



GROWING THE GAME GROWING COMMUNITIES

ANNUAL REVIEW AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2015



THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND IS THE GOVERNING BODY OF FOOTBALL IN IRELAND. THE SPORT IS BEING DEVELOPED BY THE FAI AND ITS ASSOCIATES; CLUBS, LEAGUES AND AFFILIATES IN EVERY TOWNLAND, CITY STREET AND COMMUNITY ACROSS IRELAND IN LINE WITH OUR MISSION TO FOSTER, DEVELOP AND PROMOTE THE GAME. OUR GOAL IS TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY THROUGH OUR MEMBERS, VOLUNTARY AND EXECUTIVE, WORKING WITH THE MANY STAKEHOLDERS WHO SUPPORT AND PLAY IRISH FOOTBALL.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



ON BEHALF OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE THIS ANNUAL REVIEW TO OUR DELEGATES AND THE FOOTBALL FAMILY FOLLOWING A TREMENDOUS WEEK IN TIPPERARY.

As we near the centenary of the Association, it is important to remember that over the 95 years since our foundation the custodians of the game across the country have always come together on an annual basis to deliberate the ways in which we can further the interests of our sport in Ireland.

To this day there remains a determination to constantly evolve and improve as an organisation and what is as true today as it was in 1921 is that volunteers and real football people are the lifeblood of our game. The unsung heroes of the game range from those who hang the nets, prepare the pitches, wash the kits to those who administrate the fixtures, manage the teams, clubs and leagues up and down the country. There are so many fantastic individuals that do so much to help the young people of their areas play the game they love and yet don't actually kick a ball themselves every weekend for a variety of reasons.

It is when those games are played by the players at all levels that it all feels like it comes together. When we see the smiles on the faces of the children after their game of ball or chat to the older players after a hard-fought encounter with a local rival that the effort for the love of our game really feels worth it.

It is the memories of fantastic moments played out on the pitch that will live with us the longest – whether at local, national or international level. Of course there is nothing greater than seeing our national team do the country proud on the major international stage – as we saw in France this summer. Whether you were in the stadium or watch on TV, the feeling of pride and elation when Robbie Brady headed the winner against Italy in Lille to secure our place in the Round of 16 of UEFA EURO 2016 will live long in the memory of every Irish football supporter.

These are the moments we long for in this great game of ours and it is the aim of all involved in Irish football to experience many more of those great occasions long into the future.

That is why we cannot rest on our laurels and it is why the Player Development Plan was formed and is being rolled out. We want to produce better players in greater numbers long into the future so that standards rise across the board. It is that desire to have all of our players fulfilling their potential that has driven the FAI Strategic Plan.

The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan has nine pillars which are all linked with a view towards creating a culture of excellence in our game. The nine pillars are Participation, Club and Community Development, Women's Football, Player Development, the SSE Airtricity League, National Competitions, International Football, Facilities and Organisational Development. The FAI is striving to achieve significant improvements in all those sectors by 2020.

As the governing body, the FAI is constantly looking to assist the growth of our game and help those who run the leagues and clubs around Ireland across a manner of different vehicles. For example, the FAI National Draw has helped clubs across the country raise much needed funds while the introduction of the FAI Net system this year will improve communication across all sectors of Irish football.

The past 12 months has seen Irish football step forward in many ways. The national team's success in qualifying for UEFA Euro 2016 gave our game a massive boost and the performance of Martin O'Neill's side in France helped reconnect our national team with football supporters all over Ireland.

Our underage national teams all showed promise in the season just completed and although we didn't see either of the boys or girls sides reach UEFA Championships Finals tournaments there is no doubt that the players will have benefited from their experience representing their country over the course of the year.



Daniel Byrke, Nenagh, celebrates after scoring the match-winning goal during the final moments of extra time. FAI Umbro U17 Cup Final, Nenagh v Wilton United. Janesboro FC, Janesboro, Limerick.



Niamh Kelly, right, IT Carlow, celebrates with Amy Walsh at the end of the game. WSCAI Intervarsities Cup Final, IT Carlow v IT Sligo.

THE PAST 12 MONTHS HAS SEEN IRISH FOOTBALL STEP FORWARD IN MANY WAYS. THE NATIONAL TEAM'S SUCCESS IN QUALIFYING FOR UEFA EURO 2016 GAVE OUR GAME A MASSIVE BOOST AND THE PERFORMANCE OF MARTIN O'NEILL'S SIDE IN FRANCE HELPED RECONNECT OUR NATIONAL TEAM WITH FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ALL OVER IRELAND.

It was business as usual in domestic competitions with Dundalk proving their class in lifting both the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division and the Irish Daily Mail FAI Senior Cup. Wexford Youths were the story of the year in the First Division with their title success and the EA SPORTS Cup Final proved to be dramatic as St Patrick's Athletic beat Galway United on penalties to clinch that honour.

The introduction of the SSE Airtricity National Under 17 League was undoubtedly a success. Shamrock Rovers beat St Patrick's Athletic in the inaugural final but what has been even more pleasing has been how many of those players have already progressed to U19 level with their respective clubs.

Wexford Youths were once again leading the way in women's football as they retained the Continental Tyres Women's National League after a play-off victory over Shelbourne and also captured the FAI Women's Cup after a penalty shoot-out at Aviva Stadium against the same opponents.

In domestic competitions, Dundalk FC proved their class by lifting both the SSE Airtricity League title and the Irish Daily Mail FAI Cup. Wexford Youths were the story of the year in the First Division with their title success and the EA Sports Cup Final proved dramatic as St Patrick's Athletic beat Galway United on penalties to clinch that honour.

Finally, I would like to add my thanks to CEO John Delaney, my colleagues on the Board of Management and the FAI National Council for all their help to me in my role as President. I would also like to pay tribute to all the great football people we lost over the past 12 months including Mark Farren, Pat Whitty and others who contributed so much to our game.

Tony Fitzgerald
President

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE



IRISH FOOTBALL HAS MADE STEADY PROGRESS OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS WITH THE HIGHLIGHT BEING THE MEMORABLE OCCASION OF THE MEN'S SENIOR TEAM PERFORMING SO WELL AT UEFA EURO 2016.

The performances of the players in France has reconnected the Ireland team with the Irish public and while we'd all like to dream of what might have been, their progress to the last 16 was an excellent achievement and their battling displays were testament to the hard work they had put in prior to the tournament.

I know from watching at close quarters how much work was put in by the entire staff and all of the squad members to represent their country with pride. They came home from the tournament aware that they had given their all and we can look to the future with optimism. It is particularly pleasing that Martin O'Neill, Roy Keane and the management team will all be in place for the forthcoming World Cup qualifying campaign.

It is easy to be wise after the event but this time last year I cautioned that the qualifying campaign for UEFA EURO 2016 was far from finished despite some disappointment at our home draws with Poland and Scotland midway through the group. I believed that the management and players could steer us to France and they did what was asked of them.

The victory over Germany at Aviva Stadium in October and the play-off success against Bosnia & Herzegovina showed that this

Ireland squad are capable of achieving great things. Our win over Italy in Lille was again a night that showed how passionate these players are about wearing the Ireland jersey and what the national team means to the country.

Of course the entire UEFA EURO 2016 adventure was not just about the action on the pitch and I can tell you that everybody in the Association was immensely proud of how our supporters conducted themselves throughout the tournament. An estimated 100,000 Irish supporters made the trip to France at various stages of the event and they behaved in a manner which earned our country enormous admiration.

The FAI was very pleased that our supporters were invited to accept the prestigious 'Médaille de la Ville de Paris' from the Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo for their 'exemplary behaviour' at UEFA EURO 2016. Jamie Monaghan was nominated to join Chairman of the Confederation of Republic of Ireland Supporters Clubs, Joe McKenna, in accepting the honour on behalf of Irish football supporters. Jamie represents the true spirit of Irish football supporters who will stop at nothing to cheer on the Boys in Green so we were proud to have him represent all of us at the reception.

UEFA EURO 2016 captivated the nation and it was particularly pleasing to have President Michael D Higgins in attendance supporting Ireland in France. We also remember at this time the sad deaths of Northern Ireland supporters Darren Rodgers and Robert Rainey while at the tournament supporting their team which brought back sad memories of the death of James Nolan in Poland in 2012.

One final thought on the tournament is that the Irish squad included eight graduates from the SSE Airtricity League. We are proud of this fact that the League is a cornerstone of the FAI Player Development Plan. The creation of the SSE Airtricity National Under 19 & U17 Leagues has allowed the best young Irish footballers to face each other on a regular basis and will in time lead to more well-rounded players breaking through at first-team level with our League clubs. The introduction of an U15 League will further strengthen that structure. A significant development in relation to the SSE Airtricity League was the publishing of the Conroy Report in September, which provides the basis of a discussion on a path forward for the League. Since its publication the FAI and representatives of the clubs have engaged in a consultation process regarding the future of the League. Those talks are ongoing.

The FAI Player Development Plan was drawn up in 2014 by the Technical Advisory Group led by FAI High Performance Director Ruud Dokter and included



On the turn: Wexford Celtic's Under 9s take on Lagan Harps as part of an initiative that saw 145 boys and girls play at the FAI National Training Centre



Lauren Kelly, Republic of Ireland, in action against Miriam Iban, Andorra. 2015-16 UEFA Women's U17 European Championship, Qualifying Round, Group 1, Republic of Ireland v Andorra. Altinordu Selçuk Efes, Izmir, Turkey.

THE PERFORMANCES OF THE PLAYERS IN FRANCE HAS RECONNECTED THE IRELAND TEAM WITH THE IRISH PUBLIC AND WHILE WE'D ALL LIKE TO DREAM OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN, THEIR PROGRESS TO THE LAST 16 WAS AN EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT AND THEIR BATTLING DISPLAYS WERE TESTAMENT TO THE HARD WORK THEY HAD PUT IN PRIOR TO THE TOURNAMENT.

representatives of the various strands of our game including the SFAI, FAIS and SSE Airtricity League. This confirmed the FAI's policy of a player-focused philosophy and we have seen uniformity of playing structures in each age group on a national basis for the first time. These recommendations are all focused on helping players to develop their skills in a child-friendly environment.

A central tenet of the FAI Player Development Plan is to introduce a single calendar season for underage football and it was very pleasing the DDSL clubs voted so unanimously for this switch this year. We would urge other leagues around the country to embrace the reasons for this change and consider how their young players can benefit from commencing their seasons in spring rather than autumn. We recognise that a lot of good work has been done in the development of players in Ireland over the years but the FAI Player Development Plan is designed to further improve the standards of our players across the spectrum.

Another hugely encouraging development in the past year was the opening of the FAI National Training Centre. A state-of-the-art facility with five grass pitches and one artificial pitch, it is now our home base for the men's senior team, various international teams, developing the stars of tomorrow, and many other worthwhile FAI-run programmes.

The season which has just finished for our international sides was highlighted by

the men's senior team but the women's senior team have also participated in a testing qualifying campaign. Sue Ronan's squad ended the season with a record 9-0 home victory over Montenegro and sealed a 5-0 away win over the same opponents, while also beating Portugal in October. Unfortunately they cannot qualify for the UEFA 2017 finals, so they will look to make progress in the FIFA Women's World Cup, which takes place in France in 2019.

At underage level, the men's Under 17s were unfortunate to miss out on qualification for the finals in Azerbaijan after their final group match against Poland went to the unusual circumstances of a penalty shoot-out. The men's U19s did not progress from their Qualifying Round group and will be under new leadership from the next campaign as Tom Mohan steps up from the U17s to take charge of that age group.

Noel King's U21 side began their qualifying campaign with three straight victories over Andorra and Lithuania but results did not go their way over the winter and now thoughts will turn to the future at that age group. A real positive was the promotion of Callum O'Dowda from the U21s to the senior squad in May and he impressed on his debut against Belarus in Cork. The boys U16s ended their campaign with success in the UEFA Development Tournament in Paul Osam's inaugural season while Colin O'Brien's U15s produced a number of impressive displays.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED



The female underage teams also had strong seasons. Dave Bell's women's U17s came very close to reaching the finals and recorded wins over France and Hungary in the Elite Phase qualifiers. Dave Connell's women's U19s also won two of their three Elite Phase games but were denied a final spot by Germany. At the women's U16 level, Sharon Boyle's side won all three games in the UEFA Development Tournament in Hungary.

Ireland's other international sides also represented the country impressively this year with the Amputee football team making excellent progress while the Paralympian team will head to Rio in September looking to make a big impression despite being drawn in a very testing group. Our Schools international side had a solid year but were pipped for the Centenary Shield by England.

I would like to pass on my appreciation to Gerry Smith who stepped down as Amateur international team manager and Paul Doolin who decided to move on from the U19s. I would like to wish the new management teams involved in the various international teams the best of luck for the season ahead. Another initiative we introduced this year was the appointment of former internationals Damien Duff, Keith Andrews, Kenny Cunningham, Mark Kinsella and Stephen McPhail to work with the Ireland underage teams and their experience can be invaluable to our talented young players.

On the domestic front, Dundalk proved to be the team to beat in the SSE Airtricity League once again, while Wexford Youths WFC reigned supreme again in the Continental Tyres Women's National League. We had another exciting double-header at Aviva Stadium for the Irish Daily Mail FAI Senior Cup Final and the FAI Continental Women's Senior Cup Final in November. It was also fantastic to utilise the national stadium for the FAI Umbro Intermediate Cup Final between Crumlin United and Letterkenny Rovers and the FAI Junior Cup Final between Sheriff YC and Pike Rovers in May.

In 2015 Sports Capital Funding was secured for Irish football including 95 local organisations which will receive €3,743,764, while nine regional affiliates benefited by €1,178,143. Amongst the FAI affiliates which were successful in their application to the programme included the AUL (€162k), Limerick FC (€200k) Salthill Devon FC (€200k) and North Tipperary Schoolchildren's League (€200k). Our thanks to former Minister Michael Ring and his Department for the allocation of Sports Capital Grants which deliver benefits to communities all over Ireland. We wish Minister Ring well in his new role as Minister of State for Regional Economic Development and are pleased to be working with Patrick O'Donovan TD, who was appointed Minister of State for Tourism and Sport in May and Shane Ross TD, who was appointed to Cabinet as Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.

**THE 2016-2020
STRATEGIC PLAN
SETS OUT THE FAI'S
GOALS FOR DELIVERING
IMPROVEMENTS
IN NINE SPECIFIC
PILLARS WHICH ARE:
PARTICIPATION; CLUB
AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT;
WOMEN'S FOOTBALL;
PLAYER DEVELOPMENT;
SSE AIRTRICITY
LEAGUE; NATIONAL
COMPETITIONS;
INTERNATIONAL
FOOTBALL; FACILITIES;
ORGANISATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT.**



The Republic of Ireland team board the CityJet flight to Paris for UEFA EURO2016 at Dublin Airport.



Seán Maguire of Cork City in action against Dave Massey of Dundalk during the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division between Cork City and Dundalk in Turners Cross, Cork.

The announcement in February by Dublin City Council of the redevelopment of Dalymount Park into a 10,000 capacity modern stadium is a real boost to the game in Ireland and we hope that this development will coincide with the hosting of UEFA EURO 2020 games here in Dublin and provide the local football landscape with a legacy of what we expect to be an historic event.

In January the Association published the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan which sets out the key areas for development and change within Irish football over the next five years. These areas will be prioritised in the Association's planning as it heads towards its Centenary Year in 2021. This is the third five-year document prepared by the Association and the key objectives delivered during the past 10 years include the Aviva Stadium, the FAI National Training Centre, FAI Headquarters, the merger with the SSE Airtricity League, the introduction of a Women's National League, co-funded Development Officers, qualification for European Championship finals at senior and underage level, increased participation numbers, more qualified coaches and referees, plus the implementation of the original Technical Plan.

The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan sets out the FAI's goals for delivering improvements in nine specific Pillars which are: Participation; Club and Community Development; Women's Football; Player Development; SSE Airtricity League;

National Competitions; International Football; Facilities; Organisational Development. The FAI will continue to focus on continuous improvement to the benefit of all key strands of the game.

2015 saw the FAI generate an Operating Surplus of €11.03m, with a Retained Surplus of €3.82m, which is in line with our long term business plan. Turnover for the year was €46.06m, which reflects an increase of 20.52 percent on 2014 figures. This can be attributed to an increased competitive number of home international games and a successful home friendly match with England. Qualifying for Euro 2016 also increased Turnover in 2015.

The refinancing of the Association's debt in June this year secured an overall reduction by €10m and significantly reduced financing costs. The refinance agreement with Bank of Ireland reduces the Association's bank debt from €45m to €35m, and marks another significant step in the debt reduction programme, related to the construction of the Aviva Stadium. This came with the support of Denis O'Brien through Island Capital Ltd to achieve this positive outcome for Irish football.

The work which is done in football nationwide would not be possible without the support of key stakeholders including local authorities, who co-fund development officers across Ireland; the Irish Sports Council, led by Chairman Kieran Mulvey and CEO John Treacy; the Government;

key supporters of the Association including Denis O'Brien; our sponsors, in particular Three led by CEO Robert Finnegan; and of course the volunteers who are the lifeblood of Irish football.

I would like to thank FAI President Tony Fitzgerald and the FAI Board of Directors for their support during the year; the FAI Committees who dedicate so much time to the betterment of the game in Ireland; the Senior Council; the FAI Executive and the Association's staff who work so hard to foster the development of football in this country and so many people who continue to contribute to making our game thrive and are determined to see it improve across all levels.

Finally, my thoughts are with the family and friends of the many fantastic football people we lost over the past 12 months. There are so many that I could mention but the likes of Eithne Hammond, Mickey Robinson, Ray Noone, Michael O'Flanagan, Martin Colfer, Pat Dunne, Bobby Gilbert, Paul Bannon, Kevin Byrne, Davy Walsh, Jimmy Walsh, Johnny Fullam, Pat Whitty, Donal Leahy, Ambrose Fogarty, Tony Byrne, Kevin Byrne, Eamonn Dolan and Mark Farren should be remembered at this time.

John Delaney
Chief Executive Officer



Ciaran Kilduff, second from left, of Dundalk has his goal bound header cleared off the line by Sean Maguire of Cork City during the final minutes of the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division game between Cork City and Dundalk in Turners Cross, Cork.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015

SSE AIRTRICITY LEAGUE

After waiting 19-years to win their tenth SSE Airtricity League title in 2014, Dundalk successfully defended their league title in what was another dramatic season.

The Lilywhites sealed the title in some style with a 17-game unbeaten run to end the 2015 SSE Airtricity League season, winning the Premier Division thanks to a 1-1 draw against Shamrock Rovers. Richie Towell's 85th-minute penalty wrapped up the second successive title for Stephen Kenny's team. The County Louth outfit lost just one game through the entire League campaign – drawing nine, winning 23, and ending up with an 11-point margin.

Once again, Cork City were left frustrated in second position in the League table in a repeat of the 2014 SSE Airtricity League standings and also suffered heartbreak in the final of the Irish Daily Mail FAI Cup as Dundalk claimed the double thanks to a 1-0 win over the Rebel Army at the Aviva Stadium. In a tense final which was attended by 25,103, it was Richie Towell who sealed the win in extra time as his 107th minute close range finish saw the Lilywhites lift the trophy for the first time since 2002.

The Irish Daily Mail FAI Senior Cup success saw Dundalk claim their fourth trophy in two years as they also secured the EA SPORTS Cup in 2014 – capping a special period for the club.

The third major trophy of the season, the EA SPORTS Cup, went to St Patrick's Athletic thanks to a penalty shoot-out win over Galway United. After beating Crumlin United to seal their passage to the quarter-finals, St Pat's became the 'penalty kings' as they overcame Cork City, Shamrock Rovers and Galway United all on spot kicks to win the competition. It was the first time since 2003 that St Pats won the EA SPORTS Cup, following up on their 2014 FAI Cup success.

The victory saw them qualify for the UEFA Europa League First Qualifying Round along with Cork City and Shamrock Rovers, who finished second and third respectively in the SSE Airtricity League table, with champions Dundalk in the UEFA Champions League Second Qualifying Round for 2016.

