

GAA World Games 2023

Owenbeg Centre
of Excellence &
Celtic Park, Derry

July 24-28

**AUSTRALASIA
TOURNAMENT
PROGRAMME**



frs-recruitment
**GAA WORLD
GAMES**
DERRY 2023

Australasia camogie captain
Sammy McKillen lifts the cup
after beating Middle East in the
2019 GAA World Games
camogie final at Croke Park,
Dublin. Photo: Piaras Ó
Mídheach/Sportsfile



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A word from the GFHA Australasia Secretary



Welcome to our GFHA Australasia World Games tournament programme. It is with great pleasure that my first official tournament as secretary is the FRS Recruitment World Games where GFHA Australasia travels with six committed and competitive teams.

The work completed in the background by management teams, players and administrators has been extensive, in both planning and fundraising in their one common goal of helping each team get to Derry.

With over 50 sponsors coming on board, we cannot express our gratitude enough; your support has been greatly appreciated. Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

I am looking forward to watching each of our teams showcase their talents and hopefully take some silverware back to Australia and New Zealand.

Derry will be a wonderful host city. Steeped in history, with plenty to see and do, I hope everyone has a great experience representing Australasia on the international stage. Ádh mór oraibh go léir.

Teresa Daly
Secretary, Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of Australasia

Brief history of Australasia Gaelic games

In the early 1840s, a form of Gaelic football was said to have been played in South Australia, while similar games were played on the goldfields of Victoria in the 1850s. The games continued to be played into the early 20th century, but unfortunately, there is a dearth of documentation of the games played between the Irish of Melbourne and Sydney in the 1920s and 1930s.

Fast forward to 2023 and the Australasia association now comprises affiliates in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Hobart plus Wellington and Christchurch in New Zealand. There are more than 120 teams playing weekly in men's and women's football, hurling and camogie. Almost 3,000 registered players made up of 60 percent males and 40 percent females participate.

Underage football and hurling has taken giant steps in the last five years with Go Games taking place in every city for 5- to 14-year-olds. Added to that are minor games that cater for the 15 to 17 age group. These games see teams take part in the annual Australasia minor football championships. Such has been the growth in participation that for the first time a football team from Perth travelled to the 2019 Féile competition in Ireland. 2023 saw the first Australasia Féile when it was held in Adelaide in March. It was a great success and we can't wait to continue this tournament in the coming years.

The first interstate championship in football and hurling was played between New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia in Melbourne in 1971. This has grown into the Australasia State Games, which are held most years. Games are played over three or four days in minor, senior, intermediate football as well as hurling and camogie. Up to 500 players and mentors take part with the culmination being the presentation of All-Stars, who then go on to represent Australasia at the World Games.

Australasia has a storied history on the international stage. In 2015, we entered a women's team into the World Games in Abu Dhabi – the first edition in its current format – where they were pipped in the final against the Middle East. 2016 saw the World Games take place at UCD, Dublin where four teams from Australasia took part in men's and women's football, hurling and camogie. We won the camogie competition, and unfortunately, were losing finalists in women's football and hurling. The men's footballers took home the shield trophy.

We entered the 2019 competition with six teams, including, for the first time, international-born men's and women's football teams. Seven states were represented with players from Perth to New Zealand playing. Being crowned World Games champions in camogie again, along with women's football was an unbelievable achievement for us. Added to this, Australasian players Karen Jones (camogie) and Lauren Saunders (international-born women's football) took home player of the tournament awards.

Of course, the GAA World Games aren't the first instances of Australasia's finest venturing overseas. In 1984, hurling and men's football teams travelled back to Ireland for the GAA's centenary celebrations. 1996 saw a similar tour of Ireland, while we also had teams compete at the GAA world cups in the early 2000s. The 2000 decider saw our women's footballers defeat North America after extra-time, and they defended their world title with a win over London in 2002.

Once again, we're looking forward to travelling overseas to compete on the world stage. Six teams will be travelling, with 80 players, 14 coaches and one referee taking part. We cannot wait to be involved again and we look forward to a great week of competitive games, forming friendships and, of course, exploring Derry.



