) becoming the first refugee status athlete to win a Senior title on the track. Eric Favors (Raheny Shamrock) set a Championship Record of 18.64m in the Men's Shot Put. It was fitting that in the last individual event of the day John Travers (Donore Harriers) won his third Men's 1500m title in four years and became the first winner of the Basil Clifford trophy donated in Basil's honour by his club Donore Harriers.

Ciara Neville (Emerald) opened the live segment with an outstanding Championship Record of 11.33 in the 100m to move to number two in the all-time list and setting a new U23 National Record. Michelle Finn (Leevale) improved her Championship Record of the year before to 9:45.57 in the 3000m steeplechase.

### **Junior & Under 23 Championship**

2018: 30 June                      Tullamore Harriers Stadium  
2019: 06 July                      Tullamore Harriers Stadium

From 2016 these Championships have been held on a Saturday to facilitate selection for European and World Championships.

The 2018 edition was held on what was described as a "scorcher" of a day. Michaela Walsh (Swinford) had a Championship Record and a National Record U23 in the U23 hammer with 64.57m and also picked up gold in the shot put and two silvers in the Javelin and Weight for Distance. Multi eventer Elizabeth Morland (Cushinstown) picked up three golds at U23 level in the Long Jump, 100m hurdles and the Javelin.

Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) won the Junior High Jump with one attempt at 1.70m finalising her preparations for the magnificent World Junior Silver medal with 1.90m some 2 weeks later in Tampere, FIN. Molly Scott (St Laurence O'Toole) Gold 100m Hurdles, Silver 100m Ciara Neville (Emerald) Gold 200m, Rhasidat Adeleke (Tallaght) Gold 100m and Lauren Roy (City of Lisburn) Bronze 100m also had final preparations as four of the six members who would win Silver medals in the 4 X 100m relay also at the World Junior Championships in Tampere, FIN two weeks later.

The 2019 edition was graced with a U23 National Record, Ellen McCartney (City of Lisburn) clearing 4.01m in the U23 Pole Vault. Michaela Walsh (Swinford) having won two gold and two silver the previous year, won the gold in the U23 Hammer, Javelin, Shot Put and Weight for Distance.

The Junior 800m races were close and exciting, in the Women's event Sarah Healy (Blackrock Dublin) just edged Jo Keane (Ennis Track) in 2:11.40 to 2:11.56. Louis O'Loughlin (Donore Harriers) won a thrilling U20 Men's 800m with two hundredths of a second covering the spread of the first three athletes. O'Loughlin was able to come back up on the inside to win in 1:54.00 ahead of Mark Milner (Tullamore Harriers) in 1:54.01 and Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) in third in 1:54.02.

In previous years, these Championships have clashed with the Junior International in Mannheim Germany. This was avoided for 2018 & 2019.

Best Clubs were Men: Leevale 2018 and 2019, Women: Craughwell 2018, Leevale 2019.

### **Combined Events Championship**

2018: 26 & 27 May Morton Stadium, Santry

2019: 22 & 23 June Morton Stadium, Santry

The 2018 edition saw the defending Champions retain their titles in the Senior category. Amy McTeggart (Boyne) 4706 and Shane Aston (Trim) making it three in a row with 6776. Brian Lynch (Old Abbey) had a Championship Record of 6411 in the Youth Boys on his way to a qualification mark for the European U18 Championships in Gyor, HUN later that summer.

The 2019 edition took place in conjunction with a mammoth weekend of athletics sharing the venue with the Tailteann Games and the AAI Games. At Senior level there were new Champions in Laura Frey (Lagan Valley) 4369 and Michael Breathnach (Galway City Harriers) 5032. Lara O'Byrne (Donore Harriers) 4150 retained her Junior Title while Diarmuid O'Connor (Bandon) 6469 improved the Championship Record set by his cousin Brian Lynch the year previously. The 2019 Senior Championships were impacted by the European Combined Events Team Championships 2<sup>nd</sup> League held in Madeira POR two weeks later in which Ireland won a magnificent silver medal for the combined Women and Men team.

At both the Outdoor and Indoor Combined Events Championships there has been a great turnout from Master athletes. The Competition Committee has proposed a motion to the Board for inclusion in the Congress motions that Championship medals be awarded for each five-year age group as per the individual Championships.

### **Masters Championship**

2018: 18 August Tullamore Harriers Stadium

2019: 18 August Tullamore Harriers Stadium

The 2018 edition took place on the day before the National League Final and had huge fields in the various categories. On the Women's side there was an historic occasion when the Weight for Distance took place for the first time. The event also took place for the first time for Senior, Under 23 and Junior Women at their respective Championships earlier in the season. It was fitting that Frances Mansfield (Clonliffe Harriers) won the O70 with 2.51m. Frances had competed in the first Women's Senior National Championships held in Tipperary just over a half century earlier.

The 2019 edition rounded out the Outdoor Track & Field season in very wet weather which resulted in some iconic photos taken by Sportsfile. This did not deter the huge fields in producing some great competition with many multi medal performances being achieved.

### **AAI Games**

2018: 27 May Morton Stadium, Santry

2019: 22 & 23 June Morton Stadium, Santry

The 2018 edition resulted in a poor turnout of athletes with a number of events being cancelled. Thomas Barr (Ferrybank) won the 400m Hurdles in 51.23, thus completing a unique AAI Games

(Indoors & Outdoors) 400m Hurdle's double. Phil Healy (Bandon) had an impressive 100m/200m double which was unfortunately windy but showed that Phil was progressing towards the Irish 100m Record, which was obtained, later in the season.

The Women's 400m saw a World U20 A standard for Davicia Patterson (Beechmount Harriers) with 53.64 and Ciara Deely (Kilkenny City Harriers) in second getting her second World U20 B standard in 54.68.

Having listened to feedback, the 2019 Edition was moved into June and held over the weekend in Morton Games along with the Tailteann Games and Combined Events. Again, there was a poor turnout with the middle distances being cancelled and the only events yielding double numbers were the Men's 100m, 200m and 400m. Having said that, there was some good completion over the 2 days. Thanks are due to the Irish Schools Athletic Association for sharing one of the days.

In the case of qualifying performances for Non-Senior Championships, the event supports those eligible for competition under the auspices of the Competition Committee to use age related weights and hurdle specifications.

At the time of writing this report the date and venue for the 2020 edition has not been established.

### **Spring Throws**

2018	08 April	Templemore Stadium
2019:	07 April	AIT, Athlone
2020:	05 April	Templemore Stadium

The 2018 edition was hosted by Templemore and yielded a fantastic 22 personal bests, highlighted by Conor Cusack (Lake District Harriers) throwing 66.10m with the 700g javelin, achieving a European U18 standard.

The 2019 edition returned to Athlone and resulted in an amazing 35 new personal bests.

The 2020 event was due to be held in Templemore on the 5th of April but was cancelled due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation.

### **National Track and Field League**

2018: 24 June	Round 1	Mary Peter's Belfast & Templemore Stadium
08 July	Round 2	Morton Stadium, Santry & AIT Athlone
19 August	Final	Tullamore Harriers Stadium
2019: 19 May	Round 1	Mary Peter's Belfast & Templemore Stadium
30 June	Round 2	Morton Stadium, Santry & AIT Athlone
20 July	Final	Tullamore Harriers Stadium

### **League Champions**

Category	2018	2019
Premier Men	Clonliffe Harriers	Clonliffe Harriers
Premier Women	St Abban's	Dundrum South Dublin

<b>Division 1 Men</b>	<b>Nenagh Olympic</b>	<b>Wexford County</b>
<b>Division 1 Women</b>	<b>Monaghan County</b>	<b>Waterford County</b>

Bernie Dunne continued in the role the League Coordinator over the two years, having done the same during the previous Committee's term. Bernie and those who acted as Local Coordinators during the rounds deserve our gratitude. Although the numbers of clubs dropped in 2019, the League continues to give great days of competition for our clubs.

Below is a table showing team participation over the previous 8 years in the League.

Year	Men	Women	Total
2019	2	22	4
	6		8
2018	2	25	5
	9		4
2017	2	24	5
	6		0
2016	3	30	6
	1		1
2015	3	21	5
	3		4
2014	3	28	6
	2		0
2013	3	25	5
	4		9
2012	3	28	5
	0		8

There is always great assistance from the club officials who help on the day to run the competition. Competition is available for guests during the rounds and for those eligible to compete under the auspices of the Competition committee who are seeking a qualifying standard. Congratulations to the Champions. European Athletics are reviewing the format of the European Clubs competition and unfortunately the 2019 Champions will not get the opportunity to represent Ireland in 2020. The understanding is that this will resume in 2021 for the 2020 Champions albeit under a new format. As always, we would appeal to have more clubs take part in 2020 and in future years.

## **INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD**

### **Senior Championship**

2019: 16 & 17 February NIA

2020: 29 February & 1 March NIA

In 2019, the 400m finals created great excitement, first when Phil Healy (Bandon) sped to a new Championship Record of 52.81 and then Cillin Greene (Galway City Harriers) who bolted from the blocks and stayed clear from the melee that was set to ensue behind him at the break as he won in 47.19.

Sean Breathnach led a clean sweep for Galway City Harriers in the Men's shot put to win his 8th indoor title with a best of 16.22m. Completing their preparations for the European Indoor Championships in Glasgow two weeks later where they both won bronze medals were Ciara Mageean (UCD) 3000m 9:02.57 winning back the title she won in 2017 and Mark English (UCD) 800m 1:51.77 picking up his sixth title.



Saragh Buggy (St Abban's) produced a Championship Record of 13.05m to defend her Women's triple jump title, while Phil Healy (Bandon) improved her Championship Record to 52.81 in the 400m. Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) captured the High Jump in 1.86m breaking the old Championship Record of 1.85m held by Laura Sharpe (Navan) for twenty-five years and setting a new Junior National Record. Ruby Millet (St Abban's) won the Long Jump with a new Junior National Record of 6.20m.

2020 saw the 200m event completed on Saturday with the 60m event completed on Sunday along with the reintroduction of the Interclub 4 X 200m Relay Championship. The changes were a success; on Saturday Mark Smyth (Raheny Shamrock) had the second fastest winning time in the history of the Championships with 21.04 in the Men's 200m and Phil Healy (Bandon) broke the Championship Record with 23.16 in the Women's 200m. On Sunday Ciara Neville (Emerald) won the Women's 60m in 7.30 equaling the National U23 Record which was the second fastest winning time in Championship history. Dean Adams (Ballymena & Antrim) regained the title he won in 2011 with 6.74. There were emotional scenes before and after the race as Dean became the inaugural winner of the Craig Lynch Cup who won the title in 2016. Craig who was a great friend to many in our sport including Dean passed away as a result of a tragic car accident in September 2019. The cup has been donated by Craig's family and his legacy will live on with the presentation of the cup each year.

The 4 x 200m Inter Club relays yielded two National Club Records for the winners; Women: Leevale 1:42.46 and Men: Emerald 1:28.18.

The Men's middle distance produced two outstanding results; Andrew Coscoran (Star of the Sea) a dominant winner in the Men's 1500m in a new Championship Record of 3:41.36 and John Travers (Donore Harriers) completing a hatrick of 3000m victories with 8:00.96.

Sarah Quinn (St Colman's South Mayo) and Gerard O'Donnell (Carrick-on-Shannon) were convincing winners of their respective 60m hurdles races in 8.32 and 7.95. In the field Saragh Buggy (St Abban's) won the horizontal jumps double with 12.80m in the Triple Jump (her fifth consecutive title) and 6.05m to take the Long Jump title for the first time.

### **Junior and Under 23 Championship**

2019: 27 January                    AIT  
2020: 25 January                    AIT

The 2019 edition had Israel Olatunde (Dundealghan) headlining with a National Youth Record in the Junior Men's 60m in 6.84 seconds. Sophie Becker (St Joseph's) had a fine double in the U23 category winning the 60m in 7.54 and the 200m in 24.25. Joseph Ojewumi (Tallaght) was the fastest sprinter of the day winning the U23 Men's 60m in a new Championship Record of 6.83 seconds. Luke McCann (Dublin City Harriers) dominated the U23 Men's 1500m with a front-running 3:48.03 Championship Record. Michaela Walsh (Swinford) dominated the U23 throws with a European U23 B standard to win the shot in 14.33m and won the 28lbs weight for distance with 5.46m – a new Championship Record.

On what is always a wonderful day of competition for our young athletes passing through from juvenile to Senior competition, the 2020 edition was no different. The competition was held on a Saturday.

Ciara Neville (Emerald) grabbed the headlines with an U23 double 60m in 7.33 a Championship Record and 200m in 24.40 having taken the Championships Record in her heat with 24.02. Israel Olatunde (UCD) retained his title in the U20 Men's 60m in 6.91 seconds. The tightest race of the

day saw Adeyemi Talabi (Longford) edging Patience Jumbo-Gula (Dundalk St Gerard's) in the U20 60m in 7.57 to 7.58.

Ava O'Connor (Tullamore Harriers) won the Junior Women's 800m and 1500m double in 2:11.97 and 4:35.81. James Dunne (Tullamore Harriers) retained the Junior Men's 800m in 2:00.68, which resulted in athletes from his club winning a five in a row of titles for this event.

Michaela Walsh (Swinford) signed off her underage indoor shot-put career winning her twelfth title, six Juvenile u14 to U19, three Junior and 3 U23 the latest with 13.62m. On top of this Michaela would go on to win her fourth Senior title a few weeks later.

Another prolific competitor signed off on her underage indoor career with Elizabeth Morland winning the U23 Long Jump in 5.75m. This was her third U23 title, having won sixteen juvenile titles, four Junior titles and three Senior titles, the latest being the combined events the weekend before.

The Competition Committee has proposed a motion to the Board for inclusion in the Congress motions to introduce 4 X 200m Inter Club relays for Junior and U23 on the same basis as the Outdoor Championship.

### **Combined Events Championship**

2019: 19 January AIT  
2020: 20 January AIT

In the 2019 edition Shane Aston (Trim) won his third Senior Men's competition in a row with 3720, there was a fantastic three-way contest in place with Gerard O'Donnell (Carrick-on-Shannon) and Michael Bowler (Enniscorthy) until injury prevented Gerard and Michael taking part in the 1000m, the last event. In the Senior Women's Laura Frey (Lagan Valley) with 3298 regained the title she won in 2014.

The Junior titles were won by Lara O'Byrne (Donore Harriers) 3307 and Brian Lynch (Old Abbey) with 3418 a new Championship Record. The Youth titles were won by Anna Ryan (Moycarkey Coolcree) 3083 and Diarmuid O'Connor (Bandon) with 3592 a new Championship Record.

The 2020 edition saw Rolus Olusa (Clonliffe Harriers) winning the Senior title with 3584 regaining the title he won in 2016. Elizabeth Morland (Cushinstown) produced the second highest winning Senior Women's points total in the Championship history with 3806. The Junior titles were won by Anna Ryan (Moycarkey Coolcree) 3221 and Joseph McEvoy (Nenagh Olympic) with 3474 a new Championship Record. The Youth titles were won by Laura Frawley (St Mary's Limerick) 3473 and Jack Forde (St Killian's) with 3260.

The downside of a large entry in 2020 was a delay to the start of some events, mainly the Senior Women's.

### **Masters Championship**

2019: 10 March AIT  
2020: 08 March AIT

The 2019 edition produced many fine performances among them Shane Healy (Metro St Brigids) 050 800m 2:03.42. Many multiple titles were won in a full day of exciting competition.

At the 2020 edition Anne Gilshinan (Slaney Olympic) and Tommy Hughes (Termoneeny Running Club) set new Master World age best Indoor Records. Gilshinan sped to 2:20.10 in W55 800m to add another World Record to her collection which has also included a World Indoor Mile Record this season. Similarly, Tommy Hughes has been a serial age group World Record breaker, and, on

this occasion, it was the M60 3,000m winning the National title in 9:41.24. Joe Gough (West Waterford) set a world lead in the M65 age category to win the 400m in 60.04. There were also several Irish Records. Elsewhere there were many fine performances by all ages, including Patrick Naughton (Nenagh Olympic) in M85 and Michael Hayes (St Mary's Clare). Patrick took part in the first National Masters Championships in 1977 winning seven titles on that occasion and settling for the maximum five on this occasion. Con Hearty (Dundrum South Dublin) when winning the M85 2000m Walk earned the distinction of winning National Titles in each of eight decades over various categories having won his first title in 1958.

The Championships took place with measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). At the time of writing, it was the last event to take place before the government Covid guidelines resulted in the widespread cancellation or postponement of sporting events. It is our hope that Craughwell who won the Master Men's 4 X 200m Relay do not hold the distinction of the last awarded Athletics Ireland gold medals for too long. For both years, the Senior Indoor Weight for Distance Championships took place during the Master Indoor Championships.

### **AAI Indoor Games**

2019: 02 February                      NIA  
 2020: 09 February                      NIA

The 2019 edition had plenty of strong competition, with track races well supported. There was a paced race in each of the middle distances and 4 X 400m relays to facilitate qualifying attempts by the National U20 & U23 squads.

In the 3000m Walk Alex Wright (Leevale) set a National Record of 11:06.69 and in the 1500m Cian McPhillips (Longford) set a Youth National Record of 3:46.42.

Like the previous year, the last event of the day was the 400m hurdles indoors, Thomas Barr (Ferrybank) repeated his win of the previous year albeit in a slower time of 52.81. However, like the previous year it was a spectacular event and generated a fair share of publicity.

The 2020 edition was held during Storm Ciara which impacted the travel arrangements of athletes and officials. Due to a scheduling conflict the event had to start at a later than planned time. A big thank you to the stadium staff and officials who got everything in place in time for the scheduled start.

The number of participants were increased from the previous year including the field events. Again, a paced race was provided for each of the middle-distance races with the exception of one. Unlike its outdoor equivalent, the AAI indoor Games is well supported and has the potential to become an established event on the calendar for domestic and overseas competitors.

### **National Indoor Track and Field League**

2019: 12 January                      Round 1    NIA  
           26 January                      Round 2    AIT  
 2020: 11 January                      Round 1    NIA  
           26 January                      Round 2    AIT

#### **League Champions**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Men</b>	<b>Clonliffe Harriers (10 teams)</b>	<b>Clonliffe Harriers (10 teams)</b>

Women	Dublin City Harriers (10 teams)	Dublin City Harriers (12 teams)
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From 2019 onwards the competition has been held over two rounds rather than the previous two rounds and a final. The numbers of teams competing have held up but there is room for more. The two days offer opportunities for guest participation which has had a strong uptake. Bernie Dunne was the League Coordinator for the two years and like the outdoor league carried out the role in a very efficient manner.

Congratulations to Dublin City Harriers who picked up their fourth and fifth title to make it five in a row in the Women's. Likewise, to Clonliffe Harriers who picked up their fourth and fifth title to make it four in a row and five in six years.

On the second day of the league in 2020 Cian McPhillips (Longford) competing in the guest 1500m set a new Junior National Record of 3:44.85 to accompany his Youth Record from 2019.

### **OTHER AREAS**

At the National Athletic Awards two officials who have given outstanding service to our wonderful sport received well deserved awards: Sean Callan (Louth) 2018 and Bernie Dunne (Dublin) 2019.

The competition committee facilitated the annual fixtures meeting in 2018 and 2019 and with the cooperation of all involved a robust fixtures calendar was developed for 2019 and 2020.

At the time of writing this report Ireland was in the early stages of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation with so many unknowns. With one event cancelled and one event postponed already (under the auspices of the Competition Committee), it is highly likely that there will be more disruption to the 2020 fixtures. All the stakeholders at all levels in competition and related areas will work together to salvage what is practical and possible prior to and during the return to normality, hopefully in the not-too-distant future. The hope is that the 2020 calendar will not suffer too much interruption.

I represented the Competition Committee on the Technical Committee. I would like to pay tribute to Declan Curtin (Chair) and the Committee who play a vital role in support of our competitions.

Through the Technical Committee and the Competition Department, we have continued to build on technology which culminates in live results on the internet at our track and field events. Unfortunately, there has been some issues with publishing the final results during the term due to issues with the website and some nuances with special characters in the results system. These were resolved as quickly as possible. Apologies for any inconvenience caused especially to Club PRO's. We started using Athletics Manager for results for the outdoor Track and Field season 2018 and this has worked well with some of the regions adopting it as well. With National and the more of the Regions using the same entry and results system it is hoped that Athletics Ireland can move to a common results database in the future.

The Technical Committee also is involved in Officials Education. A huge amount of work in Statistics has been ongoing under the auspices of the Technical Committee. It is worth noting that the events we facilitated during the term yielded a spectacular 11 new National Records across Youth (U18), Junior (U20), U23 and Senior categories. For the record, during the term there were 79 new National Records set across all categories.

As well as facilitating our competitions, it is good that we are able to contribute to the international events, AIT International Indoor Grand Prix, Morton Games and Cork City Sports with some equipment and officials.

We would like to extend our thanks to the regions who help out with equipment on occasions when required and in particular post the fire in the AAI office in 2018.

We continue to work closely with one of the chip timing companies “MyRunResults” for our cross-country events. Due to complexities in team scoring the results are produced by Athletics Ireland based on a feed from the chip timing company of position, bib number and time.

As in my last report, I would like to bring to the attention of clubs some items which would be of great benefit in preparing results. Advising athletes not to use a bib assigned to another athlete in the Championships we hold in conjunction with other events, submitting team declarations in a timely manner in advance of the event. Another item for clubs would be having representatives at team medal presentations.

Extreme care should be taken to ensure that members entering are eligible for the particular Championship they are entering on this point eligibility to compete in our Championships came into focus on a few occasions during the term.

During Congress 2016 the competition rule was amended to:

**Title Holder Individual or Team**

**(To be defined as referring to top 3 finishers individual or team members in track & field, indoor, cross country, and road.)**

An athlete must be a holder of, or eligible to hold an Irish Passport.

An athlete must be a member of an affiliated club on the Island of Ireland.

And, Or

An athlete must reside on the island of Ireland for a minimum of 6 consecutive months immediately prior to the relevant Championship.

If in doubt, clubs should make contact in advance of the event to clarify the status of the athlete.

We would not be able to hold our events without the host clubs and organisations. Throughout the last two years we returned to familiar venues and visited new ones. A sincere thank you to all the LOCs, LOC contacts and stadium personnel, (it would not be possible to name all involved) who have provided outstanding venues and worked closely with us.

The future hosts and venues for the remaining Cross-Country fixtures in 2020 have been determined by the working group from the Competition and Juvenile Committees and the Competition Department; 11<sup>th</sup> October – Autumn Open Cross Country - Abbotstown, 22<sup>nd</sup> November – National Senior and Junior - Santry Demesne, 6<sup>th</sup> December – National Novice – Gowran Co Kilkenny. It is hoped that the National Intermediate and Master will be in Castlelyons Co Cork in early 2021 but this will have to be confirmed by the incoming committees.

It was not possible to fix a date and venue for the Senior Inter Club Cross Country relays despite best efforts during the term, hopefully the incoming Committee can find a suitable date and venue.

The cross-country days (with the exception of the Autumn Cross) and the Combined Events both indoors and outdoors are shared competition days with the Juvenile Committee. These competition days are seamless, and it was a great pleasure to work with John McGrath (Chair), Evelyn O'Reilly (Cross Country & Track & Field), Ciaran Doyle (Track & Field) and all the other members of the Juvenile Committee.

For the master's events we have worked closely with the Irish Masters Association. The feedback received from coaches is always much appreciated and we also worked closely with the event leads in High Performance and Paul McNamara.

We work very closely and in great cooperation with the organisers of the events which incorporate three of our Road Championships; Great Run (10k), Rock 'N' Roll (half marathon) and Dublin Marathon (marathon). These relationships have been built up over the years and continue to be strong. During 2019 the 10K was taken over by the Recreation Department and there were two new events introduced one event reintroduced: 5K, 5 mile and 10 mile also organised by the Recreation Department. For the Championship aspects of these we worked closely with Barry Pender and his team.

We are grateful to Claire Shannon (to 2018), Daragh Browne (from 2018) Mary Bohanna and Feidhlim Kelly from the Marketing Department who work closely with us in dressing the competition facility and publicising the event before during and after through all the communication mediums.

We are grateful to our sponsors for their support; it is always great to have Jim Dowdall (Irish Life Health) and team present at the Championships they can attend.

RTE are to be thanked for the coverage of our sport, the live coverage for our Outdoor Senior Championships continued during 2018 and 2019. Also, thanks to all those involved in the streaming of our Championships which is great for those who are unable to attend.

The Competition Committee is cognisant of the elements of Strategic Plan, Priority #2 "To Ensure that our Competitions are athlete-focused, **with an enhanced customer experience**" of the Strategic Plan 2017-2020. This has been part of our pathway.

Our officials are a tremendous asset, dedicated to providing the best competition conditions for our athletes to compete in. As well as working on the field of play at the actual events, they are many who also play an equally valuable role from Admission, monitoring Health and Safety, Call Room, Seeding, Results, monitoring technical equipment, video recording, chip checking etc. I would like to express our gratitude to all our officials who continue to give their time, which results in the holding of our competitions. As before when the opportunity arose, we were able to use students and young athletes to assist us, a genuine thank you to those.

A new competition entry system was introduced in early 2019, there were several issues that had to be overcome, and further development was undertaken. The system has gone through a full year cycle of all the competitions and hopefully most if not all the issues have been captured and rectified. The appeal is to anyone who is still experiencing issues to immediately bring them to the attention of the Competition Department for resolution. There is no doubt that there are a lot of complexities in our Competitions, the hope is that the system will bed down and be stable for the future.

The source of data for the entry system is from the Registration system so it is imperative that athletes are registered with the correct spelling and date of birth, this will flow into the entry system and into the results systems without intervention.

A strict approach to entry deadlines has been adopted. In general entries are closed on the Wednesday night 10 days before the weekend of the competition. There is an opportunity for late entries up until the Sunday night before the weekend of the competition. After that it is strictly no entry to allow preparation for the event. It is important to contact the Competition Department with any entry issue prior to the closing date by mailing [competition@athleticsireland.ie](mailto:competition@athleticsireland.ie) These will be addressed if received prior to the closing date.

The advent of bonus points for the World Athletics Ranking system for placing in National Senior Championships is a welcome addition to help full turnout at our Championships. To facilitate this an attempt was made to recommence the Women's 10000m Outdoor track Championship in 2019 but it was not possible to find a suitable date.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to pay tribute to four members of the Competition Department who left Athletics Ireland during the term, Moira Aston (December 2018), Conor Greally (December 2019) and Sara Rose Shelly (September 2018) and Craig Derham (February 2020). Moira and Conor had been long time members of the Department and made a huge contribution during their time with Athletics Ireland and we wish them well in their future careers.

Lizzy Broderick joined in early 2019 as Director of Competitions and has been joined by Valerie O'Brien during 2019 and James Welsh in early 2020. The Competition Department has a huge role to play in the holding of our competitions. It would take a lot of space to fully cover all the aspects of their great work which includes the administration of the entries, the preparation before each event, communication with the officials and onsite support during competition days. One innovation has been the introduction of a post event survey open to all which has proved valuable as a feedback source. On behalf of the Committee and the Officials I would like to express our gratitude to the Competition Department.

During the past few years, it was sad to see some of our current and former officials pass onto their eternal reward having given outstanding service to our wonderful sport, may they RIP. These included Mary Meagher (Blarney Inniscarra) who passed away in January 2020 and who officiated as recently as our Senior Outdoor Championships in 2019. Mary was a fantastic official and administrator at all levels and is missed by so many. We also remember Paddy Joyce (2019) (Cushinstown), Joe Moore (2019) (Dublin City Harriers), Paddy O'Connell (2019) (Limerick), Margaret (2019) and Sean Grehan (2020) (Rathfarnham WSAF). Deepest sympathies to their families and gratitude for the service to our sport. Apologies to anyone inadvertently missed, the same sentiments apply.

For the second time I have been privileged to chair the Competition Committee consisting of dedicated members willing to provide the best competition conditions possible for our athletes, officials, sponsors, and spectators. We often had good healthy debate on the way to a consensus decision based on the criteria "what is best for the athlete." As well as being the National League Coordinator, Bernie Dunne served as the committee Secretary, Bernie thanks for carrying out this role in a very efficient manner.

It was a great honour to be elected Chair of Competition four years ago on home soil in Tullamore and again in Carrick-on-Shannon two years ago. A lot has been achieved over those four years by a huge team focused on providing the best competition conditions. Apologies to anyone I left out inadvertently.

To all those on that huge team, along with my fellow Board members, President Georgina Drumm and CEO Hamish Adams thank you for all your help and support over the past two years.

Finally, best wishes to all those that will be involved in Competition in the future.

Date: March 2020 – End of report submitted for cancelled Congress April 2020.

## ADDENDUM

The above report was written and submitted in March 2020 in line for the scheduled Congress of April 2020. The following is the additional information for the period March 2020 through March 2021, which resulted in ten competition days.

## **ROAD**

Eventually the full program of road events for 2020 had to be cancelled, the decision taken based on the Covid guidelines in place at the time of each event.

AAI 10K Road Championship (Great Ireland Run)	Sunday 5th April
AAI Road Relays	Sunday 19th April
AAI 5K Road Championships	Sunday 17th May
AAI 5 Mile Road Championship	Sunday 13th June
AAI 10 Mile Road Championship	Sunday 12th July
AAI Half Marathon (RnR)	Sunday 9th August
AAI Marathon (Dublin Marathon)	Sunday 25th October

Virtual races organised by Athletics Ireland Recreation Department took place for the Irish Runner 5 km, 5 Mile, 10 Mile and the Great Ireland Run 10 km.

As of now in March 2021 the only firm fixture for 2021 is the AAI National Marathon (Dublin Marathon) which is scheduled for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October. The other road championships have not been fixed until more information is available on mass participation. The outgoing committee have proposed that the Road Relays should be fixed for the Autumn. Virtual races are being organised by Athletics Ireland Recreation Department as per 2020.

## **OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD**

The following events were cancelled based on the current Covid guidelines in place at the time.

AAI Spring Throws	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April
AAI National League Round 1	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
AAI National League Round 2	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June
AAI National League Final	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> July

The AAI Games had not got a date and did not take place.



Throughout the summer of 2020 there was a constant evaluation of how and when there could be Outdoor Track and Field championships. The Committee worked in conjunction with the Juvenile Committee and the regions, following each announcement from the Government. In early August it was decided to proceed over 4 weekends within the COVID-19 guidelines and having a maximum of 200 (including everyone) on site.

The model adopted resulted in the competition taking place in sessions which allowed athletes for a group of events to come on site and follow the Covid-19 protocols, warm up, compete and then leave. To ensure there was no breach of the maximum number allowed the sessions were designed based on the entries. To run the competitions, there was only a minimum number of officials, medical staff, catering staff, stadium staff and media allowed. There were no coaches or spectators allowed. This resulted in many friends of our sport (many lifelong) being excluded from the event. To help counteract this streaming of seven of the eight days took place. The streaming was received very favourably. There was an absolute level of compliance resulting in only those who were allowed on site being on site and the athletes arriving on time and leaving on time and everyone following the Covid-19 protocols.

There was a decision taken that no relays would take place during the events held in the 2020 Outdoor Track season. The following regulations were in place; athletes who resided in a county under government lockdown or those who have been off the island of Ireland in the 14 days before the competition were not permitted to compete.

#### **Senior Championship incorporating U23 Championship.**

2020: 22,23,29 & 30 August                      Morton Stadium, Santry

It was a primary objective to host the National Senior Championships and we were also standing on the shoulders of history as these championships are the longest running consecutive national championships in the world. So, the 148<sup>th</sup> edition continued the illustrious history of those before. In order to avail of the restricted window of opportunity it was decided to incorporate the U23 championships into the event with the first 3 U23 athletes receiving their U23 medals regardless of where they finished in the Senior Championships. The entry window was shortened so the exact number of entries could be determined. Once the entries closed, they were frozen.

The Senior Championships were designed to take place over 4 days and nine sessions. For those present it was fair to say that the atmosphere was nothing like ever witnessed before, but the athletes produced many fantastic performances both of a statistical and competitive nature that will rank edition #148 favourably against its predecessors.

The Championships started with young athletes showing the way in the Hammer. Nicola Tuthill (Bandon) won the Women's with a new National Youth record of 60.04m. At year end this performance stood up as number 3 as a Youth in the World and number 21 in the World as a Junior. Brendan O'Donnell (Lifford-Strabane) delivered a big PB of 64.62 to win the Senior/U23 double in the Men's event. The weather conditions were not ideal on the first day during which Sarah Buggy (St Abban's) won the Women's Long Jump with 6.09m and Shane Howard (Bandon) won the Men's Long Jump with 7.44m. Michelle Finn (Leevale) impressed on the track with 16:47.39 in the 5000m. Sean Breathnach (Galway City Harriers) won the 56 lbs Weight for Height with 4.60m. Sean just scraped the bar with some decent attempts at a new National Record of 4.95m. Day one titles were completed by Holly Brennan (Cilles) 18:15.64 and Michael Morgan (Sligo) 15:56.22 in the Junior 5000m. The Junior Men's field attracted 17 competitors a fantastic number.

Day two of the Championships saw much better conditions, the morning saw the Javelin Throwers and the High Jumpers in action. Kate O'Connor (St Gerard's Dundalk) took the Women's U23 and Senior titles in 49.24m (an U23 Championship record) while Stephen Rice (Clonliffe Harriers) broke the seventy-metre mark with a best of 72.73m. In the Women's High Jump Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) cleared 1.79m to take the U23 and Senior titles. David Cussen (Old Abbey) had a fine clearance of 2.17m in the Men's High Jump to take the title.

The afternoon saw a live televised session by RTE (for the fourth consecutive year) with an array of fine displays. The Men's 5000m turned out to be another great event. Darragh McElhinney (UCD) pounced in the last 200m to pull away from longtime leader John Travers (Donore Harriers) and win with 13:56.00. Both Darragh and John returned the first sub 14 performances since 2011 and Darragh's time was an U23 Championship record. Nessa Millet (St Abban's) was a strong winner of the Women's 400m hurdles in 59.52 to retain her title. Matthew Behan (Crusaders) had plenty to celebrate after winning the Men's 400m Hurdles in 52.47, Matthew had previously concentrated on the 110 m Hurdles.

There were fine performances in both 400m races with Sophie Becker (Raheny Shamrock) 54.06 and Chris O'Donnell (North Sligo) 47.12 taking the one lap titles. Chris's time was an U23 Championship record. Phil Healy (Bandon) took the Women's 100m in 11.71 while Stephen Gaffney (UCD) had a powerful run in the Men's 100m to take it in 10.63.

The weather was now providing a glorious evening and the scene was set for the final 2 races of the first weekend: the 1500ms. In the Women's Amy O'Donoghue (Emerald) who had won many underage titles along the way was overjoyed as she raced across the line in 4:21.51 to win her first Senior outdoor title. The Men's 1500m turned out to be a "race for the ages" between Paul Robinson (St Coca's) 3:43.90 and Sean Tobin (Clonmel) 3:43.92. Tobin made a brave bid for victory from the gun and got a big gap on the field having split the field. Robinson had to eventually cover and reel him in which he did with 100m to go, and it looked like Tobin's fate was sealed. The Clonmel man responded with 50m to go, and it was shoulder to shoulder to the finish – a lunge from Robinson got the win (regaining the title he last won in 2011) and years of frustration through injury were washed away.

The streaming and RTE captured the excitement of the event and as a result it was viewed by a huge number remote from Santry. The RTE figures averaged 54K and peaked at 75K for the 1500m's.

Day three saw Sean Tobin (Clonmel) win the Men's 10000m in 29:35.14, Sean made his break two kilometers out to win from a fast-finishing Eric Keogh (Donore Harriers) 29:36.21. Niamh Fogarty (Raheny Shamrock) won the Women's discus completing a hat trick of titles with 49.46m. Niamh also gained the U23 title. Colin Quirke (Crusaders) won the Men's version with 55.50m.

In the Women's triple jump Sarah Buggy (St Abban's) got out to 12.97m winning her fifth straight title and thirteenth title in all one of which was the long jump the week before. The Men's triple jump went to the wire with Jai Benson (Lagan Valley) winning both Senior and U23 titles with 14.53m on his final jump.

The walks saw Kate Veale (West Waterford) pick up her twelfth National Senior title with 24:51.49 in the 5000m Walk. Callum Wilkinson (Togher) the GBR international who is based in Cork had an emphatic win when dipping under 40 mins (39:52.05) for the Men's 10000m Walk title. The time was a British record, the championship record is held by Callum's coach Rob Heffernan who had won 9 titles in this event.

Day four saw the sprinters returning. In the Women's 200m Phil Healy (Bandon) added to her 100m title from the previous week in 23.57. Wearing bib number 12 it was appropriate that it was Phil's twelfth National Senior Title. In the Men's 200m Marcus Lawlor (St Laurence O'Toole) regained the title he last won in 2015 with 20.95.

In the short hurdles Gerard O'Donnell (Carrick on Shannon) won his fifth outdoor 110m hurdles and fourth in a row with 13.96. The Women's 100m hurdles was close with Sarah Quinn (St Colman's South Mayo) getting past Lily Ann O'Hora (Dooneen) who led over the last hurdle in 13.67.

In the Men's 3000m steeplechase Rory Chesser (Ennis Track) regained the title last won in 2016. Rory's time was 9:39.62 and it was his seventh title in the event moving past Eugene O'Neill to behind Liam O'Brien's eleven titles. The Women's 3000m Steeplechase saw Michelle Finn (Leevale) complete a double with the 5000m from the previous week in 9:59.72. This was Michelle's sixth title and third in a row over the barriers. Emily Grennan (Tullamore Harriers) won the bronze thus winning her clubs first ever Women's medal on National Senior Track & Field Championship weekend.

The Women's Shot Putt saw Michaela Walsh (Swinford) making her only appearance in the Championships a winning one with 14.19m also completing a hat trick of titles. The Men's shot put was a family affair with the Kelly Brothers (Finn Valley) filling the first 2 spots with John winning in 18.40m from James.

The morning saw Orla Coffey (Carraig-na-Bhfear) win the Women's Pole Vault in 3.50m. Second place Una Brice (Leevale) also cleared 3.50m. Both performances were personal bests. Yuri Kanash (West Waterford) was delighted to win the Men's Pole Vault in 4.50m in the afternoon.

The final field events of the Championships were the weight for distance. In the Men's 56 lbs Sean Breathnach (Galway City Harriers) completed the weight double with 8.24m. A multiple medalist across the field events Sean was winning his fifth title at this event. In the Women's third ever championship the 28 lbs weight for distance went to Ebony Hogan (Birr) with 6.84m. This was Birr's first ever National Senior Women's Title, some 104 years after the last Senior Men's title from the town. Ebony's performance was an U23 Championship record.

The curtain was brought down on the 148<sup>th</sup> National Senior Championships with the 800m races. In the Women's 800m Iseult O'Donnell (Raheny Shamrock) having won several underage titles finally annexed a Senior outdoor title in 2:09.13 with a powerful sprint finish. The 800m Men was an exciting contest with Harry Purcell (Trim) winning in 1:52.49 from exciting prospects Cian McPhillips (Longford) and Louis O'Loughlin (Donore Harriers). Harry's well deserved emotional and celebratory roar could be heard some distance away.

### **Junior Championship (including U23 Walks and U23 Men Weight for distance)**

2020: 05 & 13 September Morton Stadium, Santry

To proceed with the Junior Championship a restriction of a maximum of 2 events per athlete was introduced. Initially it was thought that it could be completed over 1 day but after analysis it was determined that it could not as there would be breaches of the maximum numbers during the day. It was decided then it had to move to 2 days, this caused inconvenience for some athletes, for which we apologise for the inconvenience.

On Day 1 Charles Okafor (Mullingar Harriers) had an impressive 100m/200m sprint double with 10.92/22.16. The 200m series was hampered by pouring rain in what was the worst conditions of the 4 weekends of the Track and Field Championships. On the Women's side the 100m was won by Jenna Breen (City of Lisburn) in 12.31 and the 200m by Molly Hourihan (DSD) in 25.16.

Robert McDonnell (Galway City Harriers) took the Men's 400m in 48.66 while Lauren McCourt (Bandon) won the Women's 400m in 57.67 both finals also held in the rain. The Women's 1500m was a front running affair with Aimee Hayde (Newport) winning in 4:25.77, a new Championship

record and the first leg of a double while Sean Donoghue (Celtic DCH) took the Men's title in 3:58.55.

On the 3000m steeplechase front Cara McNally (Lusk) won in 12:11.13 in her debut in the event. James Hyland (Raheny Shamrock) became the Men's champion in 9:43.15. Emily McHugh (Naas) won the 3000m Walk in 13:54.21 with Matthew Glennon (Mullingar Harriers) winning the Men's 5000m Walk in 23:23.66.

In the field events Joseph McEvoy (Nenagh Olympic) produced a PB to win with 7.20m while Sophie Meredith (St Mary's Limerick) had a good series to win the Women's title with 5.97m.

Doubles in the Shot Put & Discus were the order of the day, Sean Carolan (Nenagh Olympic) impressed with 14.31m/44.91m in the Men's with Ciara Sheehy (Emerald) performing the same double in the Women's with 13.40m/41.09m.

Nicola Tuthill (Bandon) the Senior Champion returned to pick up the Junior Hammer title with 57.19. Sean Maher (Raheny Shamrock) was the Men's Hammer title winner in 55.39m.

In the Javelin Conor Cusack (Lake District) who was the Senior silver medalist had a Championship Record of 62.01m to win the Men's Javelin. Aoibhin McMahon (Blackrock Louth) with 39.26 took the Women's.

The day's Junior field events were completed with the weight for distance. Kiana Nolan (St Laurence O'Toole) won the Women's 28lbs with 5.19m while Robert Higgins (Na Fianna) won the Men's 35 lbs title with 9.16m.

For the U23 events Sean Mockler (Moycarkey Coolcree) won the Men's 35lbs weight in 9.34m. The Women's 3000m walk was won by Sarah Constant (Carraig na Bhfear) in 17:25.07 with the Men's 5000m Walk won in 23:51.71 by Joe Mooney (Adamstown).

Day two of the Junior Championships took place in sunny conditions. Three field events were contested. In the High Jump Geoffrey Joy O'Regan (Sun Hill Harriers) won the Men's title with 1.96m, Aoife O'Sullivan (Liscarroll) cleared 1.70m to take the Women's title.

In the Triple Jump Aisling McHugh (Naas) with 11.54m in the Women's and Richard Kamsen (Galway City Harriers) with 13.66m were the champions. Orla Coffey (Carraig na Bhfear) completed the Senior/Junior double with the same height of 3.50m in the Pole Vault. Conor Callinan (Leevale) took the Men's Pole Vault with 4.30m

On the track both the long and short hurdles were contested. In the Men's 110m Hurdles Nelvin Appiah (Longford) had a fine win in 14.55. Tara Meier (Raheny Shamrock) took the Women's 100m Hurdle's title in 16.40. Over the long hurdles Conor Hoarde (Galway City Harriers) took the Men's title in 56.78 and Seren O'Toole (Galway City Harriers) completed a fine club double in 64.88 in the Women's 400m Hurdles. It was wonderful to see 15 athletes competing in the Women's event.

Siobhan Whelan won a competitive Women's 3000m in 10:02.48 and in the Men's 3000m Tadhg Donnelly (Drogheda & District) won in 8:34.15. Both these events have struggled for numbers over recent years, it was magnificent to see 15 contest the Women's and 40 contest the Men's in 2020.

The final events of the wonderful four weekends of outdoor Track and Field Championships in 2020 were the Junior Women's and Men's 800m finals. It was well worth the wait as both produced Championship records. In the Women's Aimee Hayde (Newport) was rewarded for her front running with 2:08.43 while in the Men's Louis O'Loughlin closed the show with a new record of 1:50.93.

## **Masters Championship**

2020: 06 September Morton Stadium, Santry.

In order to proceed with the Masters Championships a restriction of one event per athlete had to be introduced. Given the lack of competition due to the pandemic this was very well received. There was great cooperation with the Irish Masters Athletic Association while getting the competition in place. Even with the restriction of one event per athlete there was several times during the day where the numbers were close to the maximum, however with the great cooperation of the athletes who left when their event was over the limit was never exceeded. The day itself could be described as glorious from the point of view of the beautiful weather and the obvious joy of being able to compete and the camaraderie among the athletes.

On the track Anne Gilshinan (Slaney Olympic) and Tommy Hughes (Strive Running Club) highlighted with respective W55 3,000m and M60 5,000m Irish records. Anne Gilshinan smashed the Irish over-55 3000m record, clocking 10:36.26 to win gold in as did Tommy Hughes who cracked 17 minutes with 16:47.59 in the M60 5000m.

A commanding run from Ciara Hickey (Brothers Pearse) saw her take W40 3000m gold with a superb solo run of 10:05.17. David Clarke (North Belfast Harriers) only took up running in his 50s and sprinted to M60 1500m gold in 4:41.05. Martin Cunningham (Tír Chonaill) celebrated jubilantly winning the M40 Men's 1500m in 4:22.78.

Avril Dillon (Dundrum South Dublin) crossed the line to win the W40 Women's 100m in 12.94 and mark herself as the fastest female sprinter on the day. Jonathan Carleton (Ballymena & Antrim) was the fastest sprinter of the day in the M40 category winning the 100m in 11.51. Interestingly Joe Gough (West Waterford), who normally runs middle distance, did the long jump, and won the M65 category with 4.25m.

Elder statesmen Patrick Naughton (Nenagh Olympic) and Michael Hayes (St Mary's Clare) won the M85 and M90 shot put gold with 7.57m and 5.66m, respectively. Patrick is the longest serving at these championships having first competed in the inaugural event on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1977, Michael was the oldest competitor on the day.

Mary Barrett (Loughrea) won another shot putt title in the W60 with 9.02m. Olympian John Menton (DSD) had an excellent throw to win the M50 discus with 43.66m – just shy of the Irish record of 45.60m set by Garry Power in 2015. John Dwyer (Templemore) won the M35 hammer with 48.36m while Lucy Moore (DSD) set an Irish W60 record in the hammer with 25.55m.

## **Combined Events Championship**

2020: 12 & 13 September Morton Stadium, Santry

The Senior Heptathlon and Decathlon over the course of the weekend saw Karen Dunne (Bohermeen) win the Senior Women's title with 4,095 points while Rolus Olusa (Clonliffe Harriers) won the Senior Men's title with 6,400 points.

Anna McCauley (City of Lisburn) impressed to win the Junior Women's Heptathlon as did Diarmuid O'Connor (Bandon) for the Junior Men's Decathlon with 6,807 points.

The masters were in great form too with Women's 40-49 Pentathlon gold for Erika Juozapaitė (Blackrock Louth) with 2,824 points and Women's 50 plus Quadrathlon gold for Shirley Fennelly (Tramore) with 1,947 points. The Men's 35-39 Pentathlon went to Martin Mooney (Inishowen) with 1,963 points, the Men's 40-49 Pentathlon to Garret Nolan (Lusk) on 1,691 points and Men's 50 plus Quadrathlon gold to Paschal Halley (Waterford) with 2,580 points.

Given an empty stadium it was amazing the atmosphere the multi eventers created for themselves through their support for each other in the tradition of the event even down to the lap of honour.

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Eventually the full program of Cross-Country events for 2020/2021 as listed below had to be cancelled, the decision taken based on the Covid guidelines in place at the time of each event.

2020

AAI Autumn Cross	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> October
AAI Senior & Junior Cross Country Championships	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November
AAI Novice Cross Country Championships	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December

2021

AAI Intermediate & Master Cross Country Championships	Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> February
-------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------

After the completion of the outdoor Track and Field championships in mid-September the thoughts were turning to Cross Country and the hope that it could take place in some format. The first casualty was the Autumn Cross which was planned to be the rehearsal event for the eventually postponed European Cross-Country Championships. Some counties were able to facilitate their own championships before the lockdown kicked back in.

The Committee spent a lot of time in conjunction with the Juvenile Committee and the regions trying to put in place National Championships, initially moving to after Christmas and then later in April/May time but eventually had to succumb to the inevitable. A major thanks to the regions who agreed a qualifying system with the Competition Committee and were prepared to implement it to facilitate a reduced number Senior Championship. Indeed, it was a credit that both national Committees and the regional Committees worked so closely together to try and salvage something from the Cross-Country season. At the time of writing some Cross-Country events may still take place at regional or county level. At National level, the focus moves to the end of 2021 where hopefully we can welcome the Cross-Country Championships back along with the exciting prospect of Athletics Ireland hosting the European Cross-Country Championships in Abbotstown in December.

### **RACE WALKING ROAD**

#### **30km Championship (Men)**

2020: 12 December

Due to the pandemic and the Covid guidelines in place it was not possible to hold the National 30km Men's Championship at the scheduled time in December. Working with Sport Ireland Expert Group it was possible for a 30km time trial to go ahead for the athletes categorised as High Performance by Sport Ireland. Hamish Adams our CEO was instrumental in getting this event authorised. From our committee Ray Flynn played a big part in the organisation of the event. The time trial took place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December in the vicinity of Páirc Uí Chaoimh in Cork. At the time of writing, it has not been possible to set a date and venue for the 2021 20km Road Championships yet.

## **INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD**

Except for the Senior Indoor Championships which were fixed for 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> February which was the World Athletics preferred date no dates were fixed for the remaining Indoor Championships for 2021.

Eventually the Senior Indoor Championships were cancelled, and the following did not take place in 2021 due to the Covid guidelines in place at the time.

Indoor Junior and U23 Championships  
Indoor Combined Events Championships  
Indoor Masters Championships  
AAI Indoor Games  
National Indoor Track and Field League

### **Irish Life Health Elite Micro Meet**

Since before Christmas there was hope that it would be possible to hold the Senior Indoor Championships at least along the lines of the outdoor Championships. When this was ruled out the concentration was on facilitating a Micro Meet to help those on the pathway to the Olympic Games and those looking for qualification for the European Indoor Championships in Torun Poland. Also, an application was made to World Athletics for Category E Classification in terms of ranking points.

The effort to get this across the line with the Government, Sport Ireland and the Expert Group was spear headed by Hamish Adams CEO and Paul McNamara Director of High Performance.

On Thursday 4th February, the green light was received, and the following statement was released:

“Athletics Ireland is delighted to confirm that the Sport Ireland Expert Group have secured Government approval for an Indoor Micro Meet to take place for invited high performance athletes in the Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena on February 20th and 21st 2021.

This meet will allow for a Covid-19 compliant event for European Indoor qualification purposes and for the attainment of Category E World Ranking points for all those athletes working towards Tokyo qualification. Entry will be restricted to athletes tracking towards Olympic Games qualification and European Indoor Championships qualification, including senior relay panels, and invitations will be issued in the coming days.

A small number of additional athletes may be invited to ensure the event is compliant with permitting requirements so that all results are valid for qualification purposes. The participation of each athlete must be approved by Government via Sport Ireland Expert Group.”

The Competition Department (Barry Pender) and the Competition Committee (John Cronin – Chair of Group) were represented on the Working Group which worked solidly together to bring the event to a successful conclusion. The other members were High Performance (Paul McNamara) Health and Safety (George Maybury) Medical (Dr May Tan) Covid Officer (Seamus Flynn) and CEO (Hamish Adams). There was constant liaison with Sport Ireland and National Indoor arena and other third parties.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of February there was a Zoom call for all involved which outlined the protocols and flows. Every person coming on site had to complete a daily questionnaire for the 7 previous days and the 14 days after. For each day everyone coming on site had a temperature check and an

Antigen check and had to remain on site until their involvement was complete for the day.

Due to the restrictions only a small number of officials could be appointed. Unfortunately, there was a technical issue which resulted in no electronic times available for the first 2 athletes in the second Women's 400m, for this I sincerely apologise to the athletes concerned. The streaming team and RTE gave valuable coverage of the event to those who could not attend.

The event itself although elongated due to the requirements ran very well. The athletes overall had exceptional performances which can be seen from the statistics table below.

87	Event Starts
61	Unique Athletes
37	Season Bests not including Personal Bests
30	Personal Bests
21	Athletics Ireland European Indoor Standards
10	Ireland Senior Season Leads
9	National Indoor Arena Stadium Records
4	National U23 Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Israel Olatunde UCD AC 60m Men 6.74</li><li>• Israel Olatunde UCD AC 60m Men 6.73</li><li>• Cian McPhillips Longford AC 800m Men 1:46.13</li><li>• Darragh McElhinney UCD AC 3000m Men 7:50.80</li></ul>
3	National Junior (U20) Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Israel Olatunde UCD AC 60m Men 6.74</li><li>• Israel Olatunde UCD AC 60m Men 6.73</li><li>• Cian McPhillips Longford AC 800m Men 1:46.13</li></ul>
3	All Comers Records
1	National Senior Record <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mark English Finn Valley AC 800m 1:46.10</li></ul>
1	World & European Junior (U20 Season Lead)

Gratitude to the Government and Sport Ireland for sanctioning the event, to Hamish and Paul for getting the event sanctioned and to all those across Athletics Ireland who contributed to such a successful event. Thank you to Dr May and her medical team, George for Health & Safety and Seamus the Covid Officer for leadership and guidance through all the difficulties arising from the pandemic which resulted in a safe outcome. Well done to Barry, James and Valerie from the Competition Department and the small team of officials on site and those who were remote for the preparation and the execution of the event over the two days. Huge respect to the athletes who all came and followed the Covid guidelines and performed to such a high standard.

## **OTHER AREAS**

This section (see above) from the report written in March 2020 is still valid, so I will cover new items here to avoid repetition.

### **Fixtures**

At the time of writing the Fixtures Committee which has input from the Competition Committee, Juvenile Committee, High Performance, Irish Schools, Irish Universities, and the Regions has met several times to map out the fixtures for the outdoor Track and Field season 2021 based on the



hope that conditions and Covid guidelines that will allow a return to competition. To allow this, in general the fixtures have been phased to later in the summer apart from Championships that are a precursor to International Championships. This fixture list will be published in advance of Congress. It has been a pleasure to chair the Fixtures Committee over the last five years and hopefully the level of cooperation to set the fixtures calendar so that each area gets the maximum best fit possible (or compromise) for competition under their auspices will continue post Congress. I would like to thank each area for their outstanding cooperation in the past difficult year where eventually most of the competitions were cancelled despite valiant attempts to schedule them.

### **Shoes**

2020 was the year when the question of “shoes” came to the fore. Already a subject of debate on the roads, the Outdoor Track and Field season was our first real occurrence on the track. Sincere thanks to Matt Lockett the HP Endurance Coordinator who kept us up to date on the various communications from World Athletics about Rule 5 and developed the first prototype measuring device which was used at the Senior, U23 and Junior outdoor Championships.

By the time the indoor Micro Meet came around the relevant athletes had to fill in an online form in advance to declare the shoe that they would be wearing, and this was checked against the legal list provided by World Athletics that was valid at the time of the event. I believe this will be the way forward with athletes declaring their shoes in advance for our Championships and being compliant rather than suffering disqualification and subsequent result nullification.

There are challenges to producing a process that is streamlined and efficient for event organisers whilst safeguarding the integrity of domestic competition track and field competition. The two key challenges to providing fair and consistent competition at a domestic level.

1. Ensure that shoes with a stack height of over 25mm are not worn in events on the track even though they are compliant for road races. For events below 800m shoes must be below 20mm but specialist shoes for these events are likely to be compliant.
2. Ensure that shoes worn by athletes are compliant with World Athletics rules concerning them being available to other athletes. This is unlikely to be a significant issue as conflict will only arise if elite sponsored athletes are given custom or prototype shoes by a manufacturer.

### **2020 Ranking Points**

Because of the large number of Championships cancelled in 2020, clarification was sought from World Athletics could the 2020 Championship be run in 2021 as the 2020 Championships and accrue ranking points. World Athletics confirmed this was not possible.

### **Competition Department**

On behalf of the Competition Committee and our Officials I would like to thank the Competition Department for their continued outstanding work during the exceedingly difficult period since March 2020. For the Outdoor Championships and the Micro Meet an enormous amount of work took place in the preparation, event, and post event phases.

Thank you to Lizzy Broderick Director of Competition and Barry Pender who stepped into the role when Lizzy went on leave at the end of 2020, Valerie O'Brien, and James Welsh for all the support to our competitions and events.

### **Officials**

Unfortunately for the remainder of 2020 and 2021 we were not able to use all our officials due to the few events and the restrictions on numbers. Thank you for your understanding and I look forward to the day when we can all meet again in person.

Deirdre Nagle (Dublin City Harriers) has decided to step down as an official. Deirdre has been a Photo Finish Operator and has supported our competitions in that role for many years. Deirdre continued a family tradition as her late father Brendan Foreman along with Jim Mulhern were the pioneers of Photo Finish in Ireland. Having had a hugely successful career as an international athlete and as an official we wish Deirdre all the best for the future, and we thank her for her outstanding service as an official.

### **Pat Hooper (RIP †)**

The sudden passing of Pat Hooper our beloved Committee member cast a huge shadow and in so many ways made the already difficult year pale into comparison. The shock we all received on the afternoon of Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October will take a long time to get over. Pat's contribution to our sport as an athlete, administrator, motivator and many more aspects is well documented elsewhere. Pat was first elected to the Competition Committee in April 2016 and immediately dispensed with his marathon background and hit the ground in sprint mode from the very first meeting. Pat was always contributing, and many times came up with valuable insights from a less obvious angle and was always on the "how to better the athletes experience" train of thought. Pat was ever present at the meetings and only missed one due to an unavoidable clash in this term. Exactly one week before on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October he attended his last meeting with us. At the end of the Junior Championships on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September we spoke as we left the stadium about the hope of a "Post Covid" world, little did we know....

Deepest sympathies to his son Dave and daughter Bronagh, his brother Dick, his siblings, and the extended Hooper family, to his beloved Raheny Shamrock, Dublin Athletics, Athletics Leinster and to the many organisations he was involved in and to the many people whose lives he touched and who were better for knowing him, including our committee. May He Rest in Peace.

"Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts."

### **Finally, Finally**

As I mentioned the thanks and gratitude expressed in the March 2020 report still apply. At that time, it was expected that by this stage a new Chair and Committee would be in place. It was an unusual and extraordinary year in many ways. Going from a full calendar of events to a full stop was difficult for everyone. Athletics Ireland getting the Outdoor Championships including the historic 148<sup>th</sup> Senior Outdoor Championships and the Indoor Micro Meeting across the line will be lifelong memories for those lucky enough to be involved.

A huge personal thanks to the Competition Committee and all those involved with competition at all levels over the past 5 years. Best wishes to the new Chair and the incoming Committee and all those involved in Competition in the future.

Date: March 2021

**JOHN CRONIN,**  
CHAIR OF COMPETITION

Report Proposed By: **George Maybury**

**Seconded by: Brid Golden**

## High Performance Committee Report presented by Neil Martin Chair

### **Introduction:**

It has been an extremely busy two years in the area of High Performance in Athletics Ireland which has seen a record number of our athletes represent Ireland at 23 major championships.

All the International competitions in 2020 were cancelled due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic apart from World Half Marathon championships.

In March 2021, the European Indoor Championships hopefully was the start to international competition again. Our national team performed very at these championships with 4 finalist and 4 others Semi-Finalist.

We have had excellent and very pleasing results with 23 medals and an additional 50 top 8 finishes at European and World competitions.

Our Strategic Plan for 2017/2020 targeted 25 medal opportunities for our athletes and an aim of winning 16 medals. Since April 2016 we have won 36 medals at international level. This surpasses our aims and targets.

The last championships that Ireland competed in prior to Covid-19 were the European Cross-Country Championships in Lisbon, where we won 4 Medals and had 7 top 8 finishes which augurs well for our hosting of the 2020 championships in Abbottstown, Dublin on December 13th.

I congratulate all our athletes, their coaches, clubs, and families, who have represented Ireland in the last two years at Juvenile, Youth, Junior, U23 and Senior levels. It is a wonderful honor to represent your Country and should be celebrated accordingly by all those involved.

### **Carding System:**

The Carding System is evolving with a more focused performance investment, with more concentrated athlete support and service provision to athletes tracking towards world class performance, while simultaneously supporting a greater number of athletes via pathway educational projects led by Pathway Performance Manager led by Jacqui Freyne and Event Group Projects led by the National Event Coordinators.

### **Staffing:**

Following the decision of Congress 2018 to support the motion from the Board to increase the Registration fee by €3.00, High Performance were in a position to further develop the staff situation in the Association.

The fulltime appointments of Daniel Kilgannon as Sprints Coordinator, David Sweeney as Field Event Coordinator have been a major asset to the HP team. Since our last congress in 2018 Matt Lockett has replaced Steven Macklin as Endurance Coordinator while Hayley Harrison and Michael Lane, Hurdles and Walks coordinators, continue in a part-time capacity. Bee O'Callaghan has joined the team as Performance Services Manager.

I wish to thank the staff of the association working in the High-Performance department Paul McNamara, Jacqui Freyne, Bee O'Callaghan, Gillian Brosnan and Charlotte Gillick for their dedicated and diligent work for our athletes. Their commitment is exceptional, always way beyond the call the duty. I would also like to sincerely thank all those who travelled with our championship teams in a management, coaching or support capacity for giving so generously of their time and expertise over the last two years.

Whilst on the subject of staff it was sad to lose some members of the staff over 2020. Gillian Brosnan has left our employment to pursue a career in the HP Department of Sports Ireland and Bea O'Callaghan was made redundant due to the Covid-19 pandemic. I thank them both for their diligence and support to the Association. This loss has placed an extra workload on the High-Performance Director and his team.

### **Services:**

We are fortunate to have an outstanding team of service providers for our carded athletes. With the aid of the Sports Ireland Institute, we engage the services of excellent practitioners in the areas of medicine, physiotherapy, strength and conditioning, nutrition and psychology who provide the highest standards of care for our elite athletes. I thank them for this commitment.

### **Coaching & Development:**

High Performance and Coaching are intrinsically linked. To this end I have worked closely with Brid Golden, the Chair of Coaching and indeed have merged some of our committee meeting to address some of the High-Performance issues of Coaching and Development.

The appointment of full-time Sprints, Endurance and Field Event Coordinators with responsibility for their event group at a performance level has provided a greater level of communication, activity, consistency, and cohesiveness has been achieved, while part-time Walks and Hurdles coordinators continue their good work as before.

The full-time event coordinators are also tasked with rolling out Coach Mentoring Programmes, funded by the 2018 Congress Motion to ring-fence increased membership for Coaching & Development. Mentoring initiatives are ongoing with an excellent buy-in from our elite coaches and their athletes. To date, the Mentoring programme has utilized the expertise of the following elite coaches.

Ralph Mouchbahani, Stuart Hogg, Jacque Borlee, Dan Pfaff in Sprints,

Terry Mc Hugh (Javelin), Sergej Litvinov/Gilles Dupray (Hammer), Malcolm Fenton (Shot Putt)

Fuzz Cann (High Jump), John Shepherd (Long and Triple Jump), Rob Thickpenny (Pole Vault) in Jumps and Throws

Steve Magness, Steve Vernon, Chris Jones, Mara Yaramauchi, Robert Denmead, Alan Storey in Endurance

These mentors help our athletes/coaches through (a) 1.2.1 mentor sessions, (b) Skype/WhatsApp mentor sessions, (c) Workshops and (d) Squad Sessions.

### **Competition:**

Our major championship qualification standards offer opportunities for a broader range of athletes to compete. As a small nation with a rich tradition, our athletes need to be assured that we provide an effective pathway to achieve their potential. With greater depth in all our events, standards ultimately will rise.

All our championship selection policies are updated for each competition and provide clear guidelines on what is required to be considered for selection for championships.

All policies are available to review on the Athletics Ireland website.

**Conclusion:**

I wish to thank our President, Georgina Drumm, and the members of the Board of Athletics Ireland for their support over the last two years. Special thanks to the members of the High-Performance Committee who have worked tirelessly in collaboration with the Athletics Ireland High Performance staff over the last three years in developing our vision, devising our strategies, reviewing policies, engaging in discussions, reflecting on practice, and giving of their expertise to help develop our high-performance structures.

Finally, I wish to thank The CEO of Athletics Ireland Mr. Hamish Adams who has been hugely supportive to me and the High-Performance Committee over the last three years. His commitment to forming sustainable and successful high-performance structures has been immense. His support for the High-Performance programme has been crucial to its development across all levels.

I take it as a privilege and an honor to be elected and to serve as Chair of the High-Performance Committee of Athletics Ireland over the past two years. I am proud of the progress of the High-Performance Department in that time, and I am immensely proud of the achievements of our athletes representing Ireland.

Thank You,

Neil Martin  
Chair of High-Performance Committee  
March 2021

**Top 8 Performances April 2018 – April 2021**

Championship	Athlete/Team	Placing	Event
2018 World Race Walking Team	No Top 8 performances		
2018 European Cup 10,000m	Shona Heaslip	6 <sup>th</sup>	10,000m B Race W
	Men's Team	6 <sup>th</sup>	Team M
	Women's Team	6 <sup>th</sup>	Team W
2018 European U18 Championships	Rhasidat Adeleke	1 <sup>st</sup>	200m W
	Sarah Healy	1 <sup>st</sup>	1500m W
	Sarah Healy	1 <sup>st</sup>	3000m W
	Sophie O'Sullivan	2 <sup>nd</sup>	800m W
	<u>Patience Jumbo-Gula</u>	5 <sup>th</sup>	100m W
2018 World U20 Championships	Girls 4 x 100m (Molly Scott, Gina Akpe-Moses, Ciara Neville, Patience Jumbo-Gula, Rhasidat Adeleke, & Lauren Roy)	2 <sup>nd</sup>	4Xx100m W
	Sommer Lecky	2 <sup>nd</sup>	High Jump W
	Gina Akpe-Moses	8 <sup>th</sup>	100m W
2018 European Championships	Thomas Barr	3 <sup>rd</sup>	400mH M

	Ciara Mageean	4 <sup>th</sup>	1500m W
	Men's Marathon Team (Kevin Seaward, Mick Clohisey, Sean Hehir)	6 <sup>th</sup>	Marathon Team M
	Leon Reid	7 <sup>th</sup>	200m M
	Women's Marathon Team (Lizzie Lee, Breege Connolly, Gladys Ganiel O'Neill)	8 <sup>th</sup>	Marathon Team W
2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games	No Top 8 performances		
2018 European Cross-Country Championships	Ryan Forsyth	4 <sup>th</sup>	U23 M
	Men's U20 Team	5 <sup>th</sup>	U20 Team M
	Men's U23 Team	6 <sup>th</sup>	U23 Team M
	Women's U20 Team	6 <sup>th</sup>	U20 Team W
	Men's Senior Team	7 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Team M
	Emma O'Brien	8 <sup>th</sup>	U20 W
2019 European Indoors Championships	Mark English	3 <sup>rd</sup>	800m M
	Ciara Mageean	3 <sup>rd</sup>	1500m W
2019 European Throwing Cup	Stephen Rice	5 <sup>th</sup>	Javelin M
	Eoin Sheridan	3 <sup>rd</sup>	U23 Discus B Final M
2019 World Relays Championships	No Top 8 performances		
2019 European Race-Walking Cup	Brendan Boyce	5 <sup>th</sup>	50km Walk M
	Men's 20km Team	8 <sup>th</sup>	20k Senior Team M
2019 European Games	Team progressed to Quarter Finals		
2019 European Combined Team Championships Second League	Michael Bowler	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Decathlon M
	Team Standing	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Team Standing
	Shane Aston	4 <sup>th</sup>	Decathlon M
	Anna McCauley	7 <sup>th</sup>	Heptathlon W
2019 European 10,000 Cup	Fionnuala McCormack	5 <sup>th</sup>	10,000m
	Women's Team	6 <sup>th</sup>	Team W
2019 European U23 Championships	Eilish Flanagan	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3000m SC W
	4X100m (Molly Scott, Ciara Neville, Sharlene Mawdsley, Gina Akpe-Moses)	4 <sup>th</sup>	4X100m Relay W
	Ciara Neville	5 <sup>th</sup>	100m W
	John Fitzsimons	6 <sup>th</sup>	800m M
	Sharlene Mawdsley	7 <sup>th</sup>	400m W
	Niamh Fogarty	7 <sup>th</sup>	Discus W
2019 W.U. G	Marcus Lawler	3 <sup>rd</sup>	200m M
	Sarah Lavin	4 <sup>th</sup>	100m H W
	Phil Healy	6 <sup>th</sup>	200m W

	Síofra Cléirigh Büttner	7 <sup>th</sup>	800m W
2019 European U20 Championships	Kate O'Connor	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Heptathlon W
	Sarah Healy	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1500m W
	Darragh McElhinney	3 <sup>rd</sup>	5000m M
	Aaron Sexton	4 <sup>th</sup>	200m M
	Davicia Patterson	4 <sup>th</sup>	400m W
	Sommer Lecky	5 <sup>th</sup>	High Jump W
	4X400m (Simone Lalor, Miriam Daly, *Davicia Patterson, *(Laura Nally in heat), & Rachel McCann)	5 <sup>th</sup>	4X400m Relay W
	4X400m (Ciaran Carthy, Adam Hughes, Jack Raftery & David Ryan)	7 <sup>th</sup>	4X400m Relay M
2019 EYOF	Rhasidat Adeleke	1 <sup>st</sup>	100m W
	Rhasidat Adeleke	1 <sup>st</sup>	200m W
	Oisin Lane	4 <sup>th</sup>	10,000m Walk M
	Diarmuid O'Connor	6 <sup>th</sup>	Decathlon M
	Sean Donoghue	6 <sup>th</sup>	1500m M
	Aimee Hayde	6 <sup>th</sup>	800m W
	Michael Morgan	6 <sup>th</sup>	3000m M
	Ava O'Connor	7 <sup>th</sup>	1500m W
	Israel Olatunde	7 <sup>th</sup>	100m M
	Medley Relay (Israel Olatunde, *Charles Okafor, *(Cian Dunne in final), Diarmuid O'Connor, & Robert McDonnell)	7 <sup>th</sup>	Boys Medley Relay
2019 European Team Championships First League	Team Standing	7 <sup>th</sup>	Overall Team Standing
2019 World Championships	Brendan Boyce	6 <sup>th</sup>	50km Walk M
2019 European Cross-Country Championships	Efrem Gidey	3 <sup>rd</sup>	U20 M
	Stephanie Cotter	3 <sup>rd</sup>	U23 W
	Fionnuala McCormack	4 <sup>th</sup>	Senior W
	U23 Women Team	2 <sup>nd</sup>	U23 Team W
	Senior Women Team	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Senior Team W
	U20 Men Team	4 <sup>th</sup>	U20 Team M
	U23 Men Team	7 <sup>th</sup>	U23 Team M
2020 World Half Marathon Championships	No Top 8 performances		
2021 European Indoors Championships	Phil Healy	4 <sup>th</sup>	400m W
	Andrew Coscoran	7 <sup>th</sup>	1500m M



## Juvenile Committee Report presented by John McGrath.

As chairman of the Juvenile committee, I am pleased to report on our activities from May 2nd, 2018, to April 2020 Following the Congress of the Athletic Association of Ireland held in the Landmark Hotel, Leitrim, the newly elected members of the Juvenile Committee and the Provincial representatives held their first meeting in the AAI offices.

The following positions and appointments were decided.

Chairman	John McGrath
Vice Chair	Evelyn O'Reilly
Secretary	Amanda Hynes
Finance officer	Jim Ryan
Track & Field Secretary	Ciaran Doyle
Indoor Secretary	Ciaran Doyle
Cross Country Secretary	Evelyn O'Reilly
Children's Officer	Matt Lynch
Committee Member	Bernie Dunne
Committee Member	David Murphy
Connacht Representative	Amanda Hynes
Leinster Representative	Jim Corcoran
Munster Representative	Tim Fitzpatrick
Ulster Representative	Dermot McGranaghan
Co-opted	Esther Fitzpatrick

Both Moira Aston and Kieran Stout also attended.

The meetings over the past two years were mainly held in conjunction with juvenile competitions to minimise travel and costs. The committee worked hard, and meetings were very productive and informative, with healthy debate on all aspects of juvenile athletics. It is extremely encouraging that our juvenile membership continues to rise and to see new clubs being formed. There is great work being undertaken in clubs with the assistance of the RDOs.

### **Competition**

#### **Indoor Championships**

17 Championship Best Performances (2018)

17 Championship Best Performances (2019)

The standards of performance at our Indoor Championships improve each year. Many thanks to AIT for all their help and assistance during the championships.

#### **Track & Field Championships**

21 Championship Best Performances in 2018

## 26 Championship Best Performances in 2019

Track & Field is going from strength to strength with continuously improving performances from very talented athletes which gives us great hope for the future. Many thanks to Tullamore Harriers for their great help during the track & field season

### **Combined Events**

5 Indoor Championship Best Performances in 2018 and 3 outdoor in

2018 with a further 2 CBP in the outdoor competition in 2019.

Participation at our Indoor and T&F Combined Events continues to increase. Thanks to Athlone IT and Morton Stadium staff for assisting on the day.

### **Cross Country**

The permanent cross-country course in Abbotstown has been of great advantage to us with the Even Ages Championships being hosted there in 2018 and 2019 We are indebted to Paddy Marley, Tom McCormack, Sean Callan and many others who do the massive work of putting up the course each year. Each year improvements are made to the course and facilities, and we look forward to continuing to host Championships at this venue.

Navan hosted the uneven age groups in 2018 and our thanks to Meath County Athletics Boa Brendan Meade and Ronnie Quigley for their tremendous work during very stormy conditions.

In early 2019 we travelled to Dundalk I.T. for the B Championships and our thanks to the Louth County Board for an excellent course.

The change in the Cross-Country Relays from Inter County to Inter Club was made in 2016 to maximise participation. To date there has been no discernible increase in participants. Thanks to Dundalk IT and Louth County Board who hosted the relays in 2019 and Wicklow County Board who hosted the Relays in 2020.

All the organising committees and host clubs are to be congratulated on the wonderful work undertaken to provide venues with suitable facilities for our Cross-Country Championships, giving all our young athletes and spectators the best opportunity to enjoy cross country competition.

### **International**

We travelled to Scotland for the Celtic Games in Grangemouth in 2018 There Aoibhin McMahon achieved a new Celtic Games record in the shot. Unfortunately, the Scottish delegation did not wish to continue with the Celtic Games in 2019 which left us without an important competition for our young athletes. Intensive work was done, and the Youth Nations Cup was devised. The inaugural competition took place on August 3rd in Santry where Ireland hosted England. It proved to be a huge success and we had some notable performances against very strong opposition.

At the Celtic cross country in Belfast in 2019 the under 17 boys won the team medal and in Stirling in 2020 Emma Landers produced a fine silver medal in atrocious conditions.

In 2018 at the European Youth Championships, we had some outstanding performances, notably Sarah Healy with double gold medals in the 1500m and 3000m. Also bringing home gold medals were Patience Jumbo Gula in the 100m and Rhasidat Adeleke in the 200m. Sophie O'Sullivan completed the medal haul with a silver in the 800m.

Rhasidat Adeleke continued her success in the 2019 European Youth Olympics with gold medals in 100m and 200m.

Our Star Awards continue to be a great social occasion for our young athletes and a celebration of all that is good in our sport. Our overall winner in 2018 was Sarah Healy, Blackrock AC and in 2019 Rhasidat Adeleke, Tallaght AC.

Thanks to all the officials who gave up so much of their time to run our competitions. Thanks to all the staff in Athletics Ireland. Over the last two years there have been changes to the Registration and Competition Entry systems, whilst there have been some teething problems we are getting to the stage where the systems suit the Associations needs and the clubs are all to be thanked for their co-operation in implementing the new systems.

Thanks to all my fellow juvenile committee members, the various committees, our President Georgina Drumm and CEO Hamish Adams, for all their assistance.

Over the past two years, we have lost great people in our sport, young athletes, coaches, club officers, family members and friends. Their contribution to our sport was immense and they will never be forgotten.

Thanks to everyone who has helped me over the past two years, I am thankful for the lifelong friends I have made through my involvement in the sport of athletics.

### **Juvenile Report 2021**

When I sat down to write this report into the past year athletes, all I could look back at is the disastrous year for juvenile athletes. No one could have forecast just how serious this COVID-19 would impact on our lives and bring everything to a halt. No indoors No track and field No cross country and now No indoors season again.

We had numerous meetings during the past year via zoom we took advice from Athletics Ireland, Sport Ireland and child welfare officer Kieron Stout. We looked at all the possibilities and with all the regulations put together a delayed track and field program and looked at different possibilities for cross country. We had a number of different timetables for events, but the lockdown levels left us with no option but to cancel the entire juvenile program.

We had many meetings with the competition fixtures committee, but as the guidelines of having a parent to be present with a child, left us with no possible way of running events not only at national level was it possible but at regional level it was proving to be more problematic to run off.

I would like to thank all the people from the regions who came on zoom meetings to try to arrange fixtures, Special thanks must go to Evelyn O'Reilly who tried to arrange timetables a number of times but to no avail due to COVID regulations not only crowd numbers but also travel restrictions.

Thanks to Hamish Adams, Georgina Drumm, Lizzy Broderick, Barry Pender, Kieron Stout and John Cronin for all their input. To my fellow committee members who put in such an effort to try to organise events prepare to come on zoom meetings at short notice and were absolutely gutted for the athletes. I hope that this summer we will be able to hold some track and field events and no stone be left unturned to try to organise a program.

Finally, I would like to wish Georgina Drumm best wishes for her retirement and wish John Cronin the best of luck as incoming President. I hope that Evelyn O'Reilly has a great term as chair of juvenile athletics, and I know she is going to be a great chairperson.

Everyone stay safe and hopefully we will have many more good days

John McGrath  
Chairperson of Juvenile Committee

Report Proposed By: **John Cronin**

**Seconder Neil Martin**

## **Auditors Statement**

Joseph Fitzgerald FCCA, on behalf Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co read out his Independent Auditors Report from the Directors Report and Financial Statement of the Company.

## **Finance & Risk Committee Report presented by George Maybury Chair**

I have now completed my second term of Chair of Finance & Risk and it gives me great pleasure to present my report to you covering the periods from May 2018 to our final meeting March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The Covid 19 pandemic has brought about unprecedented challenges. Athletics Ireland income grew to €5,282,908 in 2019, with expenditure of €5,275,148 resulting in a surplus of €7,760.

2020 saw our income fall to €4,278,599 with expenditure falling to €4,043,808 leaving a surplus for the year of €234,791.

The sources of income over the period of the last 12 months have been:

### **Sport Ireland**

Sport Ireland provided €950,000 Core funding in 2019, with €1,000,000 in 2020. Sport Ireland have also provided €75,000 in both 2019 and 2020 to support our Women in Sport project.

Sport Ireland have also invested heavily in our High-Performance programme providing a total of €1,032,000 in 2019, comprising HP core funding €840,000 and €192,000 in payments for carded

athletes. Total funding grew to €1,084,000 in 2020, with €840,000 in Core HP funding and €244,000 for carded athletes.

We also received a Dormant Accounts grant of €100,000 towards our "Get Ireland Running" which has supported the Irunforfun programme in Secondary Schools and Fit4Class in National Schools, plus €75,000 from the Healthy Ireland fund towards the Daily Mile.

Other grants many of which were specifically related to Covid 19 and the financial challenges for sport bodies, included €8,000 European week of Sport, Club Resilience Sport Fund €590,000, Aspire grant €22,904, specific Covid 19 support €125,000, Keep Well €39,100 and Innovation €215,000.

In total, we received €3,415,504 in Sport Ireland/Government grants. During 2020, we also received €491,377 in EWSS/TWSS payments which contributed to the payment of wages of staff.

In total, we received €3,906,881 from the State in 2020. As funds can only be used for the purpose for which they are granted, some €1,567,942 has been deferred into 2021.

(See table 13 in the Accounts for 2020).

The Dormant Funding Get Ireland Active fund is targeted at disadvantaged areas. We have used this funding to create a national schools fun athletics programme, Fit4Class, and a running programme, Irunforfun, in secondary schools.

We use the Women in Sport grant to employ a lead person Lily Ann O'Hara and to promote both the Fit4Life and Fit4Youth programmes which help recruit women into clubs.

### **Registration and Affiliation**

Membership grew to 60,677 in 2018, an increase of 166 over 2017. 2019 saw membership increase to 62,700, an increase of 2,023 for the year. Unfortunately, the outbreak of Covid 19 brought an abrupt stop to upward trend in members with a fall to 55,419 in 2020, a decline of 7,281.

We now have 362 clubs affiliated.

## **Competition and Other Activities**

We are delighted to continue our partnership with Irish Life Health for our Championships and Fit4life programme, and Muller as our Dairy Products partner. We welcome Joma as our apparel partner.

## **Recreational Events**

Both I and members of the Finance Committee (Dermot Nagle, Michael Quinlan, Brian Bruton, Georgina Drumm and Anthony Kelly) have worked closely with staff and volunteers from County Boards and Clubs to ensure our events were well organised from an operational and safety point of view.

Plans covering Event Management, Traffic Management, Risk Assessments and Training of volunteers continued to be updated as circumstances demanded and implemented.

In 2019 we made a surplus of €243,732 on recreational events. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 surplus income on recreational events in 2020 was only €18,291. This decline in such income seriously restricts our ability to augment High Performance and other activities.

These events are also crucial in enabling us to support clubs with grants on the basis of their assistance in hosting, planning, and organising such events.

We continue to grow summer camps with 30 locations being involved in 2019. As with everything else, Covid 19 completely derailed such activity in 2020 with only 4 camps possible.

It is hoped more clubs will set up these camps when we get back to activity, as it allows teenage members of the club to learn new skills as camp leaders and future coaches.

## **Northwood Property**

The premises in Northwood Court were revalued at the end of 2019 and resulted in an increase in value to the amount of €443,010 putting a total valuer of €927,734 on the building.

The 15-year loan mortgage on the building with Bank of Ireland taken out by Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd. in 2006. Having received appropriate financial and taxation advice, the Board decided to pay off the balance of the mortgage.

## **2021 Budget**

A budget for 2021 has been agreed by the current board. The Finance Committee has sought various changes and thanks to the good working relationship between the committee and the team the budget was approved at our March meeting. The original budget submitted to Sport Ireland amounts to a loss of €204,873. However, utilising Sport Ireland funds deferred from 2020, provided the conditions prevail to enable the organisation to use them, then it is predicted there would be a surplus of €458,652 at the end of 2021.

## **Reserve policy**

Arising from the pandemic and the precariousness of our financial position, the Board has approved the following Reserves Policy.

The reserves policy requires:

- Reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that Athletics Ireland core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty e.g., pandemic.
- The reserves must be maintained in a readily realisable form in a separate bank account of the organisation.
- The reserve limit is set annually, and Board approved. The guideline is based on a percentage of turnover of previous years audited accounts e.g. In 2021 this represents 8% or approximately €400,000. The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the organisation's annual planning, budget and forecast cycle and will be presented to the Board for approval every January.

The Board has the authority to formally authorise access to the reserves at any time for a strategic priority or emergency or for any matter deemed significant by the Board. The Reserve should be lodged into a separate bank account.

Given the current uncertainty, the Board has agreed an initial sum of €100,000 will be put into the Reserve Fund.

#### **RISK REPORT:**

We have over the course of the last three years dedicated significant committee time to this area and we have co-opted Anthony Kelly to assist us in regard to IT and cyber security, whose advice and help has been invaluable.

A Risk Evaluation framework to identify the consequences of any hazardous events and the likelihood of them happening has been developed as well as activities that can help to reduce this risk. As recent as March 2021, several members of staff have attended health safety training to enable such an evaluation to take place.

The Covid 19 pandemic continues to create huge uncertainty for our athletics family, athletes, coaches, administrators, and clubs. Hopefully, as the vaccination programme gains momentum we may be able to get to a reasonable level of activity towards the end of the year.

2020 has seen us face a period of serious financial risk and instability prior to the announcement of significant welcome Government supports which I have already outlined in this report.

To contribute to the management of the financial risk, it was found necessary to make 2 full time positions and 4 part time position in the organisation redundant.

The reduced numbers allowed to attend events at the initial stage, and no spectators latterly, and the substantial increased costs in putting on events in safe and prudent manner, exacerbates potential financial risks. We must work closely with the Expert Group on the Return to Sport and abide by Government guidelines to minimise risks in this area. The Indoor Micro meet to facilitate High Performance athletes attain European Indoor qualification, involved unprecedented pre-conditions in terms of Event Management Plan, risk assessments and medical provisions to achieve approval.

#### **Specific activities to address Covid 19 challenges and risks.**

During the year, the following activities have been undertaken to address the challenges arising from the onset of the pandemic.

1. Monthly reviews of the finances and risks by the Finance and Risk Committee with recommendations on key matters presented to the Board.
2. Assessing and implementing the compliance standards recommended by the HSE and HSA protocols.

3. The establishment of a Covid management Group consisting of the President Georgina Drumm, CEO Hamish Adams, HR Director Kieran Stout and Director of Development Pat Ryan.
4. Revised risk assessments and Event Management Plans.
5. Education and regular communication on Covid 19 to all stakeholders.
6. Co-operating with the Federation of Irish Sport and Sport Ireland to support the establishment of a Government resilience fund for sport.

The Board has adopted a key Risk Register following discussion and assessment by each of the principal committees.

Risk Area	Risk
Operational	Covid 19 since March 2019
Reputational/compliance	Code of Ethics allegation/child safeguarding
Strategic	Poor international performance
Compliance/reputational	Doping allegation
Compliance	Legal challenge
Operational	Death or serious accident
Operational	Key staff not available long term

### Compliance with the Governance Code

Athletics Ireland complies with the Governance Code for community, voluntary and charitable organisations in Ireland having attained compliance status in late 2018. A review of the organisation's compliance with the principles was conducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, based on an assessment of organisational practices against the recommended action specified in each principle. The review sets out actions and completion dates for any further actions identified, as necessary.

### Anti- doping

The Board believes it has taken all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with all Sport Ireland Anti-doping regulations.

### Significant issues since the end of the 2020 financial year

Sport Ireland has advised that core funding of €1 million and High Performance €840,000 will be again provided for 2021, and 75% of which has now been received.

After a very substantial background process Government and Sport Ireland permission was given, subject to very stringent conditions and reporting requirements, to facilitate the Indoor Micro meet at the National Indoor Arena, Abbottstown.

The level 5 lockdown which came into operation on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 2020, is having a significant impact on clubs and on membership. At present, the Board is budgeting on the basis that there will be 45,000 members registered in 2021, which a 19% decrease on 2020 membership which in turn was a 12% decrease on the 2019 membership of 62,700. This has serious implications for our ability to continue the positive development of our sport.

Cash balances have ironically improved over the period, largely on the back of very substantial Sport Ireland Government support. However, financial risks remain extremely high as many of our costs are fixed but incomes like sponsorship and numbers of participants in our events are at present in significant decline. We have been advised that Dormant Accounts funding for the Get Ireland Active programme is only for initial pilot stage of our programmes. Funding from alternative sources will need to be found if we wish to make these programmes sustainable in the



long term.

The staff and committee will continue to review these areas and look for alternative sources of finance to mitigate these financial risks, which will be very challenging in the current environment.

The Finance Committee recently reviewed current Financial Policies and upgraded them to ensure they continue to be fit for purpose.

My term as Chair of Finance and Risk is now over. It has been very challenging and time consuming, particularly in the last year. Overall, my involvement has been very positive.

I would like to thank all our Staff for their courtesy and assistance during my 5 years in this role. I wish them all the very best for the coming years. From many evenings when attending meetings, I am aware there are numerous employees working late to ensure the Association is best placed to deliver for all its stakeholders.

I am very grateful to the committee of Dermot Nagle, Michael Quinlan, Brian Bruton, Georgina Drumm, and Anthony Kelly for their unstinting support and valued advice. I thank each of them for their valued support and advice freely given.

I would also like to express my appreciation for the support of Hamish Adams in his role as CEO, also to John Holian and Roisin Horgan on the day-to-day management of our affairs.

George Maybury

Chair of Finance & Risk



1

**Congress 2021**

	Income & Expenditure		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Income	4,279	5,283	5,038
Expenditure	4,044	(5,275)	(5,035)
Surplus	235	8	3
Revaluation	0	443	
Exceptional	0	88	(50)
Surplus (Loss) afterExceptional	235	538	(47)

Athletics Ireland logo in the bottom left corner.

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### Congress 2021

€000	Income – Sport Ireland				
	Cash Received	Deferred	2020	2019	2018
Core	983	(510)	483	859	812
Performance	840	(303)	537	840	80
Carding	244	(10)	244	192	224
Hosted Events	17	0	17	91	85
Get Irl Run / Dormant	267	(227)	90	172	162
Covid/Club Res/Innov	920	(241)	689		
EWOS/Aspire/Keep	70	(80)	10		
Women in Sport	75	(75)	29	45	35
Euro XC( €200k)	0	(142)	0	2	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>3416</b>	<b>1568</b>	<b>2099</b>	<b>2201</b>	<b>2216</b>

3

### Congress 2021

€000	Income – Other Grants		
	2020	2019	2018
TWSS/EWSS Wage Support	491		
DTTS sports Capital Equip Grants		12	55
EAA/AAF	18	47	48
Eraemus +		0	3
OFI		33	
Disability Funding		0	7
Miscellaneous	2	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>112</b>



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### Congress 2021

€000	Income – Misc Income		
	2020	2019	2018
Insurance Claim	15	45	100
Misc	0	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>103</b>



5

### Congress 2021

€000	Costs – Wages		
	2020	2019	2018
<b>Staff Wages</b>	<b>€1381</b>	<b>€1497</b>	<b>€1377</b>
Full Time	30	31	27
Part Time	9	11	11
EWSS/TWSS	€491		
Sport Ireland Core /HP Grants	€483/€587	€859/€840	€812/€790



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### Congress 2021

	Income – Coaching & Development		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Coaching	7	90	80
Development	41	45	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>114</b>

	Costs – Coaching & Development		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Coaching	16	91	108
Development	145	217	163
<b>Total</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>271</b>



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### Congress 2021

	Income – Competition and Marketing		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Competition	107	348	282
Marketing	284	309	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>493</b>

	Costs – Competition and Marketing		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Competition	270	685	637
Marketing	105	167	156
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>793</b>



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### Congress 2021

	Income – Registration & Affiliation		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Affiliation	51	51	51
Senior	483	527	409
Juvenile	471	545	435
Schools	58	48	50
Total	1061	1171	945



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### Congress 2021

	Income – Recreation		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Owned Events	111	630	703
Managed Events	29	213	202
Stripe Fees	(11)	(19)	
Summer Camps	20	118	113
Permits	3	35	36
Total	152	977	1054



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### Congress 2021

€000	Costs – Recreation		
	2020	2019	2018
Owned Events	83	491	640
Managed Events	27	134	100
Credit Card Charges	2	3	23
Titan Consulting		0	3
Admin & Marketing	1	5	21
Summer Camps	21	101	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>889</b>



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### Congress 2021

€000	Costs – Performance		
	2020	2019	2018
Sport Ireland Carding	244	192	206
Athlete Support	143	127	141
Competition Travel	7	154	149
Competition Accommodation	2	115	86
Medical	138	146	151
Performance Coaching	9	116	
Preparation	2	87	81
Admin	23	37	38
Gear ( Matches Sponsorship)	73	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>853</b>



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### Congress 2021

	Costs - Administration		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Insurance	349	338	315
Reg System Fees	92	104	
Rent	70	84	84
Board	12	31	24
Legal /Consult	53	37	45
Staff Travel	32	41	44
IT & Phone	36	34	29
Post & Stat	16	26	45
Insurance Claim	0	0	100
Property Costs	16	16	15
Other/Covid	25/15	16	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>725</b>



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### Congress 2021

	Ath. Assoc of Iri Ltd Balance Sheet		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Fixed Assets	79	118	90
Investment	928	928	485
Debtors/ Stock	392	456	547
Cash	1918	372	101
Creditors	(2,111)	(902)	(684)
European Ath Loan	0	0	(106)
Creditors Over Year	0	0	0
Reserves	1,206	972	433



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## Congress 2021

Governance Code			
Principle	Sub Principles	Compliance Rate 2020	Compliance Rate 2019
Leading our organisation	14	14	14
Exercising control over our organisation	17	17	17
Being transparent & accountable	13	13	13
Working Effectively	17	17	17
Behaving with integrity	14	14	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>75 (100%)</b>	<b>75 (100%)</b>



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## Reputational/Strategic Risk

**Code of Ethics Allegation/Child  
Safeguarding Violation**

**Poor Senior International Athlete  
Performance**



16

**Financial Risk**

<b>Covid 19 impact on Revenues and Costs</b>
<b>Loss of Sponsors /Events</b>



17

**Compliance Risk**

<b>Legal Challenges</b>
<b>Doping Allegation</b>
<b>Covid 19 Guidelines</b>



18

## Operational Risk

Covid 19 impacting availability of Staff,  
Coaches and officials at clubs and Events  
Death or Serious Accident  
Cyber Crime



19



## ATHLETICS IRELAND BUDGET 2021

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### Congress 2021

€000	Budget Income & Expenditure		
	Budget 2021	Actual 2020	Actual 2019
Income	5379	4279	5263
Expenditure	5588	(4044)	(5275)
(Loss) Surplus	(209)	235	8
Sport In Deferred Core/HP	600		
Surplus After Deferred	391		



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### Congress 2021

€000	Budget Income		
	Budget 2021	Actual 2020	Actual 2019
Sport Ireland Grants	3078	2099	2201
Other Grants	163	18	95
EWSS		491	
Registrations & Affiliations	782	1061	1170
Competition & Related	362	391	657
Coaching & Development	127	48	135
Recreational Events	289	152	977
Miscellaneous		15	47
Euro XC 2021	577	4	1
Total	5379	4279	5263



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### Congress 2021

€000	Budget Expenditure		
	2021 Budget	2020 Actual	2019 Actual
Wages	1,335	1361	1497
Coaching & Dev/ Sport Iri Reall	572	725	307
Performance	1,196	641	974
Competition & Related	809	374	852
Administration	582	716	727
Recreational Events	445	134	734
Depreciation	22	53	85
Euro XC 2020	627	40	54
Insurance Costs			45
Total	5,588	4,044	5275



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**Athletics Ireland  
Enterprises Limited**

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### Congress 2021

	Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd Income Statement		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Turnover	51	193	343
Admin	(112)	(257)	(321)
Interest	(1)	(2)	(3)
Revaluation		410	0
Tax	(6)	(7)	(8)
Surplus( Loss)	(68)	337	12



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### Congress 2021

	Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd - Income		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Merchandise	0	12	9
Income Contin		112	
Night Run	0	0	153
Book Sales	0	0	1
Irish Runner	0	0	112
Property	51	68	68
	51	193	343



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### Congress 2021

	Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd - Costs		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Insurance Inc Contin	0	112	
Night Run	0	0	153
Book Costs	0	0	18
Irish Runner	(4)	30	96
Property Admin	25	26	23
Depreciation	91	89	31
Loan Interest	1	2	3
	113	259	324



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### Congress 2021

	Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd Balance Sheet		
€000	2020	2019	2018
Fixed Assets	964	1046	813
Debtors	64	85	81
Cash	0	32	34
Creditor less Yr	(450)	(467)	(435)
Creditor over Yr	(648)	(697)	(831)
Reserves	(70)	(1)	(338)



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Report Proposed By: **Brid Golden**

Seconded: **Georgina Drumm**

## Appointment of Auditors

Joseph Fitzgerald FFCA, Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co proposed as Auditor for Athletic Association of Ireland Ltd.

PROPOSED: George Maybury SECONDED: Georgina Drumm

## Chief Executive Report delivered by Hamish Adams.

### Introduction

The 2021 Congress format and virtual setting illustrate the new world that we are all operating in since the Covid19 pandemic disrupted our lives early in March 2020. As an organisation we have been resilient, adaptable, and dynamic in meeting this challenge head on. This flexibility coupled with strong values has enabled us to ensure we enter 2021 in a financially stable state, and we are ready to revert to full capacity when Government guidelines allow.

2020 has been a lost year and lost opportunity for us all. What is most frustrating is that 2020 promised so much after such a stellar year in 2019. 2019 delivered us with a period of unprecedented success, where we moved forward significantly as an organisation. For example, continued growth in membership, sponsorship and profile linked to excellent international performances and large domestic competitions reflected some of our achievements.

However, 2020 provided us and the world with a major challenge in the form of Covid19 and much of our 2019 success has been eroded quickly. With limited competition and long periods of Club lockdown our financial model crumbled resulting in staff pay cuts and redundancies. There is no doubt our way of life has changed drastically as a result of the pandemic and Athletics Ireland has not been immune from the reach of this challenging virus into 2021.

Up until 2020 the number of children and adults involved in our sport was increasing year on year and this is due to the hard work and dedication of the many clubs, county boards, provinces and volunteers all working together with the staff of Athletics Ireland. We saw an increasing number of participants in our competitions, recreational events, and our summer camps. Unfortunately, Covid19 has negatively impacted all these key demographics to date.

However, the undaunting commitment of our volunteers and staff has been matched by the support we have received from our sponsors, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Sport Ireland, Irish Life Health, Muller, Joma, Grant Thornton, Waterways Ireland, Sports Travel International, and Eventmaster. We are grateful to all of these key parties for their continued partnerships and commitment to athletics throughout the Covid19 period, your support is noted and will not be forgotten.

Now more than ever we see the value of our people and culture, I have always strongly believed in the importance of living values of transparency, friendship, and respect. These values can never be taken for granted and I ask you all to continue to share these values within our athletics family. I note that our people are our most valuable asset and people make our organisation, people will be at the forefront of our new Strategic plan 2021 to 2028.



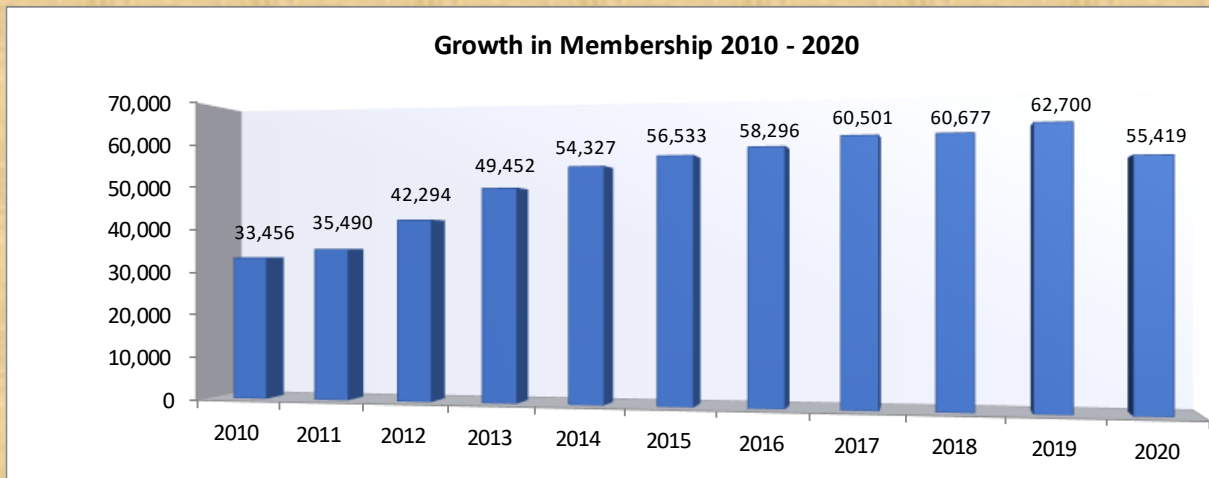
## **Membership**

In the year 2019 our membership grew to 62,700 and when we compare these numbers to ten years ago in 2009, where we had 29,685 members, I am sure you will all agree that our growth in this period has been impressive. The increase in numbers has come from all age groups. The growth in juvenile membership has been significant in the period and has been achieved against a background of a highly competitive environment where other sports are working hard to attract young people to their sports. I would like to pay a special thank you to the Mothers and Fathers around the country who act as officials, coaches, child welfare officers, drivers, and motivators. You are a vital part of our sport, and you are to be commended for your work. The other area of growth comes from the opposite age spectrum, the Masters category. All members over 35 years are in this category and while the numbers competing in this category continues to grow, we also count all other over 35s here including Fit4Life groups, coaches, club officials and members who continue to assist in the running of our sport. In our Masters Championships we have athletes competing who are in their 80s and who have found our sport later in their lives. European Athletics speak of athletics being the 'Sport for Life'. There is no other sport which can offer meaningful competition for all age categories, and it is important that we continue to promote that our sport is for everyone.

Facilities continue to improve thanks to the combination of the grants available through the Government's Sports Capital Grants Programme and the many local initiatives undertaken by clubs and local authorities throughout the country. The Government launch of the Large-Scale Sports Infrastructural Fund in 2019 also provided an opportunity to our organisation that we grasped with two hands, and we have been provisionally awarded several large allocations to support our sport, notably Dublin South Dundrum AC development of the St Thomas facility and the Cork Institute of Technology joint venture with Athletics Ireland to complete a major overhaul of the sports campus in CIT. The Sports Capital Programme will become available again in the future and clubs should give considerable thought to how they can avail of funds from this programme.

**The Graph below illustrates the membership totals from 2010 to 2020.**

## Membership Growth



2021 Target: 45,000

The female/male membership split has remained stable in the past few years at 53/47 percent. We continue to benefit from the assistance of Sport Ireland with the Women in Sport initiative which has been instrumental in progressing opportunities for women such as Forerunners and the Girls Squad.

The numbers of clubs have increased from 264 in 2009 to 362 in 2020. Whilst the increase in registrations is partly due to the formation of new clubs there has been significant work done by long established clubs in increasing their numbers.

While we are well served by the number of clubs throughout the country there continues to be an opportunity to form new clubs in highly populated disadvantaged areas. We continue discussions with local authorities regarding the joint funding of resources to target these hard-to-reach areas.

### Competition

You will find comprehensive reports from John Cronin and John McGrath on Senior and Juvenile Competition in your Congress Syllabus. I would like to acknowledge the support of both John Cronin and John McGrath over the past three years. Both Chairs, and their committees, partner closely with Lizzy Broderick, Barry Pender and staff, and this partnership works well. I would like to pay a special tribute to Lizzy for her leadership and commitment in the area of competition that has seen significant change in a very short period of time in both staffing and technology. A special

note to acknowledge the excellent work Barry Pender has contributed in 2021 as he has stepped into lead the Competition team whilst Lizzy is on maternity leave.

### **Technical Committee**

The terms of reference of the Technical Committee are:

- Training and Certification of Officials
- Statistics and Records
- Competition Equipment

#### **Training and Certification of Officials**

Due to the restrictions around COVID 19 we have been unable to hold any face-to face training courses in the last year. As we have a high priority in recruiting new officials, we have concentrated on holding ZOOM courses for level 1 officials.

Since July 2020 we have presented 6 online courses on Track and Field for level 1 officials and Race Walking. There were just under 200 attendees who have all received their certificates. We have received positive feedback on the courses, and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Ronan O'Hart, John Cronin and Pierce O'Callaghan in assisting me give these presentations. I must also recognise the great help received from Lizzy and her team in particular Valerie O'Brien in organising and setting up of ZOOM.

We had a session for our officials who wish to help in the presentation of these course going forward. Liam Mogan gave the presentation last November and gave us all some tips as to how best get our message across and keep attendees interested and engaged. We will have a follow up session on this in 2021.

World Athletics have also launched an e-learning platform which is suitable for entry level officials. (<https://elearning.worldathletics.org/>) We should make use of this platform going forward and hopefully develop our own e-learning modules as well.

#### ***Pathway to National Technical Official***

We currently have over 130 active officials, 40 of which are on the current NTO panel.

We received recommendations from county boards to elevate 12 officials to our national panel and we issued these with letters of acceptances which they all thankfully returned acknowledging their acceptance.

World Athletics have expressed a wish to keep the existing panel of Technical Officials in place until December 2022. We hope to run another National Technical Officials course over two weekends later in 2021. This will be used to keep our current NTO members up to date with current technical rules and hopefully to discover some new NTO members. We should use this weekend to run a selection process to choose our candidates for the International Technical Officials selection process. The Technical Committee has expressed a wish to select a male and female candidate.

### ***International Officials***

Currently Pierce O'Callaghan & Zuzana Malikova Costin, representing Slovakia, are members of the European Athletics ITO Level II panel.

John Cronin (Tullamore Harriers) & Ronan O'Hart (Sligo) are both members of the World Athletics ITO Level III Panel.

In race walking the current EA Walking Judges Level II are David Kidd and Shaun Gallagher with Pierce O'Callaghan serving on the World Athletics Race Walking Judges Level III Panel. Again, it is worth noting that Zuzana Malikova Costin (West Waterford) representing Slovakia serves on the EA Race Walking Level II panel.

Below is the list of events our ITO's have been selected for since 2018. For completeness I have included events that were cancelled due to Covid-19.

Name	Year	From	To	Appointed by	Role	Event	Country
David Kidd	2019	08-Jun	08-Jun	EA	International Race Walking Judge	WA Race Walking Challenge	ESP
David Kidd	2020	16-Jul	19-Jul	EA	International Race Walking Judge	European Athletics U18 Championships	ITA
David Kidd	2021	26-Aug	29-Aug	EA	International Race Walking Judge	European Athletics U18 Championships	ITA
John Cronin	2018	06-Aug	12-Aug	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics Championships	GER
John Cronin	2018	21-Aug	22-Jul	WA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	WA Diamond League - Muller Anniversary Games	GBR
John Cronin	2019	01-Mar	03-Mar	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics Indoor Championships	GBR
John Cronin	2019	23-Jun	28-Jun	EA	International Technical Official	European Games	BLR
John Cronin	2019	11-Jul	14-Jul	EA	Jury of Appeal - Chair	European Athletics U23 Championships	SWE
John Cronin	2019	27-Sep	06-Oct	WA	International Technical Official	WA World Championships	QAT
John Cronin	2020	01-Jul	01-Jul	EA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	European World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze Meeting	FRA
John Cronin	2020	31-Jul	09-Aug	WA	Jury of Appeal	Olympic Games	JPN
John Cronin	2020	16-Aug	16-Aug	WA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	WA Diamond League - Muller Grand Prix	GBR
John Cronin	2020	26-Aug	30-Aug	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics Championships	FRA
John Cronin	2021	04-Mar	07-Mar	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics Indoor Championships	POL
John Cronin	2021	30-Jul	08-Aug	WA	Jury of Appeal	Olympic Games	JPN
John Cronin	2022	15-Aug	21-Aug	EA	Technical Delegate	European Athletics Championships	GER
Pierce O'Callaghan	2018	05-May	06-May	WA	International Race Walking Judge	WA World Race Walking Team Championships	CHN
Pierce O'Callaghan	2018	06-Aug	12-Aug	EA	International Race Walking Judge	European Athletics Championships	GER
Pierce O'Callaghan	2019	27-May	01-Jun	EA	Technical Delegate	Games of Small States of Europe	MNE
Pierce O'Callaghan	2019	09-Aug	11-Aug	EA	Jury of Appeal	European Athletics Team Championships Super League	POL
Pierce O'Callaghan	2019	09-Sep	10-Sep	EA	International Technical Official	The Match Europe V USA	BLR
Pierce O'Callaghan	2020	02-May	03-May	WA	International Race Walking Judge	WA World Race Walking Team Championships	BLR
Pierce O'Callaghan	2020	31-Jul	09-Aug	WA	International Race Walking Judge	Olympic Games	JPN
Pierce O'Callaghan	2020	26-Aug	30-Aug	EA	Jury of Appeal (Chair)	European Athletics Championships	FRA
Pierce O'Callaghan	2020	30-Jul	08-Aug	WA	International Race Walking Judge	Olympic Games	JPN
Pierce O'Callaghan	2022	15-Jul	24-Jul	WA	International Race Walking Judge (Chief)	WA World Championships	USA
Ronan O'Hart	2018	10-Jul	15-Jul	WA	International Technical Official	WA World U20 Championships	FIN
Ronan O'Hart	2018	03-Sep	04-Sep	WA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	WA World Challenge	CRO
Ronan O'Hart	2019	11-May	12-May	WA	International Technical Official	WA World Relays	JPN
Ronan O'Hart	2019	30-Jun	30-Jun	EA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	European Classic Permit Meeting - Résisprint	SUI
Ronan O'Hart	2019	11-Jul	14-Jul	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics U23 Championships	SWE
Ronan O'Hart	2019	09-Aug	11-Aug	EA	International Photo Finish Judge	European Athletics Team Championships Super League	POL
Ronan O'Hart	2019	18-Aug	18-Aug	WA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	WA Diamond League - Muller Grand Prix	GBR
Ronan O'Hart	2020	15-Feb	15-Feb	WA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	Muller Indoor Grand Prix	GBR
Ronan O'Hart	2020	23-Jun	23-Jun	EA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	Athens Street Pole Vault	GRE
Ronan O'Hart	2021	29-May	30-May	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics Team Championships Super League	POL
Ronan O'Hart	2021	08-Jul	11-Jul	EA	International Photo Finish Judge	European Athletics U23 Championships	NOR
Ronan O'Hart	2022	15-Jul	24-Jul	WA	International Technical Official	WA World Championships	USA
Shaun Gallagher	2018	05-Jul	08-Jul	EA	International Race Walking Judge	European Athletics U18 Championships	HUN
Shaun Gallagher	2019	11-Jul	14-Jul	EA	International Race Walking Judge	European Athletics U23 Championships	SWE
Shaun Gallagher	2020	07-Jul	12-Jul	WA	International Race Walking Judge	WA World U20 Championships	KEN
Shaun Gallagher	2021	17-Aug	22-Aug	WA	International Race Walking Judge	WA World U20 Championships	KEN
Zuzana Costin	2018	06-Aug	12-Aug	EA	Jury of Appeal	European Athletics Championships	GER
Zuzana Costin	2019	18-Jul	21-Jul	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics U20 Championships	SWE
Zuzana Costin	2020	11-Feb	11-Feb	EA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	European Athletics Indoor Special Premium Meeting	SVK
Zuzana Costin	2020	02-May	03-May	WA	International Race Walking Judge - Recorder	WA World Race Walking Team Championships	BLR
Zuzana Costin	2020	07-Jul	07-Jul	EA	Technical Delegate (Meeting)	European WA Continental Tour Bronze Meeting	FRA
Zuzana Costin	2021	06-May	06-May	EA	International Race Walking Judge	European Race Walking Team Championships	CZE
Zuzana Costin	2021	08-Jul	11-Jul	EA	International Technical Official	European Athletics U23 Championships	NOR

## Statistics and Records

### Historical Statistics

At lot of work continues to be put in by Pierce O'Callaghan, Cyril Smyth, Liam Hennessy, and others in producing historical records and performance analysis. In more recent times Pierce has spent a lot of time updating the All-time Athletics Caps from 1876 to 2021 and Roll of Honour on Irish Athletics Champions from 1861 to 2021.

I have attached the list of records achieved in 2020 and 2021.

### List of Records 2020

Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club	Venue	Date
Senior M	Shot Putt	18.35m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Clemson, USA	Jan 11th, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	18.91m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Clemson, USA	Jan 11th, 2020
Senior W	1500m	4.06.42	Ciara Mageean	City of Lisburn A.C.	Boston, USA	Jan 25th, 2020
Junior M	1500m	3.44.85	Cian McPhillips	Longford A.C.	Athlone	Jan 26th, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	18.93m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Colombia, USA	Feb 1st, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	19.01m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Colombia, USA	Feb 1st, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	19.12m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Colombia, USA	Feb 8th, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	19.40m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Colombia, USA	Feb 8th, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	19.43m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Colombia, USA	Feb 8th, 2020
Senior M	50km	2.49.13	Gary O'Hanlon	Clonliffe Harriers	Donadea	Feb 8th, 2020
Senior W	200m	23.10	Phil Healy	Bandon A.C.	Athlone	Feb 12th, 2020
Senior M	Shot Putt	19.49m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Clemson, USA	Feb 15th, 2020
Senior M	4x200m Club	1.28.18	Kieron Ludwig, Sean McCarthy, Jamie Mitchell, Evan Crotty	Limerick Emerald A.C.	Abbotstown	Mar 1st, 2020
Senior W	4x200m Club	1.42.26	Emily Wall, Shona Lowe, Louise Shanahan, Joan Healy	Leevale A.C.	Abbotstown	Mar 1st, 2020
Senior W	800m	1.59.69	Ciara Mageean	City of Lisburn A.C.	Bern, Switzerland	Jul 24th, 2020
Junior W	Hammer	58.24m	Nicola Tuthill	Bandon A.C.	Cork	Jul 30th, 2020
Youth W	Hammer	66.13m	Nicola Tuthill	Bandon A.C.	Dublin	Aug 8th, 2020
Senior W	1000m	2.31.06	Ciara Mageean	City of Lisburn A.C.	Monte Carlo, MON	Aug 14th, 2020
Junior W	Hammer	60.04m	Nicola Tuthill	Bandon A.C.	Dublin	Aug 22nd, 2020
U23 W	800m	2.01.01	Nadia Power	Templeogue A.C.	Rovertto, ITA	Sept 8th, 2020

### List of Records 2021

Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club	Venue	Date
Senior W	800m	2.02.44	Nadia Power	Dublin City Harriers A.C.	Vienna, AUT	Jan 30th, 2021
Senior M	Pole Vault	5.31m	Sean Roth	Dundrum South Dublin A.C.	Blacksburg, USA	Feb 6th, 2021
Senior M	Shot Putt	19.68m	Eric Favors	Raheny Shamrock A.C.	Colombia, USA	Feb 7th, 2021
Senior W	800m	2.00.98	Nadia Power	Dublin City Harriers A.C.	Torun, Pol	Feb 17th, 2021
Senior M	800m	1.46.10	Mark English	Finn Valley A.C.	Abbotstown	Feb 20th, 2021
Junior M	800m	1.46.13	Cian McPhillips	Longford A.C.	Abbotstown	Feb 20th, 2021
U23 M	800m	1.46.13	Cian McPhillips	Longford A.C.	Abbotstown	Feb 20th, 2021
U23 M	3000m	7.50.80	Darragh McElhinney	UCD. AC	Abbotstown	Feb 20th, 2021
Junior M	60m	6.74	Israel Olatunde	UCD. AC	Abbotstown	Feb 21st, 2021
U23 M	60m	6.74	Israel Olatunde	UCD. AC	Abbotstown	Feb 21st, 2021
Junior M	60m	6.73	Israel Olatunde	UCD. AC	Abbotstown	Feb 21st, 2021
U23 M	60m	6.73	Israel Olatunde	UCD. AC	Abbotstown	Feb 21st, 2021
Senior W	800m	2.00.58	Siofra Cleirigh Buttner	Dundrum South Dublin A.C.	Fayetteville, USA	Feb 21st, 2021
Junior W	400m	54.14	Rhasidat Adeleke	Tallaght A.C.	Lubbock, USA	Feb 26th, 2021
Junior W	400m	53.44	Rhasidat Adeleke	Tallaght A.C.	Lubbock, USA	Feb 27th, 2021

## **Competition Equipment**

We had a very successful Micro Meet in the NIA in February which received very favourable media coverage. However, we did as is usual at the NIA encounter some technical issues.

We have also had issues in Santry in the past year regarding the Hammer Cage.

A review of the infrastructure should be undertaken in the following locations used for national competition to see if they still meet our IT needs and if investment/reconfiguration is required by either the facility owners or AAI or both. Venue: NIA, AIT, Santry, Tullamore.

We also need to check all AAI competition technology equipment to ensure all is accounted for and nothing is missing, equipment is tested, and any defective equipment is identified, and plan put in place to fix or replace it. All equipment needs to be asset tagged and packing lists for all boxes should include the asset tag number.

We should think about having an events team to do set up and tear down of equipment going forward to reduce the long hours spent by technical officials at present. We had Timing Ireland do this for us in the past.

A working group should be set up with input coming from the Competition and Technical Committees as well as the Competition Department and others with relevant expertise who are not members of these committees.

Declan Curtin, Chair of the Technical Committee

## **Coaching and Development**

The Chair of Coaching and Development, Brid Golden, has issued a comprehensive report for this area which is included in the Congress papers. The additional investment in this area through the €3 membership increase has seen significant additional resources created as we aspire to enhance the expertise of our coaching cohort across our clubs.

Pat Ryan, and his RDO team, work tirelessly with clubs around the country on Coach Education and in 2019 we ran 77 courses across all levels attracting 1,268 participants. In 2020 the development team moved quickly and seamlessly into the virtual space with the onset of the pandemic, and they have delivered approximately 700 coaching course places and thousands of virtual webinar places in this period. Since the 2018 Congress we have added several new RDOs including

partnerships with Dublin City Council, Athlone IT, and Carlow IT. We have also established a Women in Sport role together with Sport Ireland that is filled by Lilly-Ann O’Hora. We are conscious that as the number of clubs grow, we need more resources to work with them and to achieve this end we are speaking to a number of local councils and third level institutions with a proposal to hire jointly funded resources in the interest of growing athletics.

### **High Performance**

Neil Martin the Chair of HP has issued a report detailing the activities of the last three years. As CEO, I work very closely with Neil and the committee over the period since the 2018 Congress. Paul McNamara is now well established in the role of HPD and has worked tirelessly to review and implement the necessary structures and systems to deliver continued international success. Our strategy to provide our elite athletes at all levels with additional services and support is paying dividends and our international medal count continues to rise. The Endurance, Sprints and Throws/Jumps coordinators roles have been very successful in establishing additional resources to enhance athlete development along with the pathway coordinator.

Our partnership with Sport Ireland and the Sport Ireland Institute continues to be very strong. We have received funding of approximately €2 million per year from Sport Ireland over the last two years 2019 and 2020. This funding is spent on athlete services (mainly through the Sports Institute), travel to competition, camps, and staff. It is important to note that in 2019 we also raised a further €200k generated from our recreational programme, which is invested directly back into the high-performance programme. Unfortunately, with the onset of Covid19 in 2020 the recreational programme revenue and events have been decimated. We have a very talented group of young athletes and I look forward to seeing our investment in each of them paying off in future years.

We signed up a new apparel supplier for our High-Performance programme in 2020 and we are grateful to Joma Sport for their support.

We look forward to hosting the European Cross Country in Fingal-Dublin 2021 and to our athletes performing to the best of their abilities on home soil. We will have a large team and we will have a number of athletes and teams competing for medals which are so important as we continue to invest in the programme.



## Anti-Doping

Testing Period of report: 1st January 2019 – 31st December 2020

Sport Ireland Programme				
Athletics Ireland	In Competition Tests	Out of Competition -Urine tests	Out of Competition -Blood Tests	Total
2019	20	70	64	154
2020	20	52	40	112

User Pays		
Athletics Ireland	In Competition Tests	Total
2019	9	9
2020	5	5

Athletics Ireland continually works with the Anti-Doping Unit in Sport Ireland around Anti-doping rules, Registered Testing Pools and Testing at competitions.

Athletics Ireland tutors conducted several education seminars/outreach programmes with athletes' part of the Carded athlete programme and at information sessions prior to travelling to international Championships.

Athletics Ireland works closely with Sport Ireland to ensure the membership has up to date, relevant information regarding the various aspects of Anti-Doping via our websites, entry forms and registration forms. This could include general information for athletes and more detailed information regarding checking medications, testing procedures and prohibited substances for competitive athletes.

The Anti-Doping Officer ensured that relevant anti-doping material was distributed at competitions, camps, and screening days.

There were 17 athletes registered on the Registered Testing Pool in 2019 & 2020.

### Marketing

Athletics is still competing in a sporting media landscape which is dominated by ball sports. Success of our elite athletes delivers the ultimate cut through in media exposure, highlighted by the recent record-breaking performances from Mark English, Nadia Power, and Siofra Cleirigh Buttner. Increasingly however, media require print-ready copy due to their own reduced resources.

I wish to commend Daragh Browne on the excellence that he and his team have delivered in a department with limited resources that includes a wide brief of marketing, communications and sponsorship.

#### **I. Media Coverage**

Generating media coverage for athletics around national and international championships (Juvenile, Junior & U23, Senior, Master and Schools) is a key objective for the marketing department. Covid-19 did result in some of the key national and international events being cancelled/postponed over the last 12 months, but we still facilitated a consistent flow of updates to key athletic correspondents with relevant content (including quotes from athletes) before, during and after the 2020 National Indoor and Outdoor Championships. Performances from Irish Athletes at international events continue to be covered by both local and national publications.

Continuing to work closely with RTÉ is also a priority for the marketing department. The 2020 Irish Life Health National Senior T&F Championships was aired live on RTÉ 2 with peak viewership for the 2-hour live show of 100k which equated to a 12.1% share of the audience.

#### **II. Media Training**

Media training is a key part of an athlete's development pathway. The marketing team provided an athlete media training document which included guidelines when using social media as well as information on 'managing your personal brand'.

#### **III. Website**

Work has continued on improving the user experience of the Athletics Ireland website. In 2020, the Athletics Ireland website had over 1.7 million visits to the site. Average monthly page views continue to exceed 250k during championship months. Work is ongoing to create a new user-friendly platform to cater for the recreational running community of Ireland.

#### **IV. Social Media**

Social media remains the main channel of communication between Athletics Ireland and our fans (athletes, parents, coaches, key stakeholders, and media). 2020 saw our social media channels become an even more important mode of communication with our stakeholders. Workshops, club challenges, and training advice were all adapted so as they could be offered online via social media and webinars.

All three core Athletics Ireland social media channels have experienced continued growth in 2020. Athletics Ireland has now over 53,000 followers on Facebook, further supported by an additional 35,000 followers across our Fit4Life and recreational event pages. Twitter followers have also

increased to 30,000 (26,500 in 2019), while our Instagram continues to be most engaged platform with over 18,000 followers (15,500 in 2019).

Video content has been performing extremely well across all our social media platforms. We are moving away from static images to more engaging ‘user-generated’ video content. Post-race interviews with athletes at championships and elite meets continue to be the most popular video content amongst our audience. We have actively looked to promote our elite athletes through Instagram takeover so they can share their insights and experiences.

Athletics Ireland continues to provide live streaming for key events in the Irish athletics calendar including the 2020 Indoor and Outdoor National Championships. The total live views over these two events were 120k. Our most viewed post of 2020 was the replay clip of the men’s 1500m at the 2020 Track and Field Championships which went viral on social media resulting in over 1 million views.

## **V. Sponsorship Management & Acquisition**

We are committed to providing quality sponsorship support services to all our partners. Our partners include:

- Irish Life Health
- Grant Thornton
- Joma Sport
- Sport Travel International
- Muller
- SPAR
- Waterways Ireland

Covid-19 had severely impacted the sponsorship environment over the last 12 months. Our focus has been on finding new ways to add value to our current sponsors considering the restrictions around our traditional live events and competitions.

## **VI. Marketing National Senior Championships**

All National Championships (Juvenile, Junior & U23, Senior, Master and Schools) are promoted by the marketing department. A preview is written for every championship and a post-event press release is issued to local and national press. Sportsfile is also present at every championship, issuing photographs to both local and national press. During each championship there are live Twitter, Instagram and Facebook updates and post-race interviews at our National Senior events.

A press day was held in virtually in the days leading up to the 2020 Irish Life Health National Indoor and Track and Field Senior Championships.

## **VII. Recreational Events**

Athletics Ireland has complete ownership of 9 recreational races; Grant Thornton Corporate 5K Team Challenge Series (GT5K) (Galway, Cork, Belfast & Dublin), Irish Runner 5K, Irish Runner 5 Mile, Irish Runner 10 Mile, Great Ireland Run and Remembrance Run 5K.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, all our recreational events went virtual in 2020. We had over 80,000 participants take part in Athletics Ireland managed virtual events. The marketing team developed and implemented extensive marketing, PR, and promotional plans to attract entries to these events.

The Irish Runner 5k, Irish Runner 5 Mile, Great Ireland Run, and the Irish Runner 10 Mile will go virtual once again in 2021. Plans are in place to host a reduced Grant Thornton 5k event in Dublin on September 8th, 2021.

### **Universities**

#### **IUAA Chairperson's Report**

The Irish Universities Athletics Association has enjoyed a strong 2018, 2019 and early 2020, in terms of both the standard of competition and the number of participants. Since our last Congress, there have been 12 IUAA records set on the track, and we achieved record numbers of participants in our Outdoor T&F championships. However, the highlight of the last two years has undoubtedly been Marcus Lawler's superlative bronze medal in the 200m at the 2019 Summer Universiade in Napoli.

In keeping with the 30-plus year tradition, the IUAA Road Relay championships were held on the historic South Campus of NUI Maynooth in 2018 and 2019. Dublin City University won the Women's race in 2018, and for the first time in their history, Trinity College Dublin won the Women's race in 2019. Dublin City University won their second and third consecutive Men's titles in 2018 and 2019, respectively. The 2020 championship did not proceed as planned and has been postponed pending easing of the nationwide covid-19 containment measures.

The 2019 Cross Country championships were hosted by NUI Galway, in St. Mary's College. The event was somewhat of "Jubilee Games" for NUIG, taking place on the 40th anniversary of their victory in the men's race at Plassey in 1979. Both the Women's and Men's races were won by Dublin City University, with the hosts, NUI Galway finishing third in the Men's race. The 2020 championships were hosted by University College Cork at the Curraheen Road Sports Grounds,

with 149 athletes competing. Trinity College Dublin won the Women's race, ending Dublin City University's three-year winning streak. The Men's race was won by DCU. The 2021 championship will not proceed as planned in early March and has instead been postponed pending easing of the nationwide Covid19 containment measures.

We have continued to hold the IUAA indoor championships at the AIT Arena. In 2019, there were 328 individual competitors, with Dublin City University winning both the Men's and Women's competitions. In 2020, there were a record 310 individual competitors and 4 championship records. Dublin City University continued their dominance in this event with their thirteenth successive victory in both the Men's and Women's competitions. The 2021 championship did not proceed as planned due to limitations imposed by the nationwide covid-19 containment measures. We hope to be able to resume the annual indoor championships in 2022.

The Outdoor Track & Field Championships have remained the biggest in terms of overall competitors. The 2018 championships were hosted by Queen's University Belfast in Mary Peters, with 381 individual athletes competing. There were three championship records set over the two days of competition. There are five trophies presented at each Outdoor championships: Sprints, Jumps, Throws, Middle Distance and Combined Events. Dublin City University won all five trophies in 2018. The 2019 Championships were hosted by Athlone Institute of Technology, featuring an IUAA-record attendance of 404 athletes and six championship records. A highlights program from the event was broadcast on Eir Sport for several weeks following the competition. Dublin City University retained all five trophies. The 2021 championship will not proceed as planned in early April and has been postponed pending easing of the nationwide covid-19 containment measures.

We have continued to host the Celtic University international match against the Scottish Universities, which was revived in 2013. The IUAA won the both the 2018 championship held in Grangemouth, and the 2019 championship held in Antrim Forum. The 2020 championship did not proceed as planned, and the 2021 championship will not take place either. We hope to be able to resume the annual international match in 2022.

The IUAA athletes of the year were awarded to Matthew Behan (DCU) and Elizabeth Moreland (DCU) in 2018; and Phil Healy (WIT) and Marcus Lawler (IT Carlow) in 2019. Athlete of the year for 2020 is yet to be awarded.

Yours in sport,

**Garret Dunne**

## **Child Safeguarding**

### **1. Child Safeguarding**

Athletics Ireland is committed to the safeguarding and protection of all children and young people in our sport. Over the years, our child protection guidance and policies have been implemented in line with the national guidance and legislation outlined by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs in the Children First Act (2015), the National Vetting Bureau Act (2012) and by Sport Ireland in their Safe Sport programme. In 2011 our Code of Ethics was published ensuring that our sport is up-to-date and in line with relevant documents, current best practice, and legislation throughout the island of Ireland. Clubs, County and Provincial boards continue to implement safe recruitment policies and safeguarding guidelines. The 2019 Sport Ireland child safeguarding guidance and relevant child protection legislation frames our safeguarding activities and approach and supports our Code of Ethics. All of our safeguarding guidance and policies are now available on our website for clubs to download and adopt.

### **2. National Vetting Bureau Act (2012-2016)**

In 2016 vetting of all sports leaders became mandatory with the introduction of the National Vetting Act (2012-2016). To date Athletics Ireland has processed over 15,000 Garda vetting applications since 2010. In 2020 we processed over 1,400 Garda vetting applications for volunteers. Whilst legislation requires compliance with the vetting process, great credit is due to the army of Children's Officers in all of our clubs who help their sports leaders achieve compliance with vetting.

### **3. Children First Act (2015)**

In 2018 the Children First Guidance was placed on a statutory footing with the commencement of the Children First Act (2015). Athletics Ireland provided all clubs with supporting documentation and instructions on how to comply with the Act. This is a mandatory process that all organisations providing services to children in the state must complete. We continue to work with clubs to achieve compliance with their Child Safeguarding Statement. In 2019 Athletics Ireland was audited by the Tusla Safeguarding Statement compliance unit and met the requirements set out in the Act. Our Child Safeguarding Statements is currently being reviewed by Tusla, the child and family agency.

#### **4. Child Safeguarding Training and eLearning module**

Two levels of Sport Ireland safeguarding training courses are now offered to clubs by Athletics Ireland. Safeguarding 1, basic awareness in child protection for sports leaders and Safeguarding 2 for club children's officers.

- 2018 – 21 child safeguarding learning events were delivered to 345 leaders.
- 2019 – 26 child safeguarding learning events were delivered to 374 leaders.
- 2020 – 5 child safeguarding events were delivered to 84 leaders (Covid-19 cancelled face to face training from March with online alternative training developed by Sport Ireland in September 2020)

In response to the Covid challenge facing us all, Sport Ireland has now placed the Basic Awareness in Child Protection online as a Zoom workshop which is being rolled out to our clubs in 2021.

#### **Children in Sport working group**

Athletics Ireland continues to be represented on the Sport Ireland Children in Sport working group and at the All Ireland Designated Safeguarding Children's Officers group with the NSPCC in Belfast and Sport Ireland. We continue to play an active role in these groups that inform and shape policies and guidelines that influence children's experiences in sport in Ireland.

Young people's involvement in sport is a key component to their physical and emotional wellbeing. Almost sixty percent of our members are under the age of eighteen. As a sport we strive to ensure the delivery of quality experiences for all participants irrespective of ability, gender, social class, faith, and ethnicity. Club volunteers deliver valuable experiences as mentors and role models in their dealings with children and young people. The work of our Club Children's Officers is instrumental in the implementation of our Child Protection Policy and safeguarding guidelines. We continue to build on this work to ensure that all children's and young people's involvement in athletics is a valuable and rewarding experience.

#### **Recreation**

In 2018 and 2019 we continued our involvement in recreation events, both owned and managed. These events are an important source of revenue for the organisation and all funds generated are invested back into the sport. However, 2020 saw no live recreational events take place but there was significant activity in the virtual space.

It is planned to review our presence in Recreation events space in 2021 and beyond.

## **A Bright Future**

There are women and men throughout the country, who work tirelessly at Club level, as officials, as County Board members, on Provincial Councils and on National Committees in the interest of developing our sport and I would like to say a special thank you to each of you. Your dedication is required now more than ever to ensure our sport continues from strength to strength.

The staff members of Athletics Ireland are truly special. I have worked in the sports industry for the past 30 years, and I note the level of commitment given by this group of people is exceptional. Our staff represent us with distinction on a daily basis and I thank you all personally for all you have given during this difficult period.

To the Board of Athletics Ireland thank you for your support over the last three years, it has been exceptional and unified. And to our President Georgina Drumm, your unwavering commitment to athletics is incredible and I have enjoyed working with you immensely, you will be missed by many.

There are a number of organisations, Government and Sponsors, who have been and will continue to be of huge importance to Athletics Ireland and I would like to thank them all for their support. I do wish to name the following organisations again to emphasize their importance to us, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Sport Ireland, Irish Life Health, Muller, Joma, Grant Thornton, Waterways Ireland, Sports Travel International, and Eventmaster.

2020 and Covid has been the greatest challenge that we have all faced individually and as a nation in modern times. However, the tide has turned, and we are ready to resume life in a post pandemic format. Athletics Ireland has weathered this storm in good shape, and we are ready to rebuild immediately with the support of all the athletics family.

Yours in Athletics

Hamish Adams

CEO



## Strategic Plan Update

Our new Strategic Plan 2021 to 2028 will be presented and launched at Congress 2021.

The information below represents a summary of our Strategic Plan 2017-2020.

1. To continue to grow our membership through our existing club base, enhanced coaching and through new clubs and recruitment from schools, with specific focus on disadvantaged areas.
2. To ensure that our Competitions are athlete focused, with an enhanced customer experience.
3. To support our elite athletes by continuing to develop structures, so that we can field world-class athletes, with a sustainable performance coaching structure, facilities, and support staff.
4. To expand participation in recreational events through a focus on existing programmes and the creation of initiatives in co-operation with Healthy Ireland.
5. To maintain and enhance our Child Safeguarding processes and Healthy Club Plan.
6. To manage Governance and Finances to best demonstrated practices and to train our staff to acquire expertise in every area to become “best in class”.
7. To make Marketing a key focus throughout the organisation.

### Key Performance Indicators as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Members - 55,419

Coaches - 680 at coaching courses; 1453 vetted.

Affiliated Clubs – 362

Participation Database - 200,000

Self-Generated Funding - 58%\*

International Podium - 22 medals\*

Digital Engagement - 27,000 unique website visits per month

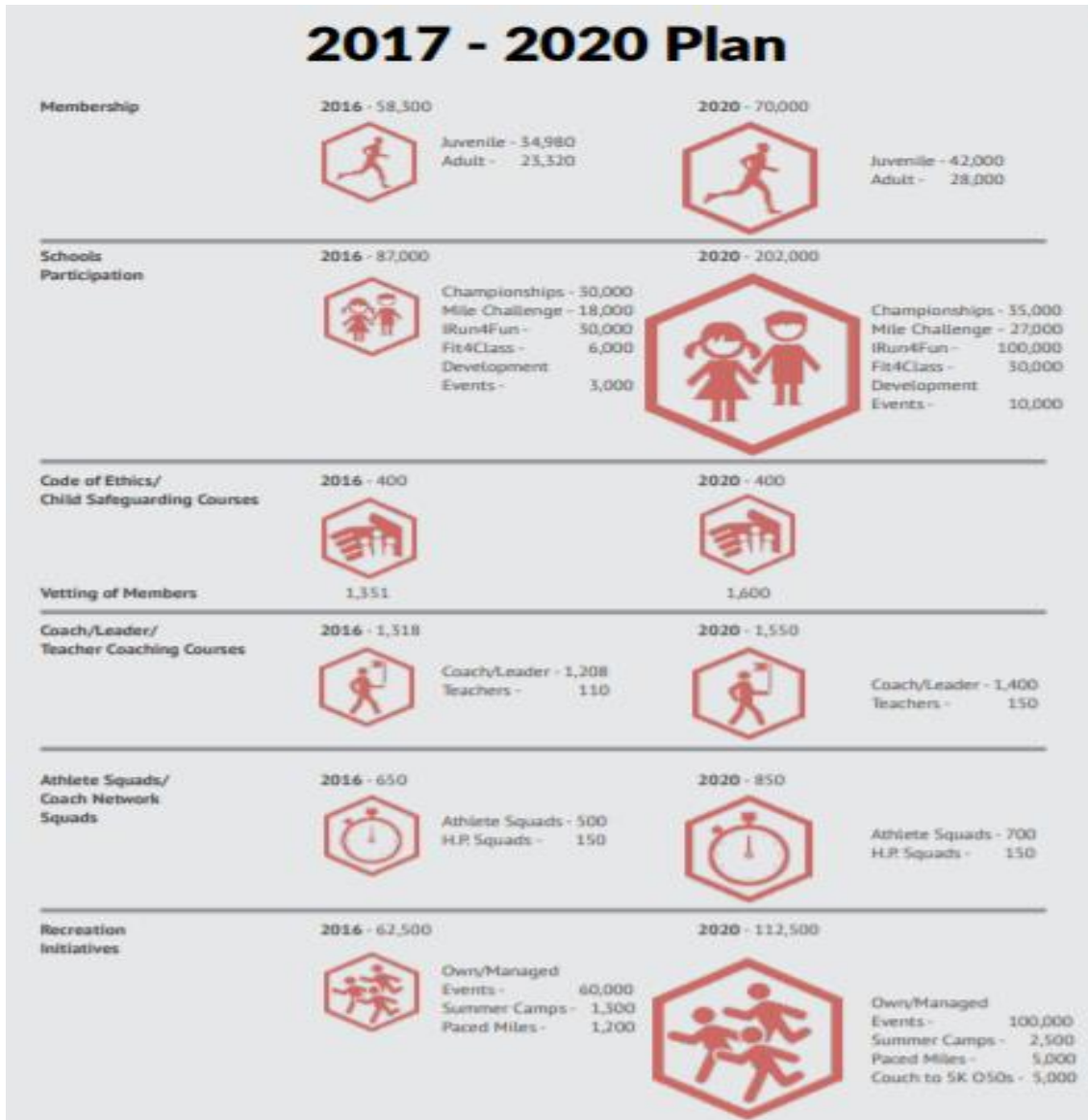
\*December 2019 figures

The impact of Covid19 has been huge on the ability of our organisation to reach the strategic targets we set for 2020 as illustrated below. For example, our membership target for 2020 was 70,000 and we were tracking towards this target with 62,700 members at the end of 2019. However, with the impact of Covid19 in 2020 we only reached 55,419 members.

By the end of 2019 we had already reached 2020 targets in terms of vetting numbers, safeguarding course participants, Fit4Class, Mile Challenge, Championships, coach/leader participants, athlete squad participants, and HP squad numbers. However, we were significantly behind all our targets in recreational initiatives except Summer Camps which did deliver over 2000 participants in 2019.

## Congress 2021 Minutes

It is also important to note that some opportunities that were not strategic priorities in the 2017 to 2020 strategic plan have presented themselves during this period that we have embraced. For example, The Daily Mile Primary Schools programme goes from strength to strength with over one thousand Schools regularly participating in this programme. This represents 200,000 individual participant movement opportunities per School Day and is a tool in the battle against obesity and in the vision of a healthy nation.



The CEO presented the new Strategic Plan 2021 to 2028

[https://www.athleticsireland.ie/downloads/results/AAI\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_PDF\\_Final\\_Copy\\_15\\_April\\_2021.pdf](https://www.athleticsireland.ie/downloads/results/AAI_Strategic_Plan_PDF_Final_Copy_15_April_2021.pdf)

We have consulted widely with all stakeholders in the development of our new Strategic Plan 2021 to 2028, and we have reflected considerably on our previous strategic plan. We believe we have a strong roadmap for the future, and we look forward to sharing this new vision with our members at Congress.

## Presidents Address

When we met for Congress in 2018 three years ago who would have predicted that we would be operating by this medium. Challenges in times of crisis can bring out the best in people and we were resilient in the face of adversity. Community remains at the heart of how athletics thrive and operates and how we communicate.

The Chairs in every area have issued detailed reports Our CEO Hamish, the Principal Committees ,Technical Committee and working groups have put a lot of time and effort into preparing these reports and they are to be commended for the detail in the documents.

I attended a number of the meetings throughout my presidency and personally witnessed the work of each committee. I wish to thank all the members of the committees for their collaboration and solidarity not only this past difficult year but on the successful years prior to the pandemic.

While every sector of our sport has been affected, I would like to particularly recognise our young people. We are seeing a gradual return to training, and I am sure you are looking forward to Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April where clubs can commence training for under 18 under specific guidelines. We look forward to welcoming them back to this wonderful sport and we are committed to making their return a positive and fulfilling experience.

Overall, like all sports participating levels and membership numbers have been affected by the pandemic. Our Competitions Committees continued to meet and prepare plans to resume competition should the opportunity arise, as you all know competition is the essence of our sport and I know that John Mc Grath who retires from his role as Chair has been hoping that his final months would have seen a return to competition however it was not possible. I am sure we will see John continuing to contribute as an official as soon as competition resumes, his love and link to Juvenile athletics will remain strong .

The care of our young and vulnerable is the most important responsibility we have in our sport, and we have a strong pair of hands in Kieron Stout, and he deserves our thanks for his commitment and management of Welfare.

As with Juvenile, our schools programme has been curtailed, however the school's mile challenge has continued in Primary Schools and this initiative is important not only to promote our sport but also to contribute to the general health of children in our country. University Athletics has also been hit hard but we can be reassured that as soon as competition opens up, all aspects of our sport will return, all are waiting patiently for the off.

With the cooperation of all we were able to organise junior, senior, under 23 and Master events. These events were excellently organised with officials and athletes working together, all accepting the limited conditions and were exemplary in their approach to the controls. We did received wide spread coverage from the media for the events particularly the Senior Championships which ended on day 2 in an extraordinary final event in which Sean Tobin and Paul Robinson finished neck and neck in the 1500m. Congratulations to John Cronin and his competition Committee and his wider team for their management of these events. The success of the track and field championships helped greatly with the concept of the micro meet, which turned out to be an exceptional meet.

There is a very comprehensive report prepared by John including all the highlights in your Congress pack, my expression of thanks seems small compared to the work carried out by the committee as a whole. John has also completed his terms as chair however we will see him in a new role, and I am sure he will embrace it as competently and effectively as in his previous positions.

Success at global level is difficult and rare and we can see from the High-Performance Report what the athletes have achieved at international level. It was great to see the positive social and traditional media coverage before and during the European Indoor Championships, while we did fall short on the medal count, we can take a high degree of encouragement from the performances.

## Congress 2021 Minutes

The Tokyo Olympics Games will be like no other, we offer our support and encouragement to those who have qualified and those still endeavouring to qualify and wish them all success over the next number of months.

Looking back to 2019 we continued to see progress from our athletes in the European Cross-Country Championships, which opened the possibility of future success in 2020 at the National Sports Campus Abbotstown, Fingal. Unfortunately, that was not to be with the World Pandemic however we have an opportunity in December to see many of the fine athletes who have been lighting up our screens during this time. Liam Hennessy and his team were well prepared for 2020 and are looking forward to making 2021 a fantastic experience for all.

Chair of High-Performance Neil Martin has presented his final report to Congress, we will greatly miss his contributions to the Board and at High Performance & Coaching meetings as we wish him a happy and healthy retirement which we hope will not last too long.

Coaching continues front and centre through the past year through use of webinars, home challenges, preparation of coaching resources, coaching workshops and event liaising with athlete on a one-to-one basis. A huge amount of work has been undertaken with significant support from Chair, Brid Golden and the coaching committee. All are to be congratulated.

Our recreational running programme has been an outstanding success over the past few years in terms of the runners participating and the income stream that came with it, I have no doubt there is going to be a demand as soon as we are able to get runners on the roads again.

We can still look with positivity to the number of people exercising across all walks of life, this is evident as we go about our limited daily activities, participation and interest in our sport continues.

Virtual races have become a feature and it is gratifying that athletics has played a part in keeping Ireland Active in these complicated and changeable times. We of course look forward to a return to participation as soon as it is practicable.

Managing the finances of any organisation in a period of significantly reduced income is extremely challenging and this has been the case for Athletics Ireland over the past few years.

We have been impacted by reduced membership fees, cancellation of recreational running, fewer championships and other issues.

I would like to thank George Maybury and the whole finance and risk team as well as Director of Finance John Holian for their management of the finances during this difficult time.

Also, a special thanks to Joe Fitzgerald from Mulcahy O' Neill Fitzgerald Auditors who has been on this journey throughout with us.

George has completed two terms as Chair and will retire from his role. I am sure he will continue to contribute to the organisation at Competitions, as Event Control and Safety Officer and of course as a master athlete.

The new strategic plan covering 2021 to 2028 is being launched today, this plan is our road map for the next 7 years and is a result of an enormous amount of work. We have set ourselves very ambitious targets and I know that working together we can achieve them.

One of my primary ambitions as President was to have an Athletes Commission established. I am delighted that the Board have agreed the terms of reference for the first Commission which will be led by Paul Mac Namara and will be rolled out post Congress.

You may recall in my address in 2018 I highlighted my desire to have a greater involvement of women in our sport.

I am delighted that we have made progress in this area, with the support of Sport Ireland we have put in place a Women in Sport Programme, led by Lilly Anne O Hora.

We must continue to promote and support the greater involvement of women leaders in our sport to realise the desirable progression of gender equity at leadership level.

## Congress 2021 Minutes

The numbers are improving but we need to ensure we continue this momentum to national level. Visibility of women should and will be increased through programmes like Women in Sport.

Communication is important and with our stake holders it is vital. During my time as President, we continued to meet with the provinces and in particular this past year to ensure they were well informed, and their input actioned.

Liaison meetings with Athletics Northern Ireland, Ulster Athletics and Athletics Ireland continued during my Presidency, the Memorandum of Understanding has been updated and continues to be collaboration and effective.

John Allen after years of exemplary service has completed his time on the board and David Abrahams Chair of Athletics Northern Ireland has joined.

While in office I represented Athletics Ireland at World and European Conferences and Congress, more recently virtually on World Athletics updates and was in attendance at a number of major championships, which I appreciated and was a privilege to be present to see our athletes on the global stage.

As a president it is vitally important that there is an excellent relationship with the CEO, I am fortunate that I have worked with Hamish Adams over the past three years witnessing at first hand his work ethic and collaborative approach delivering for the Association on a daily basis.

Both Hamish and his predecessor have shown great commitment to Athletics Ireland during my presidency and have contributed greatly to its progress.

Hamish prepared a detailed and informative report which you received in your pack and has presented it to all today.

The staff of the association are a huge part of who we are and have worked collaboratively with all the committees to help bring us to where we are today, everybody has a part to play and I think we had a fine team performance, and to this end I thank you earnestly.

Deirdre Marley along with the Standing order Committee of Liam Hennessy, Brian Dowling and Neil Martin and our legal advisor Gerry Dunne who have assisted with the preparation for today, a sincere thank you to all.

I wish to thank Donegal Athletics for their commitment in offering to stage the 2020 Congress in Ballybofey, a huge amount of work was undertaken on our behalf but as this Pandemic took hold of the Country we had to postpone and eventually cancel an in-person Congress.

Our sport was built on the shoulders of volunteers in all their various roles and has progressed substantially through the years, the current volunteers along with our excellent executive staff continue to push the boundaries creating opportunities for young and old to participate and enjoy athletics.

We have had remarkable administrators, coaches and athletes at every level, too many to mention, we must never forget their contribution and to honour their legacy it is imperative that we carry on and create more success stories and more heroes.

I read once that All big achievements start in small ways, with encouragement, support and knowledge of our unsung heroes, our outstanding volunteers, coaches, administrators and officials, we will continue collectively to rise to the occasion and drive this sport to greater and better things.

It is also important to stay curious, it is what we can and will do after this pandemic to make our sport better that will be remembered and will be our legacy. Volunteers don't necessarily have the time, but they definitely have the heart. I believe this is so true.

Hamish has covered our sponsors and our funders, however I must acknowledge and thank the Department of Sport, Sport Ireland, The Sport Ireland Institute, the Olympic Federation of Ireland and the Federation of Irish Sport along with our sponsors detailed in CEO's report, for their continued support in difficult times.

To the Board of Athletics Ireland, I wish to put on record how well you have worked for the last 5 years, how dedicated you all were and available when needed when extra meetings were required. We have discussed, debated and exchanged ideas

## Congress 2021 Minutes

all for the benefit of our athletes and the association. For those continuing as Board Members I wish you all well, and those like myself retiring I hope to see you all again ,it was my pleasure working with you all.

There is on person retiring from the board today while I did not get the opportunity at our last board meeting to acknowledge his contribution to the board, I will put on record now my thanks to Bernie O Callaghan.

I have already mentioned our CEO , thrown in at the deep end with a fire in our headquarters and now a world pandemic he has at all times shown his willingness to listen, act and deliver, it has been a rewarding three years for both me personally and the Association.

Thank you, Hamish, for your support, it has been great working with you.

While my term has ended, I will continue to volunteer in athletics and look forward to working with you and of course seeing you face to face over the coming months. Also, as a member of the Olympic Federation of Ireland Board, and I thank our Board for nominating me, I will remain close to our sport, a sport which is a major part of my life.

Standing before you 5 years ago as the newly elected President there were many emotions I could call out , but above all I was proud that you placed your trust in me, I hope I honoured that trust.

To all the members of the newly elected committees and chairs I wish that you enjoy the challenges, achieve and succeed, this sports need you.

“Shoot for the moon, even if you miss you will land among the stars”.

Finally, I wish to thank you all and who you represent for giving me this incredible opportunity and to my family for their unwavering support during my time of Presidency, an experience of a lifetime.

THANK YOU.

Georgina Drumm

President Athletics Ireland

## Life Vice Presidents

On behalf of the Board of Athletics Ireland I am pleased to present Ciaran O' Cathain as Life Vice President for his huge contribution to Athletics. Former President Athletics Ireland, Chair of Finance & Risk and National Starter and the driving force behind the International Indoor Arena in Athlone . Unfortunately, due to the nature of this Virtual Congress Ciaran is unable to be with us today however he has prepared a video clip which we will now share with you.

I extend my congratulation to Ciaran on receiving this deserving honour.

## STANDING ORDERS

1. Voting for all elections shall be conducted electronically via Zoom on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April from 3pm to 8pm. All votes are **confidential**. In the event of a tied vote a further electronic vote shall take place at Congress. **N.B.** For inclusion in the voting each delegate is required to log in on a separate electronic device (smart phone, tablet, laptop etc).
2. Voting for the role of Deputy President shall take place after all other elections are concluded.  
Art 31 G (viii).
3. Voting for all motions shall be conducted electronically via Zoom: amendment of the Constitution (Art 80) requires a **75% majority**; otherwise (Art 79) a **simple majority** shall apply.
4. Questions to the Financial Report; CEO Report; Chairs of the Principal Committees Reports are required to be submitted in advance of Congress.
5. The rationale for a motion must be submitted by the proposers in advance of Congress (no more than 150 words). The rationale will be included on the syllabus.
6. Proposals to amend a motion shall be submitted in advance of Congress.
7. The proposer of a motion may speak for no longer than **1.5 minutes**.
8. The proposer of an amendment may speak for no longer than **1 minute**.
9. The proposer of a motion may speak for a second time for **1 minute** before a vote is taken.
10. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for considering any matter not on the agenda' except by the consent of a majority equal to two thirds of those present and entitled to vote.
11. Only members of the **BOARD**, registered members of **COUNTY BOARDS** and **PROVINCIAL COUNCILS** may propose motions or amendments.

**Adoption of Standing Orders**

Proposed George Maybury    Seconder Michael Quinlan

## Announcement of Election Results conducted electronically Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

### 1. Board

John Cronin	President
Brid Golden	Chair of Coaching & Development
Andrew Lynam	Chair of Competition
Michael Quinlan	Chair of Finance & Risk
Fintan Reilly	Chair of High Performance
Evelyn O'Reilly	Chair of Juvenile

#### Elected at Annual Provincial Conventions

Brian Bruton	Connacht Rep
Greg Duggan	Leinster Rep
PJ O'Rourke	Munster Rep
Brendan McDaid	Ulster Rep

Brian Corcoran	207	Elected
Eamon Harvey	211	Elected
Mary Barrett	192	Elected
Seamus Flynn	164	Elected
Pat Power	168	Elected

Teresa Mc Daid 148

#### Competition Committee

Paddy Marley	198	Elected
Bernie Dunne	172	Elected
Brendan McDaid	171	Elected
Bernie O'Callaghan	148	Elected
Georgina Drumm	136	Elected

Antoinette Holland 115  
 Michael Fennell 85  
 Patrick Morgan 65

#### Elected at Annual Provincial Conventions

Patricia Griffin	Connacht Rep
Majella McGrath	Leinster Rep
Tim Ahern	Munster Rep
Patsy Kelly	Ulster Rep



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### Finance & Risk Committee

Brian Bruton  
 Anthony Kelly  
 One more to be appointed by the Board.

### High Performance Committee

Teresa McDaid  
 Ray Flynn  
 Eamon Harvey

### Juvenile Committee

Amanda Hynes	185	Elected
John McGrath	183	Elected
David Murphy	148	Elected
Bernie Dunne	131	Elected
Esther Fitzpatrick	107	Elected
Jim Ryan	100	
Jim Corcoran	89	
Tom Thompson	79	
Greg Duggan	68	

Elected at Annual Provincial Conventions

Anne McHugh Connacht Rep  
 Catriona Duffy Leinster Rep  
 Tim Fitzpatrick Munster Rep  
 Mark Connolly Ulster Rep

## Election of the Deputy President

Article 31 (g) (viii)

Elected from the Persons (other than the newly elected President) who are to take office as Board Members at the conclusion of Congress. Election Conducted electronically on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

Brid Golden	113
Michael Quinlan	45
Brian Bruton	21

Brid Golden Elected

### Closing of day 1 of congress by the President

It is with regret that since the resumption of Congress after a short break for lunch that due to technical difficulties with the roll call which we cannot resolve today I must inform you that congress will be adjourned and a date for resumption will be communicated with you as soon as possible. All business conducted before lunch will stand and the Board will continue in office until Congress is completed. Gerry Dunne AAI Legal Advisor supported this action as correct. The Board of AAI will meet immediately to discuss further.

## Congress 2021 Minutes

### Agenda Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021

<b>10:30</b>	Roll Call
<b>11:00:</b>	Motions
<b>16:00:</b>	Inauguration of President
<b>16:30:</b>	Close of Congress

### Presidents opening remarks for Day 2 of Congress.

Welcome delegates to the reconvened congress of Athletics Ireland. I wish to thank all for the many messages, calls and cards with words of support, I am extremely grateful for your good wishes.

There has been some great activity since our last meeting, registration numbers have improved with return to training, and I am confident that more will follow.

The qualification of the 4 x 400m mixed relay for Tokyo Olympics was fantastic along with the Women 4x 100m performance just missing out on a final place and the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish for the 4 x 200m Women, a great event altogether and some very credible performances at European Throwing Competition , well done to all.

A few upcoming events to look forward to with Cian Mc Manamon and Brendan Boyce representing Ireland at European Race-Walking Cup, Micro Meet in Cork to facilitate Junior and Under 23 Athletes for European Championships and selection of athletes for the 10,000 Championships. Good Luck to all the athletes and the officials.

If time permits, I will ask the Chairs of the various committees to address congress at completion followed by the inauguration of our New President John Cronin.

The roll was conducted and verified with Gerry Dunne (legal) on hand to oversee the integrity of the process.

The roll call recorded 174 delegates present including 14 members of the board. Quorum of 122 Reached.

#### ROLL CALL - Congress 2021

	Present Congress 2021	Total Voting strength
Antrim	4	22
Armagh	0	4
Carlow	3	6
Cavan	3	3
Clare	0	9
Cork	14	42
Derry	0	7

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Donegal	7	14
Down	0	13
Dublin	33	50
Fermanagh	0	2
Galway	5	22
Kerry	7	8
Kildare	4	14
Kilkenny	3	9
Laois	3	7
Leitrim	3	4
Limerick	3	8
Longford	1	2
Louth	7	12
Mayo	6	14
Meath	14	24
Monaghan	0	8
Offaly	7	9
Roscommon	1	4
Sligo	3	8
Tipperary	3	12
Tyrone	0	5
Waterford	5	9
Westmeath	2	5
Wexford	2	10
Wicklow	3	9
Connacht	4	4
Leinster	4	4
Munster	4	4
Ulster	2	4
Board	14	16

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<b>Total</b>	174	407
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		Motion
<b>Article 31 (a) of the Articles of Association of the Company</b> <b>With the consent of Meath County, the Amended motion was presented to Congress.</b> <b>P: Michael Cornyn S: Neil Martin For: 85 Against: 59 Abstain: 4 Failed</b>		
The number of Delegates from each County Board shall be determined on the basis of 1 Delegate for each 200, or part 200, Registered Members of Affiliated Clubs;	<b>1</b>	THAT; the number of delegates from each County Board be changed from one delegate to each 200 or part of 200 to one delegate for each 400 or part of 400 registered members of affiliated clubs;  <b>MEATH</b>
<b>Meath Amended Motion:</b> That the number of delegates from each County Board be changed from one delegate for each 200 or part of 200 to one delegate for each 400 or part 400 registered members of affiliated clubs, subject to a minimum of two delegates from each County Board.		
<b>Article 3 (c) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b> <b>Motions 2,4,6, &amp; 22 were presented as one.</b> <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 132 Against: 2 Abstain: 1 Carried</b>		
there shall be the following categories of membership of the Association:  Registered Members;  Affiliate Members;  Provincial Councils; and  County Boards.	<b>2</b>	a new category  THAT; there shall be the following categories of membership of the Association:  (a) Registered Members;  (b) Affiliate Members;  Members of  (c) 'Affiliated Clubs '  (d) County Boards; and  (e) Provincial Councils  <b>BOARD</b>

**Article 11 of the Articles of Association of the Company:**

**P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin**

**For: 130**

**Against: 4**

**Abstain: 4**

**Carried**

<p>Each AGM may prescribe an application or subscription fee payable on admission to Membership and an annual subscription and other periodic contributions payable by every Registered Member. Any increase authorised by an AGM shall take effect only from the commencement of the next financial year. All annual subscriptions for each registration year (from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December) must be paid on or before 28<sup>th</sup> February in that year or, as the case may be, on or before any earlier date in that year which is the closing date for entries for an event organised by, or under the auspices of, the Association in which a Member or proposed Member intends to compete.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p>be replaced and substituted with the following:</p> <p>THAT; Each AGM may prescribe an <b>affiliation fee</b> payable on admission to Membership and an annual subscription and other periodic contributions payable by every Registered Member. <b>Otherwise, existing fees, subscriptions, and /or contributions as appropriate stand.</b> An increase authorised by an AGM shall take effect only from the commencement of the next financial year.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
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**Article 14 of the Articles of Association of the Company:**

**Please refer to Motion 2 Carried**

<p><b>CLUBS</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>AFFILIATED CLUBS</b></p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
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**Article 14 (a) of the Articles of Association of the Company**

**P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 141 Against: 2 Abstain: 2 Carried**

<p>Any club prepared to properly promote Athletics in any County or Province and which has at least 10 (ten) members <b>who are registered with it</b> (four of whom have attained the age of 21 years) and who will be entitled to be Registered Members if that club becomes Affiliated shall be eligible to apply for Affiliation. All members of an Affiliated Club must become Registered Members within a reasonable time (as determined by the Board in any case) after that club has become Affiliated.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>delete <b>'who are registered with it'</b></p> <p>THAT; Any club prepared to properly promote Athletics in any County or Province and which has at least 10 (ten) members (four of whom have attained the age of 21 years) and who will be entitled to be Registered Members if that club becomes Affiliated shall be eligible to apply for Affiliation. All members of an Affiliated Club must become Registered Members within a reasonable time (as determined by the Board in any case) after that club has become Affiliated.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
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**Article 15 of the Articles of Association of the Company.**

**Please refer to Motion 2 Carried**

<p>Clubs shall comply with, and be bound by, all the provisions of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition and all Other Rules. A Club's bye-laws, rules, standing orders, procedures and any other constitutional documents shall not be in conflict with any provision of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or Other Rules.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>mended by adding <b>'Affiliated'</b> Clubs.</p> <p>THAT; <b>Affiliated</b> Clubs shall comply with, and be bound by, all the provisions of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition and all Other Rules. A Club's bye-laws, rules, standing orders, procedures and any other constitutional documents shall not be in conflict with any provision of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or Other Rules.</p>
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**Article 16 (a) of the Articles of Association of the Company.**

**P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 112 Against: 3 Abstain: 2 Carried**

<p>Provincial Councils may be formed in each of the four Provinces in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Each Provincial Council may draw up bye- laws which shall in all cases be limited to its operations within its own area and will in no sense conflict with any IAAF/Association Articles.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>THAT; Provincial Councils may be formed in each of the four Provinces in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Each Provincial Council may draw up its <b>bye-laws</b> which shall in all cases be limited to its own area and will in no sense conflict with any requirements <b>or rules of World Athletics or these</b></p>
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		Associate Articles, the bye laws the Rules of Competition or Other Rules BOARD
<b>Article 16 (b) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S. Neil Martin For: 147 Against: 2 Abstain: 1 Carried</b>		
Registered Members shall not be permitted to organise or take part in County championships or games if their subscriptions to the Association are unpaid for the current year.	8	be deleted in its entirety and substituted with  THAT; <b>Individuals</b> , shall not be permitted to organise or take part in County Championships or games <b>if they are not registered members of the Association for the current year.</b>  BOARD
<b>Article 16 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: Neil Martin S: Georgina Drumm For: 121 Against: 26 Abstain: 3 Carried</b>		
	9	is hereby amended by the addition of the following new clause and the renumbering of the existing clauses.  THAT; <b>No nominated Provincial Representative to the Board may stand for, or be elected, as Chair of any of the Principal Committees.</b> BOARD
<b>Article 17 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Brid Golden For: 139 Against: 1 Abstain:1 Carried</b>		
Without prejudice to the application of the provisions of Bye-law 1 generally, and Bye-law 1.6 in particular, to club membership, failure to pay any annual subscription or Affiliation fee payable to the Association <b>on or before 28<sup>th</sup> February or, if appropriate, any earlier date required by Article 11</b> will result in lapsing of the Membership or Affiliation of the person or organisation by whom or which the subscription or fee was payable.	10	<b>replace with the following:</b>  THAT; Without prejudice to the application of the provisions of Bye-law 1 generally, and Bye-law 1.6 in particular, to club membership, failure to pay any annual subscription or Affiliation fee payable to the Association will result in lapsing of the Membership or Affiliation of the person or organisation by whom or which the subscription or fee was payable.  BOARD
<b>Article 23 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Brid Golden For: 149 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Carried</b>		
The Association is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all of its Registered Members. Every individual in the Association should at all times	11	<b>Replace with the following</b>  THAT; The Association is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all of its Registered Members. Every individual in the Association should at all



<p>show respect and understanding for Registered Members’ rights, consider the safety and welfare of each athlete and conduct himself or herself in a manner that reflects the principles of the Association and the guidelines contained in the Safeguarding Guidance for Children and Young People in Sport and the Child Protection Guidelines in Ireland.</p>		<p>times show respect and understanding for Registered Members’ rights, consider the safety and welfare of each athlete and conduct himself in a manner that reflects the principles of the Association and the guidelines contained in the Sport Ireland Safeguarding Guidance for Children and Young People in Sport <b>and in accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and the Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017.</b></p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 24(a) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Brid Golden For: 138 Against: 4 Abstain: 2 Carried</b></p>		
<p>The Board shall have the power to discipline any Member, Club, County Board, Provincial Council, or other Affiliated body when it is satisfied there has been any breach of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or any Other Rules of the Association or the equivalent constitutional provisions of its affiliated bodies, or where there has been conduct likely to bring the Association or the sport of Athletics into disrepute.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p>be replaced with the following.</p> <p>THAT; The Board shall have the power to discipline any Member, <b>Affiliated</b> Club, County Board, Provincial Council, or other Affiliated body when it is satisfied there has been any breach of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or any Other Rules of the Association or the equivalent constitutional provisions of its affiliated bodies, or where there has been conduct likely to bring the Association or the sport of Athletics into disrepute. <b>The Board recognises that County Boards and Provincial Councils should manage any disputes at a local level initially.</b></p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 24 (h) of the Articles of Association of the Company</b>  <b>Motion 13,27,28,40,41 presented as one.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Brid Golden For: 145 Against: 1 Abstain: 1 Carried</b></p>		
<p>All decisions issued under the Appeals procedure set out in Article 24(f) and 24(g) above may be appealed exclusively by referral to Just Sport Ireland, within 14 days after the decision has been communicated to the person or body in respect of whom or which the decision was made, for final and binding arbitration in accordance with the Just Sport Arbitration Rules (as amended from time to time). The decision of the arbitrator(s) thereunder shall be final and binding on all concerned.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p>Delete Just Sport Ireland in Line 2 and Line 5, and replace in its entirety and replaced by <b>Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland</b></p> <p>THAT; All decisions issued under the Appeals procedure set out in Article 24(f) and 24(g) above may be appealed exclusively by referral to <b>Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland</b> within 14 days after the decision has been communicated to the person or body in respect of whom or which the decision was made, for final and binding arbitration in accordance with the <b>Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland</b> Arbitration Rules (as amended from time to time). The decision of the arbitrator(s) thereunder shall be final and binding on all concerned.</p>

		<b>BOARD</b>
<b>Article 28 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b> <b>Motion 14,30, 31 presented as one.</b> <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Brid Golden For: 145 Against: 6 Abstain: 1 Carried</b>		
<p>The AGM shall be held, so far as reasonably practicable, on such date and at such time and venue as the preceding AGM shall determine, subject to compliance with the Acts. In order to comply with the Acts, if an AGM is to be held in Northern Ireland the preceding AGM must pass a resolution that it be so held. The AGM in alternate years shall be a Congress.</p>	14	<p>delete in its entirety and substituted with the following:</p> <p>THAT; The AGM shall be held, so far as reasonably practicable, on such date and at such time and venue as the preceding AGM shall determine, subject to compliance with the Act. In order to comply with the Act, if an AGM is to be held in Northern Ireland the preceding AGM must pass a resolution that it be so held. The AGM in alternate years shall <b>be a held as part of Congress.</b></p>
<b>Article 31 (a) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b> <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: George Maybury For: 142 Against: 1 Abstain:1 Carried</b>		
<p>The Congress shall consist of;</p>	15	<p>Replace with            THAT; <b>The following shall be entitled to attend Congress;</b>  <b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Article 31 (h) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b> <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: George Maybury For: 145 Against: 5 Abstain: 1 Carried</b>		
<p>To be valid, each election held under Article 31(g) shall be by secret ballot and shall require a simple majority of the votes cast. No election of any nominee shall be valid unless that nominee is present at the Congress at which that election is held, unless the nominee’s absence is for reasons which have been explained to the Board to its satisfaction (but a nominee who has been elected may leave that Congress after his election and before conclusion of that Congress if permitted to do so by the chairperson). Each election shall take effect from the conclusion of Congress.</p>	16	<p>Amend with the addition ‘in advance’</p> <p>THAT; To be valid, each election held under Article 31(g) shall be by secret ballot and shall require a simple majority of the votes cast. No election of any nominee shall be valid unless that nominee is present at the Congress at which that election is held, unless the nominee’s absence is for reasons which have been explained to the Board to its satisfaction <b>in advance</b> (but a nominee who has been elected may leave that Congress after his election and before conclusion of that Congress if permitted to do so by the chairperson). Each election shall take effect from the conclusion of Congress.  <b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Article 31 (l) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		

<b>Motion 17 and 37 presented as one.</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S: George Maybury For: 141 Against: 2 Abstain: 2 Carried</b>		
<p><b>Honorary</b> Life Vice Presidents may attend the Congress and may speak but may not vote save where they are attending as a Delegate of a County Board or Provincial Council.</p>	<b>17</b>	<p>Replace with the following;</p> <p>THAT; Life Vice Presidents may attend the Congress and may speak but may not vote save where they are <b>also</b> attending as a Delegate <b>'or otherwise entitled to vote.'</b></p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Article 31 (n) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: George Maybury S: Neil Martin For: 136 Against: 5 Abstain: 1 Carried</b>		
<p>Congress shall have the power to suspend and take other sanctions, and to reinstate Members. Such powers must be exercised in accordance with the principles of fairness and natural justice.</p>	<b>18</b>	<p>Delete in its entirety</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Article 31 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: Neil Martin S: Georgina Drumm For: 119 Against: 28 Abstain: 5 Carried</b>		
	<b>19</b>	<p>is hereby amended by the addition of the following new clause and the renumbering of the existing clauses;</p> <p>THAT; <b>No individual shall hold the position of Chair of any Principal Committee and also be Chair of a Provincial Council at the same time.</b></p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Article 39 (c) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 135 Against: 2 Abstain: 1 Carried</b>		
<p>by any Member or Members present in person or by their Delegates (as the case may be) and entitled to vote and representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the Members having the right to vote at the meeting.</p>	<b>20</b>	<p>is hereby amended by the addition of the wording <b>present and</b></p> <p>THAT; by any Member or Members present in person or by their Delegates (as the case may be) and entitled to vote and representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the Members <b>present and having</b> the right to vote at the meeting.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Article 46 of the Athletic Association of the Company.</b>		

P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 98 Against: 56 Abstain: 0 Failed		
	<b>21</b>	<p>To include an additional clause</p> <p>THAT; No amendment to General Meeting Motions will be accepted from the floor of a General Meeting. All proposed motion amendments must be forwarded to the CEO 14 days in advance of a General Meeting. All proposed amendments will be redistributed to relevant stakeholders 7 days in advance of said General Meeting to enable all parties an opportunity to preview and discuss.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p style="background-color: yellow;"><b>Article 47 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b></p> <p style="background-color: yellow;"><b>See Motion 2 Carried</b></p>		
<p>The Board shall send to Provincial Councils, County Boards, Clubs, other Affiliate Members, and others entitled to receive them copies of all motions to be proposed at any general meeting not less than thirty (30) Clear Days before the date for holding the meeting. The Board shall distribute to Provincial Councils, County Boards, Clubs, other Affiliate Members, and others entitled to receive them its report and statement of accounts for the relevant financial year not less than thirty (30) Clear Days before the date for holding the AGM.</p>	<b>22</b>	<p>ed and replaced in its entirety.</p> <p>THAT; <b>Subject to Article 46</b> The Board shall send to Provincial Councils, County Boards, <b>Affiliated</b> Clubs, other Affiliate Members, and others entitled to receive copies of all motions to be proposed at any general meeting not less than thirty (30) Clear Days before the date for holding the meeting. The Board shall distribute to Provincial Councils, County Boards, <b>Affiliated</b> Clubs, other Affiliate Members, and others entitled to receive its report and statement of accounts for the relevant financial year not less than thirty (30) Clear Days before the date for holding the AGM.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p style="background-color: yellow;"><b>Article 51 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b></p> <p style="background-color: yellow;"><b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For: 124 Against: 20 Abstain: 8 Carried</b></p>		
<p>The Association commits itself to promoting gender equality throughout the organisation. The Board shall have regard to the Association's principles of gender equality in the matter of all Board appointments. The Board is the board of directors of the Association and therefore each Board Member is a director.</p>	<b>23</b>	<p>delete and replace with the following:</p> <p>THAT; The Association commits itself to promoting gender equality throughout the organisation. The Board shall have regard to the Association's principles of gender equality in the matter of all board appointments.</p> <p>No '<b>current</b>' Board Member (including the President) '<b>during his term on the Board</b>' shall be eligible for appointment to any paid executive office in the</p>

<p>No Board Member (including the President) shall be eligible for appointment to any paid executive office in the Association (including that of the CEO). No person (other than the nominees of the ISAA and the IUAA) shall be eligible to be a Board Member unless he is a Registered Member or a member of Athletics Northern Ireland or is <i>ex officio</i> a Board Member. No member of the Board shall be eligible for re-appointment to the Board save that a Board term of two years shall have elapsed following his/her resignation as a Board Member.</p> <p>With effect from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010, no Board Member shall serve for more than a maximum period of twelve (12) years.</p> <p>No person completing a term as Chair of a Principal Committee shall be eligible for election as a Chair of another Principal Committee at the Congress following the completion of their term of office.</p> <p>The provisions of Section 1196 of the Act relating to retirement by rotation of directors shall not apply to the Company</p>		<p>Association (including that of the CEO). No person (other than the nominees of the ISAA and the IUAA <b>and any ‘Independent Director’</b>) shall be eligible to be a Board Member unless he is a Registered Member or a member of Athletics Northern Ireland or is <i>ex officio</i> a Board Member.</p> <p><b>No person may be a member of the Board for more than two (2) consecutive two-year terms in any one position, and no one may serve as a Board Member for more than twelve years (12) in total with effect from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010.</b></p> <p>The provisions of Section 1196 of the Act relating to retirement by rotation of directors shall not apply to the Company.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 51 (a) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For: 143 Against: 1 Abstain: 0 Carried</b></p>		
<p>a nominee of Athletics Northern Ireland (“ANI”) <b>who shall have a vote on the Board</b>, so long as a reciprocal arrangement exists on the management Board of the ANI. The ANI nominee may not hold the position for more than two consecutive terms; one representative from each Provincial Council <b>with full voting rights</b>. This representative may not hold the position for more than two consecutive terms; a nominee of the ISAA <b>with full voting powers</b>, who may</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>delete ‘who shall have a vote on the Board’  delete with full voting powers  delete with full voting powers  delete with full voting rights  delete with full voting rights</p> <p>THAT; a nominee of Athletics Northern Ireland (ANI), so long as a reciprocal arrangement exists on the management Board of the ANI. The ANI nominee may not hold the position for more than two consecutive terms; one representative from each Provincial Council. This representative may not hold the position for more than two consecutive terms;</p>

<p>not hold that position for more than two consecutive terms; a nominee of the IUAA <b>with full voting powers</b>, who may not hold that position for more than two consecutive terms; any Irish citizen who is a member of the Council of IAAF or of the Council of the EAA shall be ex officio a Member of the Board, <b>with full voting rights</b>, in accordance with and subject to Article 19.</p>		<p>a nominee of the ISAA, who may not hold that position for more than two consecutive terms;  a nominee of the IUAA who may not hold that position for more than two consecutive terms;  any Irish citizen who is a member of the Council of <b>World Athletics</b> or of the Council of the EAA shall be ex officio a Member of the Board, in accordance with and subject to Article 19.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 51(a) xi of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For: 124 Against: 15 Abstain: 1 Carried</b></p>		
<p>Persons co-opted by the Board:</p> <p>the Board shall have the power to co- opt any persons it deems advantageous to the Board to hold office for such period as may be decided by the Board during the lifetime of the particular Board (i.e., until, at the latest, the conclusion of the next Congress); any such appointment shall be for a maximum of two consecutive terms. A maximum of three such appointees shall be on the Board at any one time; and</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p>be deleted in its entirety and substituted with persons co-opted to the Board:</p> <p>THAT; the Board shall have the power to co- opt any persons it deems advantageous to the Board to hold office for such period as may be decided by the Board during the lifetime of the particular Board (i.e., until, at the latest, the conclusion of the next Congress); any such appointment shall be for a maximum of two consecutive terms. A maximum of three such appointees shall be on the Board at any one time.</p> <p><b>Any such appointees may be Independent Non-Executive Directors who, for a period of at least six years (6) ending on the date of their appointment, must not have been a member of the Board, a Provincial Council, a Principal Committee, a County Board, ANI, ISAA, IUAA or have been an employee of any of the above, or have had a material (business) relationship with an organisation within the athletics community; and</b></p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Article 51e(iv) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>See Motion 18 Carried</b></p>		
<p>To notify Registered Members of the imposition of any penalties <b>by either Congress or</b> the Board.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p>Delete and substitute with the following:</p> <p>THAT; To notify Registered members of the imposition of any penalties by the Board.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>

<b>Article 51 (xi) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>See motion 13 Carried.</b>		
To approve and confirm acceptance of procedural guidelines made in accordance with the IAAF's Rules of Competition.	<b>27</b>	THAT; To approve and confirm acceptance of procedural guidelines made in accordance with <b>World Athletics</b> Rules of Competition. <b>BOARD</b>
<b>Article 52 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>See motion 13 Carried</b>		
(ii) be the lead delegate of the Association to meetings of the EAA, IAAF and the OCI;	<b>28</b>	amend to replace THAT; be the lead delegate of the Association to meetings of the EAA, <b>World Athletics and the OFI</b> ; <b>BOARD</b>
<b>Article 52 (viii) of the Articles of Association of the Company</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For 92 Against: 47 Abstain: 4 Failed</b>		
delegate any of his/her duties as he/she considers appropriate	<b>29</b>	deleted and substituted by the following; THAT; delegate any of his duties as he considers appropriate. <b>BOARD</b>
<b>Article 57 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		
<b>See motion 14 Carried</b>		
Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the memorandum of association and these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution of the Association, the business of the Association shall be managed by the Board. The Board may exercise all the powers of the Association as are not by the Acts or by these Articles required to be exercised by the Association in general meeting but subject nevertheless to the provisions of the Acts and of these Articles and to such directions, not being inconsistent with such provisions, as may be given by the Association in general meeting; and provided that no alteration of the memorandum or articles of association of the Association and no direction given by the Association in general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Board by these Articles and a meeting of the Board Members at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Board.	<b>30</b>	be amended to change the Acts with the Act. THAT; Subject to the provisions of the <b>Act</b> the memorandum of association and these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution of the Association, the business of the Association shall be managed by the Board. The Board may exercise all the powers of the Association as are not by the <b>Act</b> or by these Articles required to be exercised by the Association in general meeting but subject nevertheless to the provisions of the <b>Act</b> and of these Articles and to such directions, not being inconsistent with such provisions, as may be given by the Association in general meeting; and provided that no alteration of the memorandum or articles of association of the Association and no direction given by the Association in general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Board by these Articles and a meeting of the Board Members at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Board. <b>BOARD</b>
<b>Article 69 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>		

<b>See Motion 14 Carried</b>		
<p>Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, a Board Member shall not vote at a meeting of the Board or of any committee or sub-committee of the Board of which he is a member, on any resolution concerning a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest unless that interest relates to (i) the giving by him of a guarantee, security or other indemnity in respect of money lent to or an obligation incurred by him for the benefit of the Association or (ii) the giving of a third party guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of an obligation of the Association for which that Board Member has assumed responsibility in whole or part and whether alone or jointly. An interest of a person who is, for the purposes of these Articles and for any purpose of the Acts, connected with a Board Member shall be treated as an interest of that Board Member. A Board Member shall not be entitled to vote on any matter in which any person with whom that Board Member is connected (as determined by the Act) has an interest.</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>be amended to change the Acts with the Act.            THAT; Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, a Board Member shall not vote at a meeting of the Board or of any committee or sub-committee of the Board of which he is a member, on any resolution concerning a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest unless that interest relates to (i) the giving by him of a guarantee, security or other indemnity in respect of money lent to or an obligation incurred by him for the benefit of the Association or (ii) the giving of a third party guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of an obligation of the Association for which that Board Member has assumed responsibility in whole or part and whether alone or jointly. An interest of a person who is, for the purposes of these Articles and for any purpose of the Act, connected with a Board Member shall be treated as an interest of that Board Member. A Board Member shall not be entitled to vote on any matter in which any person with whom that Board Member is connected (as determined by the Act) has an interest.  <b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 78(a) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Brid Golden For: 136 Against: 2 Abstain: 1 Carried</b></p>		
<p>Principal Committees may be created only by Congress and elected only in accordance with these Articles. All Principal Committees shall be elected for a period of two years unless otherwise decided by Congress. The roles of the Principal Committees are to agree individual business plans and budgets and to be accountable for their delivery.</p>	<p><b>32</b></p>	<p>Amend by adding word members            THAT; Principal Committees may be created only by Congress and members elected only in accordance with these Articles. All Principal Committees shall be elected for a period of two years unless otherwise decided by Congress. The roles of the Principal Committees are to agree individual business plans and budgets and to be accountable for their delivery.  <b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 78 (k) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Brid Golden S: George Maybury For: 137 Against: 4 Abstain: 3 Carried</b></p>		
<p>The Board shall appoint a Standing Orders Committee to advise the Board on the order of business of Congress from time to time.</p>	<p><b>33</b></p>	<p>Delete in its entirety and that the following is hereby adopted in substitution.            THAT; There shall be a Governance Committee which shall comprise of five (5) members appointed by the Board at its first meeting following Congress. The responsibilities of the Governance Committee shall include the following:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Governance compliance and best practice</li> </ul> </p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support to all other committees</li> <li>and any area deemed necessary by the Board.</li> </ul> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 78 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For: 125 Against: 21 Abstain: 0 Carried</b></p>		
	34	<p>to include an additional Clause and the renumbering of the existing</p> <p>THAT; no individual excluding the position of chair, may be a member on more than one Principal Committee and may not serve for more than 12 (twelve)years in total effective from April 2010</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 79 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For: 144 Against: 4 Abstain: 0 Carried</b></p>		
	35	<p>Include an additional Clause.</p> <p>THAT; These Articles should at all times take precedence over all Bye Laws and Rules of Competition.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 82 of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>P: Georgina Drumm S: John Cronin For: 128 Against: 2 Abstain: 0 Carried</b></p>		
<p>The Companies Acts require every company to have a secretary. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for such term, at such remuneration (if any) and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them. <b>A provision of the Act or these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.</b></p>	36	<p>be deleted in its entirety and substituted with the following;</p> <p>THAT; The Companies Acts require every company to have a secretary. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for such term, at such remuneration (if any) and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them.</p> <p><b>BOARD</b></p>
<p><b>Article 95 (g) of the Articles of Association of the Company.</b>  <b>See Motion 17 Carried</b></p>		
each Honorary Life Vice-President.	37	<p>Delete the word '<b>Honorary</b>' each Life Vice-President.</p>
<p><b>See Motion 33 Carried</b></p>		

	<b>38</b>	<p>THAT: All reference to Standing Orders Committee be replaced with Governance Governance Committee in the Articles of Association of the Company.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Memorandum of Association No 4.</b>		
<b>P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 130 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Carried</b>		
In pursuant of the above objects the company shall have the following subsidiary objects	<b>39</b>	<p>In pursuant of the above <b>main object</b> the company shall have the following subsidiary objects</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Memorandum of Association No 4 (v).</b>		
<b>See Motion 13 Carried</b>		
Ensure that all Athletics meetings between Members, including National, Provincial, County and Club Championships or games, shall be held under the laws and articles of the IAAF and the Association.	<b>40</b>	<p>Ensure that all Athletics meetings between Members, including National, Provincial, County and Club Championships or games, shall be held under the laws and articles of <b>World Athletics its successors or assigns</b> and the Association.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BOARD</b></p>
<b>Memorandum of Association No 4(x)</b>		
<b>See Motion 13 Carried</b>		
<b>International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)</b>	<b>41</b>	<p>World Athletics its successors or assigns.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BOARD</b></p>

**Article 1 of the Articles of Association of the Company.**

**P: Georgina Drumm S: Neil Martin For: 133 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Carried**

<p>In these Articles:</p> <p>(a) the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings unless there is something in the subject matter or context inconsistent therewith: -</p> <p>"the Act" means the Companies Act 2014;  "address" includes any number or address used for the purposes of communication by way of post, electronic mail or other electronic communication;</p> <p>"advanced electronic signature" has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;</p> <p>"Affiliate" means a person or entity who or which is affiliated to the Association subject to and in accordance with the terms for affiliation as set out in these Articles, the Bye-laws or Other Rules and "Affiliated" and "Affiliation" shall be construed accordingly;</p> <p>"Affiliate Member" means an Affiliate who or which is a Member;  "AGM" means an annual general meeting of the Association (and, for the avoidance of doubt, therefore a reference to an AGM includes, where the context admits or requires, reference to a Congress)</p>	<p><b>42</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Delete and Substitute with the following</b></p> <p>1. In these Articles <b>(and preceding Memorandum of Association):</b></p> <p>(a) the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings unless there is something in the subject matter or context inconsistent therewith: -</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WORDS MEANINGS</b></p> <p>"the Act" companies Act 2014  "address" Includes any number or address used for the purposes of communication by way of post, electronic mail or other electronic communication</p> <p>"advanced electronic signature" has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000</p> <p>"Affiliate" A person or entity who or which is affiliated to the Association subject to and in accordance with the terms for affiliation as set out in these Articles, the Bye-laws or Other Rules and "Affiliated" and "Affiliation" shall be construed accordingly</p> <p><b>"Affiliated Club"</b> Any club that is affiliated  "Affiliate Member" An Affiliate who or which is a Member  "AGM" An annual general meeting of the Association (and, for the avoidance of doubt, reference</p>
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<p>“Annual County Board Convention” means an annual convention of Clubs in a particular County;</p> <p>“Annual Provincial Convention” means an annual convention of County Boards and Clubs in a particular Province;</p> <p>“these Articles” means the articles of association of the Association of which this article is the first, as such articles may be amended and be in force from time to time, and references to particular Articles shall be construed accordingly;</p> <p>“Association” means Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited By Guarantee, the company whose Articles of Association these Articles are;</p> <p>“Athletics” means any one or more of Track and Field athletics, Road Running, Race Walking, Cross Country Running, Mountain Running and Ultra Distance Running;</p> <p>“the Board” means the members of the board of directors for the time being of the Association constituted in accordance with these Articles;</p> <p>“Board Member” means a member for the time being of the Board (and, accordingly, a director of the Association);</p>		<p>to an AGM includes, where the context admits or requires, reference to a Congress)</p> <p>“Annual County Board Convention”</p> <p>Annual convention of Clubs in a particular County</p> <p>“Annual Provincial Convention” Annual convention of County Boards and Clubs in a particular Province.</p> <p>“these Articles”</p> <p>the articles of association of the Association of which this article is the first, as such articles may be amended and be in force from time to time, and references to particular Articles shall be construed accordingly.</p> <p>“Association”</p> <p>Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited By Guarantee, the company whose Articles of Association these Articles are.</p> <p>“Athletics”</p> <p>Any one or more of Track and Field Athletics, Road Running, Race Walking, Cross Country Running, <b>Trail Running</b>, Mountain Running and Ultra Distance Running.</p> <p>“the Board”</p> <p>Members of the board of directors for the time being of the Association constituted in accordance with these Articles.</p> <p>“Board Member”</p> <p>Member for the time being of the Board (and, accordingly, a director of the Association)</p>
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<p>“Bye-laws” means the bye-laws of the Association as they may be adopted and amended and be in force from time to time;</p> <p>“CEO” means the chief executive officer of the Association;</p> <p>“Child Protection Guidelines” means the Child Protection Guidelines issued by the Association as amended from time to time;</p> <p>“Clear Days" in relation to the period of a notice, means that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is stated to take effect;</p> <p>"Club" means any club involved in the teaching, operation and/or management of Athletics and associated disciplines in Ireland and which is Affiliated;</p> <p>“Coaching and Development Committee” means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(i);</p> <p>Code of Ethics” means the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children’s Sport published by the relevant regulatory authorities in Ireland as amended from time to time;</p> <p>Competition Committee” means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(ii);</p> <p>“Congress” means every second AGM, being one at which Board Members and other persons are elected;</p>		<p>“Bye-laws”</p> <p>“CEO”</p> <p>“Child Protection Guidelines”</p> <p>“Clear Days"</p> <p>"Club"</p> <p>“Coaching and Development Committee”</p> <p>“Code of Ethics”</p> <p>“Competition Committee”</p> <p>“Congress”</p> <p>Bye-laws of the Association as they may be adopted and amended and be in force from time to time.</p> <p>Chief Executive Officer of the Association</p> <p>Child Protection Guidelines issued by the Association as amended from time to time.</p> <p>In relation to the period of a notice, means that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is stated to take effect.</p> <p>Means any club involved in the teaching, operation and/or management of Athletics and associated disciplines in Ireland.</p> <p>Committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(i)</p> <p>Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children’s Sport published by the relevant regulatory authorities in Ireland as amended from time to time.</p> <p>Committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(ii)</p> <p>Every second AGM, being one at which Board Members and other persons are elected.</p>
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<p>“Connacht” means the Province of Connacht comprising the Counties of Galway, Leitrim, Longford, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time;</p> <p>“County” means one of the 32 counties of Ireland;</p> <p>“County Board” means, in relation to a County, the board consisting of representatives from Clubs in that County established pursuant to the Bye-laws;</p> <p>"Delegate" means a person who:</p> <p>(i) is a Registered Member or a member of Athletics Northern Ireland, and is duly appointed by a County Board or Provincial Council to represent it as a delegate (or, where there is no County, is duly appointed by the relevant Provincial Council to represent that County) at any general meeting of the Association and notified in writing by the County Board or Provincial Council to the CEO before the general meeting; or</p> <p>(ii) is duly appointed by an Affiliate Member to represent it at any general meeting of the Association and notified in writing by the Affiliate Member to the CEO before the general meeting;</p> <p>“EAA” means the European Athletic Association.</p> <p>“EGM” means an extraordinary general meeting;</p>		<p>“Connacht”</p> <p>Province of Connacht comprising the Counties of Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo, <b>along with Longford</b> and such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time.</p> <p>“County”</p> <p>One of the 32 counties of Ireland</p> <p>“County Board”</p> <p>In relation to a County, the board consisting of representatives from Clubs in that County established pursuant to the Bye- laws;</p> <p>"Delegate"</p> <p>(i) A person who: is a Registered Member or a member of Athletics Northern Ireland, and is duly appointed by a County Board or Provincial Council to represent it as a delegate (or, where there is no County, is duly appointed by the relevant Provincial Council to represent that County) at any general meeting of the Association and notified in writing by the County Board or Provincial Council to the CEO before the general meeting; or</p> <p>(ii) is duly appointed by an Affiliate Member to represent it at any general meeting of the Association and notified in writing by the Affiliate Member to the CEO before the general meeting.</p> <p>“EAA”</p> <p>European Athletic Association, <b>successors or assigns.</b></p> <p>“EGM”</p> <p>Extraordinary General Meeting</p>
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<p>“electronic communications” has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;</p> <p>“electronic signature” has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;</p> <p>“ex officio” means, in relation to a person who is ex officio a member of the Board, any Principal Committee, committee, sub-committee or similar body (each of the foregoing a “Relevant Body”), that such person has the right to attend and speak at, but not to vote or be counted in the quorum for the purposes of, any meeting of a Relevant Body of which he is ex officio a member (unless specified otherwise in relation to a particular person and a particular Relevant Body);</p> <p>“Finance and Risk Committee” means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(iii);</p> <p>“Standing Orders Committee” Committee referred to as such in Article 78(k)</p> <p>High Performance Committee” means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(iv);</p> <p>“IAAF” means the International Association of Athletics Federations;</p> <p>“Ireland” means the island of Ireland;</p> <p>“Sport Ireland” means Sport Ireland as established by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport;</p> <p>“ISAA” means The Irish Schools Athletics Association;</p>		<p>“electronic communications”      Electronic Commerce Act,2000</p> <p>“electronic signature”              Electronic Commerce Act, 2000</p> <p>“ex officio”                              A person who is ex officio a member of the Board, any Principal Committee, committee, sub-committee or similar body (each of the foregoing a “Relevant Body”), that such person has the right to attend and speak at, but not to vote or be counted in the quorum for the purposes of, any meeting of a Relevant Body of which he is ex officio a member (unless specified otherwise in relation to a particular person and a particular Relevant Body)</p> <p>“Finance and Risk Committee”      Committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(iii)  <span style="color: red;">Governance Committee referred to as such in Article 78(k)</span></p> <p>“High Performance Committee”    Committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(iv)</p> <p>“Ireland”                                  Island of Ireland</p> <p>“Sport Ireland”                         Sport Ireland as established by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</p> <p>“ISAA”                                      The Irish Schools Athletics Association</p>
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<p>“IUAA” means The Irish Universities Athletics Association;</p> <p>“Juvenile” means, in relation to any particular day, a person who will be under the age of 19 years on the 31st December in the year in which that day falls;</p> <p>“Juvenile Committee” means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(v);</p> <p>“Leinster” means the Province of Leinster comprising the Counties of Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time;</p> <p>“Member” means a person who is admitted to membership of the Association in accordance with these Articles and whose name is entered on the register of Members of the Association and “Membership” shall be construed accordingly;</p>		<p>“IUAA” The Irish Universities Athletics Association</p> <p>“Juvenile” Any particular day, a person who will be under the age of 19 years on the 31st December in the year on which that date falls.</p> <p>“Juvenile Committee” Committee referred to as such in Article 78(e)(v);</p> <p>“Leinster” Province of Leinster comprising the Counties of Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow and such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time.</p> <p>“Member” Member means a person who is admitted to membership of the Association in accordance with these Articles and when that person’s name is entered on the Register of Members of the Association, with “membership” being construed accordingly, that person is regarded as a registered member. In order to be considered for admission to membership of the Association and thus seek to become a registered member, any such individual, including each person in a group (e.g. a family) requires to be duly registered as a member(s) of an Affiliated Club and whose membership of that club has not either lapsed or been terminated by such club and who has paid all fees, subscriptions or periodic contributions payable to the Association under these Articles, the Bye-</p>
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<p>“month” means a calendar month;</p> <p>“Munster” means the Province of Munster comprising the Counties of Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time;</p> <p>“Other Rules” means any articles, bye-laws, conditions, constitution, laws, orders, procedures, regulations, rules, terms of reference or other provisions (by whatever name called) providing for or regulating any aspect of the affairs of the Association (other than these Articles, the Bye-laws and the Rules of Competition) or of the IAAF in force from time to time;</p> <p>“Principal Committee” means one of the committees listed in Article 78(e) and any committee created as a Principal Committee by Congress;</p> <p>“Province” means one of Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster, each of which shall comprise the Counties determined from time to time by the Board;</p>		<p><b>Laws or other Rules.</b></p> <p>“month” A calendar month;</p> <p>“Munster” Province of Munster comprising the Counties of Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford <b>and</b> such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time.</p> <p>National Emergency Any extraordinary event that the government of the day has declared a national emergency.</p> <p>“Other Rules” Any articles, bye-laws, conditions, constitution, laws, orders, procedures, regulations, rules, terms of reference or other provisions (by whatever name called) providing for or regulating any aspect of the affairs of the Association (other than these Articles, the Bye-laws and the Rules of Competition) or of <b>World Athletics</b> in force from time to time.</p> <p>“OFI” <b>Olympic Federation of Ireland, its successors or assigns.</b></p> <p>“Principal Committee” One of the committees listed in Article 78(e) and any committee <b>as may be</b> created as a Principal Committee by Congress.</p> <p>“Province” One of Connacht, Leinster, Munster, and Ulster, each of which shall comprise the Counties determined from time to time by the Board.</p>
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<p>“Provincial Council” means a council elected at the Annual Provincial Convention of the relevant Province and referred to in Article 16;</p> <p>“qualified certificate” has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;</p> <p>“Registered Office” means the registered office of the Association for the time being;</p> <p>“Rules of Competition” means the IAAF rules on competition as in force from time to time, as amended from time to time by Congress;</p> <p>“Seal” means the common seal of the Association;</p> <p>“Secretary” means the company secretary of the Association or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the company secretary of the Association;</p> <p>“Standing Orders Committee” means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(j);</p> <p>“Strategic Plan” means the Strategic Plan of the Association as may be formulated from time to time;</p> <p>“Term” means a period of two years;</p>		<p>“Provincial Council”</p> <p>“qualified certificate”</p> <p>“Registered Office”</p> <p>“Rules of Competition”</p> <p>“Seal”</p> <p>“Secretary”</p> <p>“Strategic Plan”</p> <p>“Term”</p> <p>A council elected at the Annual Provincial Convention of the relevant Province and referred to in Article 16.</p> <p>words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;</p> <p>Registered office of the Association for the time being.</p> <p><b>World Athletics rules</b> on competition as in force from time to time, as amended from time to time by Congress;</p> <p>Common seal of the Association;</p> <p>Company secretary of the Association or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the company secretary of the Association.</p> <p>Governance Committee means the committee referred to as such in Article 78(j);</p> <p>The Strategic Plan of the Association as may be formulated from time to time.</p> <p>A period of two years</p> <p>Technical Committee</p>
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<p>“Ulster” means the Province of Ulster comprising the Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Derry, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Monaghan and Tyrone or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time; and</p> <p>“year” means a calendar year except in the context of elections to any office under these Articles, where “year” shall mean the period from the conclusion of one Congress to the conclusion of the next;</p> <p>(b) reference to any statute or statutory provision includes a reference to that statute or statutory provision as from time to time modified or re-enacted;</p> <p>(c) words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa; words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine and neuter gender and vice versa; and words importing persons shall include corporations;</p> <p>(d) any expression referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and any modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form provided that the expression shall not include writing in electronic form except as</p>		<p>Committee referred to as such in Article 78(h)</p> <p>“Ulster” Province of Ulster comprising the Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Derry, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Monaghan and Tyrone <b>and</b> such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time; and</p> <p>“year” means a calendar year except in the context of elections to any office under these Articles, where “year” shall mean the period from the conclusion of one Congress to the conclusion the next;</p> <p>(b) reference to any statute or statutory provision includes a Reference to that statute or statutory provision as from time to time modified or re-enacted.</p> <p>(c) words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa; words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine and neuter gender and vice versa; and words importing persons shall include corporations.</p> <p>(d) any expression referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing,</p>
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<p>provided in these Articles and/or, where it constitutes writing in electronic form sent to the Association, the Association has agreed to its receipt in such form;</p> <p>(e) unless the contrary intention appears, the use of the word “address” in these Articles in relation to electronic communications includes any number or address used for the purpose of such communications;</p> <p>(f) expressions referring to execution of any document shall include any mode of execution under seal or under hand or under any mode of electronic signature as shall be approved by the Board and expressions referring to receipt of any electronic communications shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be limited to receipt in such manner as the Association has approved; and</p> <p>(g) “person” includes any individual, firm, body corporate, association or partnership, government or state or agency of a state, local authority or government body or any joint venture (whether or not having a separate legal personality).</p>		<p>lithography, photography, and any modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form provided that the expression shall not include writing in electronic form except as provided in these Articles and/or, where it constitutes writing in electronic form sent to the Association, the Association has agreed to its receipt in such form.</p> <p>(e) unless the contrary intention appears, the use of the word “address” in these Articles in relation to electronic communications includes any number or address used for the purpose of such communications.</p> <p>(f) expressions referring to execution of any document shall include any mode of execution under seal or under hand or under any mode of electronic signature as shall be approved by the Board and expressions referring to receipt of any electronic communications shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be limited to receipt in such manner as the Association has approved; and</p> <p>(g) “person” includes any individual, firm, body corporate, association or partnership, government or state or agency of a state, local authority or government body or any joint venture (whether or not having a separate legal personality).</p>
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		<b>BOARD</b>

**BYE LAW TRANSFERS**

**P: Neil Martin      S: Brid Golden      For: 130 Against: 25      Abstain: 1      Carried**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An application for a transfer of a registered member from one affiliated Club to another club shall be made on the company transfer application form.</li> <li>○ All registered members who wish to transfer will be required to complete a transfer application form.</li> <li>○ If a registered member of an affiliated club wishes to represent an affiliated Third Level Institution, normal transfer procedures will apply.</li> <li>○ There will be 2 (two) transfer dates 1st April and 1st September each year.</li> <li>○ The application form shall be forwarded to the registrar/secretary of the county board by the club that the member wishes to join prior to the April or September County Board Meeting</li> </ul>	<p><b>43</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An application for a transfer of a registered member from one affiliated Club to another club shall be made on the company transfer application form.</li> <li>○ All registered members who wish to transfer will be required to complete a transfer application form.</li> <li>○ If a registered member of an affiliated club wishes to represent an affiliated Third Level Institution, <b>transfer procedures apply.</b></li> <li>○ There will be 2 (two) transfer dates 1<sup>st</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> September each year.</li> <li>○ <b>Transfer date 1<sup>st</sup> October each year applying for Third Level Institutions.</b></li> <li>• The application form shall be forwarded to the registrar/secretary of the county board by the club that the member wishes to join prior to the April or September County Board Meeting or <b>in the case of Third Level Institution October County Board Meeting.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>COUNTY BOARD</b></p>		<p><b>1(A) COUNTY BOARD</b></p>

<p>The completed form shall be received no later than 7 days before the of the transfer month.</p> <p>County board Meeting in April or September will review the application, sign and date form provided the member is in good standing with the Association.</p> <p>Forward the completed forms to the Athletic Association of Ireland Ltd.</p> <p>Inform both clubs of the decision and inform them of the effective transfer date.</p> <p>If the transfer is an out of county transfer, the form is to be forwarded to the New County.</p> <p>Transfers not approved i.e. disputed transfers - at the agreed dates April or September must be forwarded to the Appeals Committee.</p> <p>In the absence of a County Meeting in April or September, or if the application is delayed by the county for other reasons, transfer requests will be referred to the Appeals Committee.</p> <p>All transfer forms received by an incoming county to be Amended by Congress April 2014 2 forwarded to the Athletic Association of Ireland Ltd.</p>		<p>The completed form shall be received no later than 7 days before the beginning of the transfer month.</p> <p>County board Meeting in April or September <b>or October in the case of the third level Institution transfer</b> will review the application, sign and date form provided the member is in good standing with the Association.</p> <p>Forward the completed forms to the Athletic Association of Ireland Ltd.</p> <p>Inform both clubs of the decision and inform them of the effective transfer date.</p> <p>If the transfer is an out of county transfer, the form is to be forwarded to the New County.</p> <p>Transfers not approved i.e., disputed transfers - at the agreed dates April or September must be forwarded to the <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee.</p> <p>In the absence of a County Meeting in April or September, or if the application is delayed by the county for other reasons, transfer requests will be referred to the <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee.</p> <p>All transfer forms received by an incoming county to be forwarded to the Athletic Association of Ireland Ltd.</p>

<b>Lapsed membership</b>		
<p>A member, who has not been a registered member of any club for 3 (three) calendar years, will not require a transfer form. The set April and September transfer dates will not apply provided the athlete is in good standing with his previous club. b) If last membership was within the last 3 (three) calendar years a transfer application must be completed and forwarded to the relevant county board.</p>		<p>If between one and three full calendar years has elapsed since last registration a transfer application form <u>must</u> be completed and forwarded to the relevant county board of his previous club.</p> <p>Transfer dates will <u>not</u> apply provided the athlete is in good standing with his previous club.</p>
<b>1(D) APPEALS SYSTEM</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An appeal of any transfer application refused by a county board can be made to an Appeals Committee appointed by the Board of the Athletics Association of Ireland Ltd. which will include a representative from each province.</li> <li>• The Appeals Committee will meet when required in the months of April and September.</li> <li>• A transfer appealed shall not come into force until ratified by the Appeals Committee.</li> <li>• In the event of a club or county refusing to sign a transfer, the Appeals Committee will consider the application. Amended by Congress April 2014</li> <li>• The Appeals Committee will inform the relevant county of their decision (in writing) along with the athlete. The decision of the Appeals Committee is final</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An appeal of any transfer application refused by a county board can be made to a <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee appointed by the Board of the Athletics Association of Ireland Ltd. which will include a representative from each province.</li> <li>• The <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee will meet when required.</li> <li>• A transfer appealed shall not come into force until ratified by the <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee.</li> <li>• In the event of a club or county refusing to sign a transfer, the <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee will consider the application.</li> <li>• The <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee will inform the relevant county of their decision (in writing) along with the athlete. The decision of the <b>Transfer</b> Appeals Committee is final.</li> </ul>



**1 (E) UNATTACHED ATHLETES**

<p>In exceptional circumstances and subject to approval by the Appeals Committee a registered member may compete as an unattached athlete for a period not exceeding 6 months.</p> <p>After the 6-month period the registered member must join an affiliated club.</p> <p>If the registered member has formerly been a member of an affiliated club, they shall require a transfer, please refer to lapsed membership.</p> <p>The set April and September transfer dates will not apply.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The Transfer Appeals Committee has sole authority to grant an unattached status to a registered athlete.</li> <li>· An application for an unattached status for a registered member can only be made by the new club, transfers forms must be completed by both clubs.</li> <li>· In exceptional circumstances and solely at the discretion of the Transfer Appeals Committee an unregistered athlete may be registered without club and compete as an unattached athlete until the next transfer window.</li> </ul> <p>In exceptional circumstances and <u>subject to approval</u> by the Transfer Appeals Committee a registered member may compete as an unattached athlete <u>until the next transfer window, or a date agreed by the committee.</u></p> <p><u>After this period</u>, the registered member must join an affiliated club.</p> <p><u>If the athlete</u> has formerly been a member of an affiliated club, they shall require a transfer, please refer to lapsed membership 1(C)</p> <p>The set April and September transfer dates will <u>not</u> apply.</p>
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- 44. THAT: Transfer dates be increased to 3\*. Current dates: April 1<sup>st</sup> & Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. Suggested change: \*Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>.\***  
**Motion 44 Dublin and Meath Amendment Falls Motion 43 Carried**

## DUBLIN

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### MEATH Amendment

**THAT: Transfer dates be increased to 12, being the first day of each calendar month, subject to athletes only being allowed transfer once within any twelve-month period.**

**ADMINISTRATION**

45. THAT: AGM be held at a central location

**P: Brid Golden    S: Georgina Drumm    For: 118    Against: 21    Abstain: 1    Carried**

BOARD /WATERFORD

46. THAT: any Permit athletic event organised by a club should be covered by the club's insurance

WATERFORD **Withdrawn**

47 THAT: the remuneration to the club hosting Cross Country events be increased from €500 to €2000 over vouched expenses, with a view to increasing this further to make hosting cross country financially attractive.

P: Peter Hynes    S: Amanda Hynes

CONNACHT

Amendment

THAT: the remuneration to the club or County hosting National Cross Country Championship events be increased to €2000 over vouched expenses.

BOARD

**P: George Maybury    S: John Cronin    For: 133 Against: 13    Abstain: 1    Carried**

48 THAT: this conference instructs AAI to ensure that only AAI permitted races be advertised in Irish Runner Magazine.

**KERRY Amendment:** That this Congress recommends that AAI request the Irish Runner publisher that AAI permitted events receive a prominent position when advertised in the Irish Runner Magazine

**P: Martin Fitzgerald    S: Brendan Cullen    For: 124    Against: 8    Abstain: 4**

**Amendment presented to Congress with agreement of Kerry. Recorded as a recommendation**

49. THAT: AAI conduct a survey of all clubs regarding the current AAI insurance policy to ascertain whether or not it meets the needs of clubs and county boards and/or how it might be improved.

P: Cyril Smyth    S: Theresa Kinane

WICKLOW/LEINSTER

Amendment

THAT: Recommendation that AAI conduct a survey of all clubs regarding the current AAI insurance policy before the tendering process.

BOARD

**Recommendation proposed by George Maybury, S: John Cronin For 127 Against 3    Abstain: 0**

50 THAT: clubs and club members, shall not assist in the organisation or running of unregistered events. Clubs who do so may be sanctioned, in accordance with such penalties as may be in force.

P: John Quigley    S: Pat Walsh

CORK

Amendment

THAT: Clubs and Club members, should preferably not assist in the organisation or running of unregistered events.

BOARD

**P: George Maybury S: Georgina Drumm    For: 60 Against: 71    Abstain: 7 Motion falls**

**As Board Amendment was defeated the original motion was put to Congress For: 59 Against: 88 Abstain: 4 Motion falls**

51. **THAT: Athletics Ireland appoint a PRO with responsibility for publishing athletics information in the National Press etc.**

**P: Paddy Morgan S: Jim Corcoran**

**WEXFORD**

**Amendment:**

**THAT: AAI recommend having made provision for a new position in the marketing and communications team as detailed in the new Strategic Plan this will enhance the Department and further improve communications.**

**Rationale: Athletics Ireland is not directly involved in the publishing of any articles in the National Press. However, we can publish directly to areas such as AAI social media, AAI website, AAI streaming, radio, TV etc are now the key areas of modern communication. The Marketing department continue to develop communication opportunities in this area of our organisation.**

**BOARD.**

**Amendment: THAT: Athletics Ireland appoint a PRO**

**DUBLIN Withdrawn**

**Amendment Board: P: George Maybury S: Georgina Drumm For: 106 Against: 24 Abstain: 0 Carried**

<b>SENIOR COMPETITION</b>
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- 52 **THAT: national Cross-Country events be rotated amongst the provinces –**

**CORK P: Pat Walsh S: John Quigley**

**Amendment**

**THAT: National Cross Country Championship events be rotated amongst the provinces where possible.**

**BOARD**

**Board Recommendation: P: John Cronin S: Brid Golden For: 129 Against: 9 Abstain: 0 Carried**

- 53 **THAT: to ensure equitable treatment of male and female athletes, all senior men's javelin competitions under the jurisdiction of Athletics Ireland shall be open to male athletes in the U17 and U18 age groups (as well as to male athletes in the age groups from U19 upwards).**

**LOUTH**

**P: Thomas McGrane S: Rosemary Gibson For: 126 Against: 12 Abstain: 1 Carried**

- 54 **THAT: national Marathon championships events shall be open to all registered members. Any qualification requirements for marathons shall be agreed and approved by Congress.**

**CORK**

**P: John Quigley S: Pat Walsh.**

**Amendment**

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**THAT: AAI recommend that they enter discussions with Dublin Marathon who currently host the National Marathon Championship to advance the possibility of increasing the capacity of registered athletes' participation and closing date deadlines.**

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: George Maybury      For: 97    Against: 43      Abstain: 0    Carried**

- 55 **THAT: national Marathon Championships events shall close for entry for registered members no earlier than 3 months before the event, except where approved by Congress.**

### CORK Motions Falls

- 56 **THAT: a two-day Indoor Heptathlon, if feasible, be introduced for Men at Indoors.**

**P: Catriona Duffy      S: Greg Duggan      For: 106      Against: 3      Abstain 0    Recommendation Carried**

### LEINSTER

- 57 **THAT: all athletic track relay zones be brought up to current IAAF regulations.**

**WEXFORD P: Paddy Morgan , S: Jim Corcoran**

### Amendment

**Recommendation that athletic tracks be brought up to date to current World Athletics regulations when re-surfacing and /or relining is taking place.**

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: Georgina Drumm      For: 128      Against: 0      Abstain: 0    Recommendation Carried**

58. **THAT : in the National League, "a team must compete in a minimum number of events; 80% (or nearest whole no.) of the counted events in that competition, for their participation to be validated. Any team failing to compete in the minimum required events shall be disqualified from the competition & the points shall only be distributed to valid teams only".**

**P: Elaine Hayde      S: Anthony Carolan**

### TIPPERARY

**Amendment: We advise that this is a recommendation to the Competition Committee.**

**Rationale: The National League structure and rules have traditionally been at the discretion of the competition committee, where adjustment is made as necessary.**

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: Georgina Drumm      For: 110    Against: 16      Abstain: 1    Recommendation Carried**

59. **THAT: all field event measurements should be displayed at all competitions.**

**P: Paddy Morgan      S: Jim Corcoran**

### WEXFORD

### Amendment

**THAT: Recommendation that all field event measurements should be displayed at all national competitions where possible.**

**BOARD**

**P. John Cronin S. Brid Golden For: 108 Against: 4 Abstain: 1 Carried**

60. THAT: In the case of an U23 athlete finishing in the top 3 in the National Senior Cross Championships the Under 23 receives both the appropriate Senior Medal and the appropriate Under 23 Medal.

**BOARD**

**P: John Cronin S: Georgina Drumm For: 133 Against: 6 Abstain: 0 Carried**

61. THAT: an indoor 4x 200metres relay National Championship be introduced for Under 20 and Under 23 men and women.

**BOARD P. John Cronin S: Georgina Drumm For: 116 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Carried**

<b>JUVENILE</b>
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62. THAT: the open entry to National Juvenile Championships, be available only for athletes (under 17 & older) who have competed in their Regional/Provincial Championships and fail to qualify with the following exception; Athletes who have missed their Regional /Provincial championships closing date, due to:

- i. Being in hospital at the time of Regional/Provincial Championships
- ii. Have a family bereavement of (parent, brother, sister) at the time of the Regional/Provincial Championships
- iii. Is selected to compete in an Irish Singlet/Vest at a European or International Championship

**CORK, P: Tim Fitzpatrick S: Pat Walsh**

**Amendment:**

THAT: the findings and suggestions from the Competition Review Committee, a working group that was established to look at all aspects of Juvenile Competition including the pathways from Regional to National and progression from Juvenile through to Junior, be disseminated for discussion before any major changes to the rules of Juvenile competition are brought to congress.

**BOARD**

**P: John Mc Grath S: Brid Golden For: 95 Against: 43 Abstained: 5 Carried**

63. THAT: the closing date for National Juvenile T&F championships entries be no earlier than midnight on the Monday prior to the competition.

**CORK: P: Tim Fitzpatrick S: Pat Walsh**

**Amendment**

THAT: the closing date for entries to the National Juvenile T&F Championships be kept at 10 days to allow sufficient time for entries to be checked, loaded into the entry and results systems and the programme to be prepared and printed.

**BOARD**

**P: John Mc Grath S: Brid Golden For: 93 Against: 33 Abstain: 1 Carried**

**64. THAT: the 2 x team games/competition be officially called 2 x Team Games or 2 x Team Juvenile Games and not pairs or Two's or 2 x combined or 2 x Relays.**

**CORK**

**P: Tim Fitzpatrick S: Pat Walsh**

**Amendment:**

**THAT: The Track & Field competition for the U9/U10 and U11's be known as the 'Children's Team Games'**

**BOARD**

**P: John Mc Grath S: Brid Golden For: 128 Against: 4 Abstain: 0 Carried**

**65. THAT: the Juvenile Club Cross Country Relay event be discontinued**

Due to the very small number of County teams taking part in the Cross-Country Relays the event was changed in 2017 to an Inter-Club competition with the hope that it would draw an increased level of participation.

Although we can see a very slight increase in numbers post 2017, given that the number of clubs in the country exceeds 300 this is still a very small proportion of those eligible for what is an open entry competition.

Date	Venue	U12 Girls	U12 Boys	U14 Girls	U14 Boys		
24/02/2013	Tullamore	8	7	4	5	INTER-COUNTY	
02/03/2014	Dundalk	6	6	7	5		
01/03/2015	Rostrevor	6	4	5	3		
24/01/2016	Dundalk	7	7	6	5		
22/01/2017	Tuam	12	10	9	10	INTER-CLUB	
11/02/2018	Clarinbridge	13	7	9	9		
03/02/2019	Dundalk	6	6	5	7		
08/02/2020	Wicklow	5	6	6	6		

**BOARD**

**P. John Mc Grath S: Brid Golden**

**Amendment:**

**THAT: AAI retain the juvenile cross-country relays until a review can take place, taking into account the following points;**

- **Promote it as a significant 'A' championship event, at present it is an add-on to the 'B' Championships and not given the status it deserves.**

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- Move it to early in the XC season, (Sept/Oct), younger U12/14 athletes are not involved in secondary schools XC and would have finished their XC season prior to Christmas.
- Increase the distances, current 500m is neither cross country nor middle distance for these age groups.

CONNACHT

P: Amanda Hynes For: 117 Against: 16 Abstain: 0 Carried as a recommendation

66. THAT: the 400 metres be introduced for U17 athletes in the Indoors

LEINSTER

P: Catriona Duffy S: Greg Duggan – For: 115 Against: 1 Abstain: 2 Carried

67. THAT: the U16 – U17 triple jump be introduced at Indoors (to match the outdoors, U16-U19)

LEINSTER

P: Catriona Duffy S: Greg Duggan For: 119 Against: 4 Abstain: 0 Carried

68. THAT: the U15 boys triple jump outdoors be removed (to match the outdoors U16 – U19)

LEINSTER Withdrawn

MASTERS
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81. THAT: in Masters Combined Event Championships indoor and outdoor medals be awarded in 5-year age groups and the score per age group calculated on the age-related tables.

BOARD

P: John Cronin S: Neil Martin For: 121 Against: 2 Abstain: 2 Carried

69. THAT: That the standard five-year age groups be applied in the National Masters Combined Events Championships (both indoors and outdoors). That the standard 5-year age groups be applied in the National Masters Combined Events Championships (both indoor and outdoor). There should be a separate competition for each sex and 5 year age group, with no merging of age groups. This will enable all athletes to be scored using the appropriate WMA age factors and to throw the implements appropriate for their sex and age groups. Note age groups and sexes can be put into the hurdle race once heights and hurdles are in accordance with their age in each lane (Scottish Athletics run it this way)

LOUTH/GALWAY/WICKLOW/LEINSTER Motion falls

71. THAT: a national 10k Road Championship for Race Walking Championship be introduced for Masters men and women and medals be awarded for all categories.

BOARD



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**P: John Cronin      S: Neil Martin      For: 120      Against: 5      Abstain: 0      Carried**

70 THAT: A Masters 10K Road Race Walk championships be included in the Competition Programme of Athletics Ireland.  
DONEGAL/ULSTER Motion falls

72. THAT: the triple jump be added to the programme of events in the National Masters Track and Field Championships for all age groups (both indoors and outdoors)

GALWAY/LOUTH P: Rosemary Gibson      S: Mary Barrett

**Amendment**

THAT: the Triple Jump be introduced to the programme of events in the National Masters Track and Field Championships (both Indoors and Outdoors) on a phased basis for age groups for both genders as follows:

The event be introduced in the first year of competition (Indoors/Outdoors) for the age groups 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59 and be increased by one age group (5-year increment) each subsequent year.

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Indoor Championships.

For all new technical events, from a Health & Safety perspective, competency is a prerequisite.

**BOARD**

**P: John Cronin      S: Neil Martin      For: 119      Against: 15      Abstain: 0      Carried**

73. THAT: The Pole Vault be added to the programme of events in the National Masters Track and Field Championships for all

age groups (both indoors and outdoors)

GALWAY/LOUTH P: Rosemary Gibson      S: Mary Barrett

**Amendment:**

THAT: The Pole Vault be introduced to the programme of events in the National Masters Track and Field Championships (both Indoors and Outdoors) on a phased basis for age groups for both genders as follows:

The event be introduced in the first year of competition (Indoors/Outdoors) for the age groups 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59 and be increased by one age group (5-year increment) each subsequent year.

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Indoor Championships.

Rationale: As this is a technical event the introduction would be for the age groups 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59 initially and moved up by one 5-year age group increment in subsequent years allowing the Masters programme to be expanded each year to facilitate new events and entries and for additional athletes to gain competency.

**BOARD**

**P: John Cronin      S: Neil Martin      For: 117      Against: 13      Abstain: 1      Carried**

73. THAT: the weight throw (heavy hammer) be added to national master outdoors for all ages (with the weight implement in accordance with World Master Athletics (WMA) specification.

GALWAY P: Mary Barrett      S: Marion McEvilly

**Amendment:**

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**THAT: The Weight Throw (Heavy Hammer in accordance with WMA specification) be introduced to the programme of events in the National Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships on a phased basis for age groups for both genders as follows:**

The event be introduced in the first year of competition Outdoors for the age groups 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59 and be increased by one age group (5-year increment) each subsequent year.

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Outdoor Championships.

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: George Maybury      For: 101    Against: 21      Abstain: 1    Carried**

**75. THAT: the short sprint hurdles be added to the programme of events in the National Masters Track & Field Championships for all over 50 age groups (both indoors and outdoors), with the race for each sex and age group in accordance with WMA specifications.**

**GALWAY/LOUTH    P: Mary Barrett      S: Rosemary Gibson**

**Amendment:**

**THAT: the short sprint hurdles event (in accordance with WMA specifications) in the National Masters Track and Field Championships (both Indoors and Outdoors) be introduced for the age groups 50-54, 55-59 for both genders in the first year of competition *and be increased in 5-year intervals each subsequent year.***

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Indoor Championships.

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: Brid Golden      For: 101    Against: 14      Abstain: 0      Carried**

**76. THAT: the long hurdles be added to the programme of events in the National Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships for all age groups, with the race for each sex and age group being in accordance with the WMA specifications.**

**GALWAY/LOUTH    P: Mary Barrett      S: Rosemary Gibson**

**Amendment:**

**THAT: the Long Hurdles (in accordance with WMA specifications) be introduced to the programme of events in the National Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships on a phased basis for age groups for both genders as follows:**

The event be introduced in the first year of Outdoor competition for the age groups 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59 and be increased by one age group (5 year increment) each subsequent year.

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Outdoor Championships.

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: Brid Golden      For: 95    Against: 17      Abstain: 0      Carried**

**77 THAT: the steeplechase be added to National Master Outdoors for all ages (2k distance)**

**GALWAY    P: Mary Barrett    S: Marion McEvilly**

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### Amendment:

**THAT:** the 2000m Steeplechase (in accordance with WMA Hurdle specifications) be introduced to the programme of events in the National Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships on a phased basis for age groups for both genders as follows:

The event be introduced in the first year of Outdoor competition for the age groups 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59 and be increased by one age group (5-year increment) each subsequent year.

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Outdoor Championships.

### BOARD

**P: John Cronin      S: Georgina Drumm      For: 99    Against: 20      Abstain: 0      Carried**

**78 THAT:** the standard WMA events be contested for all age groups in the National Masters Combined Events Championships with the events structured as follows:

- Men outdoors – Pentathlon -hurdles, long jump, shot, high jump, 1500m
- Women outdoors – Pentathlon – hurdles, high jump, shot, long jump, 800m
- Men indoors – Pentathlon (as is but to include 50+ age groups)
- Women's indoors – Pentathlon (as is but to include 50+ age groups)

**GALWAY P: Mary Barrett      S: Marion McEvelly**

### Amendment:

That the National Masters Combined Events Championships (both Indoors and Outdoors in accordance with WMA implement specifications, hurdle specifications and age-related scoring tables) be restructured for age groups for both genders as follows:

The extension of the pentathlon event be introduced in the first year of competition (indoors/outdoors) for the age group 50-54, 55-59.

Quadrathlon in the first year of competition will commence with age group 60-64, and then in increments of 5 years.

No step back to lower age groups allowed.

Due to the unpredictability of the upcoming track and field programme the first introduction to be in the year 2022 commencing at the Indoor Championships.

For clarity, the following proposed structure:

### Men

#### Indoor

Pentathlon (35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 ,55-59): with existing events

Quadrathlon (60-64, 65-69 etc...) with existing events

#### Outdoor

Pentathlon (35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 ,55-59) with existing events.

Quadrathlon (60-64, 65-69 etc...) with existing events.

### Women

#### Indoor

Pentathlon (35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 ,55-59) with existing events.

Quadrathlon (60-64, 65-69 etc...) with existing events.

#### Outdoor

Pentathlon (35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54 ,55-59) with existing events.

Quadrathlon (60-64, 65-69 etc...) with existing events.

**BOARD    P: John Cronin      S: Georgina Drumm      For: 110 Against: 21      Abstain: 0      Carried**

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**79 THAT: the standard WMA events be contested for all age groups in the National Masters Combined Events Championships with the events structured as follows:**

- Men outdoors – decathlon (All Age Groups)
- Women outdoors – heptathlon (All Age Groups)
- Men Indoors - pentathlon (All Age Groups- no change for under 50s)
- Women's indoors – pentathlon (All Age Groups- no change for under 50s)

**LOUTH Motion 78 Carried Motion 79 Motion falls**

**80 THAT: National Masters Combined Events Outdoor and Indoor Championships should include the correct combined events and scoring system, in accordance with the World Masters Athletics Association**

Events including:

- Men outdoors – Pentathlon - hurdles, long jump, shot, high jump, 1500m
- Women outdoors – Pentathlon- hurdles, high jump, shot, long jump, 800m
- Men indoors – Pentathlon (as is but to include 50+)
- Women indoors – Pentathlon (as is but to include 50+)

That the standard five-year age groups be applied in the National Masters Combined Events Championships (both indoors and outdoors). That the standard 5-year age groups be applied in the National Masters Combined Events Championships (both indoor and outdoor). There should be a separate competition for each sex and 5-year age group, with no merging of age groups. This will enable all athletes to be scored using the appropriate WMA age factors and to throw the implements appropriate for their sex and age groups. Note age groups and sexes can be put into the hurdle race once heights and hurdles are in accordance with their age in each lane (Scottish Athletics run it this way)

**DUBLIN Motion 78 Carried Motion 80 Motion falls**

## **Presidents closing remarks for day 2 of Congress.**

I wish to thank you all for your attendance here today, it has been a different congress, the registration and voting worked very well which I am very pleased with. My thanks to Garreth Greene Creative Energy for his attendance today to ensure that the system we put in place would deliver and to Gerry Dunne for his advice and support.

The President welcomed the Chairs of the Principal Committees to address congress. Thanking all for the nominations and votes received as they look forward to working with their respective committee members. Finally, it is my pleasure to ask our new President John Cronin, Tullamore Harriers to address Congress.

### **Inauguration of the new President.**

## **The new president, John Cronin, was inaugurated and made his inauguration speech.**

Thank you for your kind words, Georgina, and congratulations, on your completed term as President of Athletics Ireland, your excellent stewardship has been appreciated by all in our organisation. Since early 2020 it has been a difficult time for sports and our sport was no different. During this time, you guided us well. Congratulations also on your well-deserved award from the Federation of Irish Sport recently. I know you will stay actively involved in our sport as a member of the Competition Committee and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Olympic Federation of Ireland. On behalf of Congress, I wish a safe and successful future to you and your family.

It is a great honour to be elected the sixth President of Athletics Ireland, thankfully all the previous holders are still with us as I start out my term as President. I wish them all on your behalf continued good health and thank them for their major contribution to our wonderful sport. A special word of congratulations to Michael Heery who celebrated his 80th Birthday recently. Congratulations to Ciaran who was elected Life Vice President during this Congress, and he joins his predecessors Nick, Michael and Liam with this well-deserved honour. I extend the same wishes to our full cohort of Life Vice Presidents.

I have had a wonderful experience in our sport since I started out almost five decades ago, competing with some success as a juvenile in club and school's competition and later as a senior in club and intervarsity competition. Within Athletics Ireland I have had the good fortune to officiate at all levels and to be elected to leadership roles from club level right through to chairing a Principal Committee and being Deputy President for the last five years. At International level I have served at World Athletics Committee level and officiated at European and World Championship with future appointments to come at the Olympic Games in Tokyo later this year and as Technical Delegate for the European Senior Championships in Munich next year.

Following the trust placed in me by Congress when electing me as President I will use all the experience, I have gained to fulfil the role to the utmost of my ability.

I would like to highlight that I got such a positive experience when I started off as a young athlete that it gave me a lifelong love and passion for our sport. This is something that all our young athletes can experience and if they choose at some stage like me not to follow the competitive pathway there are so many more pathways open to them as coaches, administrators and officials that will continue to feed our sport with the support needed for our athletes.

To that point we have our volunteers who act as coaches, administrators and officials who are so invaluable to our organisation. Many act in multiple roles daily doing the many tasks required to keep our sport working smoothly. All of you are appreciated and valued, and your passionate efforts and commitments cannot be done without.

Our Athletics Ireland staff, led by Hamish also cover a huge amount of ground through their hard work in keeping our organisation vibrant and provide much needed support for our volunteers and are to be commended.

Our CEO, Hamish has already outlined the strategic plan 2021 to 2028. I will not go into the points already covered but I am looking forward to working in conjunction with the Board and Hamish, in progressing the objectives laid out following the recent extensive consultation during the development of the plan.

I congratulate all those elected to the Principal Committees during this Congress and wish them and their Chairs every success in their deliberations during the upcoming term. When life returns to normal or a "new" normal, I foresee many of the

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meetings will remain as virtual and hopefully this will encourage more people to put up their hand for election because of the reduction in the amount of travel needed. In any case I would like everyone to consider if they want to get involved in the running of our organisation not only at National Level but at all levels and put up their hand in future.

As already mentioned, our sport like so many others have had a difficult time during the pandemic. During this period, I commend all who have exhausted all possible avenues to return to activity and like you all I look forward to the impending return of full training and competition. Even since this Congress began, we have seen a return to training and are looking forward to the return of competition with a Micro event taking place today in Cork and the upcoming AAI Games which will have a European Athletics permit which will benefit our athletes. At all times we will be subject to the Covid 19 guidelines, but the hope is that we can complete our events this summer. We as an organisation need to continue to be able to react and adapt to changing situations to best position ourselves for the future.

We have major partnerships with World Athletics; European Athletics; the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media; Sport Ireland and the Olympic Federation of Ireland, during my term I am sure Athletics Ireland will continue to enjoy excellent relationships with them as currently.

We have a close working relationship with Athletics Northern Ireland. Liaison meetings with Athletics Northern Ireland and the Ulster Athletic Council are held on a regular basis to ensure the continuation of the close link between us.

During my term I will be meeting the Provincial Councils and as many County Boards that I can to maintain existing open communication lines.

On the International front we are in an Olympic year, and I wish the absolute best to all our athletes and their support teams who are endeavouring to qualify for the Olympics and the other major Championships during this year and of course also wishing them well during those Championships. It is exciting that we will host the rescheduled European Cross Championships in Abbotstown in December this year. It is hoped that by then restrictions will be at the lowest level and we all get to enjoy a great spectacle, show casing our athletes and our organisational skills. Best wishes to the already hard-working LOC and gratitude to our partners and sponsors.

I would like to thank everyone for their participation over the 2 days of Congress. It has been an unusual one due to current conditions. It is a vital part of our democratic process and on your behalf our gratitude is expressed to Georgina and Hamish and all those involved in the huge task of bringing it through the preparation and participation stage and now to its conclusion thus allowing for the newly elected to take office for the next term.

To finish, I am extremely proud and equally grateful to be elected President of Athletics Ireland by you earlier and to be inaugurated today. I am so thankful for all the messages I have received since elected; they are much appreciated. In my acceptance speech I tried to communicate the pathway that led to here and it was not possible without the support and guidance of many. To paraphrase an Isaac Newton quote "I feel I am standing on the shoulders of those Giants".

I know the task ahead cannot be underestimated and as already mentioned I will do it to the best of my ability, I am sure that with all our constituent parts working together we can continue to make our organisation a better and stronger one. I am delighted that I will be able to make my contribution to that.

I hope it will not be too long to the day when we can all meet in person again. At this stage it would normally be appropriate to say "Safe Home" but better to say be "Safe at Home" or wherever you are as our wonderful sport continues the pathway to its full return.

Thank You.

### **Close of the Congress by the President,**

As there were no questions prior to or during the Congress, Georgina Drumm, President, thanked all involved in the preparation and presentation of a successful virtual event.

Company Number: 474499

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**for the financial year ended 31 December 2020**

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

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**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION**

<b>Directors</b>	George Maybury Georgina Drumm John McGrath Brian Dowling John Cronin Billy Delaney John Allen resigned on 25/11/2020 David Abrahams appointed on 25/11/2020 Jim Ryan Neil Martin Brid Golden Caroline O'Shea Fintan Reilly Claire Bergin Garret Dunne P.J. O'Rourke Bernie O'Callaghan
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Georgina Drumm
<b>Company Number</b>	474499
<b>Sports Exemption Number</b>	G.S.2188
<b>Registered Office</b>	Unit 19 Northwood Court Northwood Business Campus Santry Dublin 9
<b>Auditors</b>	Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co. Chartered Certified Accountants & Statutory Auditors 14 St Michael Street Tipperary Town
<b>Business address</b>	Unit 19 Northwood Court Northwood Business Campus Santry Dublin 9
<b>Bankers</b>	Allied Irish Banks 53/54 Main St Finglas Dublin 11
<b>Solicitors</b>	O'Brien Dunne 6 Upper Fitzwilliam Street Dublin 2
<b>Members</b>	Georgina Drumm (President & Secretary) George Maybury (Finance & Risk)

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2020.

### Principal Activity

The principal activity of the Company is; throughout the island of Ireland, to foster the development of track and field athletics, road running, race walking, cross country running, mountain running, trail running and ultra-distance running (all collectively called "Athletics") and associated disciplines, whether in competition or otherwise, and to disseminate technical and other information to entities affiliated to the Company.

### Business Review

Revenue was severely impacted by the restrictions on movement and numbers attending gatherings announced by the Government on March 12th and the subsequent Living with Covid-19 Framework. We have at all times worked to comply with these guidelines and are pleased that there have been no incidents of a breakout of Covid-19 reported at any of our affiliated athletics clubs or athletics events.

### Update on Strategic Plan

Progress has stalled since March 12th on achieving the seven objectives of our Strategic Plan 2017-2020 Sport for Everyone. We will present our new Strategic Plan for the period 2021 to 2028 at Congress on the 24th of April 2021.

1. To continue to grow our membership through our existing club base, enhanced coaching and through new clubs and recruitment from schools, with specific focus on disadvantaged areas.
  - Membership was over 48,000 by March 12th growth of 4% on 2019. However, after lockdown we only recruited a further 7k members which was a reduction of over 50% on the same 44 weeks in 2019. We ended with 55,419 members, a reduction of 7,281/11.6% on 2019.
  - We had 362 affiliated clubs at end of 2020, a net increase of 4 clubs on the 358 affiliated in 2019.
  - We recruited another 130 national schools into The Daily Mile programmes. There are now 1,015 schools participating which is approx. 30% of total national schools.
  - The loss of all Schools championships had a big impact on the number of schools affiliating. We now have 548 secondary schools affiliated which is down 122/21.4% in 2019. This is 72% of total secondary schools.
2. To ensure that our Competitions are athlete-focused, with an enhanced customer experience.
  - Cross Country Intermediate, Masters and B Championships took place in February. A Schools Cross Country took place in March.
  - No Juvenile competition took place during the year.
  - No Road Race or Cross-Country Championships took place during the year.
  - Strict procedures were put in place to allow athletes only to access the National Senior, Masters & Combined Events, U20 & U23 Track & Field Championships. These were the only event held after March 12<sup>th</sup> but we were fortunate to facilitate the National Indoor Championships in February.
  - We thank everyone for complying with the strict guidelines thus ensuring a safe event for all participants and officials.
3. To support our elite athletes by continuing to develop structures, so that we can field world-class athletes, with a sustainable performance coaching structure, facilities and support staff.
  - Online support was given to all athletes during the year with a huge number of webinars and Zoom meetings.
  - Exempted HP athletes were supported with access to the Sport Ireland Institute and training facilities.
  - We continue to support a cohort of 55 HP athletes in addition to our Sport Ireland carded group.
  - We continue to see the impact of our long-term investment in HP structures and athlete development with consistent increasing levels of athlete performance.
4. To expand participation in recreational events through a focus on existing programmes and the creation of initiatives in co-operation with Healthy Ireland.
  - Other than Operation Transformation 5k in February no live mass participation events were held after March 12th.
  - We introduced several free to enter virtual events where entrants could run the event in their local area. Some participants purchased medals and tee shirts which were posted out to them. Events included Irish Runner Series, Great Ireland Run, Mile Challenge, GT 5k and Remembrance Run.
  - We had continued participation in the summer camp programme. We delivered camps in Santry and Irishtown abiding by guidelines of 15 children and leaders in a pod.

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. To maintain and enhance our Child Safeguarding processes and Healthy Club Plan.
  - A new virtual Child Safeguarding programme was developed, and several courses were delivered via Zoom.
  - We continue to operate to best practice principles of Irish Sport in this space.
6. To manage Governance and Finances to best demonstrated practices and to train our staff to acquire expertise in every area to become "best in class".
  - With staff working from home, we amended our procedures to allow approval via email of digital purchase orders and invoices rather than paper copies and signatures. A secured area was set up on our Shared Drive to save all digital documentation.
  - Additional focus was put on cash flow forecasts and abiding by the terms of Covid-19 support schemes developed by Sport Ireland and the Government.
7. To make Marketing a key focus throughout the organisation.
  - With the cancellation of live mass participation events many partners cancelled or reduced sponsorship. We thank Irish Life Health, Muller, Grant Thornton, Ineos and Waterways Ireland for their continued support.
  - Communication with clubs and members about the latest Covid-19 guidelines on Sports Training and movement was a key focus after March. Weekly and clear communication to our members has been delivered.
  - New methods of increasing engagement with both members and the wider public via social media and digital platforms were trialled.

The European Cross-Country championships were due to take place on December 13<sup>th</sup> in the Sport Ireland Campus, Fingal-Dublin. This was deferred until December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We worked closely with European Athletics to manage this deferral. The Local Organising committee chaired by Liam Hennessy continue to work with the stakeholders to deliver a safe event in line with government guidelines.

### 1) Financials

The Company made an operating surplus of €234,791 in the year.

We acknowledge the vital support of Sport Ireland investment in both our Core and High Performance activity. We also acknowledge the close working relationships with both the Sport Ireland Institute in working with our Athlete Services team and Sports Campus Ireland. We are now more than ever very reliant on the financial support of Sport Ireland due to our traditional revenue streams being challenged by Covid-19 restrictions.

Sport Ireland invested €1,000k in Core funding (2019 €950k) and €75k in Women in Sport (2019 €75k).

The total investment from Sport Ireland in High Performance was €1,084k (2019 €1,032k). HP Core funding was €840k in 2020 (2019, €840k). Carding payments for athletes was €244k (2019 €192k).

We also received a Dormant Accounts "Get Ireland Running" grant of €100k in 2020 (2019 €100k) which has supported the Irunforfun programme in Secondary Schools and Fit4Class in National Schools and Healthy Ireland €75k towards The Daily Mile.

### 2) Membership & Club

Membership has decreased to 55,419 in 2020, a decrease of 7,281 members from 62,700 in 2019.

Only 7,000 members were registered after the initial lockdown on March 12.

The following is the ten-year trend:

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
35,490	42,207	49,542	54,327	56,533	58,265	60,501	60,677	62,700	55,419

There were 365 clubs affiliated by December, a net increase of 4 on the 358 in 2019.

We thank the numerous club volunteers for carrying out various roles including coaching, administrating and officiating to achieve this growth. We want to thank those volunteers who stepped forward to undertake the new role of Club Covid-19 Compliance Officer to ensure the club training arrangements were in line with the numerous changes in Government guidelines for Sports Training and Events. Our development officers have worked closely with clubs to ensure adequate training is provided for the roles being undertaken.

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### 3) Child Welfare

Our National Children's Officer works with Club Children's Officers to safeguard children and young people in line with our Code of Ethics and Child Safeguarding plan.

Children First Legislation commenced in December 2017. Our clubs are legally required to be compliant with its requirements and the National Children's Officer leads this area for us. To maintain and enhance the implementation of our Child Safeguarding plan we have added an additional trained Garda vetting Liaison Officer and safeguarding tutor.

All clubs must also display a Child Safeguarding Statement in accordance with the Children's First Act 2015. This is coordinated by the National Children's Officer in consultation with Tusla, the child and family agency.

In 2020 we delivered 5 (2019, 26) Child safeguarding learning events to 84 (2019, 374) participants in the year by our National Children's Officer. We processed 1,453 Garda Vetting applications in 2020 (2019 2,000). Vetting legislation (National Vetting Bureau Act 2012-2016) requires all those who provide relevant services on a regular basis to children and vulnerable adults to complete the vetting process which must be renewed every 4 years.

### 4) High Performance

2020 was expected to be a busy year for Major Championships including the Games of the XXXII Olympiad to be held in Tokyo. However, no events took place due to Covid-19.

In 2020 our athletes set two National Outdoor Records. This compares to 14 records in 2019 (Senior 2020, 1 v 2019, 1: U23 1 v 5: Junior 0v9).

The highlight performance of the year was Ciara Mageean becoming the first Irish woman to run 800m in under 2 minutes which she accomplished in Bern, Switzerland in July.

Age	Gender	Event	Athlete	Record
Senior	Women	800m	Ciara Mageean	1:59.69
U23	Women	800m	Nadia Power	2:01.01

As in 2019 twelve athletes received funding from the Sport Ireland Elite Athlete Carding Programme.

We continue to work with Sport Ireland High Performance Unit and the Sport Ireland Institute to prepare and monitor our athletes in conjunction with their personal coaches.

### 5) Coaching

Unprecedented conditions prompted us to rapidly evolve a more focused offering to athletes, coaches and club officials. This included webinars, on-line courses, virtual club challenges, short coaching videos suitable for Twitter and Facebook, Instagram takeovers, etc.

The Level 3 course developed last year with Coaching Ireland began in 2019. Covid-19 restrictions required workshops to be held online in 2020. The modules were restructured with practical aspects delayed until 2021.

Virtual Run Jump Throw workshops were held in 2020, six being held in this format.

Webinars to assist coaches bridge the gap between Level 1 and 2 were also held. Nin eteen webinars were held for the cohort.

A second print of the popular Strength and Conditioning manual was completed during the year and distributed to clubs.

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

The following courses were held:

	2020		2019	
	Courses	Participants	Courses	Participants
Athletic Leader	5	76	25	409
Assistant Coach	14	350	33	587
Endurance Leader	6	140	6	108
Level 1	4	75	10	188
Level 2	-	-	1	64
Level 3 Starting	-	-	1	35
Total	29	641	76	1,386

### 6) Competition

The National Senior, Masters and Combined Events, U20 & U23 Track & Field Championships were the only Championships to take place in a very restricted format due to Covid-19. We were fortunate to facilitate the National Indoor Championships in February. We acknowledge the contribution of volunteers at club, county, provincial and national levels within the organisation as the key driver of our competition programme working closely with our professional staff.

### 7) Recreation Events

No mass participation events took place after March.

New Virtual events were set up for Irish Runner, Grant Thornton 5k and Remembrance Run.

### 8) Large Scale Sports Infrastructural Fund

Several clubs were successful in receiving provisional allocations for Regional track developments and we are a partner with Cork Institute of Technology on a Major Infrastructure project for an indoor facility on Cork IT campus. The provisional awards have been delayed due to Covid-19, but we hope that 2021 will see these important projects move forward.

### 9) Future

As previously advised the National Sports Policy was launched in 2018. The policy has set a goal to double the overall investment in sport by 2027 and treble the investment in High Performance sport over the same period.

We are delighted to continue to receive grant allocations from various Sport Ireland funds. The Dormant Funds grant enables us to increase participation amongst socially disadvantaged groups. The Women in Sport fund supports our efforts to increase participation by women in all areas of our sport including positions of leadership. The Healthy Ireland funds support our Get Ireland Running Programmes in schools and clubs.

Work is ongoing on our Strategic Plan 2021-2028 which will cover the next two Olympic cycles with a review after four years. The plan will incorporate the participation and High Performance objectives of the National Sports Policy as well as enabling us to support the strategic plans of both European Athletics and World Athletics.

In 2021 The European Cross-Country Championships (which we last hosted in Santry in 2009) will return to the National Sports Campus in Abbottstown having been deferred from 2020.

### 10) Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The short and long term implications of Covid-19 pandemic on our sport continue to create uncertainty for both athletes and clubs. We are hopeful a return to sport can occur towards the end of 2021 when appropriate vaccination levels have been met.

During the year we faced a period of significant financial risk prior to additional Government supports being received late in the year. To manage this risk two full time staff positions and four part time positions were made redundant in a cost reduction exercise across the organisation. We are now back to 2014 levels of staffing. The reduced numbers allowed to attend events and the extra costs in putting on safe events for everyone involved require a prudent approach. This prudence will ensure we can continue to grow our sport in a sustainable manner. We continue to work closely with the Expert Group on the Return to Sport and abide by Government guidelines to minimise risks in this area.

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

Such documents and strategies in 2020 included:

- 1) Monthly reviews of the company finances by the Finance & Risk Committee with key matters presented to the Board for approval.
- 2) Meeting and exceeding compliance standards published in the HSE & HSA protocols.
- 3) The establishment of a staff Covid-19 Group of President Georgina Drumm, CEO Hamish Adams, HR Director Kieran Stout & Director of Development Pat Ryan.
- 4) Best practice strategies promoted continuously across the organisation e.g., Revised Safety Statement.
- 5) Education and regular communication re Covid-19 to all stakeholders.
- 6) Alignment with Sport Ireland and the Federation of Irish Sport to support the establishment of a government resilience fund for sport.

Prior to the lockdown for Covid-19 in March 2020 risk management discussions had taken place in all the principal committees and the following top six risks were agreed.

The CEO presented detailed management strategies for each of these six risks to the Finance & Risk Committee and Board to ensure the risks were managed in an appropriate manner given our risk appetite. We continue to work with our insurance brokers to ensure best practice is identified and implemented.

Risk Area	Risk
Reputational	Code of Ethics allegation/child safeguarding
Strategic	Poor Senior international performance
Operational	Key staff unavailable long term
Compliance	Legal challenge
Compliance	Doping allegation
Operational	Death or serious accident
Operational	Covid-19 since 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2020

Following the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions in March the priority of the Finance and Risk Committee was focussed on managing the financial and operational Covid-19 risk for the organisation.

Work is ongoing on our various IT systems to protect them against cyber breaches. In addition, we continue to develop and upgrade all our IT systems to ensure they meet the expanding needs of our members and club administrators. Both the costs of these developments and length of time they will take are being managed.

### 11) Compliance with the Governance Code

We comply with the Governance Code for community, voluntary, and charitable organisations in Ireland. We confirm that a review of our organisation's compliance with the principles in the Code was conducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This review was based on an assessment of our organisational practice against the recommended actions for each principle. The review sets out actions and completion dates for any issues that the assessment identifies need to be addressed.

### 12) Anti-Doping

The Directors believe they have taken all reasonable measures to ensure compliance with all Sport Ireland Anti-Doping regulations for our sport.

### 13) Important Events Since the year end

Sports Ireland announced both our Core funding of €1,000k and High Performance funding of €840k would remain the same for 2021.

Government permission allowed a Micro Meet for 60 elite athletes in the National Indoor Arena to take place on Feb 20th/21st with exceptional performances.

The Level 5 lockdown announced on December 30th has been extended to April 5th. This is impacting membership recruitment as no club training has been allowed to take place.

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### 14) Accounting Records

The measure taken by the directors to ensure compliance with the requirements of Section 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, are the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of accounting records. The company's accounting records are maintained at Unit 19, Northwood Court, Northwood Business Campus, Santry, Dublin 9, Ireland which is also the Company's registered office. Section 285 of the Act requires that we retain our records for six years. However, during the year records relating to the accounting year 2018 which had been stored at Morton Stadium were destroyed in a fire (April 2020). Computerised summaries of the records still exist but the original invoices and vouchers have been destroyed and cannot be replaced. The directors do not envisage that there will be any impact on the company for the loss of these records.

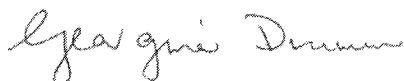
### 15) Statement on Relevant Audit Information

In accordance with Section 330 of the Companies Act 2014, so far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing its report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor, each director having taken all the steps he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of the information.

### 16) Auditors

The auditors, Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Signed on behalf of the board



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**Georgina Drumm**  
Director



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**George Maybury**  
Director

Date: 15/03/2021

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

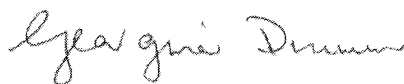
Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the company financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Signed on behalf of the board**



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**Georgina Drumm**  
Director



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**George Maybury**  
Director

**Date: 15/03/2021**



# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

## **to the Members of Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Reconciliation of Members' Funds, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2020 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and the Provisions Available for Audits of Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 4 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### **Other Information**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014**

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Report. The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

## **to the Members of Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Respective responsibilities**

#### **Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operation, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is contained in the appendix to this report, located at page 13, which is to be read as an integral part of our report.

#### **The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities**

Our report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Joseph Fitzgerald FCCA, for and on behalf of**  
**MULCAHY O'NEILL FITZGERALD & CO**  
14 St Michael Street  
Tipperary Town

Date: 16/03/21

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## APPENDIX TO THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

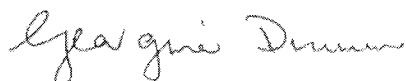
We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Schedules	2020 €	2019 €
Income	1	4,278,599	5,282,908
Expenditure	2	(4,043,808)	(5,275,148)
Surplus before interest		234,791	7,760
Revaluation of Investment		-	443,010
Exceptional Gain (Costs)		-	87,646
Surplus before tax		234,791	538,416
Tax on surplus		-	-
Surplus for the financial year		234,791	538,416
Total comprehensive income		234,791	538,416

Approved by the board on the 15th of March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Georgina Drumm  
Director



\_\_\_\_\_  
George Maybury  
Director

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	79,680	117,833
Investments	9	927,734	927,734
		<u>1,007,414</u>	<u>1,045,567</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stocks	10	44,597	-
Debtors	11	346,945	455,984
Cash and cash equivalents		1,918,561	371,733
		<u>2,310,103</u>	<u>827,717</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	<u>(2,111,122)</u>	<u>(901,681)</u>
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<u>798,981</u>	<u>(73,964)</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<u>1,206,395</u>	<u>971,603</u>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Income and expenditure account		1,206,395	971,603
<b>Equity attributable to owners of the company</b>		<u>1,206,395</u>	<u>971,603</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board on the 15th of March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Georgina Drumm  
Director



\_\_\_\_\_  
George Maybury  
Director

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**RECONCILIATION OF MEMBERS' FUNDS**

as at 31 December 2020

	Retained surplus	Total
	€	€
<b>At 1 January 2019</b>	412,893	412,893
Surplus for the financial year	<u>558,711</u>	<u>558,711</u>
<b>At 31 December 2019</b>	971,604	971,604
Surplus for the financial year	<u>234,791</u>	<u>234,791</u>
<b>At 31 December 2020</b>	<u><u>1,206,395</u></u>	<u><u>1,206,395</u></u>

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	18	1,561,728	383,924
		<u>1,561,728</u>	<u>383,924</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	8	(14,900)	(113,347)
Net cash used in investment activities		<u>1,546,828</u>	<u>270,577</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>1,546,828</b>	<b>270,577</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year</b>		<b>371,733</b>	<b>101,156</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	17	<b><u>1,918,561</u></b>	<b><u>371,733</u></b>

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the Republic of Ireland. Unit 19 Northwood Court, Northwood Business Campus, Santry, Dublin 9 is the registered office, which is also the principal place of business of the company. The nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report. The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

### 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2020 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102).

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention except for certain properties and financial instruments that are measured at revalued amounts or fair values, as explained in the accounting policies below. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

#### Consolidated accounts

The company and its subsidiaries meet the size exemption criteria for a group and the company is therefore exempt from the requirements to prepare consolidated financial statements by virtue of meeting the requirements in section 293 (1A) of the Companies Act 2014. Consequently, these financial statements deal with the results of the company as a single entity.

#### Income

Turnover comprises the invoice value of goods supplied by the company, exclusive of trade discounts and value added tax.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Sports Equipment	-	20% Straight line on cost
Office Equipment	-	25% Straight line on cost
Computer Equipment	-	25% Straight line on cost

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment in periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Investments

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at cost less provision for any permanent diminution in value. Income from other investments together with any related withholding tax is recognised in the income and expenditure account in the year in which it is receivable.

#### Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts except where the effect of discounting would be immaterial. In such cases the receivables are stated at cost less impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

#### Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs relating to the acquisition of assets are capitalised at the appropriate rate by adding them to the cost of assets being acquired. Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on the assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation. All other borrowing costs are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they are incurred.



# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### Trade and other creditors

Trade and other creditors are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.

### Related parties

- the party has the ability, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries to control the company or exercise significant influence over the company in making financial and operating policy decisions or has joint control over the company;
- the company and the party are subject to common control;
- the party is an associate of the company or forms part of a joint venture with the company;
- the party is a member of key management personnel of the company or the company's parent, or a close family member of such as an individual, or is an entity under the control, joint control or significant influence of such individuals;
- the party is a close family member of a party referred to above or is an entity under the control or significant influence of such individuals; or
- the party is a post-employment benefit plan which is for the benefit of employees of the company or of any entity that is a related party of the company.

### Employee benefits

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The company also operates a defined benefit pension scheme for its employees providing benefits based on final pensionable pay. The assets of this scheme are also held separately from those of the company, being invested with pension fund managers.

### Taxation and deferred taxation

Current tax represents the amount expected to be paid or recovered in respect of taxable income for the year and is calculated using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted at the Balance Sheet date.

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is exempt from Corporation Tax, number G.S. 2188.

### Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Income and Expenditure Account.

## 3. PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR AUDITS OF SMALL ENTITIES

In common with many other businesses of our size and nature, we use our auditors to prepare and submit tax returns to the Revenue and to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

## 4. OPERATING SURPLUS

	2020	2019
	€	€
<b>Operating surplus is stated after charging:</b>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<b>53,053</b>	85,170

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### 5. EMPLOYEES

The average monthly number of employees during the year were:	<b>2020</b>	2019
	<b>Number</b>	Number
Fulltime	<b>30</b>	31
Part-time	<b>9</b>	11
	<b>39</b>	42

Employment costs	2020	2020
	<b>Number</b>	Number
TWSS	<b>269,717</b>	-
Wages and salaries	<b>1,005,778</b>	1,415,341
Employer's PRSI	<b>99,003</b>	153,320
Employee's PRSA	<b>44,492</b>	50,444
External wages and salaries contribution	<b>(57,954)</b>	(122,083)
	<b>1,361,036</b>	1,497,022

### 6. GOING CONCERN

The Company is dependent to a large extent on Sport Ireland for funding its programmes. Sport Ireland has confirmed that the Company will remain eligible to continue to receive funding in the future provided that it abides by the terms and conditions of all grant schemes and also continues to comply with any specific criteria that are put in place by Sport Ireland for national governing bodies. The directors are of the opinion that they have complied with all the terms and conditions laid down by Sport Ireland.

In addition, the directors have prepared budgets and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements which demonstrates that there is no material uncertainty regarding the Company's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern.

### 7. TRUE AND FAIR OVERRIDE

The directors have availed of the provisions of Section 291(5) of the Companies Act 2014 to use a format for the financial statements that better describes the activities of a company not trading for a profit. The main change is the replacement of the title 'Profit and Loss' with the title 'Income and Expenditure' and consequential changes in the descriptions of certain items to be consistent with the descriptions appropriate for the not-for-profit sector.

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

**8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Sports Capital 2012	Sports Capital 2008	AAI Sports Equipment	Office Equipment	Computer Equipment	Sports Capital 2014	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Cost</b>							
At 1 January 2020	350,069	495,236	1,126,016	49,725	69,923	292,712	2,383,681
Additions	-	-	375	1,298	13,227	-	14,900
At 31 December 2020	350,069	495,236	1,126,391	51,023	83,150	292,712	2,398,581
<b>Depreciation</b>							
At 1 January 2020	350,069	495,236	1,126,016	17,083	22,617	254,827	2,265,848
Charge for the financial year	-	-	75	14,016	20,788	18,174	53,053
At 31 December 2020	350,069	495,236	1,126,091	31,099	43,405	273,001	2,318,901
<b>Net book value</b>							
At 31 December 2020	-	-	300	19,924	39,745	19,711	79,680
At 31 December 2019	-	-	-	32,642	47,306	37,885	117,833

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### 9. INVESTMENTS

<b>Cost</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
At 1 January 2020	<u>927,734</u>	<u>484,724</u>
Revaluation of Investment	-	443,010
At 31 December 2020	<u>927,734</u>	<u>927,734</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
At 1 January 2020	<u>927,734</u>	<u>484,724</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>927,734</u>	<u>927,734</u>

It is the policy of the directors of the Company to carry out an impairment review on the investment in Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited on a regular basis.

The main asset of Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited is a building in Northwood Business Campus. The Company is a long term tenant in the building. The building has been revalued based on a value in use of the market rent and average property yield. The Company values its investment in Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited as the difference between this property valuation and the balance of remaining mortgage on that property. Changes in the value of the investment are booked in the Statement of Total Comprehensive Income and the value of the Financial Asset.

The Company owns 100% of the share capital of Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited.

<b>Company</b>	<b>Country of Incorporation</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Shares</b>
Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited	Ireland	Ordinary	100%

The aggregate amount of capital and reserves and the results of these undertakings for the last relevant financial year were as follows:

	<b>Capital and Reserves</b>	<b>Loss for the year</b>
	2020	2020
	€	€
Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited	<u>(69,073)</u>	<u>(67,719)</u>

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

continued

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

<b>10. STOCKS</b>	<b>2020</b>	2019
	€	€
Stock (non trading)	<u>44,597</u>	<u>-</u>

The replacement cost of stock does not differ significantly from the figures shown.

<b>11. DEBTORS</b>	<b>2020</b>	2019
	€	€
Trade debtors and Prepayments	58,253	150,580
AIE Ltd Current Account	286,636	305,404
Other debtors	2,056	-
	<u>346,945</u>	<u>455,984</u>

<b>12. CREDITORS</b>	<b>2020</b>	2019
<b>Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
Trade creditors	90,372	321,916
Other creditors	220,824	21,582
Sport Ireland Deferred Grants	1,567,942	251,712
Other Deferred Grants	98,009	70,237
Taxation	30,024	36,182
Accruals	103,951	200,052
	<u>2,111,122</u>	<u>901,681</u>

# Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

### 13. GRANTS

The sponsoring Department for Sport Ireland Grants is the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

	Opening Balance (€)	Grant Received (€)	Grant Release (€)	Closing Balance (€)
Ordinary Grant	-	983,100	(483,100)	500,000
Athlete Development	9,488	-	-	9,488
Performance Core	-	840,000	(536,725)	303,275
Elite Athlete Carding	-	244,000	(244,000)	-
Administered Hosted Events	10,000	16,900	(16,900)	10,000
Dormant Funding	60,000	141,500	(45,000)	156,500
Women in Sport	30,000	75,000	(29,639)	75,361
Euro XC 2020	142,224	-	-	142,224
European Week of Sport	-	8,000	(8,000)	-
Healthy Ireland/Get Ireland Running	-	115,000	(45,000)	70,000
Club Resilience Sport Fund	-	590,000	(563,596)	26,404
Aspire Grant	-	22,904	(2,314)	20,590
Covid-19 Support	-	125,000	(125,000)	-
Keep Well	-	39,100	-	39,100
Innovation	-	215,000	-	215,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>251,712</b>	<b>3,415,504</b>	<b>(2,099,274)</b>	<b>1,567,942</b>

All closing balances are deferred grants. The company has agreed these balances with Sport Ireland and confirmed the deferred grants will be spent for the purposes given.

#### Sport Ireland (Administered) Grants

	2020 (€)	2019 (€)
Cork City Sports	-	35,467
Ultra Running	-	9,725
Irish Mountain Running	3,000	2,500
Morton Games	-	26,750
Athlone IT Grand Prix	13,900	16,050
Leevale Sports	-	500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,900</b>	<b>90,992</b>

### 14. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The company had no material capital commitments at the financial year-ended 31 December 2020.

### 15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

All members of the Board act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration. Travel and subsistence costs of €4,530 (2019 €13,336) were reimbursed to members of the Board in relation to attendance at Board meetings and €1,553 ((2019 €4,087) for Committee meetings. An additional €7,889 (2019 €16,164) was reimbursed to members of the Board in relation to their officiating duties at National Competitions and attendance at other Committee Meetings.

Intercompany balance due to the Company by Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited at 31st December 2020 was €286,636. Rent of €69,765 was paid to Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited during the year by the Company.

Transactions between the companies totalled €220,676.

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

continued

for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

**16. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

**17. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	<b>2020</b>	2019
	€	€
Cash and bank balances	<b>1,918,359</b>	371,531
Cash equivalents	<b>202</b>	202
	<u><b>1,918,561</b></u>	<u>371,733</u>

**18. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

Total Comprehensive Income	<b>234,791</b>	538,416
Depreciation	<b>53,053</b>	85,170
Movement in Stock	<b>(44,597)</b>	-
Movement in Debtors	<b>109,040</b>	91,228
Movement in Creditors adjusted for grants	<b>(106,789)</b>	(33,676)
Grants Released	<b>(2,099,274)</b>	(2,213,204)
Grants Received	<b>3,415,504</b>	2,359,000
Revaluation of Northwood	<b>-</b>	(443,010)
Cash inflow from Operating Activities	<u><b>1,561,728</b></u>	<u>383,924</u>

**19. GOVERNMENT GRANTS**

Grants are accounted under the accrual model as permitted by FRS 102. Grants relating to expenditure on tangible fixed assets are credited to the Income and Expenditure Account at the same rate as the depreciation on the assets to which the grant relates. The deferred element of grants is included in creditors as deferred income.

Grants of a revenue nature are recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account in the same period as the related expenditure. Due to Covid-19 the company was unable to spend all the monies it had received from Sport Ireland. Sport Ireland has agreed that the amounts unspent can be deferred until 2021.

Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co. confirm that Sport Ireland Grants spent during the year were expended for the purpose for which they were intended

**20. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

NOT COVERED BY THE REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

THE FOLLOWING PAGES DO NOT FORM PART OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**TRADING STATEMENT**  
for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>€</b>	<b>2019</b> <b>€</b>
Income	1	<u>4,278,599</u>	<u>5,282,908</u>
Overhead expenses	2	<u>(4,043,808)</u>	<u>(5,275,148)</u>
<b>Net operating surplus</b>		<u><u>234,791</u></u>	<u><u>7,760</u></u>

**Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SCHEDULE 1 : INCOME**  
for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 €	2019 €
<b>Income</b>		
Sports Ireland Grants (Note 13)	2,099,274	2,200,559
Other Grants	17,597	95,077
EWSS/TWSS Subsidies	491,337	-
Registrations and Affiliations	1,060,781	1,170,219
Competitions and related activities	391,060	657,445
Coaching and Development	47,870	134,828
Recreational Events	152,040	977,470
Insurance Claim	14,890	44,561
Euro 2020 XC	3,750	820
Miscellaneous	-	1,929
	<u>4,278,599</u>	<u>5,282,908</u>

**SCHEDULE 2 : OVERHEAD EXPENSES**  
for the year ended 31 December 2020

<b>Administration Expenses</b>		
Employment costs	1,361,036	1,497,022
Performance	640,731	974,491
Coaching & Development	161,230	307,564
Club Resilience Sport Fund(Note 13)	563,596	-
Competition & Related Activities	374,674	851,919
Administration	715,777	726,592
Recreational Events	133,749	733,718
Euro 2020 XC	39,962	54,111
Insurance Costs	-	44,561
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	53,053	85,170
	<u>4,043,808</u>	<u>5,275,148</u>