Dundalk were incredibly unlucky not to progress into the Third Qualifying Round of the 2015-16 UEFA Champions League after a gallant display against Belarusian champions BATE Borisov. The Lilywhites, who dominated the first leg in Barysaw, scored a crucial away goal thanks to David McMillan in a 2-1 defeat to give Stephen Kenny's team a real chance in the second leg at Oriel Park. Unfortunately, BATE showed all their experience which has seen them qualify for the UEFA Champions League group stages on five occasions as the game ended 0-0 to end Dundalk's European adventure.

In the UEFA Europa League, the SSE Airtricity League had four representatives in the competition, St Patrick's Athletic, Shamrock Rovers, Cork City and UCD, after the country finished third in UEFA's season-long Fair Play table and earned an extra spot. That spot went to UCD who finished third in the domestic Fair Play rankings behind Dundalk and Cork City, who were already in European Competition.

And UCD didn't waste their opportunity as they progressed into the Second Qualifying Round after a first-round victory over Luxembourgian side F91 Dudelange, in a 2-2 aggregate draw which saw the Students progress on away goals.

Shamrock Rovers also progressed into the Second Qualifying Round thanks to a 3-0 aggregate win over Luxembourgian side Progres Niederkorn whilst Cork City were beaten by Icelandic side KR and St Patrick's Athletic suffered defeat against Latvian side Skonto Riga. Unfortunately, the journey ended in the Second Qualifying Round for both UCD and Shamrock Rovers as they were beaten by Slovak side Slovan Bratislava and Norwegian side Odd BK respectively.

In the First Division, Wexford Youths gained promotion to the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division for the first time in their history as they went up as champions. The Youths sealed the title thanks to a 3-0 win over Athlone Town with two games remaining with goals from Danny Furlong, Eric Molloy and Aidan Keenan.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Finn Harps joined Wexford in the top flight after successfully negotiating the promotion-relegation play-offs against UCD and Limerick to secure Premier Division football for the first time since 2008.

Dundalk midfielder Richie Towell was named the SSE Airtricity Soccer Writers Personality of the Year after his 29 goals helped secure an historic double for the Lilywhites whilst his teammate Gary Rogers picked up the SWAI's Goalkeeper of the Year award. Richie Towell also claimed the Professional Footballers Association of Ireland Premier Division Player of the Year award as Wexford Youths' Danny Furlong picked up the First Division award and Shamrock Rovers' Brendon Miele was named the Young Player of the Year.

Dundalk's Towell was the stand-out performer in the race for top goal-scorer with 25 goals in the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division followed by Cork City's Karl Sheppard with 13 goals. Danny Furlong claimed top spot in the First Division with an incredible 30-goal haul followed by UCD's Ryan Swan on 12 goals and Athlone's Philip Gorman with 10 goals.

CONTINENTAL TYRES WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE

Wexford Youths WFC continued their dominance of women's football in Ireland by retaining their Continental Tyres Women's National League crown.

It was a close-drawn affair though and for the first time ever, a play-off was needed to decide where the 2015-16 title belonged.

Wexford and Shelbourne Ladies were at the top of the table following the conclusion of the final league game, so the scene was set for a first ever play-off to decide the ultimate winner in Tallaght Stadium.

Shelbourne went ahead in the tie as captain Pearl Slattery nodded in a free-kick from Keeva Keenan but Wexford were level before the break. Claire O'Riordan headed in from Linda Douglas' cross before the reigning champions took the lead through another O'Riordan finish and they hung on to claim the title in front of 710 spectators.

Shelbourne captured the Continental Tyres Women's National League Cup for the first time following a 3-2 victory over UCD Waves at Richmond Park in May.

The meeting of the two Dublin teams lived up to the expectations of it being a thrilling derby with four goals scored in the first half - two apiece for Noelle Murray and Aine O'Gorman - before Leanne Kiernan netted the match-winning goal for Shels.

Overall, it was another progressive year for the Continental Tyres Women's National League who head into a short winter season starting in August 2016 before the change to a single calendar year format in 2017.





Eight former SSE Airtricity League players in the Republic of Ireland squad remember their roots



Wexford Youth WFC players celebrate at the end of the game at the Continental Tyres Women's National League Replay at Tallaght Stadium, Tallaght, Co. Dublin.



Shelbourne Ladies FC captain Pearl Slattery lifts the trophy at the end of the game. Continental Tyres Women's National League Cup Final, Shelbourne Ladies FC v UCD Waves. Richmond Stadium, Inchicore, Dublin.

OVERALL, IT WAS ANOTHER PROGRESSIVE YEAR FOR THE CONTINENTAL TYRES WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE WHO HEAD INTO A SHORT WINTER SEASON STARTING IN AUGUST 2016 BEFORE THE CHANGE TO A SINGLE CALENDAR YEAR FORMAT IN 2017.

**CHIEF
EXECUTIVE'S**
OPERATIONAL
REVIEW OF 2015
CONTINUED



Conor Dufficy, from Moath, takes part in the amputee football exhibition during half-time of FAI Junior Cup Final at Aviva Stadium

FOOTBALL FOR ALL

Following our initial move to deliver disability opportunities at grassroots level through our community clubs, 2014-15 saw the number of Football for All clubs established rise to 34 since the initial six in 2010. This programme has enabled over 500 children with varying disabilities to join clubs and be part of regular training sessions and friendly festivals involving FAI qualified coaches.

By December 2016 it is expected that there will be over 38 community clubs providing football opportunities for children with disabilities in their community. The Powerchair Football programme, governed by the Association of Irish Powerchair Football, held its seventh National League with eight teams participating in the last season. The AIPF ran two leagues – a Premiership and a Championship – and in an attempt to keep development moving forward they also ran a SAC League where every player was split across five teams thus giving new players a chance to compete in worthwhile games and to play with the best players.

The Irish Amputee Football Association saw their membership maintained at 25 players in 2015-16 with regular weekend training sessions taking place in the University of Limerick and one-day sessions for Leinster-based players in the FAI National Training Centre. The IAFA also expanded its Youth Academy training out of Mountview FC facilities providing bi-weekly training for all players

with amputations from 5 – 16 years. This academy has seen a rise in numbers in 2016 with 16 members. The 2015-16 season saw the IAFA enter a team into the English Amputee Football National League finishing 2nd to Peterborough.

Blind Football Ireland used 2015-16 as a year to increase their structures by opening their third regional centre in Sligo. All regional centres provide regular training for players who are blind from ages 6 to 56 years. Following on from the training matches against club teams in Germany and Czech Republic in 2015 there are two club away trips arranged for 2016 to Czech Republic and a visit to England.

In January 2016, the very first three-hour Introduction To Disability Football course was developed and is ready to roll out. Football For All coach education now has its introduction course and level one course that will now sit on the FAI Coach Education pathway. The FFA programme continued to support Third Level institutions in 2015-16 with eight visits to teacher training, sports science and PE colleges to deliver inclusive football training to students. The FAI continued its work in supporting our network of special schools around the country with individual coaching sessions, Interprovincial squad sessions, and support for the Special Schools National Sports Council.

2015-16 saw the continued development of its Kick Start to Recovery programme that began in 2014 in Dublin central and we

have seen five new programmes emerge in Galway, Tipperary, Kildare, South Dublin and Dun Laoighaire Rathdown bringing the total number of programmes to 12. The programme uses football to enable each individual to gain the confidence to reengage with their communities in collaboration with the Occupational Therapists within the communities. The programme has been a huge success with many great outcomes and the FAI looks forward to introducing new programmes in other areas in the near future.

Our newest format of the game is called Frame Football. It was first used this year with both Esker Celtic and Midleton FC providing children who use frames to compete in our sport. Limerick are now looking to get involved and offer this new game.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMME

The Intercultural Football Programme in 2015-16 continued its core work of promoting participation, challenging racism and discrimination via campaigns and educational workshops. During the last year the Intercultural Football Programme through its various programmes, and in partnership with key football and other relevant stakeholders, has maintained its work in promoting participation and inclusion, in and through association football.

The Polish Irish Festival – PolskaEire 2016 – is one example of a very successful partnership. Supported by the Polish Embassy and local communities and now in its second edition the festival was originally conceived by the Minister of State with responsibility for New Communities, Aodhan O'Riordain.

PolskaEire 2016 included nationwide Club Open Days and other football events with the involvement of grassroots clubs in Ennis, Co Clare, Co Carlow, Baldoyle in Dublin and New Park in Co Kilkenny. Additionally the Intercultural Programme was glad to lend support for the third year to the Irish Aid supported Africa Day flagship event with drop-in football sessions for children held in the grounds of Farmleigh House in the Phoenix Park.



DDSL goalkeeper Harry Halwax and Precious Omackore, both of St Joseph's Boys FC, celebrate with their medals after defeating Galway in a penalty shootout AET in the SFAI Kennedy Cup Final at University of Limerick in Limerick.

THE INTERCULTURAL FOOTBALL PROGRAMME IN 2015-16 CONTINUED ITS CORE WORK OF PROMOTING PARTICIPATION, CHALLENGING RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION VIA CAMPAIGNS AND EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS.



Joseph Oladunni of Galway in action against Roland Idowu of DDSL during the SFAI Kennedy Cup Final at University of Limerick in Limerick.



Tresor Sangi of Galway reacts after missing his penalty in the penalty shootout against DDSL during their SFAI Kennedy Cup Final at University of Limerick in Limerick.

As part of a European Commission co-funded project focused on encouraging more people with a migrant background to volunteer in sport/football, and along with six other European partners from Italy, Portugal, Hungary, Finland, Germany and Austria a number of actions were delivered in Ireland. These included the hosting, in collaboration with the Dublin City Volunteer Centre, a European Train the Trainer two-day seminar in Dublin. Additionally the project has seen in Ireland the running of 11 club-based volunteer information evenings, as well as the development of a handbook for clubs and potential new volunteers.

Our core participation programmes for children have taken place through the 'MyClub' after-school and Club Open Day programmes delivered across Ireland in 2015-16. The 'MyClub' programme takes place in an after-school setting, while the Club Open Day programme is based within clubs as either an Open session or Day session. Both programmes are linked to encourage continuity of participation in football via a local club and/or other FAI-run programmes.

Futsal is used and supported by the Intercultural programme to promote participation of adults. Under our educational remit, through local workshops and campaigns including the Show Racism the Red Card campaign and the UEFA backed Football against Racism in Europe Campaign we continue to work on educating FAI affiliates and staff in the

area of good governance and awareness with respect to the issue of racism.

Between June 2015-June 2016, 74 after-school club link programmes, with 2190 children (43 percent males, 42 percent females) ranging in ages from 7-12 years taking part; 33 percent of participants with origins from overseas/ethnic minority backgrounds. 41 Club Open Days/Sessions took place with 2789 participants, 1156 females and 1605 males. Approx 39 percent reported not playing football with a club. Three Adult Futsal programmes delivered: with 293 adult participants, approx. 40 percent with origins/nationality from other countries.

FAI/Show Racism the Red Card Schools Education actions took place across the country during the FARE Weeks period. Classroom based DVD presentations and Football PE sessions were delivered by Development Officers in over 72 primary and secondary schools with an estimated 2520 students involved.

11 clubs in the SSE Airtricity League and Continental Tyres Women's National League supported the campaign with on-pitch activities. Activities were supported with materials from the Intercultural programme/Show Racism the Red Card (SRTCC). Sport against Racism Ireland also liaised with specific clubs to invite residents of asylum seeking accommodation centres to National League matches.

At the Grassroots and Community levels, FARE Weeks actions were supported by clubs, community groups and leagues. 17 clubs, leagues, youth services and educational establishments took part in a wide range of local actions, including regular matches designated as FARE Week matches, school and college blitzes and anti-racism awareness screenings, supported by the Intercultural Programme and the Educational charity SRTCC.

Over 10,000 children, young people and adults took part in various programmes delivered nationwide in 2015-16 with over 30 percent of participants on all programmes having diverse ethnic, cultural or national backgrounds and heritages, underpinning the strong role that football can play in promoting integration and inclusion.

REFEREES UNIT & CHILD WELFARE UNIT

Grassroots referees had a significant role to play in the rollout of the Player Development Plan (PDP) and a series of workshops took place countrywide to ensure that all match officials were conversant with PDP.

Significant changes to the IFAB Laws of the Game came into effect on June 1 and will be introduced at grassroots level from the season of the 2016-17 season. The National Grassroots Referees Annual Seminars (26) provided an opportunity for discussion on the changes and further workshops will take place through the Grassroots Referee Development programme.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED



Members of Arklow Town FC U10's, from Arklow, Co. Wicklow, enjoying the McDonald's Future Football National Finals where more than 145 boys and girls from 18 local football teams from around Ireland got the chance to play at the McDonald's FAI Future Football Finals Day. McDonald's FAI Future Football National Finals Day, FAI HQ, National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Co. Dublin

The 7th FAI Referee School of Excellence, headed by former international referee Ian Stokes, has completed six modules of the eight module programme. In addition to the development modules, the 23 students regularly receive appointments to the SSE Airtricity National Under 19 and U17 Leagues.

ELITE REFEREES

Our annual seminar for elite referees and observers took place in Dublin in February and all of the participants enjoyed a well-organised and successful event with excellent learning opportunities provided by a host of presenters.

On the domestic front we had a number of high-profile televised games throughout the season and our elite referees displayed a high level of consistency in their performance. Referee Paul McLaughlin led the team of officials in an entertaining EA SPORTS Cup Final, while one of our most

experienced referees, David McKeon, was the man in the middle for the Irish Daily Mail FAI Senior Cup Final – all officials received high praise for their handling of these prestigious games.

The introduction of the vanishing spray at the elite level was welcomed by all and will benefit referees, players and all of those watching the game. Since its introduction in the 2014 FIFA World Cup, the FAI have monitored the use of the spray in other leagues and competitions around the world, including UEFA EURO 2016.

On the international front assistant Damien MacGraith continued to receive a number of high-profile appointments in UEFA competition games with his election to UEFA EURO 2016 standing out. His fellow assistant referee, Emmet Dynan, was appointed to the UEFA Under 17 Championship Finals in Azerbaijan. Our FIFA referees – Paula Brady, Padraig

Sutton, Neil Doyle, Rhona Daly, Paul McLaughlin and Robert Rogers – had a number of appointments in European club, international and friendly fixtures. Robert Harvey was also added to the FIFA Elite Panel.

The referees department has been very active in exchanging officials for international and domestic games with exchanges approved internationally with Portugal, Bosnia, Macedonia, Norway and Czech Republic and at domestic level with Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Malta. The exchange programme is an essential part in the on-going development of our next generation of top class officials



CHILD WELFARE

The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016 commenced on April 29, 2016. The FAI wrote to all National Bodies and Provincial Associations to inform them that Garda vetting is now a legal requirement for all those working in a paid or voluntary capacity with children or vulnerable persons.

Garda vetting has been an FAI Rule for all those working with children and/or vulnerable persons for the past few years. Therefore, this legislation simply places existing FAI practices on a statutory footing. Over 23,000 Garda vetting applications have been submitted to the Garda Central Vetting Unit and we continue to work closely with them weekly.

THE DELIVERY OF CHILD WELFARE COURSES HAS CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WITH ALMOST 13,000 PARTICIPANTS COMPLETING A SAFEGUARDING 1 COURSE SINCE LATE 2012.

The delivery of Child Welfare courses has continued throughout the year with almost 13,000 participants completing a Safeguarding 1 course since late 2012. The development of Safeguarding 2 and Safeguarding 3 will provide additional support and training for the Designated Child Welfare Officer and Designated Child Welfare Liaison Officer of each affiliated member. The content of this course will be finalised and offered to clubs/leagues and other affiliated members throughout the next year.

Each FAI Department continues to place child welfare at the centre of its preparation when delivering programmes to children in line with the principles outlined in the FAI Child Welfare Policy. Donal Conway (Chairman) and the FAI Child Welfare Committee continue to meet regularly to review progress. Key aspects include policy development and reviewing Garda vetting applications to ensure children and young people can participate in all football activities in a safe environment.

All affiliated members are obliged to ensure that everyone working with children and or vulnerable persons must be (a) Garda vetted and (b) have completed a Safeguarding course. Clubs can organise a Safeguarding Course and Garda vetting by contacting childwelfare@fai.ie.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED



Shelbourne U18 LFC players gather around their captain Caolan Lynch Carroll lifts the cup while on an ambulance trolley after picking up an injury during the first half. FAI Umbro Women's Intermediate Cup Final, St Catherine's LFC v Shelbourne U18 LFC, Frank Cooke Park, Glasnevin, Dublin.



WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

In September 2015, the FAI launched the new Women's Strategic Plan which will oversee the development of women's football for the next few years. Key areas of focus are Grassroots, Education, High Performance, Marketing & Communications and Organisation & Infrastructure.

In 2016 the biggest change was the introduction of a new women's football committee and eight regional football committees, which have replaced the WFAI. The aim of these new committees is to oversee the new governance arrangements, which will embed women's football in the heart of FAI structures and also to provide a platform for further development in line with the Women's Strategic Plan.

FAI CEO John Delaney confirmed his assertion that the Women's Football Committee will play an integral role in further developing women's football and continuing the fantastic work that has been done in recent years.

The Soccer Sisters programme continues to grow with 15 per cent more clubs participating in the Easter Camp and Club Programme. 2016 will also see the introduction of pilot programmes of the new Soccer Sisters Nursery, which will target 5-8 year olds, and also a School-Club Link programme.

FIFA Live Your Goals programme is in its fifth year and this year has already had events in Pike Rovers, Aviva Stadium, Donegal, Inishowen, Westport, Portlaoise and West Cork, with further events in Tipperary and Waterford to come. If any club would like any further information on women's programmes email women@fai.ie

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

COACH EDUCATION

Niall O'Regan was appointed as the new Coach Education Manager as of February 1, 2016. A native of County Cork, Niall has been involved in football from grassroots all the way up to senior level. He was also an FAI Coordinator and Regional Manager for the Cork ETB Academies, while he holds a UEFA A Licence and is currently completing a Research PhD in Coaching Pedagogy.

As of July 2016, the FAI has 65 UEFA Pro Licenced coaches, 328 UEFA A Licenced coaches, and 1,046 UEFA B Licenced coaches. The Coach Education Department has seen 4,100 participants complete courses and the coaching pathway has been redesigned with the following new courses:

Grassroots Courses: Kick Start 1 and 2, 4v4, 7v7, Strength and conditioning (Access route 1); Youth Intro (Access route 2); Senior Intro (Access route 3); Specialist Access routes (Futsal and Goalkeeper).

Licence Courses: National D Licence – Converts the Grassroots qualification to a Licence over a one-day course; National C Licence – Replaces the old Youth Certificate, and helps bridge the gap between youth and B Licence; UEFA B Licence; UEFA A Licence; Elite Youth A Licence – provides a course which specialises in academy management especially catering for the clubs at SSE

Airtricity League who will have National League from U15, U17 and U19 in due course; UEFA Pro Licence.

Specialist routes: Futsal Intro Course; Futsal FAI National D Licence; Futsal FAI National C Licence; UEFA B Futsal Licence; Fundamentals of Goalkeeping; FAI Goalkeeping National D Licence; FAI Goalkeeping National C Licence; FAI Goalkeeping National B Licence; UEFA A Goalkeeping Diploma.

In addition to this we have introduced an Annual coaching calendar for Licenced Courses for 2017, which will allow for better planning and access to coaching courses. Along with this there will be regular CPD options available, from online CPD, and contact CPD for Licenced and Grassroots courses.

In 2017, we plan to introduce courses for AWFG – Actively Working in Female Game – and these courses will range from Kick Start 1 all the way to UEFA B Licence.

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Colin O'Brien, Republic of Ireland Under 17 Men's Manager, is a Coach Education tutor



Darragh Levingstone of Wexford is congratulated by team-mates after scoring the equalising goal against SDFL during their 5th/6th place playoff at the SFAI Kennedy Cup Finals at University of Limerick in Limerick.

CLUB & LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT

The Club and League Development programme continues to engage with affiliates, leagues and clubs to support their work in communities across Ireland. 2016 is a big year for this programme with the release of the new FAI Strategic Plan. Club and Community Development represents a key pillar in the plan and gives clear direction to the Club and League programme for the next four years.

The invaluable role of volunteer-led clubs has long been recognised. Club volunteers put in countless hours out of a love for the game and a commitment to provide football in their community. This is a great privilege and source of pride of club administrators but it also brings a huge responsibility. More than ever it is essential that every club is well organised in all areas of club management.

Clubs must work to the highest standards of governance, planning, financial management and volunteer management while also keeping child welfare and safety at the core of what they do. They must also be committed to quality coaching, player development, coach development, inclusiveness and raising the standards of behaviour in the game.

The FAI has a key role to play in facilitating club development by identifying and promoting best practice and providing the necessary guidance, direction and resources to ensure clubs are empowered to implement it. An effective club support programme that incorporates a Club Quality Mark is essential for the long term development of clubs. Clubs should know what standards to work towards and those that excel should be rewarded and recognised for doing so. They should also be supported through a system of education, training, support materials and knowledge sharing to provide them with the information they require to run their club to the highest standards.

A Club Management Guide is currently under development and will work in tandem with the Q-Mark. The guide will be available for use by grassroots clubs and will provide advice and guidance on all aspects of running a club in addition to practical templates, sample documents and role descriptions.

Support has also been provided to clubs to facilitate revenue generation. Financial security brings stability and allows clubs to develop their structures and governance. The FAI's Irish Football National Draw continues to provide a risk free and effective fundraising programme for clubs.

IRISH FOOTBALL NATIONAL DRAW

2015 was a record breaking year for the National Draw with more clubs involved and more tickets sold than ever before. More than 112,000 tickets were sold by 427 participating clubs. Once again the draw helped to raise close to €1 million for clubs and leagues across the country.

The draw provides clubs with a risk free and effective means for fundraising and is suitable for clubs of any size in any part of the country. The 2015 prize draws took place in the Aviva Stadium on November 8 before and during half-time of the Irish Daily Mail FAI Senior Cup Final. Four lucky winners each went away with a brand new Ford Fiesta car. In total, there were more than 2,000 prizes on offer.

The 2016 National Draw launched in May and is proving hugely popular with clubs yet again. Based on feedback from clubs, the date of the draw has been pushed out to November 23. This will allow clubs a few extra weeks to sell tickets. Additional club draw prizes have been added to further boost local sales. We thank our sponsors for their generosity and we wish every club the best of luck in their fundraising.



Ciaran Mylette of Mayo in action against Ronan Sheahan of Longford during their Shield Final at the SFAI Kennedy Cup Finals at University of Limerick in Limerick.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

DDSL players run to celebrate with captain Troy Parrot after he scored the winning penalty against Galway in a penalty shootout AET in the SFAI Kennedy Cup Final at University of Limerick in Limerick.

FAI PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The FAI Player Development Plan, which contains 10 recommendations for the development of the underage game, was launched at the FAI AGM in 2015. The key objective was to develop an overall philosophy based on a player-focused model. Because of the significant changes being introduced the plan is being implemented over a three-year period.

Phase 1 of the plan (implementation of recommendations 1 and 2, which address the playing format) commenced in September 2015. The emphasis in this phase is to positively enhance the development of all players, boys and girls that opt to play association football. This included putting the focus on player enjoyment, skill development, reducing the emphasis on winning at all costs and restructuring the playing model for underage football (boys/girls) to a clear policy on the best age-specific formats

of the game to be implemented by all leagues. Since September the FAI has held workshops across the country with leagues to give guidance and assistance in the implementation process. Some of the key aspects of Phase 1 include a gradual build-up towards the full game, from 4v4 to 11v11, uniform pitch and goal sizes, female players are allowed to play at all underage level and players are to be given a minimum game time (for players to develop they need to play!). The key objective of this implementation phase was to put new, uniform playing formats in place which will see improvement at all levels of the game.

A Parent/Coach Education Workshop has also been developed and will be launched in August prior to the start of the 2016-17 season. This Workshop is important so that parents and players fully understand the philosophy behind player development, its aims, goals and objectives.

Phase 1 of the plan, whilst not without its challenges, has been received positively across the country and the FAI has fully engaged with Schoolboy/girl leagues as part of the implementation process and also met with all leagues in July 2016 to conduct an end of season review which looked at progress to date, garnered feedback and outlined the timelines for Phase 2 of the implementation process which will commence in September 2016.

Phase 2 will include:

- The establishment of an agreed set of criteria for good competitions and the improvement of Elite Competition Structures including the introduction of the SSE Airtricity National Under 15 League to build on the success of the U19 and U17 Leagues. This will broaden the pathway for elite players from underage to senior football.



Action between Wexford Celtic Under 9's and Lagan Harps Under 9's at the McDonald's Future Football National Finals, FAI HQ, National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Co. Dublin.

THE FAI PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONTAINING TEN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNDER-AGE GAME WAS LAUNCHED AT THE FAI AGM IN 2015.

- The utilisation of the FAI National Training Centre for Elite Player Development and Coach Education Programmes (this has already commenced).
- Significant changes to the Coach Education pathway which will see the introduction of a National C Coaching Licence from January 2017, this course will bridge the gap between the current Youth Cert Course and the UEFA B Licence, [pilot courses have already been delivered] and the development of an Elite Youth A Coaching Licence which is currently been designed.
- The FAI will also lay out the criteria for the establishment of FAI approved club academies and the first of these will come on stream in late 2016, early 2017.

Phase 3 of the plan will address the provision of higher levels of competitive football for elite performers and look at

creating continuity of football by shifting to a one season calendar (with all necessary stakeholder discussions on the best way forward).

FAI EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARDS LOCAL TRAINING INITIATIVES

The Local Training Initiatives, supported formerly by FAS but now by various Education and Training Boards in locations around the country, have been in operation for over 20 years and have been providing young players that have left school early or are unemployed with a pathway into employment or further education.

The programme has also provided an unrivalled pool of players who have benefitted from the full time training environment and expert tuition from top quality coaches such as Harry McCue, Leo Tierney and Gerry Davis to mention just three of the 17 FAI staff employed to co-ordinate the programme.

The programme operates at eight venues throughout the country including; Irishtown, Clondalkin and Cabra in Dublin, Carrigaline, Blarney and Mahon in Cork as well as Limerick and Castlebar.

All of the trainees complete a FETAC level 4 or 5 Award in Sport and Recreation Studies and complete the ITEC Gym Instruction award which supports them in their efforts to seek employment in the Sports and Leisure Industry.

This year's collective results in the FETAC awards achieved some of the highest marks since the programme began and the progression results into employment or further education outperforms many other local training initiatives in operation throughout the country.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Relationships between the State agencies and the FAI have blossomed over the years and have been an integral part of the success of the courses. Football development has been a major feature on the courses with over 100 trainees over the past four years progressing through to the SSE Airtricity League.

Graduate trainees have progressed to international level as well as to professional football and college scholarships abroad. Former trainees Chris Forrester and Matt Doherty, who now play in England with Peterborough United and Wolverhampton Wanderers respectively, were recently called up to the Republic of Ireland senior men's squad.

Registrations are now open and are at an all-time high with young players coming onto the courses from the SSE Airtricity U17 and U19 Leagues and various Schoolboy Leagues throughout the country. Courses for 2016-17 will commence end of September 2016 in all eight centres.

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AND U19 LEAGUES AND
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LEAGUES THROUGHOUT
THE COUNTRY.**



Action between Swords Manor FC Under 10's and Newport Town AFC Under 10's at the McDonald's FAI Future Football National Finals Day, FAI HQ, National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Co. Dublin.



Children at the FAI Sports Direct.com Summer Soccer Schools camp in Howth Celtic

SUMMER SOCCER SCHOOLS

It was another record year in participation numbers for the Sports Direct.com FAI Summer Soccer Schools with over 26,500 children taking part in the popular camps in 2015. Now in its 20th year, the programme continues to go from strength to strength with Ger McDermott, National Coordinator for Camps, overseeing its expansion into more counties around the country and into more clubs within each county.

SPAR FAI PRIMARY SCHOOL 5S PROGRAMME

This is the second year of the sponsorship agreement with SPAR. 2,967 teams, (up 590 from last year) from 1,269 schools (up 236 from last year) competed in the SPAR FAI Primary School 5s programme. A total of 14,416 boys and 9,320 girls participated. The National Finals were held in the Aviva Stadium in May 2016. The programme catered for a total of 23,736 participants (up 4,720 from last year).

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

IT Carlow regained the UMBRO Colleges and Universities Football League Premier Division with a 2-1 victory after extra time over Colaiste Stiofain Naofa, Cork in Hadden Park, Killester. Dundalk IT were promoted to next season's Premier Division after securing the Division One title against Letterkenny IT. IT Carlow C, St Patrick's College Drumcondra and University College Cork C claimed the Division Two, Three and Four titles respectively. Waterford IT defeated Athlone IT in the CUFL Futsal Final to claim their second consecutive title.

The IUFU Collingwood Cup was hosted by University College Cork this year, with UCD coming from behind to snatch victory from UL late on by two goals to one, their 43rd success in the competition. This would complete the double for UCD after a 1-0 success over DCU earlier that month in the IUFU Harding Cup after extra time. Ulster University Coleraine would be successful in the IUFU Crowley Cup with a 3-0 success over St. Mary's University College, Belfast.



Stars of tomorrow: Schoolboy players enjoying the FAI Sports Direct.com Summer Soccer Schools camp in Howth Celtic

**CHIEF
EXECUTIVE'S**
OPERATIONAL
REVIEW OF 2015
CONTINUED



Timmy Molloy, University College Dublin, in action against Connor McGuire, University of Limerick. Collingwood Cup Final, University of Limerick v University College Dublin, The Mardyke, UCC, Cork.

THE WOMEN'S SOCCER COLLEGES PREMIER FINAL WAS WON BY NUI GALWAY 4-2 ON PENALTIES AFTER AN EXCITING 3-3 DRAW WITH IT CARLOW IN UL.



Emma Hansberry, IT Carlow, in action against Lisa Casserly, NUI Galway. WSCAI Premier Division Final, IT Carlow v NUI Galway, University of Limerick, Limerick.

IT Carlow made it 5-in-a-row in the CFAI UMBRO Cup in a unique final at the RSC, Waterford, as they secured a narrow 1-0 victory over their own IT Carlow B side. This is after IT Carlow C had secured the CFAI B Team Cup earlier in the day. Athlone IT were successful in the UMBRO Plate, GTI Galway winning the CFAI Bob Eustace Cup, and Air Corps winning the CFAI Bob Eustace Shield.

The Women's Soccer Colleges Premier Final was won by NUI Galway 4-2 on penalties after an exciting 3-3 draw with IT Carlow in UL. UL won the Division One title 6-4 after extra time against DCU. IT Sligo and Athlone IT won the Premier Plate and Challenge Cup respectively on the League Finals Day. IT Carlow defeated Waterford IT in the final of the WSCAI Futsal Cup in UL and IT Carlow rounded off a successful year with success in the Intervarsities Cup beating IT Sligo 2-1 in Athlone Town Stadium. UCD captured the Intervarsities Plate, and NUI Galway the Intervarsities Shield.

The Colleges and Universities Men's National Team begun their maiden campaign as a unified international team. They enjoyed a 3-0 victory against Scotland, a 1-0 away victory to Wales, but suffered narrow defeats to the Defence Forces and France.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

The FAI runs numerous Social Inclusion programmes across Ireland. Here are a selection of some of those successful programmes.

POLSKAEIRE2015 (Carlow) – Target

Group: Primary School Children (and their families) from Polish and Irish Communities in Carlow Town.

Programme Details: To celebrate the PolskaEire 2015 festival, the FAI and Carlow County Council linked in with St Fiacc's National School in Graiguecullen, Carlow to create a number of school community linked initiatives to recognise the positive relationship between both Countries and Cultures. On Tuesday March 24, the School hosted the special Primary School International game between the Republic of Ireland and Poland, the week leading up to the game was a mixture of learning about each country's history and culture but also creating works of art in celebration of the PolskaEire festival. A specially composed anti bullying song "We're all the Same" was sang by all the schools students before both the Irish and Polish National Anthems were played prior to kick off.

Michael Brennan, Senior Executive Officer, Carlow County Council: "I would like to congratulate everybody involved in organising this fantastic event, including St Fiacc's National School students and staff, and in particular Garry Coady, FAI Football Development Officer. This was a hugely successful and fun event celebrating sport, fair play and diversity."

Building Community Relationships

(Donegal) – Target group: Children aged between 6-11 years of age from various communities in the Letterkenny Area.

Programme Details: The FAI, in conjunction with Donegal County Council and local community groups, ran a social inclusion programme at Donegal Football League HQ in Ballyare, with the emphasis on breaking down barriers, developing new relationships between different communities and making new friends as well as building self esteem. The community groups involved in the initiative included Donegal Travellers Project, Polish Community and Milford Utd FC with a total of 46 children taking part in small sided games and skills challenges with mixed teams from the various communities which encouraged and maximised social interaction between the children aged between 6 and 11. The Legacy of this initiative was the new networks created between the different groups as well as the various children who weren't involved in football clubs who now have a link with their local clubs.

Donegal County Mayor Ciaran Brogan: "Social programmes are of huge importance in the community and I see great value in using football as a means of improving society. It's fantastic to see the County Council and FAI working closely together in order to improve the lives of the people and develop social skills as well as bringing the different communities & both children and parents together."

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Youth Mentoring Scheme (South East Inner City Dublin) - Target Group:

Unemployed young people aged 16 to 20 (Male and Female).

Programme Details: Football is used as a progressive tool to divert unemployed youths into club-volunteerism. Local Development Officer Jonathan Tormey identified 20 talented unemployed players graduating from youth football into the junior game.

To give this group direction, Jonathan sourced local funding to enable the youths to attend Kick Start Coach Education Courses and on completion of the course he linked them to local underage clubs. This initiative has succeeded in growing the number of local grassroots coaches, and refocused local youths to make positive contributions to their community. Additionally, the participants are now seen as positive role-models in area.

Rob Ryan has been accepted into Carlow IT after two years of mentoring: *"Having Jonathan as a mentor for the last two years has given me invaluable experience and confidence as a coach. When I met Jonathan first I had no coaching experience and I was unsure of what career path I wanted to take. In these two years Jonathan gave me the opportunity to develop as a coach and as a person by showing trust and faith in me to work in this football environment. He was always there to give me feedback and answer any questions I had to improve my sessions and relationship with the children and parents we were working with. In regards to*

the coaching pathway Jonathan has brought me from the very beginning up to the Youth Cert, now I am about to start studying Level 8 Sports Management and Coaching in Carlow IT and will be attaining my UEFA B licence in the process. This would not have been possible if Jonathan did not put in the effort and dedication to keep me involved and interested in coaching. I cannot speak highly enough of Jonathan and I will always be grateful to him for guiding and advising me in the beginning of what I hope is a long and successful career in football after my studies."

Big Soccer Sisters Lucan (Dublin) - Target Group:

Girls Aged 12 to 16.

Programme Details: This involves 10 Girls from first year in Lucan Community College coming to the local primary school Scoil Aine to assist the FAI Development Officer (DO) in coaching an all-girls after-school session in the school. This programme was designed to increase the number of female coaches in the area and to encourage younger girls to start playing the game by having their peers coach them. A common remark made to the DO by local clubs was that they could not get female coaches to look after the many new girls teams in their clubs in Lucan. Since the programme has ended three of the girls have coached with the DO on the Soccer Sisters camp at Easter and are now coaching each week at Lucan United.

Imanda Lawless (Lucan United FC Girls Committee/Coach): *"It was a fantastic opportunity for the girls to take on the role of a Big Sister and show the younger girls how to play and enjoy the game the way our girls do.....it gives them all more passion for the game by learning becoming teachers as well as a positive role model"*

Noel O'Reilly League (Inner City Dublin) - Target Group:

Aimed at serial truants and 'identified' minors on the verge of crime.

Programme Details: The League offers the carrot of structured football, provided participants adhere to targets set by their School Completion Officer or Juvenile Liaison Officer around school attendance and behaviour. Now in its 5th year the Programme was initially intended for 15 to 18 year olds however our partners identified that earlier intervention would add to the success of the Programme hence a 12 to 14 year old division was introduced. The league runs bi-annually, catering for over ten youth groups and over 200 youths.

Maighread Greene, Project Worker: *"What we find most beneficial is that due to its popularity and high attendance rate among the teenage males we have identified as at risk of early school leaving, it gives the Project Worker the opportunity to enquire as to the child's experience of school that day/week and offer encouragement or support where required. The School Completion Programme is always in search of Programmes such as the Noel O'Reilly League. They provide a relaxed, informal,*





Republic of Ireland Women's National Team striker Rianna Jarrett passes on some advice to younger players at the FAI SportsWorld Soccer Sisters finals in Aviva Stadium



Lynn Craven, Shelbourne Girls, takes part in the Late Nite League Finals in Irishtown Stadium

“IT’S GREAT FOR US TO COME TOGETHER WITH ADRIAN AND THE FAI TO DELIVER THESE CAMPS IN AN AREA WHERE THERE HAS BEEN PROBLEMS WITH ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND CHILDREN HANGING AROUND BORED. THE CAMPS AGAIN THIS YEAR HAVE BEEN A HUGE SUCCESS AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR ALREADY.”

friendly and supportive atmosphere in which the Project Worker can tackle issues in a non-confrontational way. They make for an enjoyable time for all.”

Monksland Community Camp

(Roscommon) – Target Group: Children from the local Monksland community and the surrounding estates.

Programme Details: The Football Association, Roscommon Sports Partnership, Roscommon & District League and Monksland Residents Committee come together each year to run two week-long summer camps for the children of the community. The main aim of the camps are to get children out active in their local area rather than hanging around in groups getting involved in anti-social behaviour. The games used during the camp are fun related and games which they can easily replicate with their friends in their spare time. This year we had 120 children register in week one with a further 108 children for the second week.

Sarah Mulligan Roscommon Sports Partnership: *“It’s great for us to come together with Adrian (Carberry) and the FAI to deliver these camps in an area where there has been problems with anti-social behaviour and children hanging around bored. The camps again this year have been a huge success and we are looking forward to next year already.”*

Youth Exchange - Show Racism The Red Card - Target group: Children aged 14 to 16 from disadvantaged areas.

Programme Details: Young people from the Little Bray Youth project and a similar group from Whitehead, outside Belfast, were brought together to give both groups the opportunity to experience another culture other than their own. The idea was to explore diversity and religious and cultural difference and to use sport as a medium to encourage social inclusion. The Little Bray youths came from a disadvantaged area, so FAI Development Officer Alan Reynolds was keen to deliver a Show Racism the Red Card workshop which was followed by a football blitz.

Yvonne Murray, Youth Project Manager Little Bray: *“The aim of our project is to break down barriers between North and South and to explore diversity and religious and cultural difference and to use sport as a medium to meet our aims. We feel we broke down barriers between North and South which was our aim and look to build on our relationship between the two groups.”*

**CHIEF
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Republic of Ireland manager Martin O'Neill celebrates Robbie Brady's winning goal against Italy at UEFA EURO 2016 in Lille

MEN'S SENIOR TEAM

The Republic of Ireland men's senior team went into the season with their qualification hopes for the European Championships on tenterhooks for many supporters but the Boys in Green ended the campaign with an unforgettable experience at UEFA EURO 2016 in France.

Martin O'Neill's side knew they had to get their qualification campaign back on track after a 1-1 draw with Scotland in June last year and they did just that with a 4-0 win over Gibraltar in September. Robbie Keane scored twice with Cyrus Christie and Shane Long also finding the net.

That set the tone for a critical meeting with Georgia in Dublin four days and Jonathan Walters was the hero with a close-range finish in a hard-fought 1-0 win.

The Irish supporters really dared to dream that they would be bound for France when world champions Germany came to Aviva Stadium in October. O'Neill's team showed guile and resolve to defend so well before Long popped up to grab a 70th-minute winner on an amazing night.

O'Neill took his side to Warsaw four days later when Ireland were no in the position of being able to seal qualification directly for the finals. Unfortunately they were beaten 2-1 in a dramatic game that saw Walters scored in the 16th minute either side of goals from Grzegorz Krychowiak and Robert Lewandowski but a play-off against Bosnia & Herzegovina was secured.



**CHIEF
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Robbie Brady of Republic of Ireland scores his side's first goal of the game past Salvatore Sirigu of Italy during the UEFA Euro 2016 Group E match between Italy and Republic of Ireland at Stade Pierre-Mauroy in Lille, France.

THE SUN MAY HAVE SET ON A BRILLIANT FIRST QUALIFYING CAMPAIGN FOR O'NEILL, HIS MANAGEMENT TEAM AND THE PLAYERS AND SOME STALWARTS OF IRISH FOOTBALL WILL HAVE OPTED TO STEP AWAY FROM INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL BUT THE FEELING AS THE IRISH TEAM TOUCHED DOWN IN DUBLIN WAS ONE OF OPTIMISM FOR THE FUTURE.



Shane Long of Republic of Ireland in action against Thomas Vermaelen, left, and Toby Alderweireld of Belgium during the UEFA Euro 2016 Group E match between Belgium and Republic of Ireland at Nouveau Stade de Bordeaux in Bordeaux, France.

The two-legged play-off against Bosnia & Herzegovina was dramatic – in particular the first leg in Sarajevo which was played in a thick fog. Robbie Brady put Ireland ahead in the 82nd minute although Edin Dzeko leveled soon after. The second leg in Dublin proved to be a great night for O'Neill's team as Walters scored either side of half-time as the Boys in Green secured their place at UEFA EURO 2016.

After Christmas the preparations for the finals began in earnest and Ireland's first game in 2016 was a 1-0 win over Switzerland thanks to a Ciaran Clark goal after two minutes. Next up was Slovakia and Ireland unusually got two penalties, converted by Shane Long and James McClean, within two minutes in a 2-2 draw at Aviva Stadium.

Ireland then drew 1-1 with the Netherlands in an entertaining friendly game in Dublin with Shane Long again finding the net before the squad went to Cork for their pre-tournament training camp at Fota Island Resort Hotel, which included a unique friendly against Belarus at Turner's Cross. Stephen Ward got the Irish goal in a 2-1 loss on the night that the Irish final 23 for France was confirmed.

That led to the unforgettable experience of UEFA EURO 2016. Ireland's opening game was a 1-1 draw with Sweden in Paris. Wes Hoolahan putting the Boys in Green ahead after 47 minute and only a 71st minute Ciaran Clark own goal cost the Irish a victory.

The second Group E fixture against Belgium in Bordeaux was one to forget as Ireland never reached top gear and second half goals from Romelu Lukaku (two) and Axel Witsel gave the Belgians a 3-0 win.

With Ireland's backs to the wall it required an heroic display from O'Neill's men in their final Group E game in Lille against Italy. The drama of Robbie Brady's late winner that wrapped up a 1-0 victory will live long in the memory of Irish supporters.

That set up a visit to Lyon for the Round of 16 clash with the tournament hosts, France, and Ireland produced another performance to be proud of. Brady scored a second minute penalty to put Ireland ahead but unfortunately two goals after the break from Antoine Griezmann sealed a French win and ended the fantastic journey for Martin O'Neill's squad.

The sun may have set on a successful first qualifying campaign for O'Neill, his management team and the players and the feeling as the Irish team touched down in Dublin was one of optimism for the future.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

WOMEN'S SENIOR TEAM

The women's senior team went into the season with their focus on the UEFA 2017 EURO Qualifying campaign.

Unfortunately they got off to a disappointing start in their group opener when they lost 2-0 at home to Finland in September. The Finns scoring in either half to disappoint the Irish crowd of 2,905.

Ireland responded well by heading to Portugal and securing a 2-1 victory in Moreira de Conegos in October. The hosts went 1-0 up after 16 minutes but Louise Quinn and Aine O'Gorman scored before half-time to turn the tie around and Sue Ronan's side held on for the three points.

Next up was a testing encounter against Spain in Tallaght and the Group 2 favourites showed just why they were rated so highly with an impressive 3-0 victory. The Irish went in 2-0 down at the break and despite a solid second half display the Spanish wrapped things up in injury-time.

Ireland's next challenge was a visit to the US where they played the world champions in San Diego. The Irish went down to a 5-0 loss against a very impressive American outfit.

The Irish then travelled to the Cyprus Cup in March. Their first encounter was a 2-0 loss to Austria in Dherynia on an afternoon where the Irish created numerous chances and hit the woodwork twice.

Katie McCabe gave Sue Ronan's side something to cheer about in their next fixture as they drew 1-1 with Italy thanks to a stunning equaliser from the young Tallaght native after the Italians had taken the lead in the 86th minute.

Ireland then suffered the disappointment of a 1-0 loss to Hungary as a 76th minute strike decided the game. The Irish finished the tournament with a 2-0 win over Finland thanks to early goals from Ruesha Littlejohn and Louise Quinn. The overall feeling was that the introduction of talented young players had made the Cyprus Cup experience invaluable for Ronan's side.

Ronan's charges built on that positive end to the Cyprus Cup by beating Montenegro 5-0 in their next Euro 2017 qualifier in Petrovac. Louise Quinn, Aine O'Gorman, Ruesha Littlejohn, Denise O'Sullivan and Stephanie Roche all scored for the Girls in Green.

Frustration continued for the Irish in the EURO 2017 qualifiers as they were beaten 3-0 by Spain in March then lost 4-1 to the Finns in Valkeakoski in June. Stephanie Roche scored a consolation goal but it was an evening where the Irish felt they had not showed their true qualities.

The season ended with a fillip as hat-tricks from Aine O'Gorman and Stephanie Roche helped Ireland to a new home record victory as they defeated Montenegro 9-0. Megan Connolly, Louise Quinn and Fiona O'Sullivan also scored for Ireland at Tallaght Stadium.





Republic of Ireland's Aine O'Gorman, left, and Stephanie Roche, right, celebrate after scoring a hat-trick each by holding a match ball following the Women's 2017 European Championship Qualifier between Republic of Ireland and Montenegro in Tallaght Stadium, Tallaght, Co. Dublin.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

MEN'S U21S

The Republic of Ireland men's Under 21 team went into the season full of confidence after a victory over Andorra last season and they carried that forward into their friendly with Qatar U23s, who they beat 4-1 at Bury's Gigg Lane in September.

A first-half double from Fulham's Sean Kavanagh added to Alan Browne's second-half bicycle kick and a Reece Grego-Cox finish secured the victory ahead of their second group fixture away to Andorra.

The Irish got the result they were seeking in Andorra when first half finishes from Tommie Hoban and Josh Cullen claimed the three points in a comfortable 2-0.

Noel King's side made it three wins in a row when they beat Lithuania 3-0 at the RSC in October. Callum O'Dowda, Conor Wilkinson and Alan Browne found the net to maintain the excellent start to the qualifying campaign.

Ireland's first defeat was more than unfortunate as they went down to a 1-0 loss to Italy in Venezia four days later after an impressive display.

Disappointment followed in November when the Irish were beat 3-1 by Lithuania in Vilnius. Conor Wilkinson had levelled just before the break but poor defending was the story of the day for the Irish. They finished off 2015 with a scoreless draw with Norway in a friendly.

March was a bitter month for the U21s.

Despite a positive start against Italy when a Jack Byrne free-kick forced an own goal, Ireland ended up losing 4-1 in Waterford to a very impressive Italian unit.

That was then followed up with a 3-1 loss in Slovenia – with O'Dowda finding the net – which ended any hopes Ireland had of qualifying for the next phase of the UEFA U21 European Championships. Ireland will now look to make the most of their remaining clashes with Slovenia and Serbia (twice).

MEN'S U19S

The Republic of Ireland men's U19 side began their season with an unfortunate 2-1 loss to Italy at Cava de Tirreni in September.

Paul Doolin's side produced an excellent first half display in the testing heat and led at the break through a Tom Holland goal after 33 minutes but the hosts battled back to win the encounter.

Ireland then played Ukraine in two friendly matches in Limerick in October in advance of the UEFA Championships Qualifying tournament. Captain Danny Kane struck in the final minute to earn Ireland a 1-1 draw in the first meeting between the sides.

Two goals in the space of three second-half minutes saw Ukraine come from behind to beat Ireland 2-1 in the second game at the Markets Field. Dan Casey had given the Irish the lead with a thumping strike.

**THE REPUBLIC OF
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QATAR U23S, WHO
THEY BEAT 4-1 AT
BURY'S GIGG LANE IN
SEPTEMBER.**





Republic of Ireland captain Georgie Poynton and teammates stand for the playing of the national anthem before the game. UEFA U19 Championships Qualifying Round, Group 1, Republic of Ireland v Scotland.



Sean Hoare, Republic of Ireland. UEFA U21 Championship Qualifier, Republic of Ireland v Italy. RSC, Waterford.

Ireland suffered an unfortunate loss to Slovenia in the opening game of their UEFA European U19 Championship qualifying campaign at Eamonn Deacy Park, Galway, in November. Doolin's side created a host of chances but failed to take their opportunities.

The Irish recorded an impressive 3-0 victory over Latvia in a rain-soaked Eamonn Deacy Park to get back in contention. Frankie Mulhern, Graham Kelly and Connor Ronan found the net to send Doolin's side into their final game requiring a draw against Scotland to progress to the Elite Phase.

Unfortunately the Irish never performed against the Scots in Limerick and were beaten 4-0. They were a goal down after two minutes and never recovered.

Doolin opted to step down from his role as Ireland U19 Head Coach at the end of the season with Tom Mohan taking the helm.

MEN'S U18S

The Republic of Ireland men's U18s team is a development age as they do not play competitive fixtures but this year proved to be an unusual one at this age-group as three different coaches took Irish teams for internationals.

Paul Doolin was in charge when the Irish played the Czech Republic in November at Whitehall. The Irish ran out impressive 4-0 winners on the first day with goals from a Steven Kinsella double plus finishes from Daniel Mandroiu and Gerry McDonagh.

In the second meeting between the sides the Czechs recorded a 3-1 win at the same venue. Liam Brady - brother of Robbie - scored Ireland's goal from a penalty.

In February the home-based U18s were coached by Jim Crawford as they hosted Wales in the inaugural John Coughlan Memorial Cup. Wales won the first encounter 1-0 at Tramore then Ireland won 3-2 in game two but were beaten on penalties. Connal Flood, an own goal and a Scott McCarthy free had given the Irish an impressive win on the day.

Doolin was in charge when the U18s travelled to St George's Park in March where they were beaten 4-1 in a game that was closer than the score-line suggested. Conor Levingston scored the Irish goal in what was to be Doolin's last game before stepping down from his role.

With Tom Mohan stepping up from the U17s to become U19 Head Coach, he then took the U18s for their remaining friendly games. They produced an impressive 2-2 draw with Germany in Russelsheim am Main thanks to a double from Ronan Hale in Mohan's first game in charge.

The campaign ended with two games in Sweden in June. Ireland beat Hungary 3-1 with Conor Levingston, Ronan Hale and Michael O'Connor all finding the net. A much-changed Irish side then lost 4-1 to Sweden to finish out the season. Jamie Aherne got the Irish goal.

Jim Crawford will take charge of the Ireland U18 side next season.

MENS U17S

The Republic of Ireland men's U17s had another productive season that saw them miss out on qualification for the UEFA European Championship Finals by the narrowest of margins.

Tom Mohan's side began the season with two friendly games in Hungary. They lost 2-0 then drew 0-0 with the same opponents in Bük in September.

The Irish side showed their quality in the first round of the UEFA Qualifiers when they headed to Finland and produced a string of impressive displays beginning with a 1-0 win over the mini-tournament hosts in Tammela thanks to a Jayson Molumby goal.

Ireland ensured qualification for the Elite Phase with a 6-0 win over Malta in Lohja with Michael Cregan scoring a hat-trick, Declan Rice scoring twice and Kian Flanagan also finding the net. A 1-1 draw with Sweden at the same venue through a Glen McAuley winner saw them top their group.

After a winter of home-based trials and training camps, Ireland played Switzerland in two friendly games in Waterford in March with both fixtures ending in 1-1 draws. Game one saw Molumby again hit the target and two days later Dara O'Shea scored the Irish goal.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Mohan's side started their UEFA Championships Elite Qualifying Round with a disappointing 2-0 loss to Serbia in Pruszkow in Poland then followed that up with a 3-0 win over Montenegro. Molumby put the Irish in control before Stephen Mallon and Thomas Byrne sealed a vital three points.

That set up a crunch encounter against Poland in the final group game. Both sides had an identical record going into the game in Pruszkow and remarkably it finished scoreless so a penalty shoot-out was required to decide second spot behind the Serbs. Unfortunately Ireland lost 4-3 on spot-kicks.

At the end of the campaign Tom Mohan was announced as the new U19 Head Coach with Colin O'Brien appointed to take charge of the U17s.

BOYS U16S

Paul Osam was appointed as the new Head Coach of the Republic of Ireland U16s in October as predecessor Tom O'Connor moved on to work with the Women's senior team.

Osam's first task was the Victory Shield tournament in Wales in November and Ireland began their campaign with a scoreless draw with Northern Ireland in Newport.

Next up was a meeting with the hosts at Dragon Park and after falling behind to two goals early in the second half but they

responded through an Aaron Connolly finish. Unfortunately they could not find an equaliser late on.

Their final game of the tournament was against Scotland and after taking a first half lead through an Aaron Bolger goal the Irish conceded a second half penalty and were unfortunate not to force a winner.

Osam's side met an impressive Turkey in two friendly games in Dublin in April. The Turks had won every game they had played with this age group in the past two years and proved comfortable 3-0 winners first time out at Whitehall. The Turks then won 2-0 at the same venue two days later but the Irish produced a better display.

Ireland then finished the U16 calendar on a real high when they ran out winners of the UEFA Development Tournament in Hungary in May. They beat the hosts 2-1 in a thrilling opener. Luke Nolan gave them a second half lead then, after Hungary levelled, defender Dominic Peppard snatched the winner for the Irish.

Austria beat Ireland 2-0 in the second round of matches but the Irish ran out winners when they beat Slovakia 2-0 in their final encounter. Goals from Jordan Doherty and Rowan Roache ensured a solid victory for the Irish and they will now look towards making the breakthrough at U17 level next season.



THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND U15S STARTED THEIR INTERNATIONAL CAREERS WITH A 2-1 LOSS TO POLAND IN BLACKROCK, CO LOUTH, IN NOVEMBER BUT PRODUCED AN IMPRESSIVE DISPLAY WHICH AUGURED WELL FOR THE SEASON AHEAD.



Cian Hughes, Republic of Ireland, in action against Ramazan Emirhan Civelek, Turkey. U16 International Friendly, Republic of Ireland v Turkey. Home Farm FC, Whitehall, Dublin.

BOYS U15S

The Republic of Ireland boys U15s started their international careers with a 2-1 loss to Poland in Blackrock, Co Louth, in November but produced an impressive display which augured well for the season ahead.

Ireland went ahead in the 12th minute when Sean Brennan turned home a low cross and although they were hit twice in either half Colin O'Brien's side showed promise on the evening.

The Irish followed up on that promise with an impressive 3-1 win over the Poles at the same venue two days later. After conceding an early goal the Irish responded through a Kameron Ledwidge strike and the Irish captain on the day then added a second from the penalty spot. Marc Walsh did brilliantly to make it 3-1 late on.

In February, O'Brien's side travelled to Antalya, Turkey, for a mini-tournament which began with a narrow 2-1 defeat by the Netherlands. Two second-half goals put the Dutch in control and while Tyriek Wright pulled one back for Ireland an equaliser never materialised.

Ireland went down to a last minute winner against the hosts Turkey to go down 1-0 losers in game two but they responded well to beat Austria 2-1 in their final game of the tournament with Ray O'Sullivan and Jack Kelly cancelling out the early Austrian opener.

The season ended with a double-header in Tipperary where Ireland finished out the campaign with two victories. O'Brien's side won 5-2 at Clonmel Celtic thanks to a pair of doubles from Adam Idah and Sean Brennan and a late Seanie Mahon goal. When the sides met again two days later Ireland won 3-1 at Cahir Park AFC. Ciaran Brennan opened the scoring early on and although the Czechs levelled, Brennan scored his second of the day and then Callum Thompson wrapped up the scoring to end the campaign on a high.

WOMEN'S U17S

The Republic of Ireland women's U17 team were under the guidance of Dave Bell this season and they began their campaign with a 2-0 victory over Northern Ireland in a friendly game which launched the Milk Cup in Ballymena last July. Tiegan Ruddy and Niamh Sheehan scored the goals for Bell's side.

Next on the agenda was a visit to Scotland in September. The Irish lost 3-0 in Ainslie Park, Edinburgh, in game one but they responded by winning 1-0 at the same venue thanks to a Saoirse Noonan goal.

Ireland got off to a solid start in the UEFA Women's U17 Championships Qualifying Round in Turkey when they beat Ukraine 3-0 thanks to goals from Lauren Kelly, Alex Kavanagh and Leanne Kiernan.

This was followed up with a 7-0 win over Andorra as first-half goals from Lauren Kelly and Heather Payne put Ireland in



Joseph Dillon celebrates after Christopher Kenny, Republic of Ireland, scored their side's first goal. Defence Forces European Championships Qualifier, Republic of Ireland v France.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Dave Bell, Republic of Ireland, speaks to his players after the game. 2015-16 UEFA Women's U17 European Championship, Qualifying Round, Group 1, Republic of Ireland v Andorra.

control before they began to dominate with Payne netting a second, while Lauren Homan, Saoirse Noonan, Tiegán Ruddy, and Leah Reybet-Degat were also on target.

In their final group match the Irish beat the hosts 3-0, courtesy of goals from Leanne Kiernan, Alex Kavanagh and Lauren Kelly, to progress to the Elite Phase with an unblemished record.

Ireland went to Poland in February for a couple of friendly fixtures to prepare for the Elite Phase and drew 1-1 thanks to a Leanne Kiernan equaliser before then playing out a 0-0 draw with the Poles.

In the Elite Phase, held in France, Bell's side bounced back from conceding an early goal to beat Hungary with Saoirse Noonan and Lauren Kelly scoring. Unfortunately they lost the critical second game of the week against the Czech Republic 1-0 to a last minute winner.

Ireland beat the hosts France 1-0 in their final fixture thanks to a first half goal from Leanne Kiernan but missed out on top spot as the Czechs beat Hungary in their game to top the group and clinch the qualifying spot.

WOMEN'S U19S

The Republic of Ireland women's U19 side began their campaign in August with a friendly game in Pat Kennedy Park, Listowel, where captain Savannah McCarthy got the opportunity to play in front of her hometown supporters. Dearbháile Beirne scored in a 1-1 draw.

It was an identical result when the Irish met the Scots again two days later at Tulla United in Clare. Savannah McCarthy scored Ireland's equaliser on the day.

McCarthy scored twice when Ireland host Northern Ireland the same month with Jess Nolan also scoring in a 3-1 win for Dave Connell's side.

The Irish were confident as they went into their opening fixture in the UEFA WU19 Championships Qualifying Round against mini-tournament hosts Slovenia in September. Megan Connolly gave them a first half lead but unfortunately the Slovenians equalised. The 1-1 draw was later converted to a 3-0 Irish win by UEFA as the Slovenians used an ineligible player.

Megan Connolly went on the rampage in their next fixture as she scored four in a 6-0 win over Bulgaria. Savannah McCarthy and Jess Nolan also found the net as Ireland hit top form. With qualification for the Elite Phase already confirmed the Irish were disappointed to end the group with a 2-1 loss to Russia. Jess Nolan scoring for Connell's side.

The Irish prepared for the UEFA WU19 Championships Elite Phase by hosting Northern Ireland in another friendly at the AUL Complex in February. Goals from



Megan Lynch, Leanne Kiernan, Dearbhaile Beirne (two), and Saoirse Ludden (two) sealed the impressive win for Dave Connell's side.

They then went to Portugal for some friendly games. The opening encounter was a 1-1 draw with Dearbhaile Beirne finding the net in Albufeira and that was followed up with a 1-0 win in Faro. Keeva Keenan's second half goal sealing an impressive win.

Ireland hosted the Elite Phase mini-tournament in April and it proved to be ultimately frustrating for the Girls in Green. Their opening fixture at Tallaght Stadium was a 1-0 loss to Germany thanks to a first half goal.

Next up was Azerbaijan at the same venue and Connell's side were utterly dominate and limited Azerbaijan to just one shot on target as goals from Roma McLaughlin,

THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND WOMEN'S U16 SIDE ENJOYED AN IMPRESSIVE CAMPAIGN WHICH STARTED WITH A STRONG 2-0 VICTORY OVER THE WELSH U17 SIDE AT DRAGON PARK, NEWPORT, IN APRIL.

Hayley Nolan and Niamh Prior capped a 3-0 win.

Unfortunately Germany maintained a 100 per cent record in the group so Ireland did not progress to the finals despite beating Poland 2-0 in their final fixture. Hayley Nolan converted a penalty with Dearbhaile Beirne also finding the net to wrap off the season on a winning note.

WOMEN'S U16S

The Republic of Ireland women's U16 side enjoyed an impressive campaign which started with a strong 2-0 victory over the Welsh U17 side at Dragon Park, Newport, in April.

Sharon Boyle's side ran out comfortable winners thanks to goals from Heather Payne and Emma Lawlor. When the sides met once more two days later the Irish won 4-0 with Heather Payne scoring twice, Hannah O'Donoghue scoring one and Tara Cully adding the fourth.

In the UEFA Women's U16 Development Tournament in Hungary, Boyle's charges continued to impress and they began with a 2-0 win over Slovakia. Carla McManus and Heather Payne finding the net in a solid victory.

That display was then followed up with a 3-0 win over Bosnia & Herzegovina as Amy Boyle-Carr, Tiegan Ruddy and Aoife Fennell all found the net.

The season ended with the high of a fifth successive victory as the Irish beat hosts Hungary 3-1 clinch the tournament.

Tiegan Ruddy headed the opener but was unfortunately sent off just before half-time. Hungary drew level but Carla McManus and Amy Boyle Carr scored in the second half to seal a memorable victory.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

FAI SCHOOLS

The Republic of Ireland FAI Schools team secured runners-up spot in this year's Centenary Shield, following their win in the competition in 2015.

The pressure was on the Irish side having reigned supreme in 2015 and started their defence with a 0-0 draw against Northern Ireland Schools. Carrigaline CS scholar Aaron Drinan had an early opportunity to put Ireland ahead but his shot was deflected over the bar as it would turn out to be a frustrating afternoon. England, who were ahead in their game schedule, knew just a point would seal the title when they played Ireland at the New Saints FC. Jamie Aherne put Ireland ahead but heartbreak was to follow in the final minute of the game as England sealed the title thanks to Sam Grouse's late equaliser.

With runners-up spot still up for grabs, Ireland continued to play excellent football against Wales and Scotland, and recorded two great wins to secure second spot. At Killarney Celtic, first-half goals from Conor Kane, Ryan O'Donoghue and Jamie Aherne helped seal a comfortable 3-1 win over Scotland, despite Bradley Manson's consolation. Ireland finished their campaign with another comfortable win as a brace from Aaron Drinan and a penalty from Jamie Aherne claimed a 3-0 victory over Wales.

The FAI Schools U15 Girls team's also claimed runners-up spot in the Bob Docherty Cup, losing out to Scotland who

successfully defended their title. It was an impressive tournament from Ireland though, putting five past Wales in their opening game of the tournament at Dragon Park. Goals from Amy Boyle Carr, Louise Masterson, Meghan Hengerer, Tyler Toland and Alannah McEvoy secured a 5-0 win heading into the game against Northern Ireland. Ireland continued their winning form with a 3-1 victory thanks to a brace from Louise Masterson and a last-minute strike from Isibéal Carolan. Unfortunately, a narrow 1-0 defeat against England ruled Ireland out of the title race but another impressive tournament from the side.

THIRD LEVEL

Greg Yelverton was appointed as the new Irish Colleges and Universities Men's National Team Head Coach in January.

This is a new position that has arisen as a result of the CFAI and IUFU agreeing to join their current representative teams together to form one national team for all Third Level students.

The Irish Defence Forces came out on top against the Colleges international squad. In a narrow victory, goals from Chris Kenny and Danny O'Connell sealed the win despite a response from Jody Dillon. The Colleges side faced Scotland next and sealed a comfortable 3-0 victory thanks to goals from Jason Lyons, Georgie Poynton and Robert Coughlan, and they followed it up with another win against Welsh Universities thanks to Georgie Poynton's strike at Barry Town.

The Irish side welcomed French Universities to Home Farm but suffered defeat against a well-disciplined outfit. Les Bleus produced a high-quality performance as Mathieu Blasco cleverly flicked the ball past Matt Connor for the first goal just past the half-hour. The visitors made wholesale changes after the break and increased their lead as Romain Daniellou secured the 2-0 win in what was a valuable experience for the Irish side.

Both the men's and women's teams are set to take part in next year's bi-annual World University games. The next 'Summer Universiade' takes place in Chinese Taipei, located in Northern Taiwan, between August 19-30, 2017.

DEFENCE FORCES

The Irish Defence Forces narrowly missed out on a place at the CISM European Championships finals despite a victory over the UK Armed Forces.

In a tense encounter, Irish Defence Forces produced a fine display to secure a 1-0 victory in Kilkenny.

The game, which was used as preparation for the European Championships, was won in the final minute of the game as Noel McGee popped up. Captain Chris Kenny, who also celebrated the birth of a baby boy earlier in the day, found McGee in the area to slot home in the 89th minute. It gave the Irish Defence Forces side the perfect preparation heading into their European Championship finals game against France.





Ireland Schools captain Jamie Aherne holds off his marker in Ireland's 3-1 victory over Scotland in the Centenary Shield



Rob Coghlan, Colleges & Universities National Team, tries to evade David Long, Irish Defence Forces

At Eamonn Deacy Park, Declan Sheridan's side took the lead early when quick thinking from Jodie Dillon saw him take the ball from goalkeeper Yannick Germaud and slot into an empty net. It looked as though the Irish side would record a win, but unfortunately Antoine Goulard's 81st minute strike equalised in the first of two legs.

Knowing the winner of the second leg would progress to the European final and secure a place at the 2017 World Military Games in Oman, Ireland got off to the perfect start in Galway. Skipper Chris Kenny headed home in the 3rd minute of the game as Ireland looked to use their home advantage against a skilled French outfit. The visitors struck back before the half-hour through Antoine Goulard and with no other goals in normal or extra time, it went down to penalties. Unfortunately, goalkeeper Yannick Germaud saved two spot-kicks in the shoot-out as the French side won 4-2 to progress to the finals stage.

The Irish Defence Forces Women's team enjoyed an historic moment as they played their first representative fixture outside of Ireland, in what was an indicator of the positive progress made over recent years. Unfortunately, they were denied a win at Cosford Air Base in Shropshire after a late equaliser. The Irish side dominated much of the game and went ahead in the 50th minute after Catherine Meaney delivered a wonderful corner to the back post which was slotted home by Siobhan O'Sullivan.

The RAF responded with four minutes remaining but the side will go into 2016 on a positive note having remained unbeaten for the past three years.

FOOTBALL FOR ALL – INTERNATIONAL

2015-16 saw five of the FAI Football for All squads compete at the highest level in European and World competition.

The Irish Deaf men's team played the first of two qualifying matches in their qualifying group for the Deaflympics in 2017. The squad played Great Britain deaf squad in March drawing 1-1 at Dalymount Park. The Irish came out second in their group with Ukraine, Hungary and Poland having beaten the latter two countries.

The Irish CP squad began their preparations for Rio 2016 with friendly matches against Holland in April securing a win and a loss. In May the squad travelled to Spain for the Paralympic pre-tournament event where they secured 5th place out of the eight teams competing in Rio.

The FFA Schools U-19 Squad travelled to Scotland to compete in this year's LD Home Nations. Our FFA Schools international team had a very successful tournament securing second place with victory over Northern Ireland and Wales and narrowly losing 2-1 to Scotland the overall winners in the final game. Ireland's homeless World Cup team finished 10th at the Homeless World Cup in Amsterdam in September 2015.

It was a remarkable achievement by the Irish considering they were playing in very hot conditions most days and playing two games a day, you can only begin to imagine the effort involved. With notable wins over Norway, Indonesia, Grenada and Bulgaria the team made the final of the Salvation Cup where they lost narrowly to Bulgaria 4-6. Ireland gave 100 percent in the trying conditions but in the end it was not to be.

Our Amputee Football squad travelled to Poland in June 2016 to compete in a four-team friendly tournament where they secured second place in a competitive tournament with Poland, Ukraine and Germany. They returned home without having lost a game.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

DOMESTIC FOOTBALL

Sheriff YC claimed their third FAI Junior Cup, in association with Aviva and Umbro, in five years as a first-half winner from Mark Higgins saw off Pike Rovers. Sheriff, who suffered defeat to Liffey Wanderers in the 2015 final sealed the win in the 32nd minute as Higgins rose highest at the far post to nod home past goalkeeper Gary Neville from Paul Murphy's pinpoint cross.

Although Sheriff should have extended their lead shortly after the restart through Darren O'Brien's header which sailed over, they were made to withstand Pike's late rally which saw Sean O'Callaghan and substitute Colin Daly fashion chances to equalise. It wasn't enough however as Sheriff claimed the title they narrowly missed out on the year before at Aviva Stadium.

Crumlin United continued their dominance of the FAI Umbro Intermediate Cup after their second consecutive victory and their fourth overall. United produced a commanding display at Aviva Stadium as they put five past Letterkenny Rovers without reply.

Gregory Moorhouse opened the scoring for Crumlin after James Lee found space on the right to square for Moorhouse to slot home before Moorhouse grabbed his second after a fine assist from Carl Forsyth. Ten minutes after the break, it was 3-0 as Alan McGreal stepped past defender Ryan Lonergan to find the bottom corner of Kelly's net. Substitute Dean Hurley made it

four after scrambling the ball home from five yards before the impressive Moorhouse bagged his hat-trick in the final minute after he deftly flicked the ball into the far corner from Forsyth's low cross.

There was drama in the FAI Umbro U17 Cup Final as Nenagh's last-minute strike against Wilton United secured the victory at Pearse Stadium, Limerick. Jake Morris had given Nenagh the lead in the 36th minute from the penalty spot before Wilton's Lee Cooke levelled the tie. Nenagh led again just after the break when Barry Coffey's right-footed finish found the net but once again, Wilton responded with 12 minutes remaining as Robert Wyse forced the ball home. Nenagh weren't to be denied though as Daniel Burke fired home in the final minute after Coffey's cross to seal victory in the final.

In an all-Cork final, Ballincollig claimed the FAI Umbro Youth Cup in a thrilling encounter with Ringmahon Rangers at Turner's Cross. Ballincollig went ahead early on as Ronan Barrett headed home from Shay Daly's corner after a quarter of an hour only to see Ringmahon fight back in the 27th minute with an equaliser from Troy O'Sullivan. Just as Ringmahon looked like they were getting on top, Matthew Whelan slotted home to put Ballincollig back in front before Darren Murphy's late strike sealed the trophy.





Jordan O'Regan, left, Cork Youth Leagues, celebrates after scoring his side's first goal with teammate Troy O'Sullivan. FAI Umbro Youth Inter League Cup Final, Cork Youth Leagues v Limerick & District League. O'Shea Park, Blarney, Co.Cork

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Cork Youth Leagues sealed a convincing victory in the final of the FAI Umbro Youth Inter-League against Limerick & District League to win the competition for the second time. It was a convincing 5-2 win at O'Shea Park thanks to a strong second-half performance. Jordan O'Regan put Cork ahead only to be pegged back by Ruairi Casserly strike on the half-hour. In an eventful first-half, Dean Swords put Cork back in front but Casserly popped up once again to make it 2-2 at the break. Cork dominated second-half proceedings as O'Regan notched a brace and goals from substitutes Chris Hull and Matthew Whelan sealed the win.

Clare & District League won the Oscar Traynor Cup in a great final at Crumlin's Pearse Park. Clare secured victory thanks to a strong second-half performance which featured goals from David McCarthy as they eventually ran out 5-2 winners in an exciting final.

The DDSL claimed their 30th victory in the Kennedy Cup after a dramatic penalty shoot-out victory over Galway League at the University of Limerick. It was a tense encounter with hardly any chances for either side as both defences dominated the occasion and nothing could separate the two sides after extra time. Striker Troy Parrott scored the winning spot-kick as DDSL regained the title won by the Kerry League 12 months previous.

Elsewhere, the Cork League claimed a third-placed finish with a 4-2 win on

penalties over the NDSL in their play-off clash. The game had finished 1-1 after normal time. Ope Abiru put the Dubliners in front in the first half, while Robert Geaney-O'Brien equalised for Cork late on. In the Plate final to decide fifth and sixth place, the SDFL beat Wexford on penalties after the game finished 1-1 after extra time.

Kilkenny won the Bowl final beating Midlands 1-0, while Mayo beat Longford 5-3 in the Shield final to claim a 17th-placed finish in the 32-team competition. The Trophy final went the way of Limerick District who defeated Dundalk 3-0.

In the FAI Continental Tyres Women's Cup, Wexford Youths landed the title for the first time with a 4-2 penalty victory over Shelbourne following a 2-2 draw in normal time. Siobhan Killeen opened the scoring 10 minutes after the break with a sublime finish past Tamara Furlong. However, Ciara Rossiter scrambled the ball home for Wexford Youths in the final minutes of normal time before Maria Delahunty's volley put Youths 2-1 up in extra time. Shels equalised in the final minute of extra time thanks to Dearbhaila Beirne but Youths converted all four of their penalties to win 4-2.

The FAI Women's Intermediate Cup Final saw Shelbourne Under-18s triumph with an impressive 6-1 win over St. Catherine's in September.

The FAI Women's Intermediate Shield Final saw a closer run affair as Boyne Rovers sealed a 2-1 victory after extra time after a competitive tie against Manulla FC. The FAI Umbro Women's U14 Cup Final was also won by Shelbourne as the Shels claimed a 3-0 victory over AK United. In the FAI Umbro Women's Under 16 Cup, Shelbourne claimed a dominant 3-0 victory over Salthill Devon at Frank Cooke Park. Despite a bright start by Salthill Devon, Shels had control for much of the contest and goals from Jessica Ziu, scoring two goals in three minutes just before the half-hour, and Katie Doyle sealed the victory.

Galway & District League clinched the FAI Gaynor U16 Cup after a dramatic penalty shootout victory over Metropolitan Girls at the University of Limerick. The sides couldn't be separated after 50 minutes of action which ended in a 1-1 draw after a pulsating encounter. The shoot-out saw Galway win in a 5-4 victory with captain Aoife Lynagh stepping up to convert the crucial spot-kick. The Metropolitan Girl's League made it consecutive FAI U14 Gaynor Cup successes with victory over Cork Women's & Schoolgirls Soccer League in June. After falling behind early on, the Dublin girls dug deep to break down their opponents and come away with a 3-1 victory.



Ballincollig captain Darren Murphy, celebrates at the end of the game. FAI Umbro Youth Cup Final, Ringmahon Rangers v Ballincollig, Turners Cross Stadium, Cork.



Jonathan Rock, Sheriff YC, in action against Wayne Colbert, Pike Rovers. FAI Junior Cup Final in association with Aviva and Umbro, Sheriff YC v Pike Rovers. Aviva Stadium, Dublin.



Crumlin United captain James Lee lifts the cup following his side's victory. FAI Intermediate Cup Final, Crumlin United v Letterkenny Rovers. Aviva Stadium, Dublin.



North Tipperary goalkeeper Medbh Ryan makes a save at the feet of Sophie Liston of Limerick Desmond during their Gaynor Cup Group B match at the University of Limerick, Limerick.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Works on the construction of the FAI's National Training Centre, consisting of the implementation of one artificial turf and five natural turf pitches, were completed and the facility has been extensively utilised since September 2015.

The project was financed via a mix of funding sources, with allocations from the Department of Sport via the National Sports Campus Authority, FIFA via its Goal Programme, upfront payments for usage from the Dublin and District Schoolboys League and Leinster Senior League as well as direct funding from the Association.

The full size FIFA 2 Star artificial turf pitch which includes a state of the art carpet, produced by the renowned Italian company and FIFA preferred producer Limonta, was completed in April 2015 and has been widely used.

The natural turf pitches have been utilised extensively also and have played host to almost all of the International teams including the senior women's and men's team who were based at the facility prior to participating in EURO 2016. The pitches have also hosted a number of SSE Airtricity League teams as part of their pre-season preparation as well as Leeds United FC who were the first overseas club to undertake their pre-season preparations at the facility.

Works on the development of Phase 1 of the National Indoor Arena, located adjacent to the FAI National Training Centre are well underway and due to be completed in November. This facility will house the National Gymnastics Training Centre, an Indoor Athletics Track, International Standard Sports Hall and other support facilities.

The Authority also have an option within the contract to commence works on the development of a full size indoor football pitch and half sized covered rugby pitch and it is hoped that funding will be provided by Government for this important facility which is a crucial piece of infrastructure for the development of football in this country.

Construction work was also completed on the development of a Coaching and Conference Centre adjacent to the FAI Headquarters. This facility which opened in late 2015 supports the delivery of a wide range of education programmes with its 110 seat lecture theatre, 40 person classroom, four changing rooms and kitchen and dining area. This facility has been utilised extensively by the Association for activities ranging from major press conferences, Coach Education Workshops and team briefings.

The construction of the High Performance Centre located at the Institute of Sport was also completed in late 2015 and the High Performance Gym and medical facilities have been used by a number of our International teams including the men's senior team.

The FAI would particularly like to thank the efforts of Ministers Paschal Donohue and Michael Ring as well as the Chairman and CEO of the Authority, Mr Sean Benton and Mr Dave Conway respectively, for their assistance and support for these vital projects.

DALYMOUNT PARK

Dalymount Park has long been synonymous with Irish football and holds a special place in the history of the FAI. Therefore, it was welcome news, following representations by the FAI and Bohemian FC to both Dublin City Council and to Minister Paschal Donohue, that Dublin City Council purchased Dalymount Park from Bohemian Football Club and committed to redeveloping the ground into a municipal stadium that will host Bohemian FC as well as other football activities. The purchase also enabled Bohemian FC to settle its considerable debt to Zurich Bank.

Works will now focus on the development of a rejuvenation plan that will benefit the club and the surrounding area of Phibsboro and the FAI welcomes the fact that the Government has shown its support for the project by setting aside funding in the 2016 budget towards the redevelopment of the facility.





Republic of Ireland defender Stephen Ward works his way during some exercises on Pitch 1 at the FAI National Training Centre



Fran Gavin, FAI Director of Competitions, discusses the future of Dalymount Park with Daniel Lambert, Cormac Healy, and Matt Devaney

WORKS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FAI'S NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE, CONSISTING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE ARTIFICIAL TURF AND FIVE NATURAL TURF PITCHES, WERE COMPLETED AND THE FACILITY HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY UTILISED SINCE SEPTEMBER 2015.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AT GLANMIRE

Following representations to Cork County Council, the FAI have secured agreement for a 99-year lease for a 30-acre site in Glanmire, Cork, which will be developed as a Centre of Excellence that will serve the Munster region.

The facility will support the development of young players operating within the FAI's regional squad structures and support the growth and development of football within the province. It will also be utilised as a training venue for Cork City FC's various teams as well as a home match venue for its underage teams.

Further to this a Master Plan for the site was developed and Planning Permission was secured on May 27, 2016 from Cork County Council, however it is expected that there will be an appeal to An Bord Pleanála. The support of former Minister Alan Kelly, Senator John Gilroy, Cork County Council CEO, Tim Lucey and Pat Lyons, Chairman of FORAS were invaluable in securing the agreement.

MARKETS FIELD

In the last year Limerick FC have moved back to their spiritual home of the Markets Field Stadium following an impressive renovation carried out by the new owners of the ground, the Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership. The facility which can cater for just under 5,000 people, with 1350 located in the newly refurbished main stand is an example of what can be done when a city, local business and a club work together.

NEW GROUND FOR DROGHEDA UNITED

Considerable progress has been made in relation to our efforts to secure a new site for the development of a new stadium for Drogheda United. The FAI have been working with Louth County Council to identify and secure a site for the development of a new facility for the club that will hopefully encompass additional training and playing facilities that can be utilised by the local clubs also.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED



Picture Perfect: Eamonn Deacy Park was selected as the 2015 SSE Airtricity League Pitch of the Year

SPORTS CAPITAL PROGRAMME

A welcome round of funding allocations from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sports Capital Programme were announced in 2016 and many affiliates have benefitted from the assistance provided by the FAI's Facility Department during the course of making an application and in the process of commencing and completing their project.

There were 180 applications in total to the programme from football entities and 95 local clubs were awarded €3,743,764 in funding via local allocations. A further nine Regional Football Projects were allocated an additional €1,178,143 in funding with the AUL Complex, Limerick FC, Athlone Town FC and the North Tipperary Football League among the beneficiaries.

An additional figure in the region of €1.5m was allocated to specific football projects for local authorities and community organisations bringing the total amount of funding allocated to football to over €6.4m.

The works being carried out on the back of the allocated funding range from the development of clubhouses to the upgrading of natural turf pitches and the installation of floodlights and artificial turf pitches.

To assist affiliates with their development a workshop for all successful applicants to the programme was held at the FAI's Headquarters at Abbotstown in December and experts from a variety of disciplines

provided guidance and advice on the development of facilities and securing value for money. The presentations were subsequently uploaded to the FAI Website and are available to download.

Some of the stand out projects that have begun or developed in the last year include the upgrading of three natural turf pitches at the AUL complex, the renovation of the small sided artificial turf pitches at the North East Football League grounds, the renovation of the artificial turf pitch at Mayfield FC and the development of a full size artificial turf pitch at the Kerry and District League grounds at Mounthawk Park.

We thank the Department and in particular former Minister Michael Ring for his commitment to the development of football while he held the position.

CLUB LICENSING

The Club Licensing Manual was issued to all clubs in September. This manual was based on UEFA's Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play regulations Edition 2015, which featured new criteria in relation to Disability Access, as well as some enhanced legal and financial criteria.

In February, the Independent Club Licensing Committee awarded 16 Premier Division licences and four First Division licences for the 2016 SSE Airtricity League season.

In April, licences for UEFA competition were awarded to Dundalk FC, Cork City, St Patricks Athletic and Shamrock Rovers.

The annual audit of the FAI Club Licensing Department by SGS Europe was carried out and the FAI was found to be in full compliance with UEFA's standard.

LEAGUE PITCHES AND SSE AIRTRICITY LEAGUE PITCH OF THE YEAR

The FAI's Club Licensing and Facility Department have been working with League clubs for a number of years to support the development and maintenance of pitches for the league and significant improvements have been made over this time.

The organising of training workshops for ground staff, support for funding applications and the arrangement of visits to clubs by agronomists as well as the establishment of the Pitch of the Year competition in 2007 have all played their part in improving the standard of pitches. This support will continue and the FAI will happily provide guidance on the care of pitches to clubs at all levels.

Eamonn Deacy Park, home ground of Galway United, was selected as the winner of the 2015 SSE Airtricity League Pitch of the Year Award, following an inspection by the Irish Institute of Sports Surfaces (IISS). The winner of the award was selected following nominations by SSE Airtricity League referees and players, in association with the Professional Footballers Association of Ireland.



Graduates from the UEFA Certificate in Football Management at a ceremony in Dundalk

The award, which is organised by the FAI and IISS, and sponsored by Greenday Environmental Services, was presented to the groundsman, Mr. Noel Connolly, at a function prior to the Irish Daily Mail FAI Senior Cup Final at Aviva Stadium.

UEFA CERTIFICATE IN FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT

The FAI jointly hosted the UEFA Certificate in Football Management in Ireland with the Irish FA; a nine month programme featuring studies into topics including football organisation, strategy and strategic management, operational management, marketing and sponsorship, communications, media and public relations, and event organisation.

We are delighted for our 16 graduates of the UEFA Certificate in Football Management with five of the 16 achieving a Merit or Distinction. They were presented with their certificates along with the other participants from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Gibraltar FA's in the Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk at a cross border ceremony in December 2015 attended by representatives of UEFA and the University of Lausanne. They all worked very hard and were excellent ambassadors for the Association.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

In 2015, 146 staff attended 73 training courses meaning 84 percent of staff in 2015 attended one or more courses relevant to their roles. We were able to facilitate an increase in the number of in-house courses in 2014. The development of our employees is key to our continued growth and success and we will continue to support their development through education, seminars and training interventions.

We were pleased, through Sports Ireland Volunteer Support Programme, to be able to offer training to the Volunteer Community on a wide variety of Football Management topics in 2015 and early 2016. The number of volunteers in football who registered for training courses were 42, which were delivered free of charge.

WORK EXPERIENCE AND COLLEGE PLACEMENTS

We remain actively involved in providing a variety of employment opportunities for as many people as possible to develop their skills in football administration and coaching in a variety of ways. We have successfully recruited a number of people into full-time employment from the work experience opportunities, which provides a win-win for all involved. We also facilitated 28 transition year student placements and 21 college student internships.

WELLNESS DAY

We held our second Wellness Day on October 22, 2015. The event was well received with 14 different exhibitor's attending, including the Road Safety Authority, GPNOW, the HSE, Irish Blood Transfusion etc. Staff were able to attend a number of talks on Health topics and avail of ECGs and flu vaccines also offered on the day.

CARLOW IT/ FAI AWARENESS MODULE

We developed and delivered an FAI awareness module on the IT Carlow BA Sport and Exercise (Soccer) course in 2015-16 to increase student knowledge of the work of the FAI. It was very much welcomed by Karen Hennessy, the Head of Department of Sports Media and Marketing in IT Carlow and was attended by some 50 students. We have employed 5 graduates of this programme in the two years since the first pool of students of this course graduated and provided a further 6 students with work experience.

EMPLOYEE'S CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PARTY

A delighted 40 plus children visited Santa in HQ on the 3rd December. We received very positive feedback and thanks from their parents with a great time had by all.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

STAFFING

As of June 30, 2016, the breakdown of our 180 staff is 140 permanent and 40 on contracts. 44 are former or current players who have or are currently playing at senior international or domestic level. Diversity statistics include 141 Males (78 percent of total workforce) and 39 Females (22 percent of total workforce).

We have 251 auxiliary coaches on our database who are active; 163 assist the Development Officers, 78 assist the Emerging Talent Programme and 10 in Coach Education. We have an additional 83 Contractors made up of backroom team members, medical contractors and professional services. We managed 27 recruitment campaigns with over 1,226 applicants in 2015.

KEY APPOINTMENTS AND MOVEMENTS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

We are delighted that Ruud Dokter has agreed to remain as High Performance Director of the FAI until 2020 and will continue to implement the new Player Development Plan.

We thank Paul Doolin for his work with U19-U18 men's team following his move on to pastures new in 2016. Resulting from this Tom Mohan has been appointed to take over as U19 national team head coach, Jim Crawford as the U18 national team head coach and Colin O'Brien as U17 national team head coach. Paul Osam was appointed to the role of U16 national team head coach and Jason Donohue to the role

of U15 national team head coach. Dave Bell was also appointed U17 Women's national team head coach. We wish them all well in their appointments and our highly qualified head coach appointments highlight our commitment to further develop talented players in Ireland through our Player Development Plan without the need for talent to travel to the UK.

Damien Duff, Kenny Cunningham, Mark Kinsella, Keith Andrews and Stephen McPhail will all link up with FAI High Performance Director Ruud Dokter to help with the coaching of the next generation of Irish footballers, through the Player Development Pathway.

Greig Paterson, Coach Education Manager returned to his native Scotland to assume a similar role with the Scottish FA. Niall O'Regan was appointed to the vacancy and, as Coach Education continues to be a cornerstone of the Association's development of the game in this country, is highly qualified to fulfil that remit.

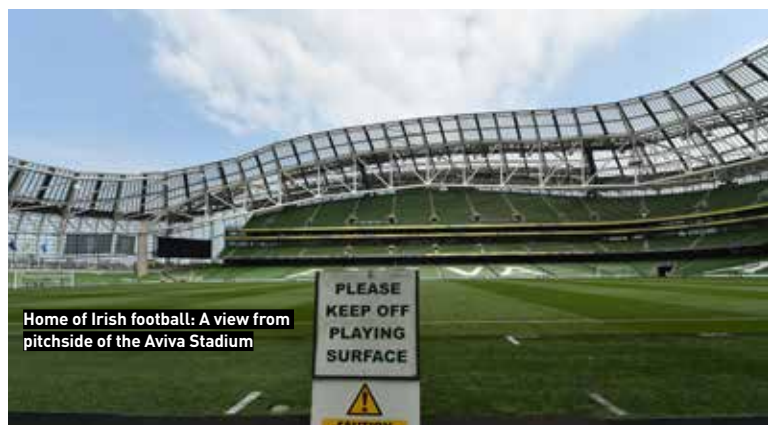
The FAI's Deputy CEO and Legal Director, Sarah O'Shea, left her position with the Association at the end of the year to set up a sports consultancy business. We are delighted to confirm that Sarah continues to be involved with the FAI on a consultancy basis.

Eamon Breen will replace Sarah as the Company Secretary with responsibility for the Finance, IT, HR and Legal departments. Pat McGinty, Head of HR left in February



IT Carlow celebrate winning the WSCAI Intervarsities Cup after overcoming IT Sligo in Athlone

**AS AT THE 30TH JUNE
2016 THE BREAKDOWN
OF OUR 180 STAFF IS
140 PERMANENT AND
40 ON CONTRACTS.
44 ARE FORMER OR
CURRENT PLAYERS
WHO HAVE OR ARE
CURRENTLY PLAYING AT
SENIOR INTERNATIONAL
OR DOMESTIC LEVEL.
DIVERSITY STATISTICS
INCLUDE 141 MALES
(78 PERCENT OF TOTAL
WORKFORCE) AND 39
FEMALES (22 PERCENT
OF TOTAL WORKFORCE).**



Home of Irish football: A view from pitchside of the Aviva Stadium

2016 but remains with us on a consultancy basis to support Janice Dunwoody who joined as HR Manager in April 2016.

Stephen Driver left the FAI after nine years' service to take up a new role with the National Lottery. Peter Sherrard moved from Communications to replace Stephen as Director of Operations with overall responsibility for International Teams and Match Operations.

We welcomed Ian Mallon as the new Communications Director in September 2015. Ian is a former Head of Content with Independent News and Media (INM), and has worked across a number of key editorial executive roles with the group over a 17 year career. Gerry McDermott left the Association after almost 10 years' service. We thank Gerry for his significant contribution to football reporting for the FAI.

We congratulate Miriam Malone, who has been promoted to the role of Business Partnerships Director. Miriam has been instrumental with John Delaney in the development of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, which was launched earlier this year.

2016-2020 FAI STRATEGIC PLAN

The FAI published its 2016-2020 Strategic Plan in January. This sets out the key areas for development and change within Irish football over the next five years. These areas will be prioritised in the Association's planning as it heads towards its Centenary Year in 2021.

The new Strategic Plan is the third five-year document prepared by the Association under the stewardship of its Chief Executive, John Delaney, and the key objectives delivered during the past ten years include the Aviva Stadium, the FAI National Training Centre, FAI Headquarters, the merger with the SSE Airtricity League, the introduction of a Women's National League, co-funded Development Officers, qualification for European Championship finals at senior and under-age level, increased participation numbers, more qualified coaches and referees, plus the implementation of the original Technical Plan.

The 2016-2020 Strategic Plan sets out the FAI's goals for delivering improvements in nine specific Pillars which are:

- Pillar 1** - Participation
- Pillar 2** - Club and Community Development
- Pillar 3** - Women's Football
- Pillar 4** - Player Development
- Pillar 5** - SSE Airtricity League
- Pillar 6** - National Competitions
- Pillar 7** - International Football
- Pillar 8** - Facilities
- Pillar 9** - Organisational Development

Over 12 months in 2015 the previous strategic plan was reviewed in detail and numerous stakeholder consultations took place to inform the new strategy document for the FAI. These included workshop sessions, focus groups and individual one to one interviews.

In-depth consultations were carried out for particular elements of the game such as: (a) SSE Airtricity League (SSEAL). (b) Player Development Plan (PDP). (c) Women's Football. The SSEAL process involved a total of 98 separate interview sessions, including 20 club meetings and 78 separate individual face to face meetings. The 20 clubs were represented at the meetings by over 100 administrators and there were contributions from 1,774 supporters and members of the public via online surveys and questionnaires.

The PDP consultative process saw in excess of 30 meetings held across the country with over 900 representatives from clubs and leagues attending. Phase 1 of the Plan (implementation of Recommendations 1 and 2) commenced in September 2015 with the remaining recommendations to be implemented over the coming two seasons.

The consultation for the Women's Football Plan spanned over two years and involved meetings at different levels to ensure maximum input into the process. National level meetings had over 140 people involved, while over 300 were present at the initial regional roadshows. This was followed up with detailed meetings in each of the eight regions to gain further insight.

In conjunction with the results from the consultations mentioned above there was also a planning session with a team from UEFA on their Grow 2020 strategy, feedback from our Grassroots

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OPERATIONAL REVIEW OF 2015 CONTINUED

Stakeholders Conference participants and an open public survey online. This highlights the spread from grassroots football in Ireland, our partners in delivery, and also key objectives and direction from our parent body UEFA.

The FAI Stakeholders Conference held in October 2015 hosted 86 of UEFA are working with all of its 54 associations on recording and growing their participation numbers by 2020. This is linked with the UEFA Charter System which is being updated from their current Star system, where associations can apply for up to six stars by fulfilling certain criteria, to a new bronze, silver and gold system. The criteria for this will be focused on overall growth of participation numbers as well as targeted areas such as adult football, women, drop off ages and recreational football. These goals and objectives have been considered and adapted into this strategy.

Our grassroots partners including the Irish Sports Council (now Sport Ireland), government Depts. of Tourism, Transport & Sport, Health, Children & Youth Affairs, Foreign Affairs, and Justice as well as the Federation of Irish Sport, numerous local authorities, Third level institutions and LSP's. Workshop sessions were conducted to provide an opportunity for feedback from these partners.

The results from the public survey administered on the FAI website, with just under 1,000 responses, provided the FAI with some quantitative analysis as well as some open ended questions which provided some rich qualitative data to assist in informing the content of the plan. Responses to the survey came from all aspects of our games including underage/schools, women's, youth, intermediate/junior, national leagues and international football. Those that took part represented many different roles within football such as players, coaches, parents, administrators, volunteers, club members, supporters, Referees/Officials, and recreational players.

The Strategic Plan highlights the strategic direction that the FAI is aiming towards for the next five years. It indicates clear priorities through each of the nine pillars and sets out some challenging goals for the association. In order for these to be realised, a detailed implementation plan will be put into place to oversee and monitor the progress throughout this time period. It will be based on the implementation plan used successfully for the previous FAI Statement of Strategy from 2011. This will consist of the breakdown of the strategy into annual operation plans monitored by a Strategy Implementation Committee.

A Strategy Implementation Committee will oversee the development and implementation of operational plans to realise the strategic goals as set out



The FAI Women's Strategic Plan was launched in Tallaght Stadium

in the Strategic Plan. The Committee will be chaired by the CEO and contain representatives from the Board, executive staff members and an independent external consultant. The composition and terms of reference for this Committee has been approved by the Board.

**THE CONSULTATION
FOR THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL PLAN
SPANNED OVER
TWO YEARS AND
INVOLVED MEETINGS
AT DIFFERENT LEVELS
TO ENSURE MAXIMUM
INPUT INTO THE
PROCESS.**



Altogether now: Wexford Youths WFC captain Kylie Murphy gives some advice to her teammates

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2015 OVERVIEW

In 2015 we generated an Operating Surplus of €11.03m, with a Retained Surplus of €3.82m. This strong operating performance is in line with our long term business plan.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Turnover for the year was €46.06m (€2014: €38.22m) reflecting an increase of 20.52 percent in 2015 largely attributable to an increased competitive home fixture list compared to 2014 with matches against Poland, Scotland, Georgia, Germany and a play-off against Bosnia & Herzegovina. In addition to this a home friendly match against England boosted income in 2015. Successful qualification for EURO 2016 has also increased Turnover in 2015 as a result of the apportionment of the Euro 2016 Prize Fund between qualification, in 2015, and participation, in 2016.

The Irish Sports Council/Sport Ireland continued to provide strong support to the Association by allocation €2.7m in grants (2014: €2.7m) to the FAI's football programmes.

The Association continued to develop strong sponsorship income, amounting to €7.6m in 2015. These partnerships include strong blue chip companies like 3Mobile, Toplion (Umbro), Diageo, Lucozade, Ford, SSE Airtricity, McDonald's, Continental Tyres, SPAR, Bank of Ireland, Irish Daily Mail, and Celtic Pure.

The Association continued to work at reducing non match related operational costs and implemented a number of cost saving measures in 2015. Cost control will continue to be a key priority for the Association together with a strong

focus on revenue generation to ensure the Association is positioned to meet its financial commitments and invest in the future of the game.

2015 was our fifth full year in the new Aviva stadium where the amortisation costs for 2015 were €1.4m (2014: €1.4m). In addition to amortisation, bank and other charges relating principally to borrowings to support the construction of the stadium amounted to €4.7m (2014: €5.4m).

Our development and operating grants were €2m (2014: €1.1m) which shows our commitment to providing funding at all levels of the game.

The underlying retained surplus was €3.82m after taking all income, expenditure, investment income, interest costs, amortisation, grants into account.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2015, the Association has net assets of €17.25m, an increase of €3.82m from 2014. The Association has assets of just under €100m and borrowing of €50.4m. Once these borrowings are repaid, the Association will realise the full benefit of owning its own stadium, which will allow for significant funding to be invested in to the game in Ireland.

FUNDING AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

The Association faces many challenges in common with all businesses in Ireland. However, the Association has significant committed revenue streams included 2014-2018, 2018-2022 UEFA TV contracts, UEFA Hattrick Programme funding, and long term commercial contracts. These revenues, allied to potential income from the resale of Stadium naming rights and

premium seats, as well as our strong day to day revenues, provides a strong foundation for the Association.

We continue to challenge our costs to ensure we meet our financial obligations while focussing on growing revenue and generating funds to strengthen our game for future generations.

DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

T. Fitzgerald	- President
D. Conway	- Vice President
M. Cody	- Honorary Secretary
J. Delaney	- Chief Executive Officer
E. Murray	- Honorary Treasurer
E. Naughton	- Chairman – League of Ireland
P. Treanor	- Chairman – Legal and Corporate Affairs Committee
M. Corcoran	- Chairman – International Committee
J. McConnell	- Chairman – Domestic Committee
J. Earley	- Chairman – Underage Committee

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

W. Attley	M. Hanley	E. Murray
H. Barr	A. Harkin	E. Naughton
S. Barrett	P. Harrington	J. O'Brien
J. Boland	M. Heraghty	P. O'Brien
P. Cassin	K. Judge	D. O'Connor
J. Clery	T. Kearney	N. O'Donoghue
M. Cody	D. Kelly	T. O'Dowd
M. Conlon	J. Kelly	D. O'Driscoll
D. Conway	M. Kiernan	J. O'Regan
M. Corcoran	S. Lambert	M. O'Regan
D. Cruise	M. Lynch	J. Rodgers
A. Delaney	J. MacArdle	P. Ryan
G. Delaney	T. Martin	R. Scott
P. Dempsey	C. G. McAnaney	R. Shakespeare
D. Donleavy	T. McAuley	F. Smith
J. Earley	J. McConnell	P. Treanor
M. Farrell	D. McDonnell	G. Tully
T. Fitzgerald	D. Moran	M. Wallace
N. Fitzoy	J. Morley	S. Weafer
M. Coughlan	N. Morton	
J. Hackett	J. Murphy	

AUDITORS

Deloitte
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Deloitte & Touche House
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

BANKERS & FUNDING PARTNER

Bank of Ireland
College Green
Dublin 2

Corporate Capital Trust, Inc.
450 S. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801

SOLICITORS

A. & L. Goodbody
IFSC
North Wall Quay
Dublin 1

REGISTERED OFFICE

National Sports Campus
Abbotstown
Dublin 15

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of the Association for the financial year ended 31 December 2015.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the Association is the management and direction of Association Football throughout the Republic of Ireland.

RESULTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR AND STATE OF AFFAIRS AT THE FINANCIAL YEAR END AND REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS

The results for the year and state of affairs at the financial year end are set out in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Balance Sheet respectively.

The following is a summary of the results for the current financial year:

	2015 €
Surplus on ordinary activities before grants	5,844,087
Development and operating grants to affiliates	(2,024,220)
Retained surplus for financial year	3,819,867

In 2014, an operating surplus of €566k (restated) was generated by the Association.

Income and Expenditure

Overall our turnover was €46m (2014: €38m). The revenue in 2015 included a significant increase in match related income on the back of gate receipts and successful qualification for Euro 2016 Finals tournament.

The Irish Sports Council/Sport Ireland continued to provide strong support to the Association and the running of the technical department by allocating €2.7m in grants (2014: €2.7m) to the FAI's football programmes.

Despite a very difficult economic environment the Association continued to have strong sponsorship income which was €7.6m in 2015 (2014: €8m). These partnerships include strong blue chip companies like 3Mobile, Toplion (Umbro), Diageo, Lucozade, Ford, Airtricity, McDonalds, Continental Tyres, Spar, BOI, Irish Daily Mail and Celtic Pure.

The Association continued to work at reducing costs and implemented a number of cost saving measures in 2015. Cost control will continue to be a key priority for the Association together with a strong focus on revenue generation to ensure the Association is positioned to meet its financial commitments and invest in the future of the game.

The Association continues to invest in the underage international squads with over €2.6m spent supporting our underage and Women's international teams. The return on this investment can be seen by the success across the levels.

2015 was our fifth full year in the new Aviva stadium where the amortisation costs for 2015 were €1.4m (2014: €1.4m). In addition to amortisation, bank and other charges relating principally to borrowings to support the construction of the stadium amounted to €5.2m (2014: €5.4m).

Our development and operating grants were €2m (2014: €1.1m) which shows our commitment to providing funding at all levels of the game.

The underlying retained surplus was €3.8m after taking all income, expenditure, investment income, interest costs, amortisation, grants and exceptional items into account.

Balance Sheet

As at the 31st December 2015 we had net assets of €17.25m, an increase of €3.8m from 2014. The Association has assets of just under €97.3m and bank borrowings of €48m.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES FACING THE ASSOCIATION

The Association is dependent upon the income generated by the success of the Senior International team by way of ticket revenue, sponsorship and television revenue to continue to invest in all aspects of football throughout the country. Any variances in the revenue being generated from such activities may affect the level of such investment.

In contributing towards the development of Aviva Stadium, the Association has received funding through debt financing. The Association has a business plan in place which identifies it will generate sufficient cashflow to facilitate repayment

of this financing in line with agreed repayment terms.

Funding and Future Challenges

The Association recognises that we are operating in very difficult economic times and faces many challenges in common with all businesses in Ireland. However, the Association has significant committed revenue streams including the new UEFA TV contract which came in to effect in 2014, UEFA Hatrick Programme funding, and long term commercial contracts.

These revenues, allied to potential income from the resale of Stadium naming rights and premium seats, our strong day to day revenues and a good draw for the 2016 European Championships provides a strong foundation for the Association. The restructuring of the 2016 and 2020 European Championship to include 24 teams also enhances the Association's potential to qualify for more major tournaments.

We continue to challenge our costs to ensure we meet our financial obligations and in tandem we focus on growing revenue and generating funds to continue to strengthen our game for future generations.

GOING CONCERN

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual financial statements.

Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in note 1 to the financial statements.

DIRECTORS

The present membership of the Board of Management is set out on page 2.

It is with deep regret that we note passing of T. Fitzgerald (Chairman of the Underage Committee) on 1 February 2015. J. Earley was appointed to the board of management on 1 March 2015.

It is also with deep regret that we note passing during the year of J Coughlan and P. Whitty (members of the National Council)

EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

There have been no significant events affecting the financial statements since the financial year end.

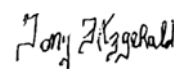
ACCOUNTING RECORDS

The measures that the directors have taken to secure compliance with the requirements of sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, are the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The company's accounting records are maintained at the company's registered office at the National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Dublin 15.

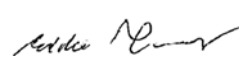
AUDITORS

The auditors, Deloitte, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm, continue in office in accordance with Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Management:



Tony Fitzgerald
President



Eddie Murray
Honorary Treasurer

Date: 17 May 2016

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and the applicable 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 FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("relevant financial reporting framework"). 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 profit or loss of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing those 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 the 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 profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL)

We have audited the financial statements of The Football Association of Ireland for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the balance sheet, the Statement of Changes in Equity, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes 1 to 23. The relevant 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 ("relevant financial reporting framework").

This 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 auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume 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.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

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 otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Reports and Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2015 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

OPINION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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 2015 and of the surplus for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework and, in particular, with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY 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.
- In our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Act 2014 which require us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by law are not made.



Richard Howard

For and on behalf of Deloitte Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Dublin

Date: 17 May 2016

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

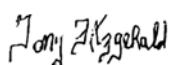
	Notes	2015 €	Restated 2014 €
TURNOVER	3	46,060,425	38,218,497
Cost of sales		(22,415,565)	(21,922,027)
OPERATING INCOME		23,644,860	16,296,470
Administration expenses		(12,609,893)	(9,236,159)
OPERATING SURPLUS		11,034,967	7,060,310
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(5,190,880)	(5,403,301)
SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE GRANTS	6	5,844,087	1,657,009
Development and operating grants to affiliates		(2,024,220)	(1,090,781)
SURPLUS RETAINED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		3,819,867	566,228

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Notes	2015 €	2014 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	7	2,930,165	2,079,475
Intangible assets	8	61,115,025	62,354,173
Financial assets	9	25,196,503	25,196,503
		89,241,693	89,630,151
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	10	8,074,614	7,495,836
		8,074,614	7,495,836
Current Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(28,690,387)	(28,253,490)
Net Current Liabilities		(20,615,773)	(20,757,654)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		68,625,920	68,872,497
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	(51,375,388)	(55,441,832)
NET ASSETS		17,250,532	13,430,665
Represented by:			
Capital reserve		29,775	29,775
Revenue reserves		17,220,757	13,400,890
TOTAL RESERVES		17,250,532	13,430,665

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Management on 17 May 2016 and signed on its behalf by:



Tony Fitzgerald
President



Eddie Murray
Honorary Treasurer

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Note	Capital Reserves €	Revaluation Reserves €	Revenue Reserves €	Total €
At 31 December 2013		29,775	1,068,887	13,096,384	14,195,046
Changes on transition to FRS 102	23	-	(1,068,887)	(261,722)	(1,330,609)
1 January 2014 as restated		29,775	-	12,834,662	12,864,437
Surplus for the financial year		-	-	566,228	566,228
At 31 December 2014		29,775	-	13,400,890	13,430,665
At 1 January 2015 as restated		29,775	-	13,400,890	13,430,665
Surplus for the financial year		-	-	3,819,867	3,819,867
At 31 December 2015		29,775	-	17,220,757	17,250,532

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Notes	2015 €	2014 €
Net cash flows from operating activities	15	10,774,719	5,168,005
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisitions of intangible fixed assets		(757,341)	(79,274)
Acquisitions of tangible fixed assets		(1,603,657)	(843,934)
Payment of grants		(2,100,345)	(1,211,700)
Net cash flows from investing activities		(4,461,343)	(2,134,908)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayments of obligations under leases		-	(360,689)
Repayments of borrowings		(2,000,000)	(1,000,000)
Interest payable and similar charges		(3,629,670)	(3,569,638)
Net cash flows from financing activities		(5,629,670)	(4,930,327)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	14	683,706	(1,897,230)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		(2,595,526)	(698,296)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year		(1,911,820)	(2,595,526)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the financial year and to the preceding year.

General Information and Basis of Accounting

The Football Association of Ireland is a company incorporated in Ireland. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. The nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the directors' report on pages 3 to 5.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value, and in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The prior year financial statements were restated for material adjustments on adoption of FRS 102 in the current financial year. For more information see note 23.

The functional currency of The Football Association of Ireland is considered to be euro because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates.

Going Concern

The company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the directors' report. The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The Association had a surplus retained for the financial year of €3,819,867 (2014: €566,228) and as at the balance sheet date had net assets of €17,250,532 (2014: €13,430,665) with net current liabilities of €20,615,774 (2014: €20,757,654). The net current liabilities excluding deferred income at the balance sheet date was €8,948,652 (2014: €6,444,451).

In order to fund the continuing operations of the Association, the Association continues to utilise existing sources of finance available to it. The Association will continue to efficiently manage its working capital on a day to day basis to ensure availability of cash. Based on approved management forecasts of trading performance, and finance facilities being made available to the Association, the Directors have forecasted that the Association will operate within current overdraft facilities for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

On the basis of management's forecast of the Association's operating performance and financing requirements, the Directors believe they have adequate resources to fund their operations for the foreseeable future. The Directors are therefore of the opinion that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Taxation

The Association has been granted sporting body status, and accordingly no charge to Corporation tax arises by virtue of Section 235 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997.

Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of sales of goods and services in the normal course of business including gate receipts, sponsorship monies, subventions, marketing, commercial and miscellaneous income.

Turnover from marketing contracts is recognised rateably over the period of the contract or where a fair value can be attributed to an element of a contract when that element has been delivered. Subvention and grant income is recognised over the period when the related cost is recognised.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost, net of depreciation and any allowance for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight-line balance basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office, machinery Furniture and equipment	10% – 33% per annum
Motor Vehicles	25% per annum
Training grounds	10% per annum

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

Assets held under finance leases, hire purchase contracts and other similar arrangements, which confer rights and obligations similar to those attached to owned assets, are capitalised as tangible fixed assets at the fair value of the leased asset (or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments as determined at the inception of the lease) and are depreciated over the shorter of the lease terms and their useful lives.

In the opinion of the directors, any charge to depreciation on the grounds and related accumulated depreciation would not be material as the value of the assets relate primarily to land.

Intangible Fixed Assets

Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost net of amortisation and any allowance for impairment.

Intangible fixed assets comprise of contributions to New Stadium Limited in respect of the construction of Aviva Stadium and software licences.

Contributions to New Stadium Limited, relating to the construction of Aviva Stadium, are capitalised at cost and are amortised to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (S.O.C.I.) on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of Aviva Stadium. Amortisation commenced upon the Association's use of Aviva Stadium. Professional, finance, legal and other costs directly attributable to the contributions towards Aviva Stadium are capitalised as part of the cost of this asset up to the date of completion. The capitalisation rate was the weighted average cost of finance obtained for the purpose of financing the contributions made.

The stadium asset is amortised on a straight line basis over a 50 year period in line with the estimated useful life. Software Licences are capitalised at their fair value and amortised to the S.O.C.I. on a straight line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or licence duration.

Financial Assets

Financial assets consist of investments in joint venture undertakings together with other financial asset investments held at cost. Investments are carried at cost less provisions for any permanent diminution in carrying value below cost.

Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

Financial assets and liabilities

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified at fair value through surplus or deficit, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the company intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the company transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the company, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

(i) Investments

Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in joint ventures are measured at cost less impairment.

(ii) Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

Finance Costs

Interest and similar costs are expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the period to which the loan financing relates. Where the financing related directly to the addition of a fixed asset, such costs were attributed to the related asset.

Finance costs associated with the raising of finance are netted against the related loan and amortised over the period of the loan. Where future contracted revenue cashflows are securitised, the resulting difference between the upfront proceeds and the gross value of the contract is recognised over the period of the related contract as a finance cost.

Grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets.

Grants relating to fixed assets are treated as a deferred credit, which is credited to the Income Statement over the estimated useful lives of the related assets on a straight line basis. Grants relating to non-capital expenditure are credited to the S.O.C.I. in the same period as the related expenditure is incurred.

Foreign Currency

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at actual exchange rates as at the date of the transaction. The monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year-end are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at the year-end. All exchange differences are dealt with in the S.O.C.I.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical accounting judgements include;

- the assessment of expected useful lives for fixed assets, both tangible and intangible. Depreciation rates are set by reference to internal estimation of useful lives and benchmarking assets against externally available information,
- assessment of period over which revenue is recognised for contracts which span more than one accounting period and where multiple deliverables may form part of the contract.
- calculation of interest charge on financial instruments.

The key source of estimation is the determination of bad debt provisions at year end where such provisions include an estimation of future cashflows and where they may not reflect the eventual cash receipts.

3. TURNOVER

An analysis of the company's turnover is as follows:

	2015 €	2014 €
Match generated	32,796,028	24,313,613
Grants and subvention income	5,806,023	5,447,766
Game Development	5,287,524	5,226,710
Other income	2,170,849	3,230,409
	46,060,425	38,218,497

In addition to this revenue, the FAI also received benefits from sponsors in the form of discounts and usage of sponsors' equipment. The value of this sponsorship is not reflected in the turnover figure.

All income arose in the Republic of Ireland.

During the financial year the FAI received grant funding from the Young Peoples Facilities and Services Fund 2 (YPFSF 2) - Football in the Community Officers funding €336,145 (2014: €336,145), Department of Justice €20,000 (2014: €Nil), €12,000 (2014: €14,815) from FIFA – Football for Hope, €2,707,910 (2014: €2,707,910) from the Irish Sports Council/Sport Ireland, €54,000 (2014: €42,844) from Department of Foreign Affairs and. These grants have been expended for the purpose for which they were intended.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

4. STAFF COSTS

	2015 €	2014 €
Wages and Salaries	11,431,866	8,748,614
Social welfare costs	781,211	732,780
Redundancy costs	198,795	-
	12,411,872	9,481,394

Average number of persons employed (including directors) was:

	2015 Number	2014 Number
Management	13	15
Administration and operations	154	144
	167	159

5. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES

	2015 €	2014 €
Interest payable on overdraft and loans payable within 5 years	4,581,789	4,685,120
Unwinding of discount (Note 11)	609,091	718,181
	5,190,880	5,403,301

6. SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE GRANTS

	2015 €	2014 €
Surplus on ordinary activities before grants is arrived at after charging/(crediting):		
Directors' Remuneration:		
- Directors emoluments	360,000	360,000
Officers' emoluments	70,000	70,338
Tangible fixed asset depreciation	317,695	213,376
Intangible fixed assets amortisation	1,504,073	1,434,418
Operating lease charge - land & building	300,000	200,000
Auditors' Remuneration (including VAT) is as follows:		
- Audit of company's accounts	58,585	57,195
- Other assurance services	22,815	19,188
- Tax advisory services	25,527	5,252
- Other non-audit services	-	-
	106,972	81,635

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Football Grounds €	Office Machinery, Furniture and Equipment €	Motor Vehicles €	Training Grounds €	Total €
Cost or Valuation:					
As 1 January 2015	531,113	3,524,412	7,409	1,061,970	5,124,904
Additions					
Revaluation deficit	-	197,805	-	970,580	1,168,385
At 31 December 2015	531,113	3,722,217	7,409	2,032,550	6,293,289
Accumulated Depreciation:					
As 1 January 2015	-	2,762,805	3,282	279,342	3,045,429
Charge for financial year	-	255,655	3,600	58,440	317,695
At 31 December 2015	-	3,018,460	6,882	337,782	3,363,124
Net Book Value:					
At 31 December 2015	531,113	703,757	527	1,694,768	2,930,165
At 31 December 2014	531,113	761,607	4,127	782,628	2,079,475

Upon transition FRS102, Football grounds were restated to historical cost. See Note 23 for the effects of the transition.

Football Grounds represent the Associations interest in United Park in Drogheda and St. Colman's Park in Cobh. Training grounds represent the Associations interest in National Sports Campus and AUL sports ground.

Included in Furniture and Equipment are assets held under finance leases with a net book value of €474,717 (2014: €233,319). The depreciation charge on these assets amounted to €80,949 (2014: €47,405).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

In respect of prior financial year:

	Football Grounds €	Office Machinery, Furniture and Equipment €	Motor Vehicles €	Training Grounds €	Total €
Cost or Valuation:					
As 1 January 2014	531,113	3,367,912	7,409	302,506	4,208,940
Additions	-	156,500	-	759,464	915,964
At 31 December 2014	531,113	3,524,412	7,409	1,061,970	5,124,904
Accumulated Depreciation:					
As 1 January 2014	-	2,551,229	1,482	279,342	2,832,053
Charge for financial year	-	211,576	1,800	-	213,376
At 31 December 2014	-	2,762,805	3,282	279,342	3,045,429
Net Book Value:					
At 31 December 2014	531,113	761,607	4,127	782,628	2,079,475
At 31 December 2013	531,113	816,683	5,927	23,164	1,376,887

Included in Furniture and Equipment are assets held under finance leases with a net book value of €233,319 (2013: €162,721). The depreciation charge on these assets amounted to €47,405 (2013: €Nil).

8. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Stadium Contributions €	Software Licences €	Total €
Cost or Valuation:			
As 1 January 2015	69,376,193	1,031,197	70,407,390
Additions	-	264,295	264,925
At 31 December 2015	69,376,193	1,296,122	70,672,315
Accumulated Depreciation:			
As 1 January 2015	7,459,079	594,138	8,053,217
Amortisation in financial year	1,387,524	116,549	1,504,073
At 31 December 2014	8,846,603	710,687	9,557,290
Net Book Value:			
At 31 December 2015	60,529,588	585,435	61,115,025
At 31 December 2014	61,917,114	437,059	62,354,173

The stadium contributions relate to costs capitalised in relation to the Association's contributions towards the construction of Aviva Stadium by New Stadium Limited.

Software licences relate to costs capitalised in relation to database management systems software licences.

In respect of prior financial year:

	Stadium Contributions €	Software Licences €	Total €
Cost or Valuation:			
As 1 January 2014	94,071,424	951,923	95,023,347
Additions	-	79,274	79,274
Reclass to financial assets	(24,695,231)	-	(24,695,231)
At 31 December 2014	69,376,193	1,031,197	70,407,390
Accumulated Depreciation:			
As 1 January 2014	6,053,799	565,000	6,618,799
Amortisation in financial year	1,405,280	29,138	1,434,418
At 31 December 2014	7,459,079	594,138	8,053,217
Net Book Value:			
At 31 December 2014	61,917,114	437,059	62,354,173
At 31 December 2013	88,017,625	386,923	88,404,548

During 2014, loans of €24,695,231 were converted to share capital in the New Stadium Limited.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

9. FINANCIAL ASSETS

	2015 €	2014 €
Investments:		
Prize bonds	1,270	1,270
Unquoted investments	1	1
Investments in joint ventures (Note 17)	25,195,232	25,195,232
	25,196,503	25,196,503

10. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2015 €	2014 €
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,253,337	3,419,029
Loans to clubs and leagues	449,172	444,163
Prepayments & Other Debtors	2,593,193	2,126,764
Accrued Income	1,778,912	1,505,880
	8,074,614	7,495,836

Loans to clubs and leagues includes bridging finance advanced to clubs and leagues to cover capital expenditure in advance of them receiving other financial aid and normal loans to clubs and leagues, the terms of which are specific to each individual loan.

Included in debtors and prepayments is €449,172 (2014: €444,163) of debtors which is due after one year.

11. CREDITORS

	2015 €	2014 €
Amounts due within one year:		
Bank and other loans (Note 16)	4,000,000	2,000,000
Bank overdraft	1,911,820	2,595,526
Deferred Income	11,667,171	14,313,203
Trade creditors and accruals	10,278,354	8,505,734
Other creditors grants	119,912	244,558
PAYE/PRSI	595,244	540,312
Finance lease obligation	117,886	54,157
	28,690,387	28,253,490
Amounts due after more than one year:		
Bank and other loans (Note 16)	44,527,908	46,750,574
Deferred Income	6,490,649	8,120,374
Trade creditors and accruals	-	390,288
Finance lease obligations	356,831	180,596
	51,375,388	55,441,832

Included in deferred income is €5,041,033 (2014: €5,865,270) of net revenue arising under a securitised sponsorship agreement where the net revenue was received upon commencement of the contract. Gross revenue from this contract is recognised rateably over the contract period with an implied interest chargeable to the income and expenditure account was €609,091 (2014: €718,182).

Included in Creditors are finance leases of €474,717 (2014: €234,753) which are broken down as follows:

	2015 €	2014 €
Amount due within one year	117,886	54,157
Amount due between two and five years	356,831	180,596
Amount due over five years	-	-
	474,717	234,753

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying value of the financial assets and liabilities are summarised by the categories below:

	2015 €	2014 €
Financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost		
Loans receivable (see note 10)	449,172	444,163
Measured at cost less impairment		
Other investments (see note 9)	25,196,503	25,196,503
Measured at undiscounted amounts receivable		
Debtors and prepayments (see note 10)	7,625,442	7,051,673
	33,271,117	32,692,339
Financial Liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost		
Bank loans and other loans (see notes 11)	48,527,908	48,750,574
Obligations under finance leases (see notes 11)	474,717	234,753
Measured at undiscounted amounts payable		
Bank overdraft (see note 11)	1,911,820	2,595,526
Trade and other payables (see note 11)	10,278,354	8,896,022
	61,192,799	60,476,875

13. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2015 €	2014 €
Cash at bank and in hand	-	-
Bank overdraft	(1,911,820)	(2,595,526)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year	(1,911,820)	(2,595,526)

14. ANALYSIS OF NET DEBT/FUNDS

	1 January 2015 €	Movement €	31 December 2015 €
Bank overdraft	(2,595,526)	683,703	(1,911,820)
	(2,595,526)	683,703	(1,911,820)
Debt due within one year (Note 11)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(4,000,000)
Debt due after one year (Note 16)	(46,750,574)	2,222,666	(44,527,908)
	(48,750,574)	222,666	(48,527,908)
Net Debt	(51,346,100)	906,372	(50,439,728)

15. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2015 €	2014 €
Surplus on ordinary activities	11,034,967	7,060,311
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	317,695	213,376
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	1,504,073	1,434,418
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors & prepayments	819,074	(2,086,939)
Decrease in creditors & accruals	(2,901,090)	(1,453,161)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	10,774,719	5,168,005

16. BANK AND OTHER LOANS

	2015 €	2014 €
Bank and other loans are due as follows:		
Amount due within one year	4,000,000	2,000,000
Amount due between one and two years	4,000,000	4,000,000
Amount due between two and five years	40,884,362	18,000,000
Amounts due after five years	-	25,478,692
Capitalised borrowing costs	(356,454)	(728,118)
	48,527,908	48,750,574

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

17. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURES

New Stadium Limited

(i) The Association holds 2 shares of €1 in New Stadium Limited (2014: 2 shares), representing a 50% interest in its issued share capital. New Stadium Limited was formed as a joint venture with the Irish Rugby Football Union to develop Aviva Stadium and has its registered address at Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2.

The disclosure requirements in relation to New Stadium Limited as required by FRS 102, are as outlined below and are for the financial year ended 31 December 2015. The following details the Associations 50% share of each balance:

	2015 €	2014 €
Turnover	5,658,000	5,827,500
Operating loss	(1,225,000)	(855,000)
Interest Charge	(430,000)	(481,500)
Loss after tax	(1,652,000)	(1,331,500)
Fixed assets	175,485,500	180,363,500
Current assets	2,214,000	1,223,500
Liabilities due within one year	(4,160,500)	(4,141,500)
Liabilities due after one year	(87,555,000)	(90,553,000)
Net asset	85,984,000	86,892,500

During the financial year, payments in respect of deferred contributions and loans of €492,416 (2014: €307,760) were made by the Association to New Stadium Ltd in relation to construction of Aviva Stadium. During the financial year New Stadium Ltd charged the Association €1,526,357 (2014: €3,448,040) in relation to use of the stadium and ancillary usage costs. As at the financial year end, an amount of €Nil (2014: €708,064) is payable by the Association to New Stadium Ltd which is included in trade creditors and accruals.

AUL-FAI Limited

(ii) The Association hold 100,000 ordinary shares in AUL-FAI Limited, a company incorporated to manage and develop the AUL complex in Clonsaugh, Co Dublin. AUL-FAI Limited was formed as a joint venture with the Athletic Union Football League and has its registered address at Clonsaugh, Co Dublin.

The disclosure requirements in relation to AUL-FAI Limited as required FRS 102 are as outlined below and are based on unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2015. The following details the Associations 50% share of each balance:

	2015 €	2014 €
Turnover	153,900	168,913
Operating (loss)/profit	(28,958)	(19,140)
Interest charge	(2,022)	-
(Loss)/profit after tax	(30,980)	(19,140)
Fixed assets	1,029,292	1,057,118
Current assets	2,213	9,425
Liabilities due within one year	(66,000)	(92,430)
Liabilities due after one year	(371,551)	-
Net asset	593,954	974,113

During the financial year, the Association paid rental fees for the use of the facilities at the AUL Complex of €162,000 (2014: €162,000). As at financial year end, an amount of €23,000 (2014: €18,398) is payable by the Association to AUL-FAI Limited which is included in trade creditors and accruals.

18. AFFILIATED BODIES

The activities of the Affiliated Bodies listed below are not incorporated in these financial statements;

Colleges Football Association of Ireland
Defence Forces Athletic Association
F.A.I. Junior Council
F.A.I. Schools
Irish Soccer Referees' Society
Irish Universities Football Union
Schoolboys Football Association of Ireland
Women's Football Association of Ireland
Football for All

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 (CONTINUED)

19. THE IRISH SPORTS COUNCIL/SPORT IRELAND

Grant received of €2,707,910 (2014: €2,707,910) from the Irish Sports Council/Sport Ireland during the financial year have been expended for the purpose for which they were intended by the Irish Sports Council/Sport Ireland.

The Irish Sports Council/Sport Ireland grant of €2,707,910 is allocated across the following programmes:

	€
Grassroots	740,000
FAI Education	305,000
Player Development	400,410
Central & Regional Development Staff	1,120,000
Women in Sport	142,500
	<hr/>
	2,707,910

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The total remuneration for key management personnel for the period totaled €430,000 (2014: €430,338).

21. GUARANTEES AND COMMITMENTS

The Association has entered into bank guarantees. The maximum amounts guaranteed were €260,959 as at 31 December 2015 (2014: €268,159).

Under a shareholders' agreement dated 5 April 2006 between the Association, the Irish Rugby Football Union and New Stadium Ltd the Association has committed to provide funding based on the budgeted cost of the New Aviva Stadium. Total funding paid in 2015 amounted to €492,416 (2014: €306,760).

The Association has provided security and guarantees on loan balances encompassing charges over certain bank accounts, receivables, including future contracted receivables and first floating charge over the Association's property, assets and undertakings.

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2015	2014
	Land and	Land and
	Buildings	Buildings
	€	€
- within one year	250,000	300,000
- between one and five years	1,000,000	1,000,000
- after five years	4,250,000	4,500,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,500,000	5,800,000

22. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

There have been no significant events affecting the financial statements since the financial year end.

23. EXPLANATION OF TRANSITION TO FRS 102

This is the first year the company has presented its financial statements under Financial Reporting Standards 102 (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council. The following disclosures are required in the year of transition. The last financial statements under previous Irish GAAP were for the year ended 31 December 2014 and the date of transition to FRS 102 was therefore 1 January 2014. As a consequence of adopting FRS 102, a number of accounting policies have been changed to comply with that standard. The wording of note 1 has been amended to comply with FRS 102.

Reconciliation of Equity

	31/12/2014 €	01/01/2014 €
Equity reported under previous Irish GAAP	14,354,995	14,195,046
Adjustments to equity on transition to FRS 102		
Restatement of tangible fixed assets to historical cost	(868,887)	(1,068,887)
Adjustment to long term deferred revenue	105,742	(68,434)
Adjustment to long term debtors	(161,185)	(193,287)
Equity Report under FRS 102	13,430,665	12,864,438

Notes to the reconciliation of equity at 1 January 2015
Reconciliation of profit or loss for 2015

	31/12/2014 €
Surplus for the financial year under previous Irish GAAP	359,950
Adjustment to long term deferred revenue	177,000
Adjustment to long term debtors	29,278
Surplus for the financial year under FRS 102	566,228

Tangible fixed assets

Upon transition FRS102, Football grounds were restated to historical cost resulting in the reversal of revaluation surpluses previously recognised of €1,068,887 at 1 January 2014 and €868,887 at 31 December 2014.

Long term deferred revenue, accruals and debtors.

The fair value of debtor and creditor balances with repayment terms greater than one year were measured at the present value of the future payments / receipts at a market rate of interest.

INTERNATIONAL

RESULTS

Grade	Date	Opposition	Stat	Venue	Result
Special Olympics Ireland	01.08.15	Iceland	SOIWG	USA	0 - 0 D
Women's Under 19	18.08.15	Scotland	FR	Listowel Celtic FC	1 - 1 D
Women's Under 19	20.08.15	Scotland	FR	Tulla United	1 - 1 D
Women's Under 19	26.08.15	Northern Ireland	FR	AUL Complex	3 - 1 W
Under 17	01.09.15	Hungary	FR	Hungary	2 - 0 L
Women's Under 17	02.09.15	Scotland	FR	Edinburgh	3 - 0 L
Under 17	03.09.15	Hungary	FR	Hungary	0 - 0 D
Women's Under 17	04.09.15	Scotland	FR	Edinburgh	0 - 1 W
Seniors	04.09.15	Gibraltar	EQ	Portugal	0 - 4 W
Under 21	04.09.15	Qatar Under 22	FR	England	1 - 4 W
Under 19	07.09.15	Italy	FR	Italy	2 - 1 L
Seniors	07.09.15	Georgia	EQ	Aviva Stadium	1 - 0 W
Under 21	08.09.15	Andorra	EQ	Andorra	0 - 2 W
Irish Homeless Squad	12.09.15	Ukraine	HWC	Netherlands	1 - 6 L
Amputee Squad	12.09.15	Turkey	Polish Cup	Poland	0 - 5 L
Amputee Squad	12.09.15	Italy	Polish Cup	Poland	1 - 2 L
Amputee Squad	13.09.15	France	Polish Cup	Poland	1 - 2 L
Irish Homeless Squad	13.09.15	Portugal	HWC	Netherlands	6 - 10 L
Irish Homeless Squad	13.09.15	Grenada	HWC	Netherlands	5 - 3 W
Irish Homeless Squad	14.09.15	Denmark	HWC	Netherlands	8 - 2 W
Irish Homeless Squad	14.09.15	Switzerland	HWC	Netherlands	13 - 1 W
Irish Homeless Squad	14.09.15	Bulgaria	HWC	Netherlands	8 - 6 W
Irish Homeless Squad	15.09.15	South Africa	HWC	Netherlands	5 - 9 L
Irish Homeless Squad	15.09.15	Norway	HWC	Netherlands	5 - 1 W
Women's Under 19	15.09.15	Slovenia	EQ1	Slovenia	1 - 1 D
Women's Seniors	16.09.15	Northern Ireland	FR	Tallaght Stadium	1 - 1 D
Irish Homeless Squad	16.09.15	Brazil	HWC	Netherlands	4 - 8 L
Irish Homeless Squad	16.09.15	Indonesia	HWC	Netherlands	6 - 11 W
Women's Under 19	17.09.15	Bulgaria	EQ1	Slovenia	6 - 0 W
Irish Homeless Squad	18.09.15	Scotland	HWC QF	Netherlands	9 - 4 W
Irish Homeless Squad	18.09.15	Poland	HWC SF	Netherlands	6 - 5 W
Irish Homeless Squad	19.09.15	Bulgaria	HWC Final	Netherlands	4 - 6 L
Women's Under 19	20.09.15	Russia	EQ1	Slovenia	2 - 1 L
Women's Seniors	21.09.15	Finland	EQ	Tallaght Stadium	0 - 2 L
Under 17	24.09.15	Finland	EQ1	Finland	1 - 0 W
Under 17	26.09.15	Malta	EQ1	Finland	0 - 6 W
Under 17	29.09.15	Sweden	EQ1	Finland	1 - 1 D
Seniors	08.10.15	Germany	EQ	Aviva Stadium	1 - 0 W
Under 21	09.10.15	Lithuania	EQ	Waterford RSC	3 - 0 W
Under 19	10.10.15	Ukraine	FR	Markets Field	1 - 1 D
Seniors	11.10.15	Poland	EQ	Poland	2 - 1 L
Under 19	12.10.15	Ukraine	FR	Markets Field	1 - 2 L
Under 21	13.10.15	Italy	EQ	Italy	1 - 0 L
Women's Under 17	15.10.15	Ukraine	EQ1	Turkey	3 - 0 W
Women's Under 17	17.10.15	Andorra	EQ1	Turkey	7 - 0 W
Women's Under 17	20.10.15	Turkey	EQ1	Turkey	0 - 3 W
Deaf Men's Squad	24.10.15	Great Britain Deaf Mens	Deaflympics Q	Dalymount Park	1 - 1 D
Women's Seniors	27.10.15	Portugal	EQ	Portugal	1 - 2 W
NGWST	30.10.15	Denmark	USPEQ	Prague	1 - 0 L
Under 16	01.11.15	Northern Ireland	VictoryShield	Wales	0 - 0 D

Grade	Date	Opposition	Stat	Venue	Result
Under 16	03.11.15	Wales	VictoryShield	Wales	2 - 1 L
Under 16	05.11.15	Scotland	VictoryShield	Wales	1 - 1 D
Under 19	13.11.15	Slovenia	EQ1	Eamon Deacy Park	0 - 1 L
Under 21	13.11.15	Lithuania	EQ	Lithuania	3 - 1 L
Seniors	13.11.15	Bosnia and Herzegovina	EQ	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 - 1 D
Under 19	15.11.15	Latvia	EQ1	Eamon Deacy Park	3 - 0 W
Seniors	16.11.15	Bosnia and Herzegovina	EQ	Aviva Stadium	2 - 0 W
Under 21	17.11.15	Norway	FR	Waterford RSC	0 - 0 D
Under 19	18.11.15	Scotland	EQ1	Markets Field	4 - 0 L
Under 15	24.11.15	Poland	FR	Home	1 - 2 L
Under 15	26.11.15	Poland	FR	Home	3 - 1 W
Women's Seniors	26.11.15	Spain	EQ	Tallaght Stadium	0 - 3 L
Under 18	28.11.15	Czech Republic	FR	Home	4 - 0 W
Under 18	30.11.15	Czech Republic	FR	Home	1 - 3 L
Defence Forces	16.12.15	RAF	FR	Home	1 - 1 D
Women's Seniors	23.01.16	USA	FR	USA	0 - 5 L
Women's Seniors	25.01.16	USA U23	FR	USA	0 - 3 L
Under 15	02.02.16	Netherlands	FR	Turkey	2 - 1 L
Under 15	04.02.16	Turkey	FR	Turkey	1 - 0 L
Under 15	06.02.16	Austria	FR	Turkey	1 - 2 W
Women's Under 17	14.02.16	Poland	FR	Poland	1 - 1 D
Women's Under 17	16.02.16	Poland	FR	Poland	0 - 0 D
Under 18 Home Based	22.02.16	Wales	FR	Tramore FC	0 - 1 L
Under 18 Home Based	24.02.16	Wales	FR	Waterford RSC	3 - 2 W
Under 17	01.03.16	Switzerland	FR	Waterford RSC	1 - 1 D
Women's Seniors	02.03.16	Austria	OT	Cyprus	0 - 2 L
Under 17	03.03.16	Switzerland	FR	Waterford RSC	1 - 1 D
Women's Seniors	04.03.16	Italy	OT	Cyprus	1 - 1 D
FAI Schools (Girls)	06.03.16	England	FR	England	1 - 0 L
Women's Seniors	07.03.16	Hungary	OT	Cyprus	0 - 1 L
Women's Under 19	08.03.16	Portugal	FR	Portugal	1 - 1 D
Women's Seniors	09.03.16	Finland	OT	Cyprus	2 - 0 W
Women's Under 19	10.03.16	Portugal	FR	Portugal	0 - 1 W
FAI Schools (Boys)	17.03.16	Northern Ireland	CS	Home	0 - 0 D
Women's Under 17	19.03.16	Hungary	EQ2	France	2 - 1 W
Paralympic Football Squad	19.03.16	Netherlands	FR	Netherlands	2 - 0 L
Paralympic Football Squad	20.03.16	Netherlands	FR	Netherlands	1 - 3 W
Women's Under 17	21.03.16	Czech Republic	EQ2	France	1 - 0 L
Women's Under 17	24.03.16	France	EQ2	France	1 - 0 W
Under 21	24.03.16	Italy	EQ	Waterford RSC	1 - 4 L
Seniors	25.03.16	Switzerland	FR	Home	1 - 0 W
Under 18	27.03.16	England	FR	England	4 - 1 L
Under 21	28.03.16	Slovenia	EQ	Slovenia	3 - 1 L
Under 17	28.03.16	Serbia	EQ2	Poland	0 - 2 L
Seniors	29.03.16	Slovakia	FR	Home	2 - 2 D
Under 17	30.03.16	Montenegro	EQ2	Poland	3 - 0 W
FAI Schools (Girls)	01.04.16	Wales	OT	Wales	0 - 5 W
Under 17	02.04.16	Poland	EQ2	Poland	0 - 0 D
FAI Schools (Girls)	02.04.16	Northern Ireland	OT	Wales	3 - 1 W
FAI Schools (Girls)	04.04.16	England	OT	Wales	0 - 1 L

INTERNATIONAL

RESULTS

CONTINUED

Grade	Date	Opposition	Stat	Venue	Result
Colleges & Universities	04.04.16	Defence Forces	FR	Home	1 - 2 L
Women's Under 19	05.04.16	Germany	EQ2	Home	1 - 0 L
FFA Schools U19	05.04.16	Northern Ireland	OT	Scotland	2 - 0 W
FFA Schools U19	06.04.16	Wales	OT	Scotland	4 - 0 W
Under 16	06.04.16	Turkey	FR	Home	0 - 3 L
FFA Schools U19	07.04.16	Scotland	OT	Scotland	1 - 2 L
Women's Under 19	07.04.16	Azerbaijan	EQ2	Home	3 - 0 W
Women's Seniors	07.04.16	Montenegro	EQ	Montenegro	0 - 5 W
Under 16	08.04.16	Turkey	FR	Home	0 - 2 L
FAI Schools (Boys)	08.04.16	England	CS	England	2 - 2 D
Women's Under 16	08.04.16	Wales	FR	Wales	0 - 2 W
Women's Under 19	10.04.16	Poland	EQ2	Home	0 - 2 W
Women's Under 16	10.04.16	Wales	FR	Wales	0 - 4 W
Colleges & Universities	11.04.16	Scotland	FR	Home	3 - 0 W
Men's Under 15	11.04.16	Czech Republic	FR	Home	5 - 2 W
Women's Seniors	12.04.16	Spain	EQ	Spain	3 - 0 L
Men's Under 15	13.04.16	Czech Republic	FR	Home	3 - 1 W
Defence Forces	13.04.16	UK Armed Forces	FR	Home	1 - 0 W
FAI Schools (Boys)	14.04.16	Scotland	CS	Home	3 - 1 W
Colleges & Universities	27.04.16	Wales	FR	Wales	0 - 1 W
FAI Schools (Boys)	27.04.16	Wales	CS	Wales	0 - 3 W
Under 16	02.05.16	Austria	OT	Hungary	2 - 0 L
Defence Forces	02.05.16	France	OT	Home	1 - 1 D
Under 16	04.05.16	Hungary	OT	Hungary	2 - 1 W
Defence Forces	04.05.16	France	OT	Home	1 - 1 D
Under 16	06.05.16	Slovakia	OT	Hungary	2 - 0 W
Women's+B300:G316 Under 16	08.05.16	Hungary	OT	Hungary	0 - 2 W
Women's Under 16	10.05.16	Bosnia	OT	Hungary	0 - 3 W
Under 18	11.05.16	Germany	FR	Germany	2 - 2 D
Women's Under 16	12.05.16	Hungary	OT	Hungary	1 - 3 W
Colleges & Universities	16.05.16	France	FR	Home	0 - 2 L
Amateurs	21.05.16	Northern Ireland	FR	Home	3 - 1 W
Seniors	27.05.16	Netherlands	FR	Home	1 - 1 D
Seniors	31.05.16	Belarus	FR	Turner's Cross	1 - 2 L
Men's Under 18	02.06.16	Hungary	FR	Sweden	3 - 1 W
Women's Seniors	03.06.16	Finland	EQ	Finland	1 - 4 L
Men's Under 18	04.06.16	Sweden	FR	Sweden	4 - 1 L
Amputee	04.06.16	Germany	FR	Poland	5-3 W
Amputee	04.06.16	Ukraine	FR	Poland	1-1 D
Amputee	05.06.16	Poland	FR	Poland	0-0 D
Women's Seniors	07.06.16	Montenegro	EQ	Tallaght Stadium	9 - 0 W
Seniors	13.06.16	Sweden	UEC	France	1 - 1 D
Seniors	18.06.16	Belgium	UEC	France	3 - 0 L
Seniors	22.06.16	Italy	UEC	France	0 - 1 W
Seniors	26.06.16	France	UEC	France	2 - 1 L



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