Australasia World Games results



2015 – Abu Dhabi

Women's football final
Middle East 3-07 – 0-08 Australasia

2016 – UCD, Dublin & Croke Park

Open camogie final at Croke Park

🏆 **Australasia** 5-17 – 1-8 Tara

Open women's football final at Croke Park
Parnells 3-7 – 0-8 Australasia

Open hurling final at Croke Park
Middle East 2-12 – 2-10 Australasia

Open men's football shield final at UCD

🏆 **Australasia** 3-11 – 0-2 Europe



2019 – WIT, Waterford & Croke Park

Open camogie final at Croke Park

🏆 **Australasia** 1-10 – 1-4 Middle East

Open women's football final at Croke Park

🏆 **Australasia** 2-7 – 1-9 Parnells

International-born women's football final
at Croke Park

New York Liberty Ladies 1-7 – 0-6 Australasia

Open men's football final at Croke Park

Middle East 3-9 – 1-9 Australasia

Open hurling final at Croke Park

Middle East 2-16 – 3-7 Australasia

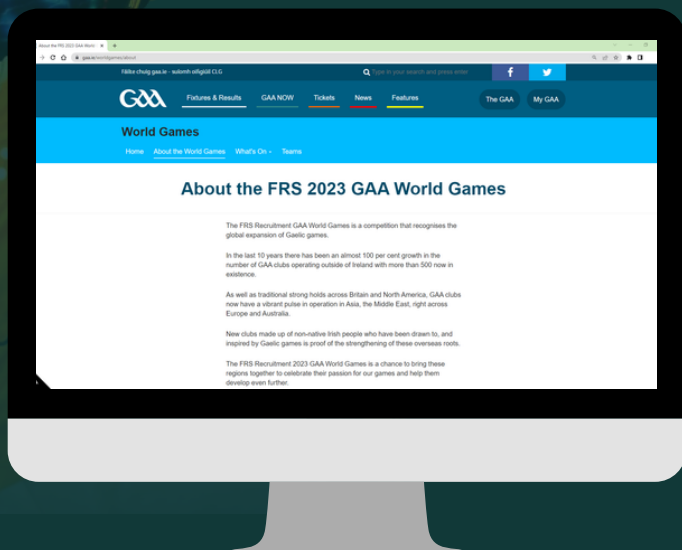
International-born men's football
quarter-final at WIT

New York Freedom 8-9 – 1-6 Australasia



Key information

Stay up to date with the competition online and on social media through the links below.



Online

GAA World Games





gaa.ie/worldgames

GFHA Australasia


australasiangaelicgames.com/world-games-2023

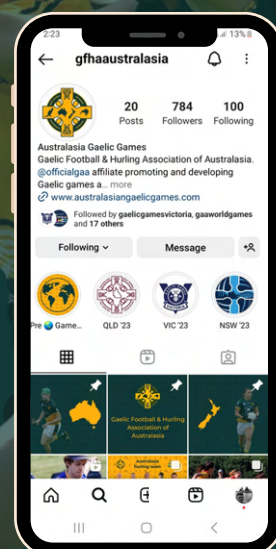
Social media

GAA World Games

-  Instagram: [@gaaworldgames](https://www.instagram.com/gaaworldgames)
-  Facebook: [@GAAWorldGames](https://www.facebook.com/GAAWorldGames)
-  Twitter: [@gaaworldgames](https://twitter.com/gaaworldgames)
-  YouTube: [@officialgaa](https://www.youtube.com/@officialgaa) (finals livestreamed here)

GFHA Australasia

-  Instagram: [@gfhaaustralasia](https://www.instagram.com/gfhaaustralasia)
-  Facebook: [@gfhaaustralasia](https://www.facebook.com/gfhaaustralasia)
-  Twitter: [@GFHAAustralasia](https://twitter.com/GFHAAustralasia)
-  Threads: [@gfhaaustralasia](https://www.threads.net/@gfhaaustralasia)



Open women's football

Iberia
 Round Towers London
 Asia
Australasia (Irish-born)
 Middle East
 Central & East Europe
 Parnells

- The top 4 qualify for the cup
- 5-7 qualify for the shield

Open camogie

Europe
 Asia
Australasia
 Middle East
 Britain 1
 Britain 2

- The top 4 qualify for the cup
- 5-6 qualify for the shield

International women's football**Division 1A**

Benelux
 France Blue
 Galicia White
 Europe 1
 Quebec
 Heartland
 Cairde Khmer Cambodia

Division 1B

France Red
 Canada
 Germany
 Gascohna
 Charlotte James Connollys
 Asia
 New York Liberty

Division 1C

Brittany
 Iberia
Australasia
 Central & East Europe
 Galicia Blue
 Siròc

- The top two in each group qualify for the cup
- 3-5 in Division 1A & 1B, and 3 & 4 in Division 1C qualify for the shield
- The bottom two in each group qualify for the plate

Open men's football

Benelux
Iberia
Asia
Australasia (Irish-born)
Middle East
Italy

- The top 2 qualify for the cup
- 5-6 qualify for the shield

Open hurling

Middle East
Benelux
Asia
Australasia

All four teams qualify for the semi-finals

International men's football

Division 1A

Charlotte James Connolly's
France Blue
Galicia White
Brittany
Cuenca del Plata
Sean McDermott's
Canada

Division 1B

Éire Óg San Francisco
Iberia
European Lions
France Red
Galicia Blue
Australasia
Ottawa

- The top three in both groups qualify for the cup
- 4 & 5 in both groups qualify for the plate
- 6 & 7 qualify for the shield

For all competition information, see gaa.ie/worldgames.

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Fixtures

Monday 24 to Wednesday 26 July

For the most up-to-date fixtures and results, see gaa.ie/worldgames.

Camogie

vs Newbridge - Mon, 11.30am*
vs Middle East - Mon, 3.30pm

vs Britain 2 - Tues, 9.30am
vs Asia - Tues, 12.30pm

vs Britain 1 - Wed, 12.00pm
vs Europe - Wed, 3.30pm

Women's football Irish-born

vs Round Towers - Mon, 9am
vs Middle East - Mon, 2pm

vs Iberia - Tues, 12pm
vs Cent & East Eur - Tues, 3.30pm

vs Asia - Wed, 9.30am
vs Parnells - Wed, 5pm

Men's football Irish-born

vs Derry club 1 - Mon, 12.30pm*
vs Asia - Mon, 3.30pm

vs Benelux - Tues, 10am
vs Italy - Tues, 12.30pm

vs Iberia - Wed, 11.30am
vs Middle East - Wed, 4pm

Hurling

vs KLHC - Mon, 12pm*
vs Asia - Mon, 4pm

vs Benelux - Tues, 9.30am
vs Middle East - Tues, 1pm

vs Asia - Wed, 12.30pm
vs Benelux - Wed, 4.30pm

vs Middle East - Thurs, 9am

Women's football int-born

vs Derry club select - Mon, 10.30am*
vs Cent and East Eur - Mon, 3pm

vs Siróc - Tues, 10am
vs Iberia - Tues, 3pm

vs Galicia Blue - Wed, 11am
vs Brittany - Wed, 3.30

Men's football int-born

vs Eur Lions - Mon, 1.30pm
vs Éire Óg San Fran - Mon 4pm

vs Ottawa - Tues, 10.30am
vs France Red - Tues, 3pm

vs Galicia Blue - Wed, 10am
vs Iberia - Wed, 1pm

Knockouts and finals to be held on
Thursday 27 and Friday 28 July.

*Challenge game



Australasia referee



Diarmuid Ó Loing

*Bondi Gaels
New South Wales*

*Naomh Mhuire, Teach Sagart
agus Na Tráchtálaí, Ráth Cúil
Baile Átha Cliath*

Táim ag réiteoireacht sa Astráil le haghaidh 12 bliana aníos. Caith mé sé i bPerth agus táim i Sydney aníos. Is breá liom beidh amach i lár an páirc agus ag labhairt leis na imreoirí. Seo an dara uair a beidh mé ag na World Games agus táim an tógtha chun bualadh le na imreoirí a bhí i Port Láirge i 2019.

I've been refereeing in Australia for over 12 years now. I spent six years in Perth and I'm in Sydney now. I love being out on the pitch and chatting to the players. This is my second World Games, and I'm excited to meet the players who were in Waterford in 2019.



Tricia Melanaphy, left, and Clara Fitzpatrick of Australasia celebrate at the final whistle after beating Parnells in the 2019 Irish-born women's football World Games final at Croke Park, Dublin.
Photo: Piaras Ó Mídheach/Sportsfile



Irish-born women's football squad



Siobhán Greevy



Rachel Talbot



Aisling Bourke



Jade O'Donnell



Laura Brudell



Sarah Bohannon



Andrea O'Reilly



Eilís Ní Chaiside



Laura Gallagher



Maud-Annie Foley



Cassie Moane



Louise Dervan



Tricia
Melanaphy



Ciara
Burke



Brendan
Coleman
(Manager)



Marty Hasson
(Coach)



Ryan
McErlean
(Coach)



Irish-born women's football player/manager profiles



Siobhán Greevy

*Clan na Gael Western Gaels
New South Wales Roscommon*

I've lived in Australia for six years. I work as a nurse and play football with Clan na Gael in Sydney. I'm looking forward to getting to play football back in Ireland again, especially with my family there.



Rachel Talbot

*Michael Cusacks Killygarry
New South Wales Cavan*

I'm 26 years of age and I moved to Australia a year ago where I work as a nurse. My career highlights include winning Ulster championships with my college and county. I also won the league with Killygarry in 2021. In Sydney, I won the senior championship with Michael Cusacks in 2022. I'm looking forward to having the opportunity to play with girls from all over Australasia, and it's a bonus to be travelling back home.



Aisling Bourke

*Michael Cusacks Drumlane
New South Wales Cavan*

I'm a children's nurse who arrived during COVID in February 2021 – a great escape from Ireland at the time. I started playing with Michael Cusacks in Sydney straight away. I have won the NSW championship in 2022, the Australasia State Games with NSW 2022, an Australasia All-Star 2022, the Gosburn Tournament 2023 and the Michael Cusacks Tournament 2023. My highlight would definitely be winning the Australasia State Games with NSW. I'm looking forward to playing at home with the support of family and friends.



Jade O'Donnell

*Clan na Gael Naomh Muire
New South Wales Donegal*

I have been in Australia over a year and a half after coming out during the pandemic to work in healthcare. I am working as an occupational therapist and love my job here. I play with Clan na Gael in Sydney. At the World Games, I'm looking forward to playing different teams from around the world.



Irish-born women's football player/manager profiles



Laura Brudell

*Clan na Gael Strokestown
New South Roscommon
Wales*

I've lived in Australia for almost five years, joining Clan Na Gael in 2019. In 2021 we won the NSW league and I was named Clan player of the year. In 2022, we won the Melbourne sevens and I picked up the player of the tournament. With NSW, I have won the State Games in 2019 and 2022. Highlights here include getting the chance to play at the State Games. It's an opportunity to play with the best from your own state and from all over Australia. I have made friends for life. It all started with my club Strokestown from a young age where we were lucky enough to have great success at underage right the way up to senior level, winning two championships within three years. I'm looking forward to getting the chance to play back home in Ireland again with the support of friends and family actually being there. Also getting the chance to get to know girls from different clubs and counties.



Sarah Bohannon

*Cormac McAnallen's Cúil Gaels
New South Wales Clare*

I am a primary school teacher, originally from west Clare and currently living in Sydney. I moved to Australia in December 2019. In Australia, I have won the 2022 State Games with NSW. In Ireland, playing with Clare, I have won an All-Ireland intermediate championship, Munster minor A championship, U16 and U14 All-Ireland B championships and a National League Div 3 title. With my home club, I have won two intermediate county championships. I have won the Giles Cup with Mary Immaculate College and the Donaghy Cup with NUIG. I enjoy running and AFLW. I completed the 2022 Sydney half marathon. I have won two European Cup Championships playing AFLW for Ireland and two European Club Championships with my local AFLW club (back at home in 2018 and 2019). I am looking forward to playing in this once-in-a-lifetime competition and forming new friendships with teammates from all over Australasia. I am also looking forward to the trip home to Ireland to reunite with my family and friends.



Irish-born women's football player/manager profiles



Andrea O'Reilly

*Wellington/Hutt Valley
New Zealand*

*Bailieborough Shamrocks
Cavan*

I'm a 23-year-old Cavan native living in Wellington. I moved to NZ in February 2022 to complete a PhD in Chemistry at Victoria University. So far I'm loving New Zealand and the lifestyle here. I'm a keen Gaelic footballer and have enjoyed some great success with the Wellington ladies since joining the club including winning the NZ sevens competition 2023, NZ Senior Championship 2023 and Australasia Intermediate competition 2022. When I'm not studying or playing football, I'm spending time with friends enjoying all things outdoorsy NZ has to offer. I'm really looking forward to meeting Gaelic footballers from all over the world and having the opportunity to represent my club at home and abroad at an international competition. Of course, I can't wait to see my family and friends also.



Eilís Ní Chaiside

*Wellington/Hutt Valley
New Zealand*

*Roibeard Eiméid,
Sleacht Néill, Derry*

I've been in New Zealand almost four years. On arrival, I was quick to make contact with the GAA club in the country's capital where the club volunteers continue to do sterling work in promoting our national sports to Kiwis, as well as offering a space for Irish citizens to keep in touch with their roots and connect with others in a similar position. Having played camogie all my life, I was a little hesitant to give the big ball a go but I got involved in late 2021. I have been enjoying the challenge of learning a new sport as an adult ever since, and I'm especially grateful to have the chance to play in my native Co Derry with friends and family there to support. I am most excited about being one of close to 1,500 players involved in the GAA World Games 2023 in Derry this year. Having trained and played in both Owenbeg and Celtic Park with Derry in years gone past, it will be a trip down memory lane for me, only this time it'll be for a different sport. With the All-Ireland finals happening in early Summer now too, it would be amazing to get to one while I'm at home. Nothing beats Amhrán na bhFiann on All-Ireland final day in Páirc an Chrócaigh.



Irish-born women's football player/manager profiles



Tricia Melanaphy

*Sinn Féin
Victoria* *Kinawley
Fermanagh*

I have been in Australia for nine years. I played with Australasia at the last World Games where we won the title for the first time. Highlights here include winning the treble of the sevens, league and championship with Sinn Féin. In Ireland many moons ago, I won an Ulster championship with Fermanagh. I'm looking forward to returning home to play, this time with my little daughter as a mascot, as well as meeting the girls and being part of a new team.



Ciara Burke

*Wolfetones
Victoria* *Sarsfields
Mountmellick
Laois*

I moved to Melbourne four and a half years ago. I'm currently working as a nurse in St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne. I have had the pleasure of winning two championships with Wolfe Tones in Melbourne since moving over. I am also playing VFL with Casey Demons this year. I am really looking forward to playing football at home again at a really high level and having family there to support. I am also looking forward to meeting all the other Irish people playing football in Australasia and abroad.



Laura Gallagher

*St Finbarr's
Western
Australia* *Glenswilly
Donegal*

I have been in Australia for four and a half years now. I have won three championships medals and one state medal here in Australia. I have played with Micheal Cusacks in NSW for two years. Since then, I moved to Perth and have been playing with St Finbarr's. What I'm most excited about for the world games is that it's so close to home.



Louise Dervan

*St Finbarr's
Western Australia* *Castlebar Mitchels
Mayo*

I'm an Irish doctor, living and working in Australia for the past two years. Football highlights during that time include WA sevens, WA league and WA championship wins with St Finbarr's. I'm looking forward to rounding off two years down under playing for Australasia in front of a home crowd.



Irish-born women's football player/manager profiles



Cassie Moane

*Southern Districts Bredagh
Western Australia Down*

I grew up playing Gaelic football for Bredagh GAC in Belfast from U10s through to senior level. I have won four senior club championships in County Down with Bredagh and have missed out on a few more since moving away. I also played inter-county football with Down from underage through to senior level before deciding to move to Australia. I moved to Brisbane in 2018 and then moved across to Perth in 2020. I have played in the Australasia State Games twice - once for Queensland in 2019 and then again for Western Australia in 2022, but playing in the World Games will be a first. I am most excited about getting to play football at home in front of my family and friends again. There is no better excuse to make the trip home than to represent Australasia and play in the World Games. I haven't been home since 2018, so I am really looking forward to all of the reunions.



Maud Foley

*St Finbarr's Coralstown/Kinnegad
Western Westmeath
Australia*

I have been living in Perth for three years. I have won the Western Australia championship twice. Prior to moving to Australia in 2021, I played with Westmeath. I'm looking forward to playing football in Ireland again.



**Marty Hasson
(Coach)**

*St Finbarr's St. Canice's
Western Dungiven
Australia Derry*

After leaving Ireland, I spent six years in England where I captained Western Gaels to a win a county championship in Gloucestershire. I have been living in Australia for 10 years, with my first involvement in the GAA being last year where I managed St. Finbarr's ladies to league and championship success in Western Australia. I also managed the WA state team that was narrowly beaten by NSW in the final of the 2022 State Games. I join the management team for the 2023 Australasia Irish-born women's Gaelic football team alongside Brendan Coleman and Ryan McErlean. I'm excited about having the World Games in my home town of Dungiven.



Irish-born women's football player/manager profiles



Ryan McErlean
(Coach)

*Penrith Gaels
New South Wales*

*Wolfe Tones Bellaghