



CONGRESS 2018 MINUTES



Athletic Association of Ireland Limited

4th Congress

28th April 2018

**The Landmark Hotel
Carrick on Shannon
Co. Leitrim**

MINUTES 2018

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AGENDA

- 10.00 - 11.00:** Registration
- 11.00 - 11.05:** President's Introduction
- 11.10 – 11.15:** Roll Call
- 11.15 – 11.25:** Minutes 2016 Congress and Matters Arising
- 11.25 – 12.00:** Reports of Principal Committees:
- **Coaching & Development**
 - **Competition**
 - **High Performance**
 - **Juvenile**
- 12.00 – 12.10:** Auditors Report
- 12.10 – 12.40:** **Finance & Risk Report**
Audited Accounts
Appointment of Auditors
- 12.40 – 13.10:** **Chief Executive Officer Report**
- 13.10– 13.30:** **President's Address**
- 13.30 – 14.15:** Lunch (Hosted by AAI)
- 14.15 – 14.25:** Adoption of Standing Orders
Appointment of Scrutineers
- 14.25 – 15.45:** Elections
- 15.45 – 18.45:** Motions
- 18.45– 19.00:** Inauguration of President
- 19.00:** Close of Congress

Roll Call

Province	County	Total	Voting Strength	AM	Roll Call	PM	Roll Call
*	Antrim	3219	17		2		2
*	Armagh	368	2		0		0
	Carlow	951	5		4		2
	Cavan	557	3		2		2
	Clare	1891	10		5		5
	Cork	8264	42		23		23
*	Derry	1230	7		0		0
	Donegal	2563	13		13		13
*	Down	2514	13		1		1
	Dublin	9060	46		23		23
*	Fermanagh	452	3		0		0
	Galway	3962	20		8		8
	Kerry	1664	9		3		3
	Kildare	2851	15		2		2
	Kilkenny	1887	10		3		3
	Laois	1361	7		2		2
	Leitrim	918	5		5		5
	Limerick	1665	9		7		7
	Longford	361	2		0		0
	Louth	2324	12		10		10
	Mayo	2644	14		9		9
	Meath	4380	22		6		7
	Monaghan	1160	6		2		2
	Offaly	1314	7		7		7
	Roscommon	373	2		2		2
	Sligo	1544	8		6		4
	Tipperary	2281	12		4		4
*	Tyrone	507	3		0		0
	Waterford	1548	8		6		6
	Westmeath	708	4		4		4
	Wexford	1916	10		7		7
	Wicklow	1879	10		0		0
Munster			4		4		4
Connaught			4		4		4
Ulster			4		3		3
Leinster			4		2		3
AAI Board			16		14		14
Total			388		193		191

*Information supplied by Athletics Northern Ireland

President's Introduction – Georgina Drumm

The outgoing President of Athletics Ireland, Georgina Drumm, welcomed delegates to Congress 2018. The President anticipated a busy day ahead but expressed confidence that all items on the agenda would be completed by close of business.

List of Deceased Members

Rita Brady, Paddy Craddock, Michael Cunningham, Jimmy Douglas, Cyril O'Boyle, Mary Doyle, Joanna Duignan, Catherine Duggan, Peter Farrelly, Noel Gowran, Tommy Hayward, Noel Henry, Richard Hodgins, Jim Shields, Peter Martin, Hugh Gallagher, Pdraig Keane, David Leahy, Patrick McGovern, Ailish Sheehan, Jim McNamara, Ted Murray, Frank Murphy, Paddy O'Donnell, Ronán Walsh, Niall O'Shaughnessy, Áine Pobjoy, Matt Rudden, Breda Synnott, Kevin Ryan, John Frattanoli, Sean Healy, Stephen O'Mahoney, Jack Moriarty, Frazer Walker, Killian Ekhaton, Tod Moore, , Jamie McCarthy, Jonathon Fitzpatrick, Gary Askin.

Congress observed a minutes silence in memory of our deceased members

Life Vice Presidents

Fionbarr Callanan, Nick Davis, Paddy Fitzgerald, Eamon Giles, Pdraig Griffin, Thomas Hayward, Michael Heery, Liam Hennessy, Jim Kelly, Ronnie Long, Gerard McDonnell, Paddy McGovern, Tod Moore, Breda Synnott.

Minutes & Matters Arising

Minutes of Congress 2016 were adopted. There were no matters arising.

MINUTES PROPOSED Mossie Woulfe

MINUTES SECONDED Michael Heery

COACHING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented by Eamon Harvey – Committee chair

Coaching and Development during the last two years saw the Committee working in close relationship with the Chief Executive of Athletics Ireland, John Foley, active participation and leadership in C&D meetings and on the ground by Pat Ryan, Director of Coaching and Development and the Regional Development Officer team. During the period distinct goals and objectives were achieved, with many new initiatives ongoing, supported and successfully completed

COACHING AND DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

Coaching

1. Continue to develop closer links with the High performance Committee ensuring greater continuity and a better use of resources.
2. Continue to evaluate, improve and upgrade the Coach Education system.
3. Support coaches at all levels to improve upskill outside the formal Athletics Ireland education system.

Development

1. Continue to increase Athletics Ireland club membership.
2. Retain, upskill and develop young athletes and their coaches.
3. Provide support for clubs by giving practical and constructive advice on structure, club administration and coaching

COACHING

High Performance Coaching

During the last four years High Performance coaching has come under the management of the Director of High Performance, Kevin Ankrom [outgoing] and Paul McNamara [current]. This constructive move was designed to support the effectiveness of high performance coaching and is detailed in the High Performance report.

‘The aim of this plan is to up skill coaches of all levels and to provide specific additional support and opportunities to the coaches of our high performing athletes. The plans include conferences, workshops, specific high performance sessions and mentoring with national and international mentors. Event Coordinators will lead this exciting new initiative’. Congress minutes 2016

Coach Education

Currently there are five different coaching awards; Athletic Leader, Assistant Coach , Endurance Running [new] and Levels 1, Level 2, Level 3 (Level 3 is the I.A.A.F. Level IV).

The coaching education pathway is based on the Long Term Athlete Development [LTAD] model supported by Coaching Ireland and the IAAF as the internationally accepted standard for the development of athletes and coaches. The coaching syllabi were developed by reviewing best practice of coach education in a number of sports and countries. It is important to recognise that the formal coach

education system is just a starting point. There are many event coaching workshops, seminars and conferences, internal and international, held to help coaches develop in particular event specific areas.

The Coach Education system continues to grow in quality, depth and strength with courses at all levels over subscribed during the last two years. The Athletics Ireland Level 3/IAAF level 4 connection has proved a significant success with a very high satisfaction rating. The fact that many of our talented coaches have been exposed to internationally recognised tutors/conferences with the highest coaching credentials has added value across all our event groups.

The Level 2 Course, also the responsibility of Coaching and Development, has also been subjected to alignment with IAAF standards. The course now has one event group specialisation giving more in depth knowledge.

Level 1, Endurance Running (new), Assistant and Athletics Leader course, all offered at local and regional levels continued to attract ‘full houses’ and service fundamental needs of coaches and clubs throughout the last two years. Support information on the subject matter is now available online on the Coaching website.

Coaching/coaches at all levels continues to make a significant contribution to athlete development. During the past two years coaching have ‘back boned’ the support service to our record grass roots membership, to an unprecedented number of youth/junior gaining qualification at International competition and to our elite athletes at European/World championships and Olympic Games. A sincere word of thanks and congratulations to this dedicated and hard working group, most of whom availed of and shared in the coach education support pathway.

Coach Education Breakdown

	2017		2016	
	Courses	Participants	Courses	Participants
Athletic Leader	27	387	33	442
Assistant Coach	33	521	26	391
Endurance Leader	7	110	7	102
Level 1	9	182	15	294
Level 2	1	68	0	0
Total	77	1268	81	1229

Figure 1 Coach Education Breakdown

Juvenile Regional Performance Squads

Regional squads were organised in three provinces with four or five days in each region. Specific juvenile endurance squads were run separately in 2016 and 2017 and were extended into four provinces when Athletics Northern Ireland partnered the programme. A welcome provincial squad support initiative of providing local facilities and financial support as in Leinster is to be welcomed. The Leinster/Dublin squad also piloted a residential camp for the first time this year. The camp mirrored the model utilised by the Endurance group and it is planned to repeat this step. The Provincial and County Board financially supported this initiative.

Further Education

A number of opportunities to support coaches to keep up to date and increase skill sets were offered during the past two years. Event specific workshops were offered at local, regional and national levels. Attendance at these workshops has been excellent and feedback from coaches has been very positive.

Many of our elite coaches attended event specific international coaching conferences during the period and the benefits will be apparent shortly at grass roots coaching levels.

Endurance Network Days

The Endurance Coaching Network (ECN) has become established as a strong learning and sharing environment for endurance coaches. The ECN workshops and presentations where coaches outline, share and debate coaching methods and programmes used and subsequent outcomes and results has been a huge success. A combination of international coaches and local coaches shared and explained their work. Robert Hawkins, Martin Rushe and Chris Jones were joined by Donie Walsh, Robert Heffernan, Robert Denmead, Pat Hogan, Steven Macklin, Noel Richardson, Richard Rogers, Mark Kirk, Donal Hennigan, Joe Ryan, Colin Griffin, Liam Moggan and Daragh Sheridan. Stevan Macklin, is to be complimented on his outstanding leadership in the implementation of and the ongoing success of the ECN.

Sprints & Jumps Network Days

The Sprints and Jumps network formed in 2016 operates in a similar manner to the Endurance Network Days. Domestic coaches have had the opportunity to work with international coaches and learn from the experience of Michael Afilaka, Brendan Reilly, Femi Akinsanya, Julie Hollman Doodoo, Tom Crick, Richard Wheeler, Volker Hermann, Barry Walsh and Alan Kennedy. Indigenous coaches also presented, led workshops and included Martina McCarthy, Hayley Harrison, Brid Golden, Jim Alexander, Ciaran McDonagh, Juliet Claffey, David Murphy, Deirdre Ryan, Paul McKee, Eamon Harvey and Pat Ryan.

National Sprints Coordinator

The recent announcement that Athletics Ireland is to appoint 'a highly qualified and motivated individual with exceptional planning, organisational skills to fill the role of 'National Sprints Coordinator' is an important and welcome addition to the coaching team.

Coach Mentoring

A pilot programme was initiated which worked with a small number of coaches working with senior athletes at the top of the ranking lists. This included workshops and events covering sprints, jumps and throws. Fuzz Ahmed, Ralf Jaros, Volker Hermann, Deirdre Ryan, Ralph Mouchbahani, Terry McHugh, Paddy McGrath are among those involved in supporting and mentoring.

Development team involved at all levels including financing.

AAI Coach

An interactive on-line coaching resource has been initiated by the C&D team and was launched in 2017. A relay coaching resource was quickly followed by the injury prevention S&C guide. These resources have been downloaded by over 1000 coaches. The range of events will expand in 2018.

DEVELOPMENT

Membership

The increase in membership in the last few years has been highly encouraging as it continues to provide the double advantages of a healthy sport and the provision of increased membership income. I am delighted to report that our regional development team has played a significant role in the increase in membership over the last four years. Membership at the beginning of 2014 was 49,542 and increased to 60,533 at the end of 2017

The growth has been boosted by the promotion of Fit4Life, Little Athletics, Sportshall athletics [SHA, fit4class by the Development team and further promotion of the sport in 3rd level colleges and 2nd level schools. The latter two initiatives introduces children to the fundamentals of athletics via a team games

format that includes agility, balance, coordination, running, jumping and throwing. Fit4Class was launched in the autumn of 2016 and has been extended to 33,500 students across 1,500 classes in close to 500 schools. Primary schools SHA now involves seventeen counties with partnerships between Local Sports Partnerships/Councils and Co Boards/clubs ensuring positive promotion, organisation and support coaching for teachers. The importance of developing good school/club links at local level will benefit our sport in increased membership and talent ID.

The response to the coach education Endurance Course has supported the ever growing endurance running boom being experienced by our clubs across the country.

Education and Up-skilling

The Development Team has responsibility for Athletics Leader, Assistant Coach and Level 1 Courses. These courses are the mainstay of the club coaching system and are valuable in introducing coaches and young athletes to our sport and maintaining a high level of coaching at juvenile level. The team, also target school teachers, PE graduates, former athletes and deliver the three fundamental course to under graduates into a number of 3rd level colleges/universities.

SUMMARY

The last two years have been a period of consolidation and exciting new initiatives for Coaching and Development. A free exchange of information from the Executive, Chair of High Performance, Staff and the Committee and many ideas from the C&D Committee have been carried forward and promoted by the Coaching and Development team.

As I stand down as Chair of the C&D committee, I would like to recognise and thank the Coaching and Development Committee and the Director of Coaching and Development for their support and positive input during my term. Thanks to the enthusiastic and hardworking team of Regional Development Officers for their huge Development and Coaching contribution at grass roots levels during the past two years. Thanks to President, Georgina Drumm and the Board of Athletics Ireland for encouragement and support during the period. Thanks to Coaching and Development colleague and Chair of High Performance, Brid Golden, for invaluable work in encouraging the High Performance and Coaching and Development committees to work in unison. Finally to CEO, John Foley, for your support, encouragement and leadership during the period. May I wish you a long and happy retirement – your contribution to Athletics has been immense –thank you

Eamon Harvey - Chair of Coaching and Development

Regional Coaching & Development Team: Pat Ryan, Director, Daniel Kilgallon. Colin Byrne, David Matthews, Lily Ann O’Hora, Paul McKee

Outgoing Coaching and Development Committee: Eamon Harvey (Chair), Jim Ryan, Brid Golden, Dave Sweeney, Fintan Reilly, Brian Corcoran, Michael Lane, John Shields, Evelyn O’Reilly, David Murphy.

Questions & Comments

Ray Flynn – Complemented the very comprehensive report. Noted that we have ,2500 new coaches since 2016, do we have a database of coaches and how many are active?

Eamon Harvey – Yes we have comprehensive database. The unprecedented numbers of athletes qualifying for major championships is testament to the excellent coaching taking place at club level.

REPORT PROPOSED Michael O’Hart

REPORT SECONDED Donal Murnane

COMPETITION COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented by John Cronin – Committee chair

Since our last Congress in Tullamore in 2016, we have facilitated in the order of 60 competition days. This report intends to give a flavour of the very 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

2016: 27 November, Abbotstown

2017: 26 November, Abbotstown

Following the motion carried at Congress 2016, November of that year saw the first of the Combined Inter Club and Inter County Cross Country Championships for Junior and Senior. The individual champion is now classified as the Senior or Junior champion as in our other cross country championships; Novice, Intermediate and Masters.

The first national championship held on the purpose built course in Abbotstown resulted in a great day of competition. The individual champions were: Senior Men- Mark Christie (Mullingar Harriers), Senior Women- Shona Heaslip (An Riocht), Junior Men- Jack O'Leary (Mullingar Harriers), Junior Women- Sophie Murphy (Dundrum South Dublin). Team wise Raheny Shamrock won the Senior Men for the first time with Dundrum South Dublin taking the Women's Senior and Junior double and Clonliffe Harriers won the Junior Men.

The 2017 edition also produced a great day of competition. The individual champions were: Senior Men- Paul Pollock (Annadale Striders), Senior Women- Shona Heaslip (An Riocht) retaining her title, Junior Men- Craig McMeechan (North Down), Junior Women- Stephanie Cotter (West Muskerry). On the team front Raheny Shamrock retained the Senior Men, with Leevale taking the Senior Women, Dundrum South Dublin retained the Junior Women, and Galway City Harriers won the Junior Men for the first time.

The use of Abbotstown has brought 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 and the first two editions had traffic problems. Both of these are being worked on and will hopefully be resolved.

Novice Championship

2016: 11 December, DKIT, Dundalk

2017: 17 December, Waterford IT Arena, Carriganore

This continues to be a very popular championship with 309 finishers in 2016 and 294 finishers in 2017. The 2017 edition was moved a week later to avoid the clash with the European Cross Country championships which seemed to work well. Both editions were held at well-appointed venues and courses.

Intermediate and Masters Championship

2017:	22 January	Palace Grounds, Tuam	(Intermediate)
2017:	12 February	Waterford IT Arena, Carriganore	(Masters)
2018:	11 February	Kilcornan Estate, Clarinbridge	(Intermediate & Masters)

In 2017 the championships were held over 2 days, reverting to 1 day in 2018. In the Intermediate there were 141 finishers in 2017, slightly dropping to 132 in 2018. In the Masters there was a fantastic 403 finishers in 2017 rising to 425 in 2018. Again the championships were hosted at well-appointed venues and courses. The 2018 edition was originally scheduled for Tuam, when that venue became unavailable, the Galway County Board provide a new venue in Clarinbridge. The weather was not kind and as a result the athletes faced tough conditions underfoot which many described as “real cross country”.

Autumn Open Cross Country

2016:	16 October	Abbotstown
2017:	22 October	Abbotstown

The inaugural event at the new purpose built cross country course was the 2016 Autumn Open Cross Country. The event had an international element and took place in conjunction with the Masters cross country trials for the Masters international. The honours on the day went to Mark Christie (Mullingar Harriers) and Fionnuala McCormack (Kilcoole) in the Senior races and Craig McMeehan (North Down) and Cari Hughes (Wales) in the Junior races.

The success of 2016 was built upon, resulting in another great event in 2017. This time the honours went to Hiko Tonosa (Dundrum South Dublin) and Shona Heaslip (An Ríocht) in the Senior Races and Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) and Laura Nicholson (Bandon) in the Junior Races.

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. Liam Hennessy is to be thanked for looking after the International element and also Steve Macklin for looking after the Junior element. This event has the potential to grow as an International event and is a valid stepping stone on the pathway to the European Cross Country Championships held each December.

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 2016/2017 the winning club was Raheny Shamrock with 56 clubs finishing at least one complete team during the cross country season. Tullamore Harriers finished complete teams in 9 of the 11 categories which was the highest number of complete teams.

For 2017/2018 the winning club was Sportsworld winning on countback from Raheny Shamrock with 53 clubs finishing at least one complete team during the cross country season. Sportsworld and Tullamore Harriers finished complete teams in 8 of the 11 categories which was the most.

Congratulations to Raheny Shamrock and Sportsworld. We would encourage more clubs to have a go for the 2018/2019 season.

ROAD

Road Relays Championship

2017: 23 April Raheny
2018: 22 April Raheny

The 2017 edition was a great day of inter club competition in Raheny, the home of the Road Relays since 2003. Across all the categories 106 teams finished. In the Women's Masters O/35 race, Letterkenny AC broke the record with a new time of 22:32. UCD A.C. won the Senior Women's championship with the host club Raheny Shamrock just pipping Donore Harriers for the Senior Men's title. Raheny Shamrock won the Paddy Boland trophy for the best overall club "on a day where competition and participation combined seamlessly" as the media report aptly described it. The Championship returns to Raheny in 2018 for the 16th consecutive year. UCD were initially declared second in the Senior Women and were later upgraded to Champions. UCD were presented with their trophy and medals at the Universities Road Relays.

Half Marathon Championship

2016: 07 August Dublin
2017: 14 August Dublin

Both editions of the 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. In 2017 the race moved away from the Bank Holiday weekend.

The 2016 winners were Brian MacMahon (Clonliffe Harriers) 71:09 and Laura Graham (Mourne Runners) 78:56 and the 2017 winners were Kevin Dooney (Raheny Shamrock) 66:50 and Gladys Ganiel (North Belfast Harriers) 77:06, across the categories 207 teams were captured in 2016 and 250 in 2017.

Marathon Championship

2016: 30 October Dublin
2017: 29 October Dublin

Held in conjunction with the Dublin Marathon, a huge amount of AAI teams continue to be captured in the result, across all the categories 1042 in 2016 and 878 in 2017. 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.

The 2016 winners were Sergiu Ciobanu (Clonliffe Harriers) 2:17:40 and Laura Graham (Mourne Runners) 2:41:54 and the 2017 winners were Gary O'Hanlon (Clonliffe Harriers) 2:18:53 and Laura Graham (Mourne Runners) 2:39:07.

2017 saw the opportunity for the leading Irish athlete in both genders to qualify for the Marathon team in the European Championships in Berlin in 2018. This is a huge boost to the Championship and hopefully this opportunity will continue in future years.

Having initially being declared second, Gary O'Hanlon was upgraded to Champion, running a PB at age 43. Gary was presented with the trophy and his medal at the National Awards in December 2017.

The women's podium was the same in 2017 as in 2016 with the remarkable Pauline Curley from Tullamore Harriers finishing with a medal for the 11th time in 12 attempts.

10K Championship

2017: 10 April Phoenix Park, Dublin
2018: 15 April Phoenix Park, Dublin

Held in conjunction with the Great Run organisation and hosted by the Celtic DCH club.

The 2017 winners were Mark Christie (Mullingar Harriers) 29:30 and Kerry O'Flaherty (Newcastle & District) 34:38.

Across the categories 180 teams were captured in 2017.

RACE WALKING ROAD

20km Championship

2016: 18 December Cork CIT
2017: 09 December St Anne's Park, Raheny

The 2016 edition was rearranged for late in the year and was kindly organised on the Cork CIT track on the Sunday before Christmas. These championships were due to take place in June in conjunction with Dublin Grand Prix of Race Walking but that event was cancelled. There were a small number of finishers; however the hosting of the event ensured an unbroken run of National 20 km championships since 1970.

The 2017 edition was hosted by Raheny Shamrock in St Anne's Park, although the numbers in the Senior Championships were again small it was held in conjunction with a development day which result in nearly 50 race walkers starting with the non-Seniors categories finishing at age appropriate distances. Very positive feedback was received about going forward with this date and model in the future.

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Senior Championships

2016: 23 & 24 June Morton Stadium, Santry
2017: 22 & 23 July Morton Stadium, Santry

The 2016 edition was held earlier than usual due the European Championships in Amsterdam and the Olympic Games in Rio. Thomas Barr (Ferrybank) 400m Hurdles and Ciara Mageean (UCD) 1500m won their titles in advance of heroic performances later in the summer with Ciara winning a bronze in Amsterdam and Tom finishing fourth in Rio. With relay places on offer the sprints were exciting with Brian Gregan (Clonliffe Harriers) and Sinead Denny (Dundrum South Dublin) prevailing in exciting 400m finals. In the field Sean Breathnach (Galway City Harriers) with 3 golds and Claire Fitzgerald (Tralee Harriers) with 2 golds starred.

Following meetings with RTE, the 2017 edition featured a live 2 hour slot between 6pm and 8pm. This involved a later start and the concept was embraced by all and it proved to be a great success. On a

beautiful summer's evening, London 2017 bound athletes Tom Barr (Ferrybank), Mark English (UCD), Ciara Mageean (UCD) and Athlete of the Year Brian Gregan (Clonliffe Harriers) won their titles. In the field Sarah Buggy (St Abban's) had a fine double in the long and triple jump. Clíodhna Manning (Kilkenny City Harriers) won the Women's 400m and was awarded the Inspirational Performance at the National Athletic Awards for her outstanding effort. After a number of years 5000m heats were reintroduced in the Men's event with Conor Dooney (Raheny Shamrock) coming through to win the title.

Junior & Under 23 Championships

2016: 02 July Tullamore Harriers Stadium
2017: 01 July Tullamore Harriers Stadium

The 2016 edition was moved to the Saturday to facilitate selection for European and World Championships. The event was struck with adverse weather conditions. This however did not prevent some exciting competition.

The 2017 edition was also held on a Saturday, with Michaela Walsh (Swinford) impressing with a National Junior record of 63.01m to win the hammer to go along with her shot put gold. Michaela went on to win bronze in the hammer at the European Junior Championships in Grosseto, Italy later in the month. John Fitzsimons who also won a brilliant European Junior bronze for 800m was the winner of the Junior Men's 800m on the day. Amy Rose Farrell (Blackrock) posted a new Youth Women 5000m record of 16:47.93 when winning the Junior 5000m. Sarah McKeever (Dundrum South Dublin) set a new U23 Pole Vault record of 3.95m when winning the title.

In recent years these championships have clashed with the Junior International in Mannheim Germany. This has been avoided for 2018.

Combined Events Championships

2016: 28 & 29 May Morton Stadium, Santry
2017: 27 & 28 May Morton Stadium, Santry

The 2016 edition saw Elizabeth Morland (Cushinstown) breaking the Junior, Under 23 and Senior record (5545) for the Heptathlon when winning the Junior title. Naomi Morgan (City of Derry Spartans) and Shane Aston (Trim) took the Senior titles. Guest athletes from City of Sheffield & Dearne AC added to the weekend. Age graded scoring was introduced for the Master categories.

The athletes on the first day of the 2017 edition suffered from very wet and cold conditions and did very well to complete the events. Amy McTeggart (Boyne) won the Senior Women and Shane Aston (Trim) retained the Senior Mens title. The Universities International was run in conjunction on the first day.

Masters Championships

2016: 21 August Tullamore Harriers Stadium
2017: 02 July Tullamore Harriers Stadium

The 2016 edition coincided with the last day of the Rio Olympics, with the athletes enjoying the Men's Marathon on the big screen. Always a full and enjoyable day, the event enjoyed beautiful weather. The day marked the last appearance of Hugh Gallagher RIP (Milford) a stalwart of the Masters Championships both outdoor and indoor for many years.

The 2017 edition was held earlier than usual to facilitate athletes travelling to the European Master Championships later in the month. Again it was a great day of competition with many athletes winning multiple medals. Sean Breathnach (Galway City Harriers) who was captain of the Men's team the previous weekend at the European Team Championships in Vaasa, Finland returned to win the M35 discus.

AAI Games

2016: 29 May Morton Stadium, Santry
2017: 28 May Morton Stadium, Santry

For both editions the AAI Games were held in conjunction with Day 2 of the combined events. This is an opportunity for early season competition. The date clashes with a popular event in Belgium, however we have received good support from our athletes. 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.

The 2016 edition produced 2 national records; Sarah Buggy (St Abban's) Under 23 Triple Jump 12.88m and Adam King (Iveragh) Junior Hammer 70.48m.

Spring Throws

2017: 02 April AIT, Athlone
2018 08 April Templemore Stadium

The 2017 outdoor season opened with a magnificent turn out from the throwing community. A total of 11 personal bests on the day underlined the high standard at the event.

National Track and Field League

2016: 12 June Round 1 Morton Stadium, Santry & AIT Athlone
17 July Round 2 Mary Peter's Belfast & Cork CIT
07 August Final Tullamore Harriers Stadium
2017: 25 June Round 1 AIT Athlone & Tallaght
30 July Round 2 Mary Peter's Belfast & Templemore Stadium
20 August Final Tullamore Harriers Stadium

Category	2016	2017
Premier Men	Clonliffe Harriers	Clonliffe Harriers
Premier Women	Dundrum South Dublin	St Abban's
Division 1 Men	Antrim Combined	Wexford County
Division 1 Women	Kilkenny City Harriers	Donore Harriers

Figure 2 T&F League Champions 2016/2017

Bernie Dunne was the League Coordinator over the two years, Bernie and those who acted as Local Coordinators during the rounds deserve our gratitude. Although the numbers of clubs dropped in 2017, the League continues to give great days of competition for our clubs. There is always great assistance from the club officials who help out on the day to run the competition. Competition is available for guests during the rounds and also for those eligible to compete under the auspices of the Competition committee who are seeking a qualifying standard. Congratulations to the Champions and as always the

Premier League winners represent us well in the European Clubs competition each May. Likewise our cross country champions represent us well at the European Club competition each February.

We received feedback after the 2017 edition and are reviewing. We would appeal to have more clubs take part in 2018 and future years.

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

Senior Championships

2017: 18 & 19 February NIA

2018: 17 & 18 February NIA

There was great anticipation for the 2017 event as it was held in the new National Indoor Arena. Guest of honour for the weekend was Svein Arne Hansen the European Athletics President who was extremely impressed by both the venue and the competition. Five National records were broken; Sharlene Mawdsley (Newport) Junior 200m 23.85, Alex Wright (Leevale) Senior 5000mW 18:50.70, Michaela Walsh (Swinford) Junior Shot Put 14.95m and Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) new Youth and tied Junior High Jump records of 1.81m. The honour of first National Senior Champion in the new stadium went to Kate Veale (West Waterford) in the 3000mW. There was a thrilling finish in the 1500m with John Travers (Donore Harriers) pipping Paul Robinson (St Cocas).

The 2018 edition produced some fantastic performances. In a magic moment Amy Foster (City of Lisburn) ran 7.27 in the Women's 60m final for a new national Senior record. Sean Breathnach (Galway City Harriers) at 39 set a new national indoor shot put record of 18.30m to win gold. Sarah Healy (Blackrock) set new national Junior and Youth marks when winning the Women's 3000m with a time 9:10.43. Ellen McCartney (City of Lisburn) set a national Junior record to win the women's pole vault with a best of 3.72m in an event that lasted for the whole of the second day session. Adam McMullen (Crusaders) won the Men's long jump with a magnificent jump of 7.99m, a mere centimetre off the magical 8m mark and the national indoor record of Ciaran McDonagh. This was the longest jump in Ireland ever by an Irish man. In a weekend that showcased our sport, Barry Pender (St Abban's) held the crowd at the end as he cleared 2.24m to a huge roar to close the show and send them home happy. After a number of years 3000m heats were reintroduced in the Men's event, however at check in on Saturday, the numbers allowed us to proceed with a straight final on Sunday, with John Travers (Donore Harriers) winning the title.

Junior and Under 23 Championship

2017: 29 January AIT

2018: 28 January AIT

On what is always a wonderful day of competition for our young athletes passing through from juvenile to senior competition, the 2017 edition was no different. Ciara Neville (Emerald) won the Junior 60m in 7.30 breaking the Junior and Under 23 records and equalling the Senior record. Jordan Hoang (Tullamore Harriers) added nearly half a metre to his own Junior record winning the Junior Triple Jump with 14.90m. Aaron Sexton (North Down) tied the Junior Men 200m record with 21.76.

In the 2018 edition Rhasidat Adeleke (Tallaght) won the Junior 200m with 23.80 setting a new national Youth and Junior record. Multi Eventers Kate O'Connor (Dundalk St. Gerards A.C.) and Elizabeth Morland (Cushinstown) were winners in their respective Junior and Under 23 age groups. Michaela Walsh (Swinford) started her Under 23 career where she left off in the Juniors with a win in the Shot Put. The Mens Shot Put was dominated by the Kelly brothers from Finn Valley with James winning the Junior and John the Under 23.

Combined Events Championships

2017: 21 January AIT
2018: 20 January AIT

In the 2017 edition Shane Aston (Trim) won an exciting Senior Mens competition by just 36 points from Roberto James Paoluzzi (Ballymena & Antrim) with 3,597 points. Amy McTeggart (Boyne) retained her Senior Womens title with 3373 points.

The 2018 edition saw Kate O' Connor (St Gerard's Dundalk) winning the Junior title with a national Junior, Under 23 and Senior record with a score of 4,108 points, this was an outstanding performance. Sarah Connolly (North Down) won the Senior Women's title with 3661 points. Shane Aston (Trim) won the Senior Men's title with 3503 points. Shane won all 4 Senior titles available during the term.

Masters Championships

2017: 05 March AIT
2018: 10 March AIT (rescheduled)

The 2017 edition had athletes winning many trebles and doubles and again was a full day of exciting competition.

For the 2018 edition, Storm Emma intervened in advance of the originally scheduled date of the 4th of March, the wise decision was taken on the Thursday before to reschedule. Huge credit is due to AIT who were able to facilitate the event just 6 days after the original date. Also well done to the athletes and officials, who were able to fulfil the rescheduled fixture which was another day of exciting competition. The last individual track event saw Pat Naughton (Nenagh Olympic) crossing the line in the M85 200m to win his 301st Masters medal in a 45 year career. Of course it was very fitting as the Naughton name is synonymous with Indoor athletics in Ireland.

AAI Indoor Games

2017: 05 February NIA
2018: 04 February NIA

The 2017 edition was on the opening weekend of the new stadium and was an extremely well supported event. The youth distance runners stole the show Amy Rose Farrell (Blackrock) winning the women's 3,000m in 9:35.07 which was a new Irish youth record. Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) may have finished second in the men's 3,000m but ran an Irish Youth record of 8:18.88. The High Performance Distance Initiative which took place during the League rounds reaped rewards with big numbers in the distance events. Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) broke the Youth Record with 1.80m. Great credit also to the coaches and the athletes, who supported the sprint events and the field events.

The 2018 edition was again a well-supported event. As in the previous year, the youth distance runners were grabbing the headlines. Sarah Healy (Blackrock) ran 4:16.03 to win the women's 1500m, breaking Ciara Mageean's Youth and Junior indoor national records and also the U23 record. Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) had a repeat performance from the year before finishing second in the men's 3,000m in 8:13.80 a new national youth and junior indoor record. This event showed potential to grow with athletes coming in from abroad.

The last event of the day was the 400m hurdles indoors, the first ever in Ireland. Tom Barr ran superbly winning in 50.50 which was an Irish best performance, the seventh best performance ever and the third

fastest European performance. Training partners Paul Byrne (St Abban’s) finished second in 52.46 and Ben Kiely (Ferrybank) was third in 53.28. The event received substantial social media coverage.

National Indoor Track and Field League

2017:	14 January	Round 1	AIT
	28 January	Round 2	AIT
	04 February	Final	NIA
2018:	13 January	Round 1	NIA
	27 January	Round 2	AIT
	03 February	Final	NIA

Category	2017	2018
Men	Clonliffe Harriers	Clonliffe Harriers
Women	Dublin City Harriers	Dublin City Harriers

Figure 3 Indoor League Champions 16/17

Like the outdoor version this is a great competition for our clubs, however the numbers taking part reduced for the 2018 edition. The 2017 final was the opening competition in the new NIA stadium. For the record Catherine McManus (Dublin City Harriers) won the opening event the 60m hurdles thus becoming the first winner in the stadium. In the 2019 final Menapians Men’s team won the 4 x 200m relay with a new national club record of 1:29.09. Both League Finals were days of great competition and we would appeal for more clubs to take part in 2019 and future years. Bernie Dunne was the League Coordinator for the two years and like the outdoor league carried out the role in a very efficient manner.

The rounds offer opportunities for guest participation and this was taken up well over the 2 years. 2017 saw the introduction of the High Performance Endurance Initiative supported by Steve Macklin, this proved to be very successful over the 2 years in the 800m/1500m races.

OTHER AREAS

At the National Athletic Awards two officials who have given outstanding service to our wonderful sport received well deserved awards; Michael O’Hart (Sligo) 2016 and Pat Kelly (St Abban’s) 2017.

The competition committee facilitated the annual fixtures meeting in 2016 and 2017 and with the cooperation of all involved a robust fixtures calendar was developed for 2017 and 2018.

I represented the Competition Committee on the Technical Committee. I would like to pay tribute to Karl O’Connell 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 and on the big screen at our track and field events.

The Technical Committee also is involved in Officials Education and ran the very successful NTO course in 2016. A huge amount of work in the area of 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 35 new National Records across Youth (U18), Junior (U20), U23 and Senior categories.

We have working closely with one of the chip timing companies “MyRunResults” for our cross country events. Chip timing is now the norm at our events.

The opening of the new Indoor arena (NIA) in Abbotstown has been a tremendous boost to our sport, we now have two world class facilities with the NIA joining AIT. Nenagh Olympic Stadium which we depended on for many years suffered some unfortunate damage; they have our best wishes as they recover from same. The opening of the purpose built cross country course in Abbotstown has also been a huge bonus.

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.

Finally 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.

The Competition Committee have added the following clarification points to assist:

- (i) To be able to compete in the Championship an athlete must fulfil the conditions to become a medal winner (both individual and team) as stated above.
- (ii) Considering the minimum of 6 consecutive month's residency aspect, force majeure/compassionate grounds will be considered based on application in advance of the Championship.
- (iii) It is the responsibility of the athlete's club to ensure the athlete fulfils all the conditions of eligibility to compete in the Championship. Evidence may be requested if required. Any breaches of this will leave the club liable to a penalty.

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 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 is a great pleasure to work with John McGrath (Chair), Evelyn O'Reilly (Cross Country), Ciaran Doyle (Track & Field) and all the other members of the Juvenile Committee.

For the Masters events we have worked closely with the Irish Masters Association and thank Mick Fennell for continuing as a point of contact.

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.

We are grateful to Claire Shannon, Mary Bohana 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 (Glo Health and then Irish Life Health) and team present at the Championships they are able to attend.

RTE are to be thanked for the coverage of our sport, the live coverage for our Outdoor Senior Championships is an exciting new venture. 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-focussed, **with an enhanced customer experience**” of the Strategic Plan 2017-2020. This has been part of our path way.

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 a 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 in the running of the competitions, a genuine thank you to those.

The Competition Department of Moira Aston, Conor Greally and Sara Rose Shelly (who joined in 2017) 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. Always looking for innovation the latest was the introduction of a card paying facility at our events.

I have been privileged to chair a 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.

As I moved into the role I really appreciated the advice and support from the previous chair Georgina Drumm. It was also a great help to have 2 former chairs Brendan McDaid and Paddy Marley in the Committee.

One of the members Mary Cronin has decided to stand down from our sport after 47 years to pursue other activities. We wish Mary well and congratulate her on her outstanding contribution over the years.

It was a great honour to be elected Chair of Competition two years ago on home soil in Tullamore. A lot has been achieved in those two 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 John Foley thank you for all your help and support over the past two years.

Finally best wishes to John Foley for the future.

JOHN CRONIN,
CHAIR OF COMPETITION

Questions & Comments

Liam Fleming – Why was there a problem issuing a result for the Junior Cross Country?

John Cronin – There was a glitch on the day. We will endeavour not to allow this to happen again. Also I would ask that clubs stay for team presentations on the day of events.

REPORT PROPOSED Bernie O'Callaghan

REPORT SECONDED Dermot McGranaghan

HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented by Bríd Golden – Committee chair

It has been an extremely busy two years in the area of High Performance in Athletics Ireland which has seen a record number of 334 of our athletes represent Ireland at 17 major championships. We have had very pleasing results with 13 medals and an additional 40 top 8 finishes at European, World and Olympic level.

I congratulate all our athletes who have represented Ireland in the last two years at Juvenile, Youth, Junior, U23 and Senior level.

It was wonderful to see Robert Heffernan receive his deserved Olympic medal from the 2012 Olympic Games in 2017 following the disqualification of an athlete who finished ahead of him in London due to doping violations. It was heartbreaking for Rob to have been deprived of this moment at the Games but being presented with his medal in his home city of Cork was a truly special occasion for Rob and his family and I warmly congratulate him.

The achievements of Thomas Barr and Robert Heffernan finishing 4th and 6th respectively in the Olympic Games in Rio were wonderful.

We have presently 130 carded athletes reflecting the depth of talent that is currently emerging through our juvenile and junior ranks. The challenge remains to provide the best pathways for these athletes to reach their potential at senior level.

Following the decision of our High Performance Director Kevin Ankrom to return to America in Autumn 2016, Paul McNamara was appointed the High Performance Director for Athletics Ireland. I would like to thank Kevin for his diligent work for our athletes since 2011 and I warmly welcome Paul to his new position. After just one year in the role, Paul has done tremendous work. I wish to thank the staff of the association working in the High performance department Paul McNamara, Jacqui Freyne, Stephen Macklin, 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.

I wish to extend particular thanks to Patsy McGonagle who retired from Irish Team Management in 2017. Patsy has served as a Team Manager for Irish teams for twenty five years including four Olympic Games, 6 world championships and 6 european championships. Patsy has served our athletes well over the years and I thank him for his outstanding leadership of our teams.

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

High Performance and Coaching are intrinsically linked. To this end I have worked closely with Eamon Harvey, the Chair of Coaching and the coaching staff of the association. Since the Spring of 2016, we have organised numerous High Performance Network Days and High Level Mentoring Workshops where we have engaged word class coaches to upskill our coaches here. These days have been very successful and it

has been wonderful to see the coaches of many of our high performing athletes engaging in these sessions. I wish to thank the Chair of Coaching Eamon Harvey, the Director of Coaching & Development Pat Ryan, Paul McKee and Dave Sweeney for their co-operation, help and support in organising these initiatives. We have made progress in terms of developing our vision of increasing the number of high level coaches in Ireland. We need to continue prioritising and progressing this area through the further development of the athlete pathway and event group structures, and employment of event lead coordinators across all event groupings.

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 realise their potential. With greater depth in all our events, standards ultimately will rise.

All our championship selection policies have been recently updated and provide clear guidelines on what is required to be considered for selection for championships. All policies are available to review on the the Athletics Ireland website.

I wish to thank our President, Georgina Drumm and the members of the Board of Athletics Ireland . Their support has been much appreciated 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 two 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 John Foley who has been hugely supportive to me and the High Performance Committee over the last two 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 developing our programmes across all levels.

It has been a privilege and an honour to serve as Chair of the High Performance Committee over the past two years and for the previous 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.

Top 8 Performances April 2016 – April 2018				
Championship	Entries	Athlete	Placing	Event
2016 World Race Walking Cup	4	No top 8 finish		
2016 European Championships	49	Ciara Mageean	3 rd	1500m
		Men's 4 X 4	5 th	
		Michelle Finn	7 th	3000mSC
2016 Olympic Games	17	Thomas Barr	4 th	400H
		Robert Heffernan	6 th	50K Walk
2016 European XC	28	Fionnuala McCormack	5 th	
		Senior Women	6 th	
		U20 Men	6 th	
2016 World Junior Champs Championships	21	Girls 4 x 100m	5 th	
2016 EYOF	16	Gina Akpe-Moses	2 nd	100m
		Molly Scott	3 rd	100mH
		Kevin McGrath	4 th	800m
		Bobby Crowley	5 th	1500m
		Kate O'Connor	7 th	Heptathlon
		David McDonald	7 th	100m
		Charlie O'Donovan	8 th	1500m
		Alex Clerkin	8 th	110mH
		Sommer Lecky	8 th	HJ
2017 European Indoor Championships	10	No Top 8 placing		
2017 European Cup Winter Throws	7	Michaela Walsh	8 th	U23Shot
2017 European Race Walk Cup	6	Mens Team	3 rd	20K Walk
		Brendan Boyce	4 th	50K Walk
		Alex Wright	6 th	20k Walk
2017 European team Championships: League 1	47	Ireland	8 th	
2017 European Team Championships CE League 2	6	Kate O Connor	3 rd	Heptathlon
		Michael Bowler	5 th	Decathlon
2017 IAAF World Championships	12	Robert Heffernan	8 th	50k Walk
2017 World University Games	12	Emma Mitchell	7 th	5000m
		Phil Healy	7 th	200m
2017 European XC Championships	27	Senior Mens team	5 th	
		Senior Women's team	7 th	
		Junior Women's team	7 th	
2017 European Youth Olympic Festival	16	Sarah Healy	1 st	1500m
		Rhasidat Adeleke	2 nd	200m
		Patience Jumbo-Gula	3 rd	100
		Jade Williams	3 rd	Hammer
		Girls 4 X 100m Relay	3 rd	
		Miriam Daly	400mH	6 th
		Louis O'Loughlin	800m	7 th
2017 European Junior Championships	40	Gina Akpe Moses	1 st	100m
		Michaela Walsh	3 rd	Hammer
		John Fitzsimons	3 rd	800m
		Girls 4 X 100m	4 th	
		Elizabeth Morland	5 th	Heptathlon
		Chris O'Donnell	6 th	400m
		Mark Smyth	6 th	200m
		Ciara Neville	7 th	100m
		Michaela Walsh	7 th	Shot
		Kate O'Connor	8 th	Heptathlon
2017 European U 23 Championships	15	Men's 4 X 100	5 th	
		Karl Griffin	6 th	800m
		Marcus Lawlor	7 th	200m
		Mark English	8 th	800m
		Women's 4 X 1	Finalists	
2018 World Indoor Championship	5 athletes			
2018 European Cup Winter Throwing				

**Brid Golden,
Chair of High Performance
March 2018**

Questions & Comments

Brian Bruton – There are two names missing from the European U23 Championships list, Alannah Lally (4th, 800m) and Siofra Cleirigh Buttner (7th, 800m).

Colette Kelly – AAI should audit the number of Junior/Youth level qualified athletes who progress to Senior competition and compile a report on drop out rates.

John Foley – Agreed with Colette that an audit would be beneficial. AAI will work on this.

REPORT PROPOSED Martin Fitzgerald

REPORT SECONDED Philip Cogavin

JUVENILE COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented by John McGrath – Committee chair

As chairman of the Juvenile committee, I am pleased to report on our activities from May 2016 to April 2018. Following the Congress of the Athletic Association of Ireland held in the Tullamore Court Hotel, 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
Secretary	Amanda Hynes
Finance officer	Jim Ryan
Track & Field Secretary	Ciarán Doyle
Indoor Secretary	Ciarán Doyle
Cross Country Secretary	Evelyn O'Reilly
Children's Officer	Matt Lynch
Committee Member	Bernie Dunne
Committee Member	Esther Fitzpatrick
Connacht Representative	Amanda Hynes
Leinster Representative	Jim Corcoran
Munster Representative	Tim Fitzpatrick
Ulster Representative	Dermot McGranaghan

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

26 Championship Best Performances (2016)

27 Championship Best Performances (2017)

The standards of performance at our Indoor Championships improve each year. Many thanks to AIT for all their help and assistance during the championships. The number of athletes who qualify for All Ireland Championships has increased from three to four. The increased participation levels due to this change have been well managed by the committee and our officials.

Track & Field Championships

35 Championship Best Performances (2016)

46 Championship Best Performances (2017)

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

4 Championship Best Performances

Participation at our Indoor and T&F Combined Events continues to increase. Adverse weather was a factor during the 2017 edition. Thanks to 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 2016 and 2017. 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.

Dundalk I.T. hosted the Uneven age groups in 2016 and our thanks to Louth County Athletics Board with Pat Cheshire in the chair for their tremendous work over the last few years.

In early 2017 we travelled to Waterford I.T. for the B Championships and again returned there in December for the Uneven Age group Championships. Many thanks to Waterford AC and Waterford County Board for their efforts in hosting two National Championships in one year.

2016 saw the reintroduction of the under 19 age group in the Championships and this was welcomed by the many athletes who competed.

The change in the Cross Country Relays from Inter County to Inter Club was made in 2016 in order to maximise participation. To date there has been no discernible increase in participants. Thanks to Tuam AC and Galway County Board who hosted the relays in Tuam in 2017 and again in Clarinbridge in 2018.

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

Overall winners of the Celtic Games 2016 and 2017.

We travelled to Wales for the Celtic Games in Swansea in 2016 and hosted the Celtic Games in August 2017 in Santry. We had 2 new records in Swansea and 6 of the 11 new records in Dublin were by Irish athletes. We also had a development team in Dublin and it showed our strength in depth with some excellent performance by our own development team.

At the Celtic cross country in Cardiff, Sarah Healy was the individual winner in the under 17 girl's race (2017) and in Antrim (2018) Cian McPhillips was the under 17 boys winner. In 2016 Gina Akpe Moses won a silver medal and Molly Scott a bronze medal in the European Youth Championships in Tbilisi Georgia.

In 2017 we continued our great success on the international stage with Sarah Healy winning gold in the 1,500m in Gyor Hungary. Other medal winners were Rhasidat Adeleke silver, Patience Jumbo-Gula bronze, Jade Williams bronze and our 4x100 girls relay team of Rhasidat Adeleke, Patience Jumbo-Gula, Niamh Foley and Miriam Daly secured bronze medals at the EYOF.

Our Star Awards continue to be a great social occasion for our young athletes and is a celebration of all that is good in our sport. Our overall winner in 2016 was Gina Akpe Moses and in 2017 Sarah Healy.

Thanks to all the officials who gave up so much of their time to run our competitions. Thanks to Moira Aston, Conor Grealley, Sara Rose Shelly and Kieron Stout in Athletics Ireland.

Thanks to all my fellow juvenile committee members, the various committees, our President Georgina Drumm and CEO John Foley, for all their assistance. On behalf of the Juvenile committee, I would like to wish John Foley best of luck in his retirement.

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.

John McGrath
Chair of Juvenile Committee

Questions & Comments

Mary Ashe – Can we streamline entries for Juvenile Events. The entry system no longer allows automatic population of the entry list by selecting athletes from a list.

Nick Davis – The Juvenile Report extensively references competition with no information on development of athletes and other activities. As a member of European Athletics Development Committee, it is recommended that development activities and team based competition optimises juvenile participation.

Maurice Ahern – Juvenile competition seasons run into each other, demands made on young people are excessive leading to injuries.

Georgina Drumm – Work is in progress on competition calendars with a view to streamlining seasons.

Moira Aston - There was an issue with the Primo competition system during January which has since been fixed. Selecting athletes from a list is currently available.

REPORT PROPOSED Evelyn O'Reilly

REPORT SECONDED Ciarán Doyle

AUDITORS STATEMENT

The auditor Joseph Fitzgerald on behalf of Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co. read out his Independent Auditors Report from pages 8/9 of the Directors Report and Financial Statements for the company.

AUDITOR PROPOSED Michael Quinlan

AUDITOR SECONDED Neil Martin

FINANCE & RISK REPORT

Presented by George Maybury – Committee chair

****Presentation Slides included as attachment***

I have now completed my first term of Chair of Finance & Risk and it gives me great pleasure to present my report to you covering the periods from our initial meeting in May 11th 2016 to our final meeting March 14th 2018.

The period in question has been one of further consolidation. Athletics Ireland income grew to €4,743,369 from €4,674,869 the previous year and I am happy to report a small surplus on trading of €13,515 up from €2,763 last year. The key drivers of income over the period of the last 12 months have been:

Sport Ireland

During 2017 we received €2,083,015 from Sport Ireland which is an increase of €13,880 on 2016 grant. Our share of this funding has remained high due to the excellent working relationships between our CEO and Sport Ireland and the performance plan set out by our new HP Director Paul Mc Namara.

This grant is made up of several different parts that are targeted at different areas of our sport.

Our Ordinary Grant which is targeted at increasing participation has remained fairly static for several years at approx. €877k. We believe our ability to both increase the numbers of members in our clubs and participants in our recreation events means we are impacting more people for the same level of investment. However an additional Hosted event grant of €10k was received for the Morton Games.

Our High Performance funding increased from €810k to €835k as a result of the increase in staffing levels as we seek to improve in the area of Performance Coaching. Elite Athlete carding for Podium, World Class and International standard athletes increased from €220k to €236k as a relay squad was supported.

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. The maximum grant for any NGB allowed in 2016 was €150k but this was reduced in 2017 to €107,500. In addition the funding was received later in 2017 so we have deferred €60,000 to 2018 whereas only €28,265 was deferred in 2016.

Finally we received €35k (down €5k from 2016) for the Women in Sport grant. We use this funding to promote both the Fit4Life and Fit4Youth programmes which help recruit women into clubs.

Registration and Affiliation

We are delighted that we have grown membership by 4,236 to 60,501 at the end of this year. Since 2015 we have grown juvenile membership by 7.5% and part of this must be due to the two new schools programmes Fit4Class and Irunforfun mentioned above. Our membership fees of €12 for a Juvenile and €17 for an adult have not been increased since 2010. Given the extra costs of the regulation that is now required on areas like Governance, Child Safeguarding and Data Protection as well as the increasing costs of insurance I am of the view that these fees will need to be reviewed.

We now have 342 clubs affiliated. Affiliation fees of €150 per club have not changed since before 2006. Our IT systems will need to be upgraded to allow members and secretaries have better access to the registration and online entry system as well as results.

Competition and Other Activities

We are delighted to continue our partnership with Irish Life Health for our Championships and Fit4life programme, Bank of Ireland for a Talent Identification programme and welcome CX Sport as our apparel partner Muller as our Dairy Products partner.

The increasing popularity of contactless payment via debit and credit cards for amounts under €30 compared to cash will require us to invest in credit card technology.

Recreational Events

Both I and members of the Finance Committee (Dermot Nagle, Michael Quinlan ,Brian Bruton and Alan Worrall) 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 were created and implemented. We now are involved in 18 mass participation events up from 15 in 2015.

In 2015 we made a surplus of €186,000 on recreational events and the current set of accounts show that this surplus has increased to €248,551. Within these events we support clubs with grants on the basis of their assistance in hosting, planning and organising these events.

We have also grown summer camps so they are now in 26 locations and would welcome more clubs to set up these camps as it allows teenage members of the club to learn new skills as camp leaders and future coaches.

Wages/Salaries

Wages have increased to €1,215k from €1,164k in 2015. This is due to the extra staff being hired to deliver the recreation events, competition and High Performance.

During the period average number of staff increased from 23 F/T and 8 P/T in 2015 to 23 FT/12 PT in 2017.

During the past year some small pay rises were paid to staff, the first in many years.

Northwood Property

Our investment in the premises in Northwood Court continues to show signs of recovery. The next revaluation is due at the end of 2018. The 15 year loan mortgage on the building with Bank of Ireland taken out by Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd. in 2006 will be cleared in October 2021

2018 Budget

A budget for 2018 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. It shows a proposed surplus of €20k allowing for a contingency of €50k. This contingency is approx. 1% of the budgeted €4953k budgeted revenue.

RISK REPORT

We have over the course of the last two years dedicated significant committee time to this area and we have relied heavily on the expertise of Alan Worrall and myself in this regard.

A Risk Evaluation framework to identify the consequences of any hazardous events and the likelihood of them happening is being developed as well as activities that can help to reduce this risk. Four members of staff have attended training to enable such an evaluation to take place.

Cash balances have improved over the period. However financial risks remain high as many of our costs are fixed but incomes can vary on areas like sponsorship and numbers of participants in our events. 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. We will work with Healthy Ireland to secure this funding.

The staff and committee continue to review these areas and look for alternative sources of finance to mitigate these financial risks

New Children's First legislation has regularised the area of Child Safeguarding in sports clubs. Our Child Safe Guarding officer Kieron Stout is working closely with the various agencies to ensure our clubs are compliant in all these matters.

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

On Governance a special working committee which includes members of the Board, Finance & Risk committee and staff are working to ensure we meet our goal of being compliant with the Governance Code at the end of 2018. Good progress has been made and we are confident of meeting our goal. Such compliance is 12 months ahead of the Sport Ireland deadline of December 2019.

During the period a new Companies Act was passed which codifies the statutory requirements of directors. Carmichael House are helping us to ensure directors know their responsibilities in this area.

Significant legal expenses were incurred in 2016 in successfully defending an appeal to CAS for selection to the Rio Olympics by one of the 7 athletes who achieved the standard time for the marathon as set out in our selection policy. I am pleased to say no such appeals have happened in 2017 and indeed the ruling by CAS in 2016 that they had no jurisdiction in the matter should ensure alternative much cheaper forms of appeal can be undertaken.

We must acknowledge the significant and ongoing support of Gerry Dunne of O'Brien Dunne and Co. My first term is now over and it has been challenging at times but overall my involvement has been very positive.

We are lucky with the calibre of Staff that we have working for us. Many evenings when attending meetings at head office there were 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, Paul Moran, Alan Worrall and Donal Murnane for their unstinting support and valued advice. Brian Bruton replaced Donal who had to stand down due to very demanding work commitments. I thank each of them for their valued support and advice freely given.

I would also like to express my appreciation for support of John Foley in his role as CEO and also to John Holian and Roisin Horgan on the day to day management of our affairs. May I also take this opportunity to wish John Foley long years of health and happiness on his retirement, he has done a fantastic job over the last 8 years in steering a steady course to ensure the Association is good shape. I also welcome Hamish Adams to the helm and look forward to a very positive working relationship.

George Maybury,
Chair of Finance & Risk

Questions & Comments

Ronan O'Hart - AAI Limited pay of €84k to Enterprises. There is a difference of €16 in the amount shown in Enterprises account (€68k).

John Holian – The difference is VAT.

Colette Kelly – Referring to the budget projections for 2018, membership fees, affiliation fees and competition income totals app. €1.5m. 90% of the Sport Ireland grant is spent on High Performance.. AAI should give back to volunteers who invest time and money in the sport. €38,000 spent on sponsorship, this is excessive.

George Maybury - I am also a volunteer, we need to have a professional organisation in order to achieve our governance requirements. Over €200k of the income from Recreational and Hosted Events goes back to clubs.

Pat Hooper - The Chair of Finance & Risk seemed pleased that the income from Permits is decreasing. Is it not the boards wish that every road race in the country be permitted?

George Maybury - We carry the insurance risk if we issue a permit.

David Doherty - Question for the CEO, sponsorship income halved and costs increased during 2017. There is no mention of how the money will be replaced.

George Maybury - We don't show gear sponsorship as income, this is worth €100k. The market is very competitive and we will continue to work on it.

REPORT PROPOSED Darren Butler

REPORT SECONDED Brian Bruton

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

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

AUDITOR PROPOSED Michael Quinlan

AUDITOR SECONDED Joe Walsh



Congress 2018

Income & Expenditure			
€000	2017	2016	2015
Income	4,743	4,676	4,436
Expenditure	4,729	4,672	4,423
Surplus	14	3	12

Congress 2018

Income – Sport Ireland			
€000	2017	2016	2015
Core	812	809	806
Performance	636	615	606
Carding	236	220	188
Hosted Events	85	78	80
Get Ireland Active	80	107	40
Women in Sport	35	40	40
Total	2083	2069	2040

Congress 2018

Income – Other Grants			
€000	2017	2016	2015
DTTS Sports Capital Equip Grants	63	174	192
EAA/IAAF	63	37	40
Erasmus +	11	5	0
Disability Funding	18	0	0
Miscellaneous	4	2	0
Total	159	218	232

Congress 2018

Costs – Wages			
€000	2017	2016	2015
Staff Wages	€1215	€1190	€1184
Full Time	23	23	23
Part Time	12	10	8
Sport Ireland Core /HP Grants	€812/€835	€809/€810	€806/€880

Congress 2018

Income – Coaching & Development			
€000	2017	2016	2015
Coaching	23	31	12
Development	81	82	85
Total	104	113	97

Congress 2018

	Costs – Coaching & Development		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Coaching	98	72	58
Development	169	149	159
Total	265	221	217



Congress 2018

	Income – Coaching		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Coach Education Level 2	4	5	6
Coach Networks	15	21	3
Child Welfare Training	2	2	2
National Squads	2	3	1
Total	23	31	12



Congress 2018

	Costs – Coaching		
€000	2017	2016	2015
National Squads	24	22	23
Coach Networks	24	21	1
Coach Education	12	0	12
Endurance Squad	14	12	5
Tutor Training	3	4	4
Staff Expenses	4	6	6
Admin /Phones	2/1	2/1	2/1
Committee	2	3	4
AAi Coach Video	10		
Total	98	72	58



Congress 2018

	Income –Development		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Coach Education Level 0/Level 1	63	71	71
Development Workshops	2	2	5
Regional Squads	16	9	9
Total	81	82	85



Congress 2018

	Costs – Development		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Coach Education	54	53	43
Regional Squads	28	22	29
Get Ireland Active	45	18	18
Development Days	4	13	14
Staff Expenses	32	36	38
Phones	6	7	4
Other		0	13
Total	169	149	159



Congress 2018

	Income – Competition and Marketing		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Competition	343	294	293
Marketing	132	168	173
Total	475	462	466




Congress 2018

	Costs – Competition and Marketing		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Competition	647	589	523
Marketing	181	190	161
Total	828	779	684



Congress 2018

	Income – Competition Entry Fees		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Senior	94	111	98
Juvenile	63	51	48
Schools	0	0	33
Total	157	162	177




Congress 2018

	Income – Competition Gates & Programmes		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Senior	33	38	37
Juvenile	71	70	61
Schools	15	23	17
Total Gates	119	132	115
Total Entry	157	162	177
Schools/Celtics	66		
Total Comp	342	294	292



Congress 2018

	Costs – Competition		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Travel	105	113	106
Accommodation	96	101	82
Track Hire	71	68	65
Medals etc	39	43	46
Venue Set up	71	49	40
Programmes & Printing	38	47	26
Official Training/Uniforms	6	17	6
Juv/School Internationals	114	58	64
Hosted Events	85	78	79
Other	22	17	8
Total	647	589	523




Congress 2018

	Costs – Competition		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Hosted Event Grants	85	78	79
Senior	241	254	224
Juvenile	156	128	124
Schools	140	99	76
Staff	14	15	9
Senior Committee Meetings	3	5	4
Juv & Schools Committee	4/4	5/5	2/5
Total	647	589	523



Congress 2018

	Income – Commercial		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Sponsorship	120	157	159
Irish Life Health, Bank of Ireland ,Muller ,Last Lap.			
National Awards & Star	12	10	14
Total	132	167	173




Congress 2018

	Costs – Commercial		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Awards	31	28	25
Registration Costs	14	28	
TV & Streaming	22	42	38
Sponsor Costs	38	18	9
Website	13	13	21
Other Marketing	82	65	68
Total	181	190	181



Congress 2018

	Income – Registration & Affiliation		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Affiliation	51	51	51
Senior	411	401	396
Juvenile	437	414	405
Schools	50	43	18
Total	949	909	870




Congress 2018

	Income – Recreation		
€000	2016	2016	2015
Managed Events	331	223	301
Own Events	519	581	330
Summer Camps	87	51	39
Permits	38	47	58
Total	973	902	728




Congress 2018

	Costs – Recreation		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Managed Events	150	110	119
Own Events	430	413	320
Credit Card Charges	24	29	25
Titan Consulting	21	7	33
Admin & Marketing	17	14	15
Summer Camps	82	47	30
Total	724	620	542




Congress 2018

	Costs – Performance		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Sport Ireland Carding	238	220	188
Athlete Support	180	192	167
Competition Travel	188	166	228
Competition Accommodation	78	84	68
Medical	157	194	188
Preparation	93	92	121
Admin	32	17	28
Consulting	23	21	12
Total	987	988	1001



Congress 2018

	Costs – Administration		
€000	2017	2016	2015
Insurance	307	286	263
Rent	84	84	84
Board	32	32	30
Legal /Consult	81	114	50
Staff Travel /Car Pool	40	38	36
IT & Phone	28	30	40
Post & Stat	51	50	50
Bank Charges	2	6	22
Property Costs	21	23	11
Other/Staff Training	39	9/14	20
Total	656	687	606



Congress 2018

Ath. Assoc of Irl Ltd Balance Sheet			
€000	2017	2016	2015
Fixed Assets	133	193	324
Investment	485	485	485
Debtors/Stock	339	369	346
Cash	92	114	123
Creditors	(565)	(583)	(615)
Creditors Over Year	(4)	(110)	(199)
Reserves	480	467	464



Reputational Risk

IAAF Anti Doping

Governance Code



Congress 2018

Governance Code			
Principle	Sub Principles	Compliance Rate 2017	Compliance Rate 2018
Leading our organisation	14	11 (79%)	13 (93%)
Exercising control over our organisation	17	13 (76%)	16 (94%)
Being transparent & accountable	13	6 (46%)	13 (100%)
Working Effectively	17	9 (53%)	11 (65%)
Behaving with integrity	14	7 (50%)	13 (93%)
TOTAL	75	46 (61%)	66 (88%)



Financial Risk

Monitoring and Evaluation of
Sport Ireland Funding

Membership Retention
Sponsorship –IAAF impact
Impact of
Improving Economy



Operational Risk

Health & Safety at Events


Coach and Administrators
Recruitment and Retention




**ATHLETICS IRELAND
BUDGET 2017**


Congress 2018

€000	Budget Income & Expenditure	
	Budget 2018	Actual 2017
Income	4953	4743
Expenditure	4933	4730
Surplus	20	13



Congress 2018

€000	Budget Income	
	Budget 2017	Actual 2017
Sport Ireland Grants	1946	2093
Other Grants	163	159
Registrations & Affiliations	965	949
Competition & Related	504	475
Coaching & Development	178	104
Recreational Events	1175	973
Miscellaneous	1	2
Total	4952	4743



Congress 2018

€000	Budget Expenditure	
	2018 Budget	2017 Actual
Wages	1328	1215
Coaching & Development	217	265
Performance	946	967
Competition & Related	758	828
Administration	683	655
Recreational Events	988	724
Depreciation	10	75
Total	4933	4730





Congress 2018

€000	Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd Income Statement		
	2017	2016	2015
Turnover	248	261	273
Admin	(205)	(215)	(218)
Interest	(3)	(3)	(4)
Revaluation	0	0	46
Tax	(12)	(13)	(11)
Surplus	28	28	87




Congress 2018

€000	Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd - Income		
	2017	2016	2015
Merchandise	8	8	8
Irish Runner	172	185	197
Property	68	68	68
	248	261	273




Congress 2018

Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd - Costs			
€000	2016	2016	2015
Merchandise	0	0	0
Irish Runner	157	158	160
Property Admin	23	24	21
Depreciation	25	35	37
Loan Interest	3	3	4
	208	218	222



Congress 2018

Athletics Ireland Enterprises Ltd Balance Sheet			
€000	2017	2016	2015
Fixed Assets	833	849	879
Debtors	76	41	78
Cash	8	13	
Creditor less Yr	(371)	(319)	(336)
Creditor over Yr	(896)	(962)	(1027)
Reserves	(350)	(376)	(406)




CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Presented by John Foley – C.E.O.

**Presentation Slides included as attachment*

Introduction

In my report for Congress, April 2016, I stated that we had seen 'significant growth' in the previous two years. I am delighted to report that for the years 2016, 2017 and for the first few months of 2018, we have continued to make progress. The number of children and adults involved in our sport is increasing each year and this is due to the hard work and dedication of the many clubs county, provincial and national officials working as dedicated volunteers together with the staff of Athletics Ireland. Also, we are seeing an increasing numbers of participants in our recreation events, our schools competitions and our summer camps. The commitment of our volunteers and staff is matched by the support we receive from the Department of Sport, Sport Ireland, the OCI and our sponsors and we are grateful to all of them for their continued partnership.

Since Congress we have had an Olympic Games, Rio 2106, and this proved to be a successful games for us with Thomas Barr and Robert Heffernan performing with distinction. Post Rio, Kevin Ankrom, our Director of High Performance, decided to return to the United States and Paul McNamara was promoted to the role. Paul has settled into the role very well and I wish him every success for the European Championships in 2018, the World Championships in 2019 and the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. At Youth and Junior level we excelled in both 2016 and 2017 and with our continued investment in athletes services, in partnership with the Sport Ireland Institute, I am confident that we will see these young athletes develop into successful senior athletes in the next 5 years. The continued support of Sport Ireland is appreciated during this time and we look forward to this confidence in our programme paying off as we enter the 2018 track season and prepare for major championships at European, World and Olympic level over the next three years.

Membership

In the year 2016 our membership grew to 58,296 and in 2017 we saw continued growth when we reached 60,501 members. When we compare these numbers to 2009, where we had 29,685 members, I am sure you will all agree that our growth in the 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 (19,405 in 2009 to 35,899 in 2017) 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 mums and dads 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 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 are just happy to help out in the interest of our sport. The Masters have grown from 6,509 in 2009 to 19,940 in 2017. 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. In the other categories, Junior and Senior, we have seen growth from 209 to 631 and 3,474 to 4,481 respectively.

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 Athlone Institute of Technology Indoor facility has been of significant benefit to our sport and the opening of the National Indoor Arena in Abbotstown in 2017 is hugely positive in attracting young people to athletics in the capital city as well as the host stadium for our Senior National Indoor Championships. The ‘Sports Capital Programme’ will become available again in the future and clubs should give some thought to how they can avail of funds from this programme.

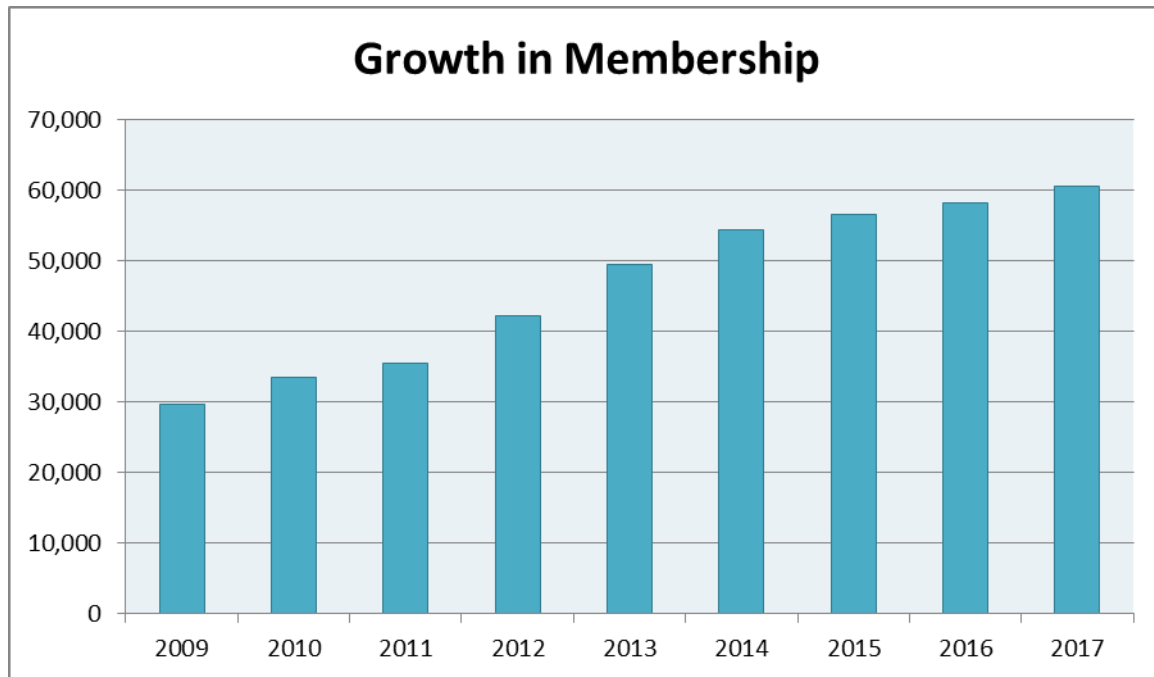


Figure 3 Growth in membership 2009 – 2017

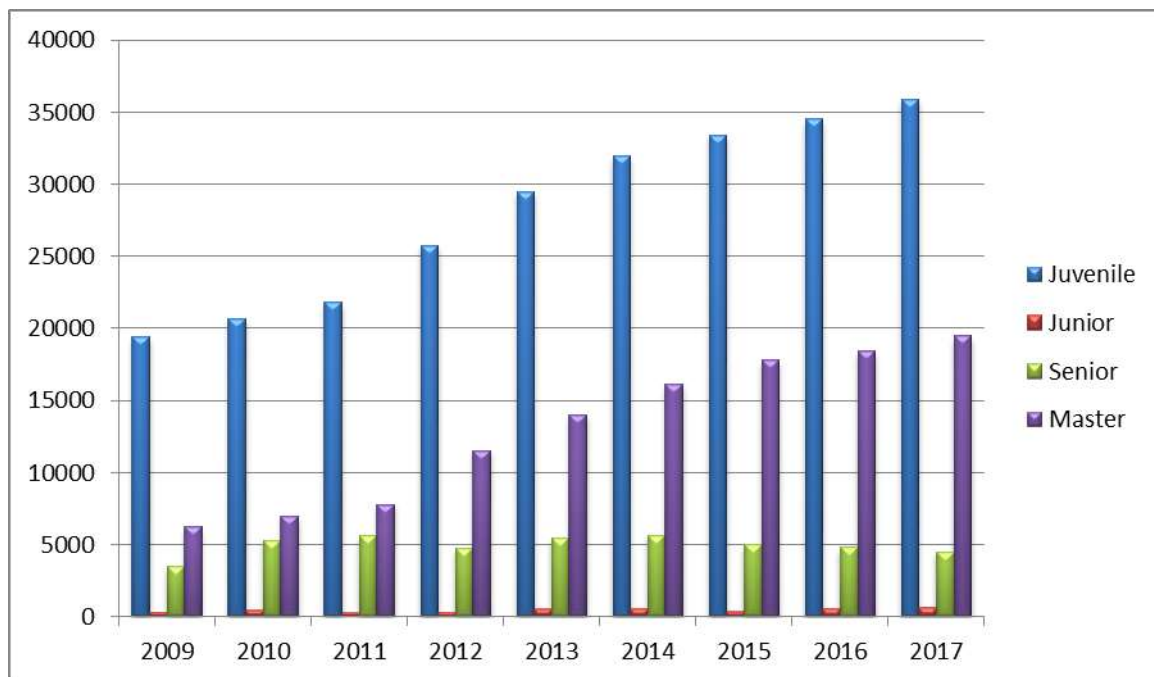


Figure 4 Growth in membership by age category 2009-2017

The female/male membership split has remained stable in the past few years at 53/47. The total number of female members has increased from 14,879 to 32,135 in 2017. We continue to benefit from the assistance of Sport Ireland on the Women in Sport initiative which has been of such importance in progressing the Fit4Life initiative.

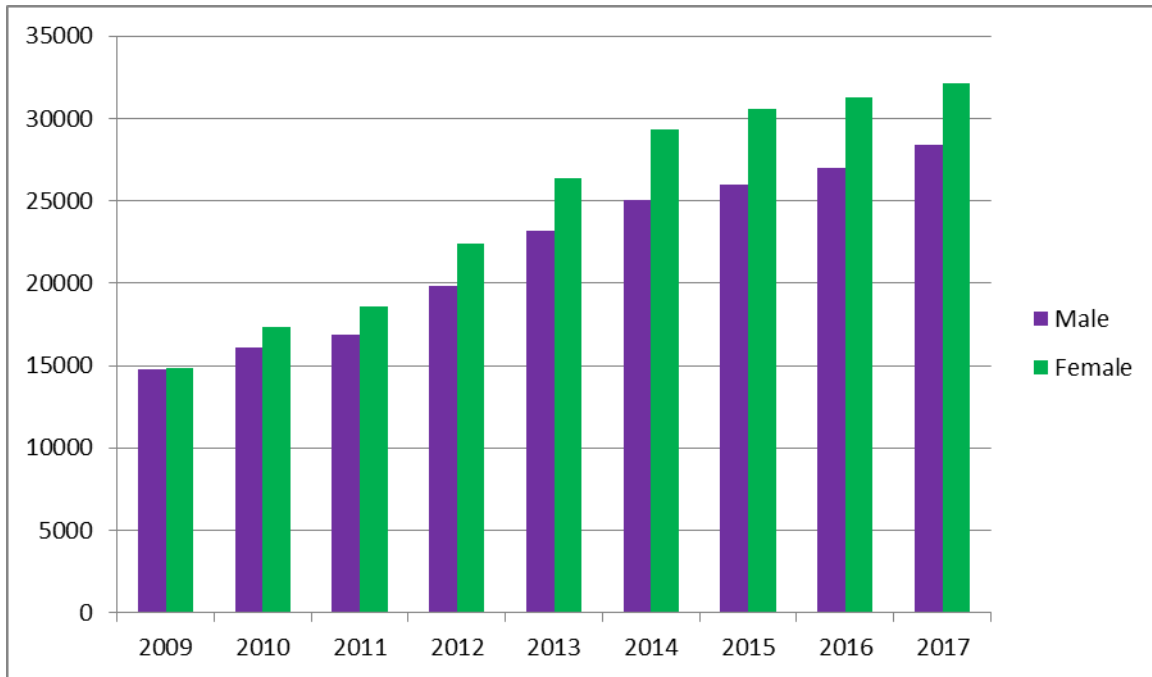


Figure 5 Membership Split Male /Female

The numbers of clubs has increased from 264 in 2009 to 340 in 2017. Whilst the increase in registrations is partly due to the formation of new clubs there has been significant work done also by long established clubs in increasing their numbers. The following is a summary of growth in the clubs since 2009.



Figure 6 Increase in Clubs 2009 - 2017

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 are having discussions with local authorities regarding the joint funding of resources to target these areas.

Competition

You will find comprehensive reports from John Cronin and John McGrath on Senior and Juvenile Competition in your Congress papers. I would like to acknowledge the support of both John C and John McG over the past two years. Both chairs, and their committees, partner closely with Moira Aston and her staff, Conor Greally and Sarah-Rose Shelly and this partnership works well. I would like to pay a special tribute to Moira for her leadership and commitment in the area of competition and other areas of the business and indeed for her overall commitment to the organisation.

Technical

The terms of reference of the Technical Committee are:

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

Training and Certification of Officials:

Courses delivered by Athletics Ireland tutors

General Officiating Introductory courses were delivered in a number of areas. Training courses were also run in Electronic Timing and False Start detection over the period.

Should any part of Athletics Ireland wish to host a course please contact the incoming Technical Committee.

Pathway to National Technical Official

In 2016 the National Technical Officials course was completed over a period of 4 days with a final day written and oral exam to IAAF specifications. The current NTO panel is now comprised of 40 members which is a testament to all those who completed the course.

The success of this course and rate of achievement by the officials who attended is in no small part down to those involved in designing and delivering the course. Some very special thanks must go to Michael O'Hart who has for many years maintained the officials training material. The course was delivered by John Cronin, Declan Curtin, Michael Quinlan, Pierce O'Callaghan, Ronan O'Hart, Michael O'Hart and Alistair Wilson (New Zealand).

In preparation for the next NTO certification a train day will be held each year rotating between Track and General Officiating, Jumps, Throws and introducing technology areas such as Electronic Timing, False Start Detection, EDM, VDM and other areas.

International Officials

Following the European Athletics (EA) TOECS II course and Area International Official (ITO) evaluation, Pierce O'Callaghan (Clonliffe Harriers) & Zuzana Malikova Costin (West Waterford) representing Slovakia were appointed to EA ITO Level II panel.

John Cronin (Tullamore Harriers) & Ronan O'Hart (Sligo) both attended the IAAF ITO Level III seminar and evaluation and were both successful in their appointment to the IAAF ITO Level III Panel. This is a fantastic achievement for both John who retains his position on the panel and Ronan who was been added to the panel. It is a first for Athletics Ireland to have 2 members serving on the panel.

In race walking the current EA Walking Judges Level II are Ray Flynn (Sligo) and Shaun Gallagher (Finn Valley) with Pierce O'Callaghan (Clonliffe Harriers) serving on the IAAF 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.

Competition Equipment

A submission for competition equipment was prepared for the Sports Capital Grant process. A new Electronic Timing camera was purchased to allow for standardisation of equipment at Athletics Ireland events and training of a wider pool of electronic timing operators. The policy of rotating existing equipment to the regions when new replacement equipment is purchased continues.

The utilisation of field terminals and EDM at competitions has allowed for real-time results from these events to be made available on the Athletics Ireland website. This along with enhanced digital display boards at the events has allows athletics and spectators alike to have better engagement with the events. The development of the Meet Management system for running Athletics Ireland events now as the norm sees live results broadcast to the Athletics Ireland Website (<http://live.athleticsireland.ie>). This information can then be viewed by all and has been integrated into the Live Streaming feeds and National Broadcasts for National and International events.

Statistics and Records

The Indoor and Outdoor performance records are presently maintained on behalf of Athletics Ireland by Mirko Jalava of Tilastopaja Statistics Services. Mr. Jalava is the recognised Statistician for the European Athletics organisation. Killian Lonergan the Athletics Ireland Statistician and a member of the committee is the liaison person for this. It should be acknowledged the significant work that Killian has undertaken in maintaining and updating these records. It should also be acknowledged the hours of work that others

have done in producing historical records and performing analysis – Pierce O’Callaghan, Cyril Smyth, Liam Hennessy and others.

Conclusion

It has been very heartening to see the growth in the number of officials who have engaged with the pathway programme and this is very evident in the current number of NTO’s. The number of new officials who have taken up roles has been very positive to see and has allowed for many opportunities for officials to move into different areas which they would not have possibly done previously.

As always new officials are always welcome and the hope is more will get involved at county level and in the regions and eventually may progress to the national and international level.

There continues to be huge progress in the area of records and statistics, with the possibilities to link these with future developments on the Athletics Ireland Website.

I would like to thank all the members of the Technical Committee for their very significant contribution during the term, and out behalf thank the Board for our appointment. I would like to especially thank the Athletics Ireland staff, Moira Aston, Conor Greally & more recently Sarah Rose Shelly for their assistance and efforts in helping the Technical Committee to operate and deliver its remit.

Karl O’Connell

Technical Committee Chairman.

RECORDS 2016					
Out/Indoor	Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club
Indoor	Junior W	Penthalon	4,043pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Indoor	U23 W	Penthalon	4,043pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Indoor	Senior W	Penthalon	4,043pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Indoor	Junior W	Shot Putt	13.97m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Indoor	Junior M	Triple Jump	14.44m	Jordan Hoang	Tullamore Harriers A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	400m	54.19	Jenna Bromell	Limerick Emerald A.C.
Indoor	Senior M	600m	1.17.52	Zak Curran	D.S.D A.C.
Indoor	U23 W	800m	2.03.74	Siofra Clerigh Buttner	D.S.D. A.C.
Indoor	Senior W	1500m	4.08.66	Ciara Mageean	D.S.D. A.C.
Indoor	U23 W	60m	7.35	Phil Healy	Bandon A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	Shot Putt	14.00m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Indoor	Senior M	500m	60.93	Mark English	UCD A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	Shot Putt	14.39m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Indoor	Senior W	Mile	4.28.40	Ciara Mageean	UCD A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	Shot Putt	14.92m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Indoor	Youth M	200m	21.76	David McDonald	Menapians A.C.
Indoor	Youth M	Pole Vault	4.30m	Shane Martin	Ballymena & Antrim A.C.
Indoor	Senior M	Shot Putt	18.16m	Sean Breathnach	Galway A.C.
Indoor	Senior M	Shot Putt	18.27m	Sean Breathnach	Galway A.C.
Indoor *	Youth W	60m	7.42	Molly Scott	St. Laurence O'Toole A.C.
Indoor	Women Y	Pole Vault	3.30m	Ellen McCartney	City of Lisburn A.C.
Indoor	Youth W	60m H	8.37	Molly Scott	St. Laurence O'Toole A.C.
Indoor	Youth W	60m H	8.32	Molly Scott	St. Laurence O'Toole A.C.
Outdoor	Senior W	2000m St	6.27.38	Sara Treacy	Dunboyne A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Heptathlon	5,545pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	U23 W	Heptathlon	5,545pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	Senior W	Heptathlon	5,545pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	Junior W	Shot	14.94m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	U23 W	Triple Jump	12.88	Sarah Buggy	St Abban's A.C.
Outdoor	Junior M	Hammer	70.48m	Adam King	Iveragh A.C.
Outdoor	Women Y	Pole Vault	3.51m	Ellen McCartney	City of Lisburn A.C.
Outdoor	Women Y	Pole Vault	3.60m	Ellen McCartney	City of Lisburn A.C.
Outdoor	U23 W	Triple Jump	13.25m	Sarah Buggy	St Abban's A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Shot	15.15m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	Youth M	110m H	13.96	Alex Clarkin	Donore Harriers A.C.
Outdoor	Youth M	Decathlon	6,752 pts	Daniel Ryan	Moycarkey Coolcree A.C
Outdoor	Women Y	100mH (76cm)	13.32	Molly Scott	St. Laurence O'Toole A.C.

Outdoor	Junior W	Shot	15.31m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	Junior M	Hammer	71.60m	Adam King	Iveragh A.C.
RECORDS 2016 CONTD...					
Out/Indoor	Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club
Outdoor	Junior M	Hammer	71.70m	Adam King	Iveragh AC
Outdoor	Junior M	4x100m	40.48	Eoin Doherty Cillin Greene Sean Lawlor Joseph Ojewumi	Tallaght, GCH, Donore, Tallaght
Outdoor	Youth M	800m	1.48.89	Kevin McGrath	Bohermeen A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	4x100m	45.09	Molly Scott Sharlene Mawdsley Gina Akpe-Moses Ciara Neville	St. L O'Toole, Newport, Blackrock (Louth) Emerald
Outdoor	Junior W	4x100m	44.82	Molly Scott, Sharlene Mawdsley, Gina Akpe-Moses, Ciara Neville	St. L O'Toole, Newport, Blackrock, Emerald
Outdoor	Youth M	1500m	3.46.14	Kevin McGrath	Bohermeen A.C.
Outdoor	Senior M	400m H	47.97	Thomas Barr	Ferrybank A.C.
<i>* Ties record</i>					

Figure 7 RECORDS 2016

RECORDS 2017					
Out/Indoor	Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club
Indoor	U23 W	800m	2.02.97	Siofra Cleirigh-Buttner	D.S.D. A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	60m	7.30	Ciara Neville	Emerald A.C.
Indoor	U23 W	60m	7.30	Ciara Neville	Emerald A.C.
Indoor *	Senior W	60m	7.30	Ciara Neville	Emerald A.C.
Indoor	Junior M	Triple Jump	14.90m	Jordan Hoang	Tullamore Harriers A.C.
Indoor *	Junior M	200m	21.76	Aaron Sexton	North Down A.C.
Indoor	Youth W	High Jump	1.80m	Sommer Lecky	Finn Valley A.C.
Indoor	Youth W	3000m	9.35.1	Amy Rose Farrell	Blackrock A.C.
Indoor	Youth M	3000m	8.18.88	Darragh McElhinney	Bantry A.C.
Indoor	U23 W	Mile	4.33.16	Siofra Cleirigh-Buttner	D.S.D. A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	200m	23.85	Sharlene Mawdsley	Newport A.C.
Indoor	Senior M	5000m W	18.50.70	Alex Wright	Leevale A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	Shot Putt	14.95m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Indoor	Youth W	High Jump	1.81m	Sommer Lecky	Finn Valley A.C.
Indoor *	Junior W	High Jump	1.81m	Sommer Lecky	Finn Valley A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Hammer	59.64m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	Youth W	High Jump	1.85m	Sommer Lecky	Finn Valley A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	High Jump	1.85m	Sommer Lecky	Finn Valley A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Hammer	61.84m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Hammer	62.79m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Heptathlon	5,669 pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C

Outdoor	U23 W	Heptathlon	5,669 pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	Senior W	Heptathlon	5,669 pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
RECORDS 2017 CONTD...					
Out/Indoor	Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club
Outdoor	U23 M	100m	10.30	Marcus Lawler	St. Laurence O'Toole A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Shot Putt	16.13m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	Youth W	Long Jump	6.10m	Kate O'Connor	St. Gerard's AC
Outdoor	Youth W	5000m	16.47.93	Amy Rose Farrell	Blackrock A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Hammer	63.01m	Michaela Walsh	Swinford A.C.
Outdoor	U23 W	Pole Vault	3.95m	Sarah McKeever	D.S.D. A.C.
Outdoor	Youth W	Heptathlon	5,632pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	4x100m	44.31	Molly Scott Sharlene Mawdsley Gina Akpe-Moses Ciara Neville	St. L O'Toole, Newport, Blackrock (Louth) Emerald
Outdoor	Junior W	2000m St	6.58.38	Laura Nicholson	Bandon A.C.
Outdoor	Youth W	Javelin	49.26m	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Outdoor	Junior W	Heptathlon	5,801pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	U23 W	Heptathlon	5,801pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	Senior W	Heptathlon	5,801pts	Elizabeth Morland	Cushinstown A.C
Outdoor	Youth W	Heptathlon	5,759pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Outdoor	Junior M	400m	46.54	Christopher O'Donnell	North Sligo A.C.
Indoor	Senior W	300m	37.56	Phil Healy	Bandon A.C.
<i>* Ties record</i>					

Figure 8 RECORDS 2017

RECORDS 2018					
Out/Indoor	Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club
Indoor	Junior W	Pentathlon	4,108 pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	U23 W	Pentathlon	4,108 pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	Senior W	Pentathlon	4,108 pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	Pole Vault	3.62m	Ellen McCartney	City of Lisburn
Indoor	Junior W	High Jump	1.86m	Sommer Lecky	Finn Valley
Indoor*	Senior W	100m	7.30	Amy Foster	City of Lisburn
Indoor	Youth W	200m	23.80	Rhasidat Adeleke	Tallaght A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	200m	23.80	Rhasidat Adeleke	Tallaght A.C.
Indoor	Junior W	Pentathlon	4,150 pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	U23 W	Pentathlon	4,150 pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	Senior W	Pentathlon	4,150 pts	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	Youth W	1500m	4.16.03	Sarah Healy	Blackrock (Dublin)
Indoor	Junior W	1500m	4.16.03	Sarah Healy	Blackrock (Dublin)
Indoor	U23 W	1500m	4.16.03	Sarah Healy	Blackrock (Dublin)
Road	Senior M	50km	2.54.40	Gary O'Hanlon	Clonliffe Harriers

Indoor	Senior W	60m	7.27	Amy Foster	City of Lisburn
Indoor	Senior M	Shot	18.30m	Sean Breathnach	GCH
RECORDS 2018 CONTD..					
Out/Indoor	Record	Event	Performance	Name	Club
Indoor	Junior W	Pole Vault	3.72m	Ellen McCartney	City of Lisburn
Indoor	Junior W	3000m	9:10.43	Sarah Healy	Blackrock
Indoor	Youth W	3000m	9:10.43	Sarah Healy	Blackrock
Indoor	Junior W	Pole Vault	3.75m	Ellen McCartney	City of Lisburn
Outdoor	Junior W	Javelin	48.61m	Kate O'Connor	St Gerard's A.C.
Indoor	Senior W	800m	2.02.46	Siofra Cleirigh Buttner	Dundrum South Dublin
<i>* Ties record</i>					

Figure 9 RECORDS 2018

Coaching and Development

The Chair of Coaching and Development, Eamon Harvey, has issued a comprehensive report for this area which is included in the Congress papers. Coaching is an area which has received a lot of debate over the past two years. We have made some progress and it is planned to place much needed resources behind coaching structures in the second half of 2018 and further investment in 2019 to ensure that we can assist in growing our coaching expertise.

Pat Ryan, and his RDO team, work tirelessly with clubs around the country on Coach Education and in 2017 we ran 77 courses across all levels attracting 1,268 participants. Since the 2016 Congress we have added 2 new RDOS, Paul Byrne and Lily Anne O'Hora. Also, David Matthews transferred from Cork to work in the National Indoor Track in Abbotstown. David is working to develop athletics in the indoor facility and is progressing well. 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 with a proposal to hire jointly funded resources in the interest of growing athletics.

High Performance

Brid Golden's report details the activities of the last two years. As CEO, I worked very closely with Brid and the committee over the period. As mentioned earlier it was a time of change with Kevin Ankrom departing and Paul McNamara taking up the post of Director of H.P. I would like to thank Kevin for his work in putting in place the structures in the area all of which will serve the organisation well in years to come. Paul has hit the ground running and is now firmly established in the role.

Our partnership with Sport Ireland and the Sport Ireland Institute continues to be very strong. We have received funding of over €1.6 million from Sport Ireland over the two years 2016 and 2017 and in 2018 it is also close to €800K plus carding which is approx. €200k. This funding is spent on athletes services (mainly through the Sports Institute), travel to competition and camps and staff. It is important to note that we raise a further €200k generated from our recreation programme which is invested back into high performance. In Brid's report she refers to the number of athletes now receiving professional care through our relationship with the Sport Institute and we can be confident that this physical and psychological care will pay dividends in years to come. 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 2017 and we are grateful to CX+ Sport for their support. CX is an Irish company who supply gear of all kinds and I would ask that you support them.

We look forward, in the near term, to the Senior European Track and Field Championships and to our athletes performing to the best of their abilities. We will have a large team and trust that we will have a number of athletes in finals competing for medals which are so important as we continue to invest in the programme.

On the wider athletics area, there has been significant progress made in the tackling of the drugs issue. During the period Olive Loughnane was upgraded to Gold from Silver for the 20k walk from the 2009 World Championships and Robert Heffernan was upgraded to the bronze medal position for the 2012 Olympics 50k walk. The suspension of Russia has shown serious intent by the IAAF and we look forward to confidence being returned to our sport and it being drugs free.

Another issue we are facing in Europe is the increase in the numbers of athletes being eligible to compete for a European country. In the past few years we have seen athletes from Kenya competing for Turkey and while we are in a period of international uncertainty where people are moving from one country to another for a myriad of reasons it is essential that the IAAF set down criteria on eligibility to compete. The recent proposed change in rules where athletes have a 3 year wait will assist in this area.

Anti-Doping

Testing

Sport Ireland Programme				
National Governing Body	In Competition Tests	Out of Competition - Urine tests	Out of Competition - Blood Tests	Total
Athletics Ireland	18	85	85	188

User Pays		
National Governing Body	In Competition Tests	Total
Athletics Ireland	11	11

Period of report: 1st January 2017 – 31st December 2017

Athletics Ireland continually works with the Anti-Doping Unit in Sport Ireland around Anti-doping rules, Registered Testing Pools and Testing at competitions. Outreach programmes were organised where the Sport Ireland Anti-Doping Education Coordinator and colleagues attended the National Championships and met with athletes, coaches and parents and provided education around anti-doping.

The Sport Ireland Tutor Training Programme commenced in 2015. In 2016, Sport Ireland trained 18 Tutors from GAA, Athletics Ireland, Swim Ireland, and Gymnastics with 5 of these from Athletics Ireland. The Athletics Ireland tutors were able to conduct education seminars in 2017. For example, an education seminar took place for Junior and Youth Carded athletes prior to travelling to the Summer Championships and at a Screening Day in February.

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 also includes general information for athletes and more detailed information regarding checking medications, testing procedures and prohibited substances for competitive athletes.

AAI provide clubs with a template membership form that includes a note regarding anti-doping and testing. Entry forms also include information regarding testing.

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

There were 24 athletes registered on the Registered Testing Pool in 2017.

Marketing

Athletics is competing in a sporting media landscape which is dominated by ball sports. Medals equal success in the eyes of the media and public, success delivers the ultimate cut through in media exposure. This was evident last summer when Gina Akpe-Moses won gold in the 100m at the European Junior Championship. It was also evident during the Olympics in 2016 when Thomas Barr finished 4th in the 400m Hurdle final missing out on a medal by just 0.05 seconds.

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. There has been a consistent flow of quality updates provided to key athletic correspondents with relevant content (including quotes from athletes) before, during and after both national and international championships. Performances from Irish Athletics at major championships 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 2017 Irish Life Health National Senior T&F Championships was aired live on RTÉ 2 for the first time. Peak viewership for the 2 hour live show was 140,000.

Media Training

Media training is a key part of an athlete's development pathway. It is imperative that athletes understand how to interact and communicate effectively with the media, to manage their reputation and have an understanding of their media obligations as a carded athlete. The marketing team delivered media training at a junior squad day last summer ahead of their departure to the European Junior Championships.

Website

Re-launching the website for improved user experience was one element within the marketing strategic plan. Work has begun on the development of the new website with the marketing department conducting research on the existing website to form the basis for the new website brief. In 2017, the Athletics Ireland website had over 1.2 million visits to the website, with the yearly website visits increasing by 100,000 visits since 2015. Unique visitors (number of unduplicated visitors) have also increased over the two year period to 386k.

Social Media

Social media has become the main channel of communication between Athletics Ireland and our fans (athletes, parents, coaches, key stakeholders and media). It allows us to engage with our fans in a two-way conversation, providing relevant and engaging content. Strong growth has been achieved in this area

over the last two years, our Facebook likes have increased by 91% over the last two years from 19,401 to 37,052. Twitter followers have also increased 40% from 15,500 to 21,700. Athletics Ireland also has an Instagram account which is also performing well amongst our target audience.

Video content has been performing extremely well across all of our social media platforms. Post-race interviews with athletes at major championships are the most popular video content amongst our audience. At the Olympic Games in 2016, Thomas Barr's interview after his incredible performance in the 400m Hurdles Olympic Final was extremely well received. The interview was viewed 107,367 times on the Athletics Ireland's Facebook page. This Athletics Ireland generated content was also shared by a number of online publications including; independent.ie, Irish Examiner, Breaking News, 42, 98FM and The Journal.

Athletics Ireland continues to provide live streaming for key events in the Irish athletics calendar. A variety of events across all age categories was streamed in 2016 and 2017. The Irish Life Health National Senior Indoor Championship was streamed on the Athletics Ireland's Facebook page in 2018 receiving 59.5K views.

Sponsorship Management & Acquisition

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

- Irish Life Health
- Grant Thornton
- CX+ Sport
- Bank of Ireland
- Muller
- SPAR
- Affidea

Athletics Ireland acquired Müller as a sponsor in late 2017. TV adverts promoting Müller as a proud sponsor of Athletics Ireland are currently being shown on Irish TV since early 2018. On pack promotion will commence in the second quarter of 2018. New sponsorship has also been acquired for recreational races owned by Athletics Ireland and schools recreational programme. SPAR has come on board as a title sponsor of the Streets of Dublin 5K 2018 and Cork Airport 5K, 2018. KBC has recently come on board as a new sponsor of the Night Run which will take place in April 2018. Bank of Ireland came on board in 2016 as the title sponsor of the Talent ID programme which is run in secondary schools across Ireland.

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 and Facebook updates and post-race interviews at our National Senior events. A press day was held in Morton Stadium in the days leading up to the 2017 Irish Life Health National Senior Championships. Round table interviews were conducted with Irish Internationals Thomas Barr and Kerry O'Flaherty. Pre championships coverage from the media day featured in national press and local publications.

Recreational Events

Athletics Ireland has complete ownership of 9 recreational races; Grant Thornton Corporate 5K Team Challenge Series (GT5K) (Galway, Cork, Belfast & Dublin), SPAR Streets of Dublin 5K, Irish Runner 5 Mile, Irish Runner 10 Mile, Cork Airport 5K and Remembrance Run 5K. The GT5K Series has added a new race, Galway will kick start this year's series on 12th April at the famous Ballybrit Racecourse. The Athletics

Ireland Race Series is also a new addition to the Athletics Ireland recreational road race calendar. The Athletics Ireland Race Series will include SPAR Streets of Dublin 5K, Irish Runner 5 Mile and the Irish Runner 10 Mile which is a new race in 2018. The marketing team developed and implemented extensive marketing, PR and promotional plans to attract entries to these events.

In 2017, the GT5K Series had 3 races; Cork City had 250 teams (1000 participants), Belfast Airport was a sell out at 150 teams (600 participants) and the Dockland event continues to be a huge success with the race selling an impressive 1,250 teams (5,000 participants). In its first year under Athletics Ireland's ownership the Irish Runner 5 Mile had a total of 2,900 participants. 2,300 participants entered the 5 mile while a further 600 participants entered the Irish Runner Family Run (new addition to the Irish Runner 5 Mile in 2017). Record numbers entered the Remembrance Run 5K in 2017, 4,722 people participated in the event on Remembrance Sunday.

National Athletics Awards

The National Athletics Awards recognises Ireland's most successful athletes, clubs, coaches and officials each year. A full promotional plan and event management plan was delivered by Athletics Ireland's staff in 2016 and 2017. The event was sponsored by Irish Life Health on both years and we are grateful for their continued support.

Merchandising Clothing

Athletics Ireland has continued the license agreement format of outsourcing the selling of the merchandise clothing. This allows Athletics Ireland to receive an annual payment from the sale of the merchandise without any significant risk as we do not have to allocate resources to transport, sales costs, stock management or finances. This merchandise is extremely popular with our juvenile athletes.

Irish Schools

All-Ireland Track and Field

- 2017 Produced 19 Championship best performances across 122 events.
 - Live Streaming figures of 16,515 viewers.
- 2016 Produced 17 Championship best performances across 120 events.
 - Live Streaming figures of 14,867 viewers.

All-Ireland Cross Country

In 2017, the All-Ireland Schools Cross Country Championships was held in Mallusk Playing Fields, Belfast which provided a testing course for the athletes. Sarah Healy (Holy Child, Killiney) and Darragh McElhinney (Colaiste Pobail Bheanntai) lived up to their favourites billing on a thrilling day of races.

In 2016, the All-Ireland Schools Cross Country Championships was held in Sligo Race Course. The day celebrated the 100 year anniversary of the Irish Schools' Athletics Association and former stars Sonia O'Sullivan and Catherina McKiernan were out cheering on the current generation. The All Ireland Schools Cross Country Championships was also streamed live with viewing figures of over 8,000+ viewers. Kevin Mulcaire (St. Flannan's Ennis) underlined his class defending his senior boys' title at the All Ireland Schools Cross Country Championships.

All-Ireland Combined

The 2017 All-Ireland combined event was held at the Athlone International Indoor Arena with the introduction of a Minor Age group for the first time. The standard across all groups continues to improve. The 2016 All Ireland Combined Events was held at the Athlone International Indoor Arena, Daniel Ryan (CBS Thurles) rounded out his Irish Life Health combined events schools' career in style with victory in the senior boys with a total of 3,725 points. It made it five from five for Ryan: twice junior champion twice intermediate and now rounding out on top of the senior podium.

Tailteann Interprovincial Games

The 2017 Tailteann Games were held in Morton Stadium, Santry. Leinster's Kate O'Connor (St Vincent's Dundalk) was one of the star performers of the day competing in the shot put and set a new record throw of 47.63m for the javelin.

The 2016 Tailteann Games were held in Morton Stadium, Santry. The experienced line up showcased some of Ireland's top athletes on a day which saw many previous records broken. The Tailteann games provided the platform for athletes to gain entry into the Schools International Championships.

Schools' Performance - International Championships

Track and Field International

The 2017 SIAB Track and Field International was held in Morton Stadium, Dublin with the Irish Team recording 6 Gold, 9 Silver and 11 Bronze medals finishing in second overall position behind England with a total points score of 163 versus England's 258.

The 2016 SIAB Track and Field International were held in the The Julie Rose Stadium, Ashford, Kent with 66 Irish School athletes selected to compete. The team concluded the day with a medal haul of 4 Gold, 11 Silver and 15 Bronze finishing second behind England on the team scoring.

Cross Country International

The 2017 SIAB Cross Country International was held in Port Talbot, Wales with the star Irish performance of the day going to Darragh McElhinney (Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai) who lived up to his favourites billing and winning the Intermediate Boys race.

The 2016 SIAB Cross Country International was held in Falkirk 19th March 2016

The star performers for Ireland were Louis O'Loughlin (Junior Boys) and Sarah Healy, (Inter Girls) winners of their respective races. Both athletes were mainly responsible for their teams winning the bronze medals.

Schools Combined International

November 2017 – Schools Combined Events – Glasgow

With all teams making the podium Iarlaith Goldings' bronze medal ensured Gold for the Junior Boys. The Intermediate Girls finished in second place.

December 2016 – Schools Combined Events – Ireland

The Intermediate girls was a high scoring event with Anna McCauley reaching 3,874 points to take the silver medal and with the other 3 girls each over 3,300 points Ireland secured the second placed team position. The Intermediate boy's competition was decided in the final race of the day. Anthony Odubote won the race but had to settle for the silver medal and his performance assisted the team in reaching the bronze medal position.

Schools' Participation Figures

Affiliated Schools

- 2017 – 670 Schools Affiliated
- 2016 – 663 Schools Affiliated

ISAA continue to identify areas / regions in which Athletics is not undertaken in Schools and develop links with local clubs and build relationships to introduce the sport of athletics.

Cross Country Championships

- 2017 - 12,298 Individual Entries
- 2016 - 12,189 Individual Entries

Track & Field

- 2017 – 15,121 Individual Entries
- 2016 – 15,001 Individual Entries

Development

2016 & 2017 Bank of Ireland – Schools Talent Identification Programme

Bank of Ireland and Athletics Ireland have joined forces to launch a nationwide search to identify talented students with athletic potential in secondary schools nationwide. We have now visited 40 schools in total in 2016 and 2017, the programme ended with a Masterclass day with (200 students) competing in the new National Sports Indoor Arena.

iRunForFun – Recreational Running Initiative for Post Primary Schools

2017

- Taking place across 75 Post Primary Schools, LSP's and Active School Flag
- 30,000 Students taking part.

2016

- Taking place across 60 Post Primary Schools & Active School Flag
- 30,000 Students taking part.
-

School Mile Challenge

- 2017 – 88 Schools (18,882) Participants
- 2016 – 82 Schools (18,202) Participants

Introduction of new events

In 2016 & 2017 we have introduced a number of new events to give students access to try out athletics, this includes “Confined” Cross Country’s, Indoor events for 1st & 2nd Years only.

The Irish Sponsorship Awards 2016 - “Best Grass Roots Sponsorship”

We were successful in reaching the final 4 at The Irish Sponsorship Awards for our New Breed Programme we undertook in Post Primary Schools with the assistance of New Balance.

Universities

The Irish Universities Athletics Association has enjoyed a strong 2017 and 2018, in terms of both the standard of competition and the number of participants. Since our last Congress, there have been 22 IUAA records set on the track, and we achieved record numbers of participants in four championships.

In keeping with the 30-plus year tradition, the IUAA Road Relay championships were held in NUI Maynooth in 2017 and 2018. University of Limerick won both the Womens' and the Mens' races, the first time in over 10 years that UL had won either race. The UL Women retained their title in 2017, while Dublin City University won the 2017 Men's race.

Cross Country has been dominated by DCU throughout 2017 and 2018. The 2017 championships were hosted by the IUAA on the cross country course in the National Sports Campus. DCU won both the Mens' and Womens' races. The 2018 championships were hosted by Trinity College Dublin in their sports grounds in Santry. The fixture was postponed due to the snowfall during Storm Emma, with 150 athletes competing in the rescheduled fixture. DCU won both the Mens' and Women's races.

We have continued to hold the IUAA indoor championships at the track in AIT. In 2017, there were 329 individual competitors and 7 championship records. In 2018, there were a record 334 individual competitors and 6 championship records.

The Outdoor Track & Field Championships have remained the biggest in terms of overall competitors. There were 381 individual competitors in 2016 and 387 in 2017 - both records at the time. The 2016 championships were hosted by DCU in Santry. There were 5 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. DCU won all five in 2016. The 2017 Championships were hosted by CIT in Bishopstown. DCU retained the Sprints, Jumps, Throws and Middle Distance trophies. The Combined Events trophy was won by Trinity College Dublin. There were four championship records set over the two days of competition. Queens University Belfast are hosting the 2018 championships in Mary Peters on 13/14 April.

We have continued to host the Celtic University international match with the Scottish Universities, which was revived in 2013. The IUAA won the both the 2016 championship held in Kilmarnock, and the 2017 championship held in Santry. The 2018 fixture is scheduled for 26 May in Grangemouth Stadium.

The IUAA athletes of the year were awarded to Michelle Finn (UL) and Marcus Lawler (IT Carlow) in 2016, and Neil Johnston (QUB) and Phil Healy (UCC) in 2017.

Child Safeguarding

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 outlined by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs in the Children First Act (2015) 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.

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). This legislation also facilitated the introduction of eVetting. In 2016 and 2017 Athletics Ireland embarked on a nationwide campaign to meet clubs, county and provincial boards and advise them of the changes and listen to their concerns. To date Athletics Ireland has processed over 10,000 vetting applications since 2010. 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.

Children First Act (2015)

In 2018 the Children First Guidance (2011) 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 by March 11th 2018. This was a mandatory process that all organisations providing services to children in the state must complete. The Act provides for several key child protection measures, as follows:

1. A requirement on organisations providing services to children to keep children safe from harm and to conduct a Safeguarding Risk Assessment and produce and display a Child Safeguarding Statement;
2. A requirement on defined categories of persons (mandated persons) to report child protection concerns over a defined threshold to the Child and Family Agency;
3. A requirement on mandated persons to assist the Child and Family Agency in the assessment of a child protection risk, if requested to do so by the Agency;
4. Putting the Children First Interdepartmental Implementation Group on a statutory footing.
5. Abolishment of the common law defence of reasonable chastisement in relation to the corporal punishment.

The legislation operates in tandem with the existing Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, which outlines the non-statutory obligations which will continue to operate administratively for all sectors of society that provide services to children.

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.

- 2016 - 23 child safeguarding courses were delivered to 310 leaders.
- 2017 - 26 child safeguarding courses were delivered to 395 leaders.

In addition to the face to face safeguarding workshops, we introduced an eLearning module for sports leaders to refresh their safeguarding certificates after four years.

Mental health and Wellbeing web resource

In 2016/17 we continued the development of our mental wellbeing support services for 25 mental health and wellbeing organisations from Aware to the Samaritans. On one webpage page on the Athletics Ireland website anybody in need of support or help can be signposted to relevant services.

Children in Sport working group

Athletics Ireland continues to be represented on the Children in Sport group within Sport Ireland and at the All Ireland Designated National Children's Officers group with the NSPCC in Belfast. 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 that quality experiences for all participants irrespective of ability, gender, social class, faith and race. Club volunteers deliver valuable experiences as mentors and role models in their dealings with children and young people. In particular 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.

General Data Protection Procedures (GDPR)

A GDPR working group has been established and is working towards facilitating compliance for the association and its affiliated clubs and members. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) becomes law on May 25th and is designed to harmonise data privacy laws across Europe and to protect citizens' data privacy. The GDPR will make it easier for individuals to bring private claims against data controllers when their data privacy has been infringed. If an organisation fails to comply with the regulations, they can be fined up to 4% of annual global turnover, or €20m. Last year, there were 2,301 data breaches reported to the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner in Ireland. Athletics Ireland has been in consultation with the Data Protection Commission on the completion of access requests and the self-assessment of data management practices.

Recreation

In 2016 and 2017 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.

Owned events include the Grant Thornton Corporate series (Dublin, Cork, Belfast) Streets of Dublin 5K, Irish Runner 5 Mile/Family 3K, Remembrance Run and the Night Run (in partnership with Titan Experience).

Managed events include Operation Transformation, Rock 'N' Roll, Pink Run.

It is planned to expand our presence in Recreation events space in 2018 and in future years.

Future

As you may be aware, I will retire at the end of April. The day of Congress will be my last day with Athletics Ireland. I have enjoyed my time with the organisation and I like to think that, working with all of you, that we made some progress during my tenure.

I would like to thank the Presidents I worked with (Liam, Ciaran and Georgina). During our time together we built a high degree of trust between each other. I would also like to thank each of the committees for their support and contribution to the organisation. Also, the small group of people who gave their support to developing the recreation running area are to be commended.

There are women and men throughout the country, who work at local club level, in the interest of developing our sport and I would like to say a special thank you to each of you.

The staff members of Athletics Ireland are truly special. I have worked in industry for the past 35 years and I have never before seen the level of commitment given by this group of people.

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 for their support.

I will always take a keen interest in Athletics Ireland. Hopefully I can now read the daily newspapers with a degree of objectivity and hopefully this will result in a reduction of my blood-pressure. I will always be an advocate for what we do and wish everybody doing it every success.

To my successor, Hamish Adams, I wish you well. You are joining a great organisation and everybody is behind you in achieving success.

Best wishes for the future to all of you and God Bless.

With best wishes,

John

Questions & Comments

Fabian Walsh – Results are not available to view post events.

Moira Aston – There is a LIVE results link for all T&F and Indoor competition. Results of Cross Country competitions are usually posted by 6pm on the day of competition.

Pat Walsh – Thanked John on behalf of Cork County Board for his immense contribution.

Liam Fleming - We need to improve our communication. Liam appealed to all County Boards to keep a log of county championship results

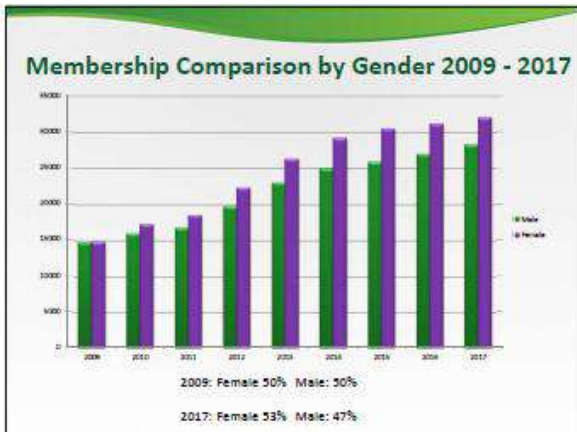
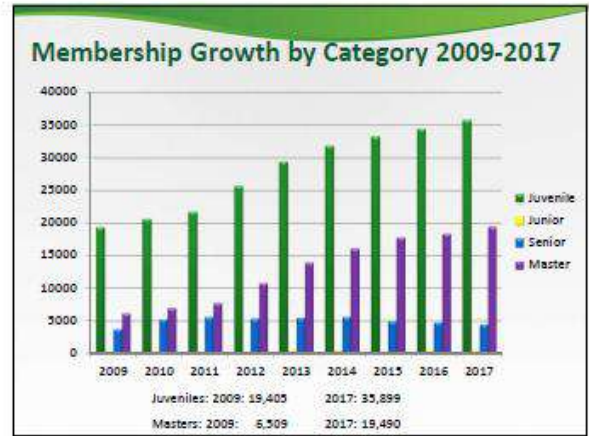
John Foley – We get good coverage from regional papers on results/events.

Ray Flynn - Thanked John Foley for his contribution and commented that John is a friend and a gentleman.



Congress 2018 Athletics Ireland Ltd


	Income & Expenditure	
€000	2017	2016
Income	4743	4675
Expenditure	4730	4672
Surplus	13	3
Property Revaluation	0	-
	13	3



Funding

	2010	%	2014	%	2015	%	2016	%	2017	%	2018	%
Irish Sports Council	1,944	60%	1,732	49%	1,852	44%	1,849	42%	1,847	41%	1,782	38%
Athletics Ireland	1,314	40%	2,141	55%	2,396	56%	2,826	58%	2,660	59%	2,947	62%
Total	3,258		3,873		4,248		4,655		4,507		4,729	

2014-2018 – Sport Ireland Excludes Carding




- ### Competition
- Volunteers & staff working together as one
 - Advancement in use of Technology
 - Cross Country, Indoor, Track & Field now distinct seasons.
 - National Indoor facility in Abbotstown
 - Need to entertain the audience
 - Team competition for younger children - opportunity
 - All kids Running, Jumping, Throwing
- 

Competition

	Entries		
	2016	2017	2018
Cross Country			
Junior/Senior	530	555	
Novice	539	480	
Intermediate	220	220	220
Masters		517	595

Club of the Year	2016/17	2017/18
	Ratheny Shamrock A.C.	Sportsworld A.C.



- ### Competition
- Road**
- Very successful 16/17
 - Road Relays, 10k, ½ Marathon, Marathon, 20k Race Walk
 - 10k, ½ Marathon, Marathon part of larger events
 - Opportunity to create championship events in other parts of Ireland
- 

Competition - Track & Field

Senior Championships
Excellent performances and good audience engagement
LIVE RTE broadcast (2017) very successful

Junior & U23 Championships
Michaela Walsh (Swinford) Junior Hammer Record 63.01m (2017)

Combined Events Championships
Elizabeth Morland (Cushinstown) Junior & Sen Heptathlon Record, 5545 (2016)

Masters Championships
Pre championship event for over 100 athletes travelling to European Masters (2017)

AAI Games
Sarah Buggy (St. Abbans) U23 Triple Jump Record 12.88m (2016)
Adam King (Iveragh A.C.) Junior Hammer Record 70.48m





Competition - Track & Field

Spring Throws
11 PB's (2017)
Conor Cusack (Lake District A.C.), U18 European Javelin Qualifier 66.10m (2018)

National League	2016	2017
Premier Men	Cloniffe Harriers	Cloniffe Harriers
Premier Women	Dundrum South Dublin	St Abbans
Division 1 Men	Antrim Combined	Wexford County
Division 1 Women	Kilkeny City Harriers	Donore Harriers







Competition - Indoors



Senior Championships
2017
 Svein Arne Hansen (European Athletics President) in attendance
 Shariene Mawdsley (Newport) Junior 200m 23.83
 Alex Wright (Leevale) Senior 3000mW 18:30.70
 Michaela Walsh (Swinford) Junior Shot Put 14.95m
 Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) new Youth and tied Junior High Jump records of 1.81m

2018
 Amy Foster (City of Usburn), 7.27 60m Record
 Seán Breathnach (GCH), 18.30m, Shot Record
 Sarah Healy (Blackrock), 9:10.43, 3000m Junior and Youth record
 Ellen McCartney (City of Usburn), 3.72m Pole Vault Junior Record
 Adam McMullen (Cruisers) 7.99m Long Jump



Competition - Indoors

Junior & U23 Championships
 Clera Neville (Emerald A.C.) 7.30 60m, junior & U23 Record (2017)
 Jordan Hoang (Tullamore Harriers) 14.90, Triple Jump; Junior Record (2017)
 Aaron Sexton (North Down) 21.76 200m, tied Junior Record (2017)
 Rhasidat Adeleke (Tallaght) 23.80 200m, Youth & Jun Record (2018).

Combined Events Championships
 Kate O' Connor (St Gerard's Dundalk) 4,108; Junior, U23 & Sen Record (2018)

Masters Championships
 Pat Naughton (Nenagh Olympic) M85 301st Masters medal in a 45 year career




Competition - Indoors



AAI Games
 Amy Rose Farrell (Blackrock) 3,000m 9:35.07 youth record (2017)
 Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) 3,000m 8:18.88 Youth record (2017)
 Sommer Lecky (Finn Valley) 1.80m High Jump Youth Record (2017)
 Sarah Healy (Blackrock) 1500m 4:16.03 Youth, Junior and U23 Record (2018)
 Darragh McElhinney (Bantry) 3000m 8:13.80 Youth & Junior Record (2018)
 First 400mH Indoors in Ireland, Tom Barr, 50.50 3rd fastest European Performance



Competition - Indoors

National Indoor League

Category	2017	2018
Men	Clonsilla Harriers	Clonsilla Harriers
Women	Dublin City Harriers	Dublin City Harriers





Competition - Juvenile

Juvenile Indoor Championships
 Excellent competitions & spectator numbers



Juvenile Track & Field Championships
 Great work on programme for all competition days
 Meet Manager, LIVE results, Streaming, Social Media engagement





Competition - Juvenile




2016	T&F	35 CBPs
2017	Indoors	27 CBPs
2017	T&F	46 CBPs
2018	Indoors	23 CBPs





Competition - Juvenile

Juvenile Cross Country
 2016 - Under 19 age group re-introduced
 2016 - Cross Country Relays changed from Inter-County to Inter-club
 Many thanks to LOC's at all host sites

Juvenile International
 Overall winners of the Celtic Games T&F 2016 (Swansea) and 2017 (Santry)
 2 Records Swansea; 6 Records Dublin
 Excellent performance by Development Teams
 Sarah Healy winner of U17 Girls Celtic XC Cardiff (2017)
 Cian McPhillips winner of U17 Boys Celtic XC Cardiff (2017)






Competition - Juvenile

Juvenile International
 2016 Gina Akpe Moses - Silver & Molly Scott - bronze European Youths, (Tbilisi)
 2017 Sarah Healy - Gold; Rhazidat Adeleke - Silver; Patience Jumbo Gula - Bronze;
 Jade Williams - Bronze & Relay Team Bronze, EVOF, (Győr)






Competition - Juvenile

Juvenile Star Awards - Overall Winners
 2016 Gina Akpe Moses



2017 - Sarah Healy





Technical

Training and Certification of Officials
 General Officiating Introductory courses delivered
 Training courses in Electronic Timing and False Start detection completed

Competition Equipment
 New Electronic Timing camera purchased
 Rotation of existing equipment to the regions continues.



Increased use of field terminals and EDM - real-time results
 Enhanced digital display boards - increased spectator engagement.
 Development of Meet Management/Athletics Manager - Live results
 Integration with Live Streaming feeds and National Broadcasts



Technical

Statistics & Records
 Mirko Jalava of Tilastopaja Statistics Services.



Killian Lonergan (AAI Statistician)



Pierce O'Callaghan, Cyril Smyth, Liam Hennessy and others - production of historical records & analysis.



Technical

Certification Level	Officials
National Technical officials	40 Officials
EA ITO Level II	Pierce O'Callaghan & Zuzana Malikova Costin (SAZ)
IAAF ITO Level III	John Cronin & Ronán O'Hart
EA Walking Judges Level II	Ray Flynn, Shaun Gallagher & Zuzana Malikova Costin
IAAF Race Walking Judges Level III	Pierce O'Callaghan




Schools


Affiliated Schools:
 2016: 663 Schools 2017: 670 Schools

Competitors: Cross Country: 2016: 12,400 2017: Cross Country: 12,298
 Track & Field: 2016: 15,001 2017: Track & Field: 15,121

Records:
 2016: [17 Best Performances T&F] 2017: [19 Best Performances T&F]

iRunForFun Recreational Running Programme:
 2016: 60 Secondary Schools and 1 County Council - 30,000 students
 2017: 75 secondary schools, 3 LSP's & Active School Flag - 30,000 students

School Mile Challenge:
 2016: 82 schools - 18,202 participants
 2017: 88 Schools - 18,882 participants



Schools

Bank of Ireland Talent Identification Programme
 2016: 20 Post Primary Schools – 800 Students (1st Year Students)
 2017: 20 Post Primary Schools – 1000 Students (1st Year Students)

RiseClass: Primary Schools Initiative:
2016
 • No. of students – 6,300
 • No. of classes – 300
2017
 • No. of students – 26,401
 • No. of classes – 1,285



Universities

• 2017 – 2018	Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard of Competition Number of Competitions 22 IUAA Programs
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• Championships	Road Relays Cross Country T&F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UL & DCU DCU DCU
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- Celtic Universities: with Scottish Universities
- Athletes of Year
 - 2016: Michelle Finn (UL) Marcus Lawler (IT Carlow)
 - 2017: Phil Healy (UCC) Neil Johnston (QUB)



Child Safeguarding



- Children First Act 2015 commencement support for clubs
- 705 sports leaders tutored in Child Safeguarding in 2016/17
- Child Safeguarding eLearning module launched for sports leaders
- 10,000+ Garda Vetting applications completed since 2010
- Mental Health & Wellbeing strategy & webpage published
- Critical Incident plan produced for clubs
- Represented at Child Protection in Sport working group in Sport Ireland
- Support to clubs on child protection & welfare matters
- General Data Protection Procedures (GDPR) AAI workgroup established
 Tasked with the GDPR compliance journey for clubs and the association



Coaching & Development

- 158 Courses & 2,497 participants in 2016/2017
- 75 Event specific coaching days (grassroots coaches)
 - Nationwide workshops covering all event groups. RDO team and event co-ordinators. Presenters included Deirdre Ryan, Terry McHugh, Tom Crick, Dave Sweeney, RDO team.
- AAI Coach – interactive on-line coaching resource for club coaches
- Coach Network & Performance Mentoring
 - 12 Coaching Conferences (Endurance & Sprints / Jumps)
 - Attendance ranging from 70-120 club coaches at each event
 - 16 Performance workshops (Endurance, Jumps, Sprints / Hurdles, Throws)



Coaching & Development

	2017		2016	
	Courses	Participants	Courses	Participants
Athletics Leader	27	387	33	442
Assistant Coach	33	521	26	391
Endurance Coaching Course	7	110	7	102
Level 1	9	182	15	294
Level 2	1	68	-	-
Total	77	1268	81	1229



High Performance

- Continuing to evolve with shifting focus towards coaching
- Dir of H.P.: Paul McNamara appointed
- Impressive group of Youth & Junior athletics
- Sport Ireland Funding in 2016/2017 – over €1.6million
- Contribution from Athletics Ireland through recreational running programme approx. €200,000 annually
- Rio Review: Positive report – Focus on coaching
- New Apparel Supplier – CX+ Sport.



High Performance

Olympics 2016

- Thomas Barr - 4th in 400m
- Robert Heffernan - 6th in 20k walk
- Sarah Treacy - Finalist in Steeplechase

Euro Champs 2016

- Ciara Mageean - Bronze Medal 1,500m

Euro Youths 2016

- Gina Akpe Moses - Silver Medal 100m
- Molly Scott - Bronze 100mH

Euro Race Walks Cup 2017

- Mens 20km 3rd

Euro U20 2017

- Gina Akpe Moses - Gold Medal 100m
- Michaela Walsh - Bronze Medal Hammer
- John Fitzsimons - Bronze Medal 800m
- Womens 4x100m - 4th

Euro U23 2017

- Men's 4x100m - 5th

World Championships 2017

- Robert Heffernan - 8th 50km Walk




High Performance

- Athlete support:

	2016	2017
Senior ISC	12	11
Development	10	17
ET U23	40	36
ET JY	61	76
Discretionary	11	15
Total	145*	159*

Remainder through Team Carding and relays



High Performance

- Spend on H.P. (€000)

	2017	2016
Competition	246	250
Athlete Services	157	194
Camps/Prep competitions	93	92
Carding I.S.C. programme	236	220
Carding (A.A.I. All levels)	180	192
Admin & Consulting	53	51
Total	967	986



Anti-Doping

- 24 athletes on the registered testing pool in 2017

Sport Ireland Programme			
National Governing Body	In Competition Tests	Out of Competition - Urine tests	Out of Competition - Blood Tests
Athletics Ireland	18	35	25
Total	18	35	25

User Pays		
National Governing Body	In Competition Tests	Total
Athletics Ireland	11	11

- 5 Anti-Doping Tutors from Athletics Ireland



Marketing

Media Coverage:

- Generating media coverage is a key marketing objective
- Consistent flow of communication to media
- Live Streaming: 59,500 views 2018 Senior Indoors through Athletics Ireland Facebook
- R.T.E. Partnership: 140,000 viewership of 2017 Live Senior 1&F Championships

Website:

- Work has begun on the re-development of the new website

Social Media:

- Main channel of communication between Athletics Ireland and our members and fans
- Generated content shared by a number of online publications i.e. Thomas Barr Olympic Final post race interview
- Facebook: Facebook likes has increased by 91% to 37,052
- Twitter: Twitter followers has increased by 40% to 21,700



PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

Good Afternoon,

First I would like to thank you for taking the time to be with us on this very important day on the occasion of the 4th Athletic Association of Ireland Limited, Congress 2018.

I am both proud and humbled that you elected me as President of Athletics Ireland, the support you have given to me in my first 2 years as President is appreciated and much valued, and I look forward to working along with you into the future. I have been to many counties during my term of office and I appreciated the welcome I received wherever I visited.

It has been a hectic two years since the 2016 Congress and there have been a number of areas where we have shown progress.

We wrote and published a new Strategic Plan last year which sets out our goals to 2020. This document was written with input from representatives from every area and will be our road-map to guide us into the future. It will be reviewed regularly to ensure we are meeting our objectives.

Our principal committees have worked extremely hard over the past two years and I would like to thank John Cronin, George Maybury, Brid Golden, Eamon Harvey and John McGrath as well as their respective committees for their continued commitment and dedication to our sport. Our appreciation is also extended to the Technical Committee chaired by Karl O' Connell who have ensured that the best possible equipment and expertise is available for our competitions and the ongoing accreditation of our Technical officials.

In addition, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Athletics Ireland staff for their hard work and loyalty to the organisation I know that you go that extra mile to ensure that we continue to flourish and prosper.

We also continue to work very closely with Athletics Northern Ireland, we hold liaison meetings with ANI and the Ulster Athletic Council to ensure that we copper-fasten the close relationships between us. Liam Hennessy represents Athletics Ireland on the ANI Board and John Allen sits on the Board of Athletics Ireland which again strengthens our ties.

Our volunteers, officials, coaches, administrators are in my opinion unique, many covering all aspects of our sport on a daily basis, to each of you in this room today and your fellow club members we could not do what we do without your passion and commitment and as President I cannot overemphasise this and ask you to ensure that all these men and women in our sport are aware of my appreciation.

Another welcome addition to the ranks of official race measurers Grade A is John Quigley Cork who received his AIMS Ratification only yesterday following a meeting of the AIMS Council on 21st April last. Along with Tom Mc Cormack Dublin, Ireland has 2 at the highest level for measuring courses of Olympic and World standard. 'Well deserving' is how Tom Mc Cormack noted John's ratification. This qualification is extremely difficult to get with only 99 people in total in the World, we are fortunate in Ireland to have 2 of the best. Congratulations John.

In 2017 I was elected to the Olympic Committee of Ireland and sit on their Board. As you will know there were some serious issues facing the OCI and we have worked hard on the journey of restoring stakeholder faith as well as getting on with the agenda of ensuring that the O.C.I Board meets its commitment to support our Athletes and NGBs in the pursuit of medals in Tokyo and beyond.

Athletics is now well represented on the OCI with myself on the Board as well as Derval O'Rourke and David Gillick on the Athletes Commission.

At European level Nick Davis sits on the Member Federation Development Commission and Pierce O'Callaghan on the Events and Competition Commission.

Also John Cronin, Ronan O'Hart, Ray Flynn and Sean Gallagher are 2018 EAA Technical Officials, with Michael Quinlan and Declan Curtin 2017, John Cronin and Ronan O'Hart are on the IAAF panel of officials and have been chosen to officiate at world events in 2018.

I was proud to be a guest panellist at the IAAF Conference in London 2017 where many topics were covered including Gender Leadership, Area Representation, Area Alignment, Event Presentation and above all putting 'Athletes at the heart of our sport'.

Gender equity is a major area which requires leadership, our sport is in a good position as both men and women compete in the same arena awarded the same titles and have one governing body.

Women were not allowed to compete in Athletics until the 1920'S and it took until 1965 for women's competition in Ireland to gain approval at congress.

It is important that we continue to promote the inclusion of women in our sport at committee and board level. Currently we have 4 women on our Board out of a total of 16, IAAF have 27 members of which 6 are women, EAA have 18 members 2 are women, therefore it is not surprising that gender equity is top of the agenda on both International Bodies, both have identified greater participation of women at board level a priority.

Taking that lead I would like to encourage women in Ireland to put yourself forward for club, county, provincial and national committees and also for board roles. This issue is very important to me and it is one that will require a lot of focus and commitment of you the members to achieve the goal of gender equity in our organisation.

Continuing on the theme of European and IAAF there has been a number of changes on how both organisations are governing the sport and we have an opportunity of influencing these decisions as we go forward.

While we will always take guidance from European Athletics and the IAAF we will also be in discussion on how we should go forward based on what is best for us and we will be back to you to discuss a number of areas including 'Associate Membership', 'Affiliate Membership', Number of Terms for board members and the President and the membership of Principal committees. These topics are not for today and I will be in communication with you later in the year to get your views on the best way forward with the understanding of possibly bringing suitable motions forward to the AGM in 2019.

There is one major topic which I am asking for your support in the afternoon and that is our request for support to enhance our coaching resources. We have run 158 coaching courses in the past 2 years with 2,500 participants. We will continue to focus on the coaching agenda and our plan should the funding be available is to hire new coaching resources which will not only assist our coaches who take care of elite athletes but also enable us to provide coach mentoring to develop coaches at club level. Part of this is the provision of a wider range of workshops. Also it will mean a greater focus on getting more time with athletes at club level with top class coaches to ensure that we can take club athletes to the next step and offer them every opportunity to be the best they can at national and potentially international level. This is one of the most important items on our agenda in the afternoon and I am asking you to support us to ensure that we can provide coaching to every level of athlete.

Preparations for today's Congress has been ongoing for some months, with major work undertaken by Liam Hennessy and Brian Dowling on our 'Constitution/ Memos and Articles' and I would like to thank both of them for the many hours of painstaking work. Also, Bernie Dunne has put many hours in to ensure that the logistics of today were managed. Thank you Liam, Brian and Bernie.

Today we have a 'passing of the baton' in a good athletics term in the CEO role with John Foley retiring, John's guidance and leadership has been tremendous which has left us in a very solid position with our stakeholders and partners. I wish John well with his pipe and slippers but perhaps more accurately with his beloved dog and slippers as I welcome Hamish Adams as our new CEO from Tuesday next. As indicated earlier Hamish will speak to you a little later in the afternoon.

John Foley has already spoken about our many stakeholders and I would like to re-iterate those comments. Sport Ireland continues to be very supportive and we are as always grateful for their partnership.

I will finish on a quote from George Bernard Shaw

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything"

Again I wish to thank you sincerely for your support.

Cross Country Club of the Year

John Cronin, Chair of Competition, presented the trophy for Cross Country Club of the Year to **Sportsworld A.C.**

Life Vice Presidents – Presentation by Georgina Drumm

We have the opportunity of honouring 3 people who have made huge contributions to our sport and I would like to call each of them forward to receive the honour of 'Life Vice President'.

Maeve Kyle

Our first recipient is regrettably unable to attend today, we will find an appropriate time and place to honour this remarkable Women, Maeve Kyle. ***"Age is no barrier, it's a limitation you put on your mind."*** Jackie Joyner Kersee.

Chris Wall

Chris has spent over 60 years of his life in active athletics followed by a distinguished period in sports administration at Club, County and National level. His main prowess as an athlete was over two laps, he holds a PB of 1.51.8 for 880 yards.

His competitive career covered the period when the 880 yards had the greatest strength in depth with many big name athletes involved among them Noel Carroll, Frank Murphy, Junior Cummins, Ian Hamilton to name but a few. Medals were extremely hard to come by in those days but Chris was always competitive and difficult to beat.

Perhaps it was as an administrator he made his greatest impact, following a period as Dublin Secretary and Chairman, he was elected Honorary International Secretary around 1985. In this role he developed an expansive and inclusive international programme in cooperation with the late Andy Norman and several iconic Irish Athletes as Derval O' Rourke, T.J Kearns, benefited greatly from the opportunities afforded them at that time.

Above all other achievements Chris will always be remembered for his enormous contribution in the achievement of unity in Irish Athletics. Together with the late Brendan Foreman, Paddy Mc Govern and following protracted talks Unity was delivered and the AAI 'Athletic Association of Ireland' was formed a superb testimony to a life time of work. ***"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success."*** Henry Ford

Seán Naughton

As he approaches his mid-80's it is true to say that Sean Naughton is still a man of indomitable passion for the sport of athletics.

Sean has had over 60 years involved in every area of the sport since the formation of Nenagh Olympic in 1955. Sean has left an indelible mark on the sport in so many areas, as a top class sprinter and a Club Leader, in 1970 Nenagh won an award as the number one Juvenile Club, one of eight out of a ten year period, for his Leadership as Coach /Manager for Irish Teams at European and World Championships and Olympic Games and for his contribution at National Level to various committees as a Board Member but mostly for his vision and tenacity for his permanent legacy of the Indoor Arena in Nenagh.

"We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort." Jessie Owens

END OF MORNING SESSION

STANDING ORDERS

1. Voting for all elections shall be by secret ballot
2. Voting for all motions and amendments shall be by a show of hands: amendment of the Memorandum and Articles of Association (Art 83) requires a **75% majority**; otherwise a **simple majority** will apply.
3. The Proposer of a motion may speak for **3 minutes**, but no longer than **3 minutes**.
4. The Proposer of an amendment may speak for **2 minutes**, but no longer than **2 minutes**.
5. A Delegate speaking to a motion or an amendment thereto must not exceed **2 minutes**.
6. The Proposer of a motion may speak for a second time for **2 minutes** before a vote is taken, but **no other** delegate can speak a **second time** to the same motion.
7. A Delegate may with the consent of the Chairman move **“That the question be now put”** after which, when the Proposer has spoken a vote must be taken.
8. 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.
9. Only members of the **BOARD**, registered delegates of **COUNTY BOARDS** and **PROVINCIAL COUNCILS** may move motions or amendments.

Adoption of Standing Orders

PROPOSED Padriag Griffin

SECONDED Liam Hennessy

Scrutineers

Michael Quinlan, Anne McHugh, Colette Quinn, Mary Cronin, Karl O’Connell, Antoinette Holland

PROPOSED PJ Leddy

SECONDED Neil Martin

Additional: Siobhán Whelan, Pauline Martin

PROPOSED John Connolly

SECONDED Pat Fitzgibbon

Additional: Cecil Johnston, Joe Walsh (Portaoise)

PROPOSED Philip Cogavin

SECONDED Pat Fitzgibbon

ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT

Drumm, Georgina

PROPOSED	Michael Mulligan	SECONDED	Michael Heery
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GEORGINA DRUMM Elected

CHAIR OF COACHING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Golden, Brid

PROPOSED	Mary Ashe	SECONDED	PL. Curran
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BRÍD GOLDEN Elected

CHAIR OF COMPETITION COMMITTEE

Cronin, John

PROPOSED	Bernie O'Callaghan	SECONDED	Ray Flynn
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JOHN CRONIN Elected

CHAIR OF FINANCE & RISK COMMITTEE

Maybury, George

PROPOSED	PJ Leddy	SECONDED	Ronnie Quigley
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GEORGE MAYBURY Elected

CHAIR OF HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**Hennessy, Liam**

				SEQ	1	2	3
PROPOSED	Mary Cronin	SECONDED	Pauline Martin	VOTES	59	66	

Martin, Neil

				SEQ	1	2	3
PROPOSED	Evelyn O'Reilly	SECONDED	Dermot McGranaghan	VOTES	66		107

Reilly, Fintan

				SEQ	1	2	3
PROPOSED	Michael Mulligan	SECONDED	Philip Cogavin	VOTES	59	114	81

NEIL MARTIN Elected**CHAIR OF JUVENILE COMMITTEE****McGrath, John**

PROPOSED	Ciarán Doyle	SECONDED	Evelyn O'Reilly
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JOHN MCGRATH Elected**COACHING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

(5 CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED – ART. 81(D) (I))

Candidate	PROPOSED	SECONDED	VOTES
Barrett, Mary	Pat Fitzgibbon	Brian Bruton	
Corcoran, Brian	Tom Byrne	Charlie O'Neill	
Golden, Brid		Withdrawn	
Dowling, Brian		Withdrawn	
McDaid, Teresa	Mary Ashe	Neil Martin	
Mc Granaghan, Dermot	Neil Martin	Evelyn O'Reilly	
Reilly, Fintan	Pat Cheshire	Philip Cogavin	

ELECTED: MARY BARRETT, BRIAN CORCORAN, TERESA MCDAID, DERMOT MCGRANAGHAN, FINTAN REILLY

COMPETITION COMMITTEE

(5 CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED – ART. 81(D) (II))

CANDIDATE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	VOTES
Bruton, Brian	Patricia Griffin	PJ Coyle	65
Dunne, Bernie	Danny McClafferty	Tom Byrne	155
Flynn, Ray	PJ Leddy	Ronan O’Hart	80
Hooper, Pat	PJ Leddy	PL Curran	162
Lynam, Andrew	Catriona Duffy	Joe Walsh	112
Marley, Paddy	Bernie O’Callaghan	Fintan Reilly	170
McDaid, Brendan	Georgina Drumm	Neil Martin	161

ELECTED: PADDY MARLEY, PAT HOOPER, BRENDAN MCDAID, BERNIE DUNNE, ANDREW LYNAM

FINANCE & RISK COMMITTEE

(3 CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED – ART.81 (D) (III))

Name	PROPOSED	SECONDED	THREE CANDIDATES NO VOTE REQUIRED
Bruton, Brian	Mary Barrett	PJ Coyle	
Nagle, Dermot	Brian Corcoran	Donal Murnane	
Quinlan, Michael	Pat Walsh	Tim Fitzpatrick	

ELECTED: BRIAN BRUTON, DERMOT NAGLE, MICHAEL QUINLAN

HIGH PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

(3 CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED – ART.81 (D) (IV))

Name	PROPOSED	SECONDED	VOTES
Ahern, Tim		Withdrawn	
Davis, Nick	Mary Friel	Pat Hooper	71
Dunleavy, Emmet		Absent	
Golden, Brid	Chair of CD		
Harvey, Eamonn	John McGrath	Garrett Dunne	145
Lockett. Matt	PJ Leddy	Andrew Talbot	56
Martin, Neil		Withdrawn	
McDaid, Teresa	Claire Bergin	PJ Leddy	86
Reilly, Fintan	John Cronin	Deirdre McTeggart	134

ELECTED: EAMON HARVEY, FINTAN REILLY, TERESA MCDAID

JUVENILE COMMITTEE

(5 CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED – ART.81 (D) (V))

CANDIDATE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	VOTES
Doyle, Ciaran	Michael Mulligan	Fintan Reilly	161
Dunne, Bernie	Neil Martin	Cecil Johnston	146
Dwyer, Mary	Philip Cogavin	Pat Hooper	75
Fitzpatrick, Esther	Tim Fitzpatrick	Pat Walsh	126
Murphy, David	Dermot McGranaghan	Brian Scanlon	139
O'Reilly, Evelyn	Michael Heery	Fintan Reilly	165
Ryan, Jim	Fabian Walsh	Michael O'Hart	128

ELECTED: EVELYN O'REILLY, CIARÁN DOYLE, BERNIE DUNNE, DAVID MURPHY, JIM RYAN

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

NOMINEE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	VOTES
John Cronin	Adrian Curley	Ciaran Doyle	Unanimous

ELECTED: JOHN CRONIN

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

The following have been elected at the respective Annual Provincial Convention Art. 2 (e) (vii) (viii) (ix)

Committee	Name	Region
BOARD:	Ryan, Jim	<i>Connacht</i>
	Dowling, Brian	<i>Leinster</i>
	O'Rourke, P.J.	<i>Munster</i>
	O'Callaghan, Bernie	<i>Ulster</i>
Competition Committee:	Griffin, Patricia	<i>Connacht</i>
	Quigley, Ronnie	<i>Leinster</i>
	Ahern, Tim	<i>Munster</i>
	Kelly, Patsy	<i>Ulster</i>
Juvenile Committee	Hynes, Amanda	<i>Connacht</i>
	Corcoran, Jim	<i>Leinster</i>
	Fitzpatrick, Tim	<i>Munster</i>
	McGranaghan, Dermot	<i>Ulster</i>

Motions

MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

(Changes necessitated by the application of the provisions of the Companies Act, 2014)

1. THAT: the Constitution of the Association (“Company”) be and is hereby amended as follows:

- (i) **THAT:** the Memorandum of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the deletion of clause 1 in its entirety and the substitution therefor of the following new clause 1:
1. The name of the company is Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee (also using the name “Athletics Ireland”) (hereinafter called the “Association”).
- (ii) **THAT:** the Memorandum of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following new clause 2 and the re-numbering of existing clauses 2 to 10 as clauses 3 to 11:
2. The company is a company limited by guarantee, registered under *Part 18* of the *Companies Act 2014* (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”).
- (iii) **THAT:** Article 1(a) of the Articles of Association of the Company be and are hereby amended by the deletion of “the Acts” means the Companies Acts, 1963 to 2006” and the replacement therefor of “the Act” means the Companies Act, 2014” and by the deletion of “Association” means Athletic Association of Ireland Limited, the company whose articles of association these Articles are; and, where the context so admits or requires, a reference to the Association shall include a reference to the Old Association” and the replacement therefor of “Association” means Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited By Guarantee, the company whose Articles of Association these Articles are”.
- (iv) **THAT:** the Articles of Association of the Company be and are hereby amended by the deletion of Article 2 in its entirety and that Articles 3 to 102 be and are hereby re-numbered accordingly.
- (v) **THAT:** the Articles of Association of the Company be and are hereby amended by the deletion of Article 26 in its entirety and that the following new Article 26 be and is hereby adopted in substitution therefor:

“26. All disputes other than those provided for under Articles 20, 21 and 22

(Anti-Doping) and Article 24 (Disciplinary Matters) arising out of or in connection with the Constitution comprising this Memorandum & Articles of Association shall be referred to Just Sport Ireland for resolution by mediation in accordance with the Just Sport Mediation Rules (as amended from time to time). In cases where the dispute remains unresolved following the aforementioned mediation process, the dispute shall be

referred to Just Sport Ireland 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.”

(vi) THAT: the reference in Article 30(b) of the Articles of Association of the Company to “section 132 of the Companies Act, 1963” be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by “section 178 of the Companies Act, 2014”.

(vii) THAT: the Articles of Association of the Company be and are hereby amended by the deletion of Article 32(m) in its entirety and that the following new Article 32(m) be and is hereby adopted in substitution therefor:

“32(m) Only a general meeting of the Association (Congress, an AGM or an EGM) shall have the power to amend, add to, or alter the Association’s Constitution comprising its Memorandum of Association or any of these Articles. The Board shall publish to Members and other relevant persons any amendments made to these Articles, not later than 60 (sixty) days after the meeting at which such amendments were made.”

(viii) THAT: the reference in Article 42 of the Articles of Association of the Company to “the Acts” in line 1 be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by reference to “the Act”.

(ix) THAT: the reference in Article 92 of the Articles of Association of the Company to “the Acts” in line 2 be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by reference to “the Act”.

(x) THAT: the reference in Article 58 of the Articles of Association of the Company to “section 142 of the Companies Act, 1963” be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by “section 146 of the Companies Act, 2014”.

(xi) THAT: the reference in Article 85 of the Articles of Association of the Company to “section 3 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1982” be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by “the provisions of the Act”.

(xii) THAT: Article 98 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following new sub-clause (f):

“(f) The Company Secretary;”

and that existing sub-clause (f) be and is hereby re-numbered as sub-clause (g).

(xiii) THAT: the reference in Article 101 of the Articles of Association of the Company to “section 200 of the Companies Act, 1963 as amended” be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by “section 235 of the Companies Act, 2014”.

BOARD

PROPOSED	Georgina Drumm	SECONDED	PJ Leddy	Carried
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(These proposed changes are to re-affirm the Association’s commitment to gender balance and equality.)

2. **(i) THAT:** the Memorandum of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the deletion of clause 3(ii) in its entirety and the substitution therefor of the following new clause 3(ii): and that the Bye Laws of the Association in so far as they refer to Provincial Councils and County Boards be amended accordingly

3(ii) ensure that no discrimination whether on grounds of racial, religious, political or gender based or any other kind of discrimination be allowed in Athletics, and to take all practicable measures to prevent such discrimination;

(ii) THAT: the reference in clause 3(v) of the Memorandum of Association of the Company to “sex” in line 3 be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by “gender”.

(iii) THAT: the Memorandum of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the addition thereto of the following new clauses 3(vi) and 3(vii) be and are hereby re-numbered accordingly.

3(vi) commit the Association to the promotion of gender equality throughout all levels of the organisation;

3(vii) commit the Association to organising its activities in accordance with the principles of good corporate governance at all times;

CARRIED AS AMENDED – BOARD AND LEINSTER

PROPOSED	Caroline O’Shea	SECONDED	Philip Cogavin	CARRIED
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(This provision is no longer relevant to the Association.)

3. **THAT:** the Memorandum of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the deletion of clause 3(iii) in its entirety and **THAT:** clauses 3(iv) to 3(xii) be and are hereby re-numbered accordingly.

BOARD

PROPOSED	Brian Dowling	SECONDED	Neil Martin	Carried
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(Proposed change is to more properly reflect the stated objective.)

4. **THAT:** the reference in clause 3(vii) of the Memorandum of Association of the Company to “decide any dispute” be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by reference to “strive to resolve any dispute”.

BOARD

PROPOSED	George Maybury	SECONDED	John Cronin	Carried
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(Proposed change is to reflect the name change.)

5. **THAT:** the reference in clause 3(viii) of the Memorandum of Association of the Company to “the Irish Sports Council” in line 2 be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by “Sport Ireland”.

BOARD

PROPOSED	Claire Bergin	SECONDED	Neil Martin	Carried
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(Proposed change is to ensure THAT: the introduction of new events and competitions may be considered in the periods between Congresses.)

6. **THAT:** Article 32(o) of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by the following:

32(o) The Board and Congress shall separately have the right to decide upon the introduction of new events and new competitions directly organised by the Association.

BOARD

PROPOSED	John Cronin	SECONDED	Brian Dowling	LOST (41 for/86 against)
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(This Article references the “Old Association” and as such no longer has relevance.)

7. **THAT:** Article 52 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and that Articles 53 to 102 be and are hereby re-numbered accordingly.

BOARD

PROPOSED	Brian Dowling	SECONDED	Nick Davis	Carried
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(The proposed changes reflect the continuing narrative in relation to the adoption of principles of good practice, gender equality and good corporate governance.)

8. **THAT:** Article 53 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended:

(i) by the deletion of the first paragraph in its entirety and that the following be and is hereby adopted in substitution therefor:

“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. 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 *ex officio* 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. With effect from 24th April 2010, no Board Member shall serve for more than a maximum period of twelve (12) years. No person completing a term as chair of a principle committee shall be eligible for election as a chair of another principle committee at the congress following the completion of their term of office.

The provisions of Section 1196 of the Act relating to retirement by rotation of directors shall not apply to the Company.”

(ii) by the amendment of sub-clause (a)(i) to read Article 31 and not Article 32.

(iii) by the deletion of sub-clause (a) (xii) in its entirety and the substitution therefor of the following:

(a) (xii) any Irish citizen who is a member of the Council of the IAAF or of the Council of the EAA shall be *ex officio* a Member of the Board, with full voting rights, in accordance with and subject to Article 19.

(iv) by the deletion of sub-clause (b) in its entirety and the substitution therefor of the following:

(b) (i) The Board shall meet at least six times per year.

(ii) If during his term the President vacates his office for any reason, or is unable to fulfil the duties of the Presidency, his place will be taken by the Deputy President until such time as the President is able to fulfil his duties again, or until the next Congress. In the absence of both President and Deputy President the Board will select one of their number to preside in their place.

(v) By the deletion of sub-clauses (e) (vii) and (viii) in their entirety and that sub-clauses (ix) to (xiv) be re-numbered accordingly.

(vi) By the deletion of sub-clause (e) (xi) in its entirety and the substitution therefor of the following:

“(e) (xi) To appoint, at its first meeting after each Congress a Children’s Officer for National Events who shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Congress and who shall report to the Juvenile Committee.”

(vii) By the addition to sub-clause (e) (xiv) of the following:

The CEO shall report, in the first instance to the President, and thereafter to the Board.

CARRIED AS AMENDED – BOARD & DUBLIN

PROPOSED	GEORGE MAYBURY	SECONDED	NICK DAVIS	CARRIED
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(The proposed change reflects the role of the Association President)

9. **THAT:** Articles 54 and 55 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and are hereby deleted in their entirety and replaced by the following:

54. The President is the principal elected officer of the Association.

The President shall:

- (i) preside over all meetings of Congress, Annual General Meetings and the Board;
- (ii) be the lead delegate of the Association to meetings of the EAA, IAAF and the OCI;
- (iii) be an *ex officio* member of all Principal Committees and Provincial Councils;
- (iv) provide overall leadership to the Board and ensure good governance is observed at all times;
- (v) represent the interests of the Association at all ceremonial; and representative occasions as required;
- (vi) support, monitor and liaise with the CEO on behalf of the Board;
- (vii) perform other such tasks and duties that may be required from time to time; and
- (viii) delegate any of his/her duties as he/she considers appropriate.

BOARD

PROPOSED	NEIL MARTIN	SECONDED	GEORGE MAYBURY	CARRIED
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(The proposed changes reflect the requirement to address a potential vacancy arising in the role of President between Congresses.)

9. (i) **THAT:** Article 59 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended by the addition of the following new lines 2/3:

If the position is that of the President the vacancy shall be filled by the Deputy President who shall hold the position until the conclusion of the next Congress.

- (ii) **THAT:** the reference in Article 59 of the Articles of Association of the Company to “in an” in line 4 be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced by reference to “for any other”.

BOARD

PROPOSED	NEIL MARTIN	SECONDED	GEORGE MAYBURY	CARRIED
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(The proposed changes reflect the need to address and update the provisions governing the operation of the Association's Principal and Associated Committees.)

11. **THAT:** Article 81 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby deleted in its entirety and THAT the following be and is hereby adopted in substitution therefor:
81. (a) 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.
- (b) Detailed Terms of Reference for the Principal Committees shall be reviewed and determined from time to time by the Board in consultation with principle committees.
- (c) Employees of the Association may not be voting members of Principal Committees.
- (d) The Association President shall be, *ex officio*, a member of all Principal Committees.
- (e) There shall be the following Principal Committees: -
- (i) A Coaching and Development Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and ten (10) individuals, five (5) of whom shall be elected at Congress and five (5) appointed by the Board. The Chair of the High Performance Committee shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the Coaching and Development Committee with full voting rights.
- (ii) A Competition Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and ten (10) individuals, five (5) of whom shall be elected at Congress, one (1) appointed by the Board and four (4) appointed by the Provinces.
- (iii) A Finance and Risk Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and six (6) individuals, three (3) of whom shall be elected at Congress and three (3) appointed by the Board.
- (iv) A High Performance Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and six (6) individuals, three (3) of whom shall be elected at Congress and three (3), at least one of whom shall be an international athlete who has represented Ireland in Senior Competition within five (5) years of the date of the immediately preceding Congress, shall be appointed by the Board. The Chair of the Coaching and Development Committee shall be, *ex officio*, a member of the High Performance Committee with full voting rights.
- (v) A Juvenile Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and ten (10) individuals, five (5) of whom shall be elected at Congress, one (1) appointed by the Board and four (4) appointed by the Provinces.

- (f) The necessary quorum for the transaction of the business of the Principal Committees shall consist of a bare majority of the total number of Committee members.
- (g) The Board shall appoint individuals to the Principal Committees at its first meeting after the relevant Congress, or as soon as practicable thereafter. The Principal Committees shall meet at least four times annually. If at any time an elected position on a Principal Committee becomes vacant through resignation or otherwise, the Board shall fill the vacancy by appointing to that position the next highest polling candidate in the election for that position at Congress, to hold office until the next Congress. In the absence of a next highest polling candidate the Board shall appoint a member to hold office until the next Congress.
- (h) There shall be a Technical Committee which shall comprise of eight (8) members appointed by the Board at its first meeting following Congress. The responsibilities of the Technical Committee shall include the following:
 - (i) training and certification of competition officials;
 - (ii) competition equipment; and
 - (iii) statistics and records.
 - (iv) Provide technical support to all other committees and any area deemed necessary by the board
- (i) There shall be a Schools Committee comprising of the nominees of the Irish Schools Athletics Association. The Board shall endeavour to achieve the full integration of the activities of ISAA into the Association.
- (j) There shall be a Universities Committee comprising of the nominees of the Irish Universities Athletics Association. The Board shall endeavour to achieve the full integration of the activities of IUAA into the Association.
- (k) The Board shall appoint a Standing Orders Committee to advise the Board on the order of business of Congress from time to time.
- (l) The Board may establish working groups from time to time and appoint members to those working groups.

CARRIED AS AMENDED – BOARD, SLIGO & DUBLIN

PROPOSED	BRIAN DOWLING	SECONDED	MICHAEL O'HART	CARRIED
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(The following Motion reflects incidental changes as a consequence of Motions 1 to 11.)

12. **THAT:** the consequential changes to the Company’s Memorandum & Articles of Association necessitated by the passing of Resolutions 1 to 11, inclusive, be and are hereby approved.

BOARD

PROPOSED	GEORGINA DRUMM	SECONDED	NEIL MARTIN	CARRIED
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MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

13. **THAT:** in the memorandum of Association of the Company, the current Objective 3 (ii) shall be substituted by the following, and that the Bye Laws of the Association in so far as they refer to Provincial Councils and County Boards be amended accordingly:-

- (ii) Strive to ensure that no discrimination on the basis of any of the Grounds for discrimination set out in the Equal Status Acts (2000-2015), as amended, be allowed in Athletics, and take all practicable Measures to stop such discrimination.

MEATH

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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14. **THAT:** in the memorandum of Association of the Company, the current objective 3(iii) shall be substituted by the following, and that the Bye Laws of the Association in so far as they refer to Provincial Councils and County Boards be amended accordingly:-

- (iii) Strive to secure that there shall be no hindrance to the Participation of any Country, Individual or Age Category in Athletics competitions on the basis of any of the grounds for discrimination set out in Equal Status Acts (2000 – 2015), as amended, and to ensure that there be no such hindrance in Athletics Meetings over which the Association or the IAFF have control.

MEATH

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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15. **THAT:** in the memorandum of Association of the Company, the current objective 3 (v) shall be substituted by the following and that the Bye Laws of the Association in so far as they refer to Provincial Councils and County Boards be amended accordingly:-

(v) Strive to ensure that for all elected positions in the Association, including the Board, there shall be no discrimination on the basis of any of the grounds for discrimination set out in the Equal Status Acts (2000 – 2015), as amended.

MEATH

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

16. **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 of 400 registered members of affiliated Clubs.

MEATH

PROPOSED	MICHAEL HEERY	SECONDED	PJ LEDDY	LOST
			FOR 77	AGAINST 53

17. **THAT:** A.A.I. re-introduce individual membership for a maximum of 6 months.
CORK

PROPOSED	COLETTE KELLY	SECONDED	COLETTE QUINN	LOST
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ADMINISTRATION

18. **THAT:** the Athletic Association of Ireland annual registration fee be increased by €3.00 for all members effective from 2019. These funds will be ring fenced for Coaching & Development.

CARRIED AS AMENDED – BOARD & DUBLIN

PROPOSED	FINTAN REILLY	SECONDED	SEAMUS FLYNN	CARRIED
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19. **THAT:** Registration Fees be increased by €3 to €15 for Juveniles and by €3 to €20 for Senior.

MEATH

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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20. **THAT:** The registration fee for each member of the association be increased by €3.00 with this money to be ring-fenced for coaching.

WATERFORD

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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21. **THAT:** All applications for race permits must come through the County Board where the race is being held.

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	JOHN QUIGLEY	SECONDED	BRENDAN MEADE	CARRIED
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22. **THAT:** The exclusion zone for race permits be reduced to 30km radius.

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	BRIAN MURPHY	SECONDED	BILL ALLEN	CARRIED
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23. **THAT:** the exclusion zone for Race Permits be implemented 36 hours either side of race start time. This means that there will be no race permit granted within the exclusion zone 36 hours either side of a race with a permit already granted.

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	BRIAN MURPHY	SECONDED	TIM FITZPATRICK	LOST
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24. **THAT:** Road Permits Recommended / Distances become mandatory for Juveniles.

MEATH

PROPOSED	BRENDAN MEADE	SECONDED	SEAMUS FLYNN	CARRIED
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Comments:

1. **John Quigley** – Our recommended distances are not in line with Canada, UK, IAAF
2. **James Landon** – Is the issue insurance rather than ability?
3. **Brian Dowling** – **(Opposed)** Club races are fundraisers, walkers etc. take part to support the club.
4. **Peter Hanlon** – The permit states the allowed distances per age category. If an age is not declared correctly by the athlete the club is not liable.
5. **Seamus Flynn** – **(In favour)** – We have a moral obligation to protect our young athletes.

25. THAT: if clubs have a number of events in a calendar year, they should apply for their permits together no later than 2 months prior to their first event. In making this application they should prioritise their events from the most important to the least. Permits for that date should be granted to the highest priority race i.e. if ABC athletic club have 5 events during the year, they need to state which is their no 1 event, no2 event etc. in order of importance/priority. Then if XYZ Athletic club apply for their only event of the year on the same date as ABC A.C.'s No 5 event, then XYZ's A.C. should be granted and ABC would have to change their date or permit not be granted. This would give smaller clubs a fair opportunity of getting race permits.

CORK

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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26. THAT: A.A.I. appoint a liaison officer to establish and maintain contact with Junior athletes up to Under 23.

WICKLOW

PROPOSED		SECONDED		NO DELEGATE
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27. THAT: Athletics Ireland appoint nationwide development/membership officers with specific responsibilities for Schools and Colleges (2nd and 3rd level) links with it and its clubs.

GALWAY

PROPOSED	BRIAN BRUTON	SECONDED		RECOMMENDATION
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28. THAT: Athletics Ireland establish a Capital /Facilities investment committee or advisory group to assist clubs and county Boards acquire and develop athletics facilities and cross country venues

GALWAY

PROPOSED	BRIAN BRUTON	SECONDED		RECOMMENDATION
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29. THAT: Athletics Ireland shall draft and implement a Respect Code of Practice.
MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	JOHN QUIGLEY	SECONDED		RECOMMENDATION
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30. THAT: AAI adhere to the standards set by governing bodies i.e. European Athletics, IAAF, and IOC.

WICKLOW

PROPOSED		SECONDED		NO DELEGATE
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31. **THAT:** when Registration Numbers are being reported, the categories; Juvenile - Under 16, Youths -Under 18, Junior - Under 20, Senior & Masters. Are used in order to better reflect the structure of the Registered Membership.

MEATH

PROPOSED	MICHAEL HEERY	SECONDED	BRIAN CORCORAN	CARRIED
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32. **THAT:** All Individual entries for National Juvenile “A” Championships should be submitted to Head Office by the Provincial/Regional secretary only.

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	TIM FITZPATRICK	SECONDED	BILL ALLEN	CARRIED
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33. **THAT:** all transfer applications be sent when completed to the County Board (not directly to AAI office).

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	COLETTE KELLY	SECONDED	BILL ALLEN	NO CHANGE
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34. **THAT:** Championships be officially called Irish Championships.

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	LIAM FLEMING	SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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SENIOR COMPETITION

35. **THAT:** the Athletic Association of Ireland introduce a 5K / 5 miles / 10 miles National Road Championships.

BOARD

PROPOSED	JOHN CRONIN	SECONDED	FINTAN REILLY	CARRIED
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36. **THAT:** the Women’s Weight for Distance (28lb) be included as an event in the National indoor & T&F Competitions for Junior, U23, Senior and Master Women.

CARRIED AS AMENDED – KILKENNY, LOUTH & BOARD

PROPOSED	DAVID DENIEFFE	SECONDED	JOHN CRONIN	CARRIED
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37. **THAT:** a Senior clubs cross country relay competition be introduced.

GALWAY

PROPOSED	BRIAN BRUTON	SECONDED	PAT FITZGIBON	CARRIED
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Comments:

1. **John Cronin** – on a point of clarification, the event would be championship format, using IAAF distances.
2. **Pat Hooper** – The event should cater for all age categories.

38. **THAT:** where a runner is representing his/her County in the Inter Club & Inter County Cross Country they be compelled to wear county colours.

MUNSTER, CORK

PROPOSED	LIAM FLEMMING	SECONDED	JOE WALSH	LOST
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39. **THAT:** When a juvenile event is run in conjunction with a selection event as in the case of the AAI Junior Inter clubs that Juvenile club teams be allowed to score in both team events.

WICKLOW

PROPOSED		SECONDED		NO DELEGATE
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40. **THAT:** only the first, second and third individuals in the Novice and Intermediate cross-country competitions be deemed ineligible for future National cross-country competition at each respective level.

GALWAY

PROPOSED	BRIAN BRUTON	SECONDED	PAT FITZGIBON	LOST
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41. **THAT:** scoring at the National U18 / Junior event be as follows:

- a) The first three across the line are place 1st, 2nd, 3rd Juniors providing they are entered.
- b) That the first twelve U18 athletes (even if they are also placed as Junior, are place 1 - 12 at U18.
- c) That the Junior results are listed containing the names of all athletes who entered as Junior.

WICKLOW

PROPOSED		SECONDED		NO DELEGATE
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42. **THAT:** The ages of Novice and Intermediate must be 18 years of age or over on the 31st December in the year of competition as per the Senior Age groups.

WEXFORD

PROPOSED	PADDY MORGAN	SECONDED	PAT HOOPER	LOST
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43. **THAT:** the National Half Marathon competition be held in September annually and rotated country wide

GALWAY

PROPOSED	JAMES LUNDON	SECONDED		TO BE REVIEWED
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44. **THAT:** the National Track and Field Outdoor League be scheduled to compete in advance of National Senior outdoors.

GALWAY

PROPOSED	BRIAN BRUTON	SECONDED		RECOMMEDATION
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JUVENILE COMPETITION

45. **THAT:** A 400m for both Boys and Girls Under 16 be introduced for National Juvenile Indoor and Outdoor Championships.

ULSTER, DONEGAL

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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46. **THAT:** All Juvenile Athletes be required to compete in their individual "A" Provincial/Regional Indoor& Track/Field Championships to qualify to compete in their National Indoor & Track/Field Championships with the exception of anyone U17, U18, U19, competing in an International championship at the time & wearing an Irish Singlet/Jersey i.e. European,World & Olympic Championships.

MUNSTER & CORK

PROPOSED	TIM FITZPATRICK	SECONDED	MOSSIE WOULFE	LOST
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47. **THAT:** all juvenile athletes be required to compete in their individual Provincial/Regional Championships, to qualify to compete in their National Championships with the exception of anyone u/17, u/18, u/19 competing in an International championships at the time & wearing an Irish Singlet/jersey i.e. European, World & Olympic championships.

CORK

PROPOSED		SECONDED		WITHDRAWN
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48. **THAT:** the relay race for the U12 and U13 age groups in the National Juvenile Indoor Championships be changed from 4x100m to 4x200m.

LOUTH

PROPOSED	CIARÁN DOYLE	SECONDED	BRIAN CORCORAN	CARRIED
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Appendix 1 – Budget 2018

BUDGET 2018

Athletic Association of Ireland LtdBudget 2018**Income**

Sports Ireland Grants	€1,946,000	
Other Grants	€162,850	
Registrations & Affiliations	€938,400	
Competition & Related Activities	€551,100	
Coaching & Development	€178,000	
Recreational events /Programmes	€1,175,290	
Miscellaneous	€1,000	
	<hr/>	
Total Income		€4,952,640

Expenditure

Wages & Salaries	€1,328,192	
Coaching & Development	€216,850	
Performance	€946,630	
Competition & Related Activities	€758,211	
Administration	€683,830	
Recreational events	€988,149	
Depreciation	€10,778	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditure		€4,932,640
		<hr/>
Surplus		€20,000
		<hr/> <hr/>

Appendix 2 – Audited Accounts

Association of Ireland Limited

4th Congress

28th April 2018

**The Landmark Hotel
Carrick on Shannon
Co. Leitrim**

AUDITED ACCOUNTS

Company Number: 474499

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee
Directors' Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2017

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

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Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Directors	Georgina Drumm George Maybury John McGrath Brian Dowling John Cronin Jim Ryan Billy Delaney John Allen Jim Ryan Neil Martin Brid Golden Caroline O'Shea Fintan Reilly Claire Bergin Garret Dunne Eamon Harvey
Company Secretary	Georgina Drumm
Company Number	474499
Sports Exemption Number	G.S.2188
Registered Office	Unit 19 Northwood Court Northwood Business Campus Santry Dublin 9
Auditors	Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co Chartered Certified Accountants & Statutory Auditors 14 St Michael Street Tipperary Town
Business address	Unit 19 Northwood Court Northwood Business Campus Santry Dublin 9
Bankers	Allied Irish Banks 53/54 Main St Finglas Dublin 11
Solicitors	O'Brien Dunne 6 Upper Fitzwilliam Street Dublin 2

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

Officers Details

Georgina Drumm (President/Secretary)

George Maybury (Treasurer/Finance & Risk)

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Principal Activity and Review of the Business

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 continued to grow in 2017 due principally to an increase in membership (+2800 on 2016) and our expanded involvement in mass participation events. Our new Strategic Plan 2017-2020 Sport for Everyone was launched during the year with seven key objectives

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.

We now own 50% of the Dublin Night Run with Titan Experience and took over the Irish Runner 5 Mile from the Dublin Race Series . The Remembrance Run in November increased numbers to 4200 assisted by very positive publicity on the event through the RTE documentary "It's a Park Life".

2017 was a World Championship year and we sent a team of 12 athletes to London. Impressive performances were made by Robert Heffernan (8th Men's 50k Walk) and Brian Gregan (Semi Final Men 400m). In the European U20 (formerly Junior) we had our best ever performance winning Gold with Gina Akpe Moses in the Women 100m and bronze with Michaela Walsh in the Women Hammer and John Fitzsimons in the Men 800m. Seven Outdoor National Records were set in 2017. Marcus Lawler (200m U23), Chris O'Donnell (400m U20), Sommer Lecky (High Jump U20) Sarah Mc Keever (Pole Vault U23) and Elizabeth Morland (Heptathlon Sen, U23, U20). Kevin Ankrom Director of HP returned to USA and we thank him for the structures and processes that he has put in place that will ensure sustainable growth of our HP programme. Paul Mc Namara who was our Development Officer based in Athlone IT was recruited into the role. Paul will focus on continuing to build the HP programme and place a special emphasis on Coaching to ensure that our athletes are supported appropriately in this important area.

In Coaching we launched Icoach for relays and continued Coach Networks for Endurance and Sprint Coaches. Our Development Officers trained 1268 volunteer club coaches at 77 Coach Education courses during the year.

Our Child Safeguarding Manager works with club Children's Officers on the area of safeguarding our juvenile members in line with our Code of Ethics. Children First Legislation commenced in December 2017. Our clubs have three months to be compliant with this legislation.

Irish Life Health continued to partner with us on our National Championships and Fit4Life Programme. Bank of Ireland continued as sponsor of our Schools Talent ID programme. CX Sport have come on board as the apparel sponsor of our international teams. Muller have also come on board as our official Dairy Products partner.

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

We received funding from Dormant Account Funding to support our Fit4Class programme in National Schools and iRunForFun programme in Post Primary Schools. We also received funding from both Erasmus + for an Over 50 Dementia Delay programme and the Dept of Justice and Equality to create an Athletics for All Coach Education module.

We worked closely with National Sports Campus in 2017 hosting our Autumn Open and Senior Cross Country Championships at the National Cross Country course in Abbottstown. Also various indoor events including the National Senior Championships were held at the newly opened national Indoor Arena. Regional Development Officer, David Matthews, is now based at the campus to deliver various athletics programmes and events in co-operation with the campus management.

1) Financials

The Company made an operating surplus of €13,512 in the year with no exceptional items.

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 Institute of Sport in working with our Athlete Services team and Sports Campus Ireland who have built both the National Cross Country course which opened in September 2016 and the National Indoor Athletics Arena at Abbottstown which opened in January 2017.

Sport Ireland invested €887k in Core funding (2016 €887k) and €35k in Women in Sport (€40k 2016).

The total investment from Sport Ireland in High Performance was €1071k (2016 €1035k). HP Core funding was increased from €810k in 2016 €835k in 2017. Carding payments for athletes increased from €220k in 2016 to €236k for our Podium, World Class and International Athletes. These Sport Ireland grants to High Performance were supplemented by approx. €175k from our Recreation Events.

We also received a Dormant Accounts "Get Ireland Running" grant of €112k in 2017 (2016 €135k) which has supported the new iRunForFun programme in Secondary Schools and Fit4Class in National Schools.

On sponsorship: Irish Life Health continue as title sponsor for all our National Championships, Fit4Life recreational running programme and National Awards. CX Sport has started as International Teams Clothing sponsor. Grant Thornton maintained their sponsorship of our Corporate Challenges in three locations.

2) Governance

The governance on how we operate is that we have the appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure that the organisation is well run, with specific focus on Governance, including management of our finances to best demonstrated practise and management of risk.

We are working with Sport Ireland and Carmichael House to achieve compliance with the Governance Code. We have been designated a Type C organisation and are on the journey of adoption of the 5 principles/75 subprinciples. We have set ourselves a deadline of December 2018 for compliance.

3) Membership & Club

Membership reached 60,501 in 2017, an increase of 4% on 58,265 in 2016.

Steady growth has been achieved since 2008 as follows:

<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
26,676	29,682	33,436	35,490	42,207	49,542	54,327	56,533	58,265	60,501

Affiliated clubs reached 342, a net increase of 2 on the 340 in 2016. This growth could not have been achieved without the dedication of our volunteers throughout the country supported by a committed body of professional staff.

4) Child Welfare

We delivered 25 (2016 26) Child Welfare and Protection courses to 360 (2016 314) participants in the year by our National Safeguarding Office. We also delivered briefings to Provincial and County Boards.

We completed 1624 applications in 2017 (2016 1363) and approx. 9588 (8,000 2016) members have been Garda vetted since 2010

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

5) High Performance

The highlight of the year was the three medals won at the European Junior Championships in Grosseto, Italy with Gina Akpe Moses Gold Women 100m, Michaela Walsh Bronze Women Hammer and John Fitzsimons Men 800m. This was our most successful ever Junior championships and our first gold medal since 2005.

We also recorded our first team medal in the European Race Walking Cup where our Men 20k Team consisting of Alex Wright (6th), Robert Heffernan (13th) and Cian Mc Manamon (26th) won bronze. In the European Youth Olympics we won 5 medals.

We sent a team of 12 athletes to the World Championships in London. Robert Heffernan was our highest finisher, 8th, in the Mens 50k Walk.

In the European Cross Country our men's team finished 5th which was our joint highest finishing position since we won the bronze team medal in 2000.

Under the Sport Ireland Elite Athlete Carding Programme twelve individual athletes and one relay team received funding. Another 122 athletes were supported by the programme.

We continue to work with Sport Ireland High Performance Unit and the Institute of Sport to prepare and monitor our athletes in conjunction with their personal coaches.

6) Coaching

Coaching systems are essential to ensure that Athletes receive appropriate training at our clubs. Demand for courses remains high as our clubs endeavour to meet our recommended Coach/athlete ratios for each training session. The following courses were held:

	2017		2016	
	Courses	Participants	Courses	Participants
Athletic Leader	27	387	33	442
Assistant Coach	33	521	26	391
Endurance Leader	7	110	7	102
Level 1	9	182	15	294
Level2	1	68	0	0
Total	77	1,268	81	1,229

7) Competition

Several indoor events were held in the new National Indoor Arena and two events (Autumn Open and National Seniors) were held at the new National Cross Country course in Abbottstown. We continue to use the Athlone IT International Arena for Juvenile and Masters indoor Championships. We are grateful to the many clubs who have allowed us to use their facilities for other national championships.

We continue to 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 the professional staff.

8) Recreation Events

Approximately 64,000 participants took part in the 7 Owned and 11 Managed events Athletic Ireland organised in 2017. Approximately 20% of our revenues are earned through recreation events and so this is a key area of opportunity to grow revenues to invest in our sport.

The Company expanded the number of Summer Camps to 26 (2016, 20).

We are very grateful to the Clubs and County Boards who provided volunteers to assist in the organisation of these events. Grants of over €75k were paid to the clubs and County Boards for this assistance.

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

9) Sports Capital Equipment

For the first time the Company did not receive an allocation from the 2017 Dept. of Transport Tourism and Sport Sports Capital Equipment grant. This was due to new criteria being introduced which favoured facility improvements rather than equipment. However, a record number of clubs received funding with a total of €987,245 being allocated to Athletics.

10) Future

We will continue to focus on growth strategies to achieve new members and revenues whilst striving for cost efficiencies.

As well as Sport Ireland, partnerships will develop with Cara on our Athletics for All coach education module. Under the National Physical Activity Plan to Get Ireland Running we will develop partnerships with Healthy Ireland, various Local Sports Partnerships, Daily Mile Foundation in National Schools and Age and Opportunities for Over 50s. Agreements are in place for new Recreation events to take place in Galway and Dublin in 2018.

11) Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Maintaining relationships with existing sponsors and developing strategies to recruit new sponsors through our various properties will continue to be a key focus in 2018 and in future years.

Our Strategic Plan sets a goal of 70,000 members by 2020, 63,000 in 2018. We will continue to work with Sport Ireland and the Dept of Transport, Tourism and Sport on capital funding for clubs in facility improvement, coaching programmes and volunteer development to assist them in maintaining and growing membership.

We will work with the Department of Sport on the implementation of the new Sports Policy expected in 2018.

12) Important Events Since the year end

Sports Ireland announced our Core funding would remain at €887k and a reduction in our High Performance funding from €835k to €790k.

CEO John Foley retires at the end of April 2018. The recruitment process for his replacement was completed in early February and the new CEO Hamish Adams will start in May.

Membership continues to grow. In the first 2 months of 2018 we are seeing an increase of 1% on 2017.

13) Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, a full time accountant is employed and appropriate computerised accounting systems have been maintained. The accounting records of the company are kept at the registered office and principal place of business at Unit 19, Northwood Court, Northwood Business Campus, Santry, Dublin 9.

14) 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.

Athletics Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

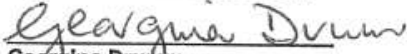
DIRECTORS' REPORT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

15) Auditors

The auditors, Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co. have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with provisions of Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Signed on behalf of the Board



Georgina Drumm
Director



George Maybury
Director

Date: 15/03/18

Athletics Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

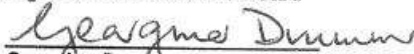
Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by. 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 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 and enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be 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



Georgina Drumm
Director



George Maybury
Director

Date: 15/03/18

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 year ended 31 December 2017 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 2017 and of its surplus for the 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 issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and the Provisions Available for Small Entities, in the circumstances set out in note 3 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:

- 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 the 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.

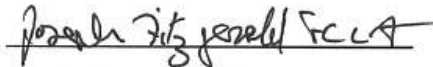
Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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.
Chartered Certified Accountants & Statutory Auditor
14 St Michael Street
Tipperary Town

Date: 23/02/18

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 going concerns. 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 going concerns.
- 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.

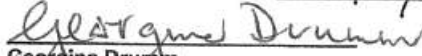
Athletics Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 €	2016 €
Income		4,743,366	4,674,889
Expenditure		(4,729,854)	(4,672,104)
Surplus before tax		13,512	2,765
Tax on surplus	6	-	-
Surplus for the year		13,512	2,765
Total Comprehensive Income		13,512	2,765

Approved by the Board on 15/02/18 and signed on its behalf by:


 Georgina Drumm
 Director


 George Maybury
 Director

Athletics Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 €	2016 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	10	132,502	192,772
Investments	11	484,724	484,724
		<u>617,226</u>	<u>677,496</u>
Current Assets			
Stocks	12	9,036	25,594
Debtors	13	330,830	343,708
Cash and cash equivalents		92,340	113,550
		<u>432,206</u>	<u>482,852</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(565,290)</u>	<u>(583,013)</u>
Net Current Liabilities		<u>(133,084)</u>	<u>(100,161)</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		484,142	577,335
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(3,905)	(110,610)
		<u>480,237</u>	<u>466,725</u>
Reserves			
Income and expenditure		430,237	416,725
General reserve		50,000	50,000
Equity attributable to owners of the company		<u>480,237</u>	<u>466,725</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board on 15/03/18 and signed on its behalf by:

Georgina Drumm
Georgina Drumm
Director

George Maybury
George Maybury
Director

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

RECONCILIATION OF MEMBERS' FUNDS

as at 31 December 2017

	Retained surplus	Total
	€	€
At 1 January 2016	463,980	463,960
Surplus for the year	2,765	2,765
At 31 December 2016	466,725	466,725
Surplus for the year	13,512	13,512
At 31 December 2017	480,237	480,237

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Notes	2017 €	2016 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	22	(6,349)	57,495
		<u>(6,349)</u>	<u>57,495</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	10	(14,861)	(66,955)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		<u>(21,210)</u>	<u>(9,460)</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(21,210)	(9,460)
Net cash at 1 January 2017		113,550	123,010
Net cash at 31 December 2017	21	<u>92,340</u>	<u>113,550</u>

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2017

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in 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 2017 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 and promulgated by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Consolidated accounts

The company and its subsidiary meet the size exemption criteria for a group and the company is therefore exempt from the requirement 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 & Expenditure

Income consists mainly of government grants and other income generated by the company. These are included in the financial statements only when realised or the realisation of which can be assessed with reasonable certainty. Grants where entitlements are conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the company, are recognised only when the company becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability. Expenditure includes any VAT as it cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Equipment and fittings are recorded at historical cost or at deemed cost, less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes prime cost, overheads and interest incurred in financing the construction of tangible fixed assets. Capitalisation of interest ceases when the asset is brought into use.

Depreciation is provided on equipment and fittings, on a straight-line basis, so as to write off their cost less residual amounts over their estimated useful economic lives. The expected useful lives assigned to sports equipment, office equipment, and computer equipment are as follows:

Sports Equipment	-	25% Straight line on cost
Office Equipment	-	25% Straight line on cost
Computer Equipment	-	25% Straight line on cost

The company's policy is to review the remaining useful economic lives and residual values of all classes of fixed assets on an ongoing basis and to adjust the depreciation charge to reflect the remaining estimated useful economic life and residual value.

Fully depreciated fixed assets are retained in the cost of equipment and related accumulated depreciation until they are removed from service. In the case of disposals, assets and related depreciation are removed from the financial statements and the net amount, less proceeds from disposal, is charged or credited to the income statement.

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

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.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Stocks are determined on a first-in first-out basis. Cost comprises expenditure incurred in the normal course of business in bringing stocks to their present location and condition. Full provision is made for obsolete and slow moving items. Net realisable value comprises actual or estimated selling price (net of trade discounts) less all further costs to completion or to be incurred in marketing and selling.

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.

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.

Close family members of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the company.

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.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future, or a right to pay less tax in the future. Timing differences are temporary differences between the company's taxable income and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are anticipated to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the Balance Sheet date.

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.

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Government Grants

Grants are accounted under the accruals 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.

Mulcahy O'Neill Fitzgerald & Co. confirm that Sport Ireland Grants received during the year were expended for the purpose for which they were intended.

3. PROVISIONS AVAILABLE FOR 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

	2017	2016
	€	€
Operating surplus is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	75,131	189,048
	<u>75,131</u>	<u>189,048</u>

5. EMPLOYEES

The average monthly number of employees during the year were:

	2017	2016
	Number	Number
Fulltime	23	23
Parttime	12	10
	<u>35</u>	<u>33</u>

	2017	2016
Salary Band		
€60,000-€100,000	1	0
€100,001-€110,000	1	1
€110,001-€120,000	0	1

	2017	2016
	Number	Number
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	1,057,488	1,035,087
Employer's PRSI	117,742	119,600
Employee's PRSA	40,234	35,340
	<u>1,215,464</u>	<u>1,190,316</u>

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

6. TAX ON SURPLUS

	2017	2016
	€	€
Analysis of charge in the year		
Current tax:		
Corporation tax	-	-
Surplus before tax	<u>13,512</u>	<u>2,765</u>

No charge to tax arises due to the Sports Exemption.

7. 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.

8. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND SPORT CAPITAL GRANTS

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport capital grants are credited to the Income and Expenditure Account over the useful economic life of the assets acquired with the grant.

9. 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 year ended 31 December 2017

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Sports Capital 2014 €	Sports Capital 2012 €	Sports Capital 2008 €	AAI Sports Equipment €	Office Equipment €	Computer Equipment €	Total €
Cost							
At 1 January 2017	259,860	350,069	495,236	1,122,674	51,550	234,123	2,513,512
Additions	-	-	-	2,939	-	11,922	14,861
At 31 December 2017	259,860	350,069	495,236	1,125,613	51,550	246,045	2,528,373
Depreciation							
At 1 January 2017	100,189	350,069	481,439	1,119,645	48,615	220,783	2,320,740
Charge for the year	51,972	-	10,841	1,587	1,073	9,658	75,131
At 31 December 2017	152,161	350,069	492,280	1,121,232	49,688	230,441	2,395,871
Net book value							
At 31 December 2017	107,699	-	2,956	4,381	1,862	15,604	132,502
At 31 December 2016	159,671	-	13,797	3,029	2,935	13,340	192,772

There were no assets held under finance lease included in the tangible fixed assets

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2017

continued

In respect of prior year

	Sports Capital 2014 €	Sports Capital 2012 €	Sports Capital 2008 €	AAI Sports Equipment €	Office Equipment €	Computer Equipment €	Total €
Cost							
At 1 January 2016	201,842	350,069	495,236	1,119,362	50,401	229,647	2,446,557
Additions	58,018	-	-	3,312	1,149	4,476	66,955
At 31 December 2016	259,860	350,069	495,236	1,122,674	51,550	234,123	2,513,512
Depreciation							
At 1 January 2016	48,217	280,055	428,940	1,118,235	45,865	210,380	2,131,692
Charge for the year	51,972	70,014	52,499	1,410	2,750	10,403	189,048
At 31 December 2016	100,189	350,069	481,439	1,119,645	48,615	220,783	2,320,740
Net book value							
At 31 December 2016	159,671	-	13,797	3,029	2,935	13,340	192,772
At 31 December 2015	153,625	70,014	66,296	1,127	4,536	19,267	314,865

There were no assets held under finance lease included in the tangible fixed assets

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2017

11. INVESTMENTS

	2017	2016
Cost	€	€
At 1 January 2016	<u>484,724</u>	<u>484,724</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>484,724</u>	<u>484,724</u>
Net Book Value		
At 1 January 2016	<u>484,724</u>	<u>484,724</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>484,724</u>	<u>484,724</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 every three years. The next review is at the end of 2018.

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.

The Company owns 100% of the share capital of Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited.

Company	Country of Incorporation	Class	Shares
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:

	Capital and Reserves 2017 €	Profit for the year 2017 €
Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited	<u>(349,966)</u>	<u>28,184</u>

12. STOCKS

	2017 €	2016 €
Medals	<u>9,036</u>	<u>25,594</u>

The replacement cost of stock did not differ significantly from the figures shown.

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

13. DEBTORS		2017	2016
		€	€
	Trade Debtors and Prepayments	84,222	149,757
	AIE Ltd Current Account	236,608	183,951
	Other Debtors	10,000	10,000
		330,830	343,708
		330,830	343,708
14. CREDITORS		2017	2016
Amounts falling due within one year		€	€
	Trade creditors	266,519	320,294
	Deferred Income	186,020	68,339
	Accruals	80,563	133,015
	PAYE/PRSI	32,188	61,365
		565,290	583,013
		565,290	583,013
15. CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due after more than one year			
	Deferred grants	<u>3,905</u>	<u>110,610</u>

16. GRANTS

Sport Ireland Grants

	Opening Balance (€)	Grant Received (€)	Grant Release (€)	Closing Balance (€)
Ordinary Grant	-	812,448	(812,448)	-
Athlete Development	9,488	-	-	9,488
Performance Core	-	835,000	(835,000)	-
Elite Athlete Carding	-	236,000	(236,000)	-
Administered Hosted Events	10,000	84,552	(84,552)	10,000
Get Ireland Active	28,265	111,750	(80,015)	60,000
Women in Sport	-	35,000	(35,000)	-
TOTAL	47,753	2,114,750	2,083,015	79,488

Sport Ireland (Administered) Grants

	2017 (€)	2016 (€)
Cork City Sports	33,698	33,698
Morton Games	25,000	15,000
Athlone IT Grand Prix	10,000	13,080
Letterkenny Track Meet	7,000	7,000
Ultra Running	3,854	5,688
Irish Mountain Running	2,500	2,500
Le Cheile Sports	1,000	750
Leevale Sports	1,500	500
TOTAL	84,552	78,216

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

continued

for the year ended 31 December 2017

Department of Transport, Tourism and Sports Capital Equipment Programme

	Opening Balance (€)	Grants Received (€)	Grants Released (€)	Closing Balance (€)
Sports Capital Equipment Grants	129,875	-	63,665	66,210

17. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The company had no material capital commitments at the year-ended 31 December 2017.

18. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

The directors act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No members of the Board of Management received any remuneration during the year. Travel and subsistence costs of €6,151 (2016 €8,303) were reimbursed to members of the Board in relation to attendance at Board meetings and €5,633 (2016 €5,760) for Committee meetings. An additional €21,401 (2016 €27,805) 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 2017 was €236,608. Rent of €84,058 (Vat inclusive at 23%) was paid to Athletics Ireland Enterprises Limited during the year by the Company.

Transactions between the companies totalled €52,659.

20. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the year-end.

21. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017 €	2016 €
Cash and bank balances	92,138	113,348
Cash equivalents	202	202
	<u>92,340</u>	<u>113,550</u>

22. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2017 €	2016 €
Net Incoming Resources	13,512	2,763
Depreciation	75,131	189,048
Movement in Stock	16,558	(476)
Movement in Debtors	12,878	(22,515)
Movement in Creditors adjusted for grants	(92,498)	(70,800)
Grants Released	(2,146,680)	(2,243,619)
Grants Received	2,114,750	2,203,094
	<u>(6,349)</u>	<u>57,495</u>

23. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on

15/04/18

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

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
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Schedule	2017 €	2016 €
Income	1	<u>4,743,366</u>	<u>4,674,869</u>
Overhead expenses	2	<u>(4,729,854)</u>	<u>(4,672,104)</u>
Net surplus		<u><u>13,512</u></u>	<u><u>2,765</u></u>

The supplementary information does not form part of the audited financial statements

Athletic Association of Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****SCHEDULE 1 : INCOME**

for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 €	2016 €
Income		
Sport Ireland Grants (Note 16)	2,083,015	2,069,135
Other Grants	158,631	218,127
Registrations and Affiliations	948,627	908,846
Competitions and related activities	474,582	461,905
Coaching and Development	104,243	113,416
Recreational Events	972,697	901,708
Miscellaneous	1,571	1,732
	<u>4,743,366</u>	<u>4,674,869</u>

SCHEDULE 2 : EXPENDITURE

for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 €	2016 €
Administration Expenses		
Wages and salaries	1,215,464	1,190,316
High Performance	967,084	985,531
Coaching and Development	264,700	220,757
Competition and related activities	828,109	779,387
Administration	655,220	686,606
Recreational Events	724,146	620,459
Depreciation	75,131	189,048
	<u>4,729,854</u>	<u>4,672,104</u>

The supplementary information does not form part of the audited financial statements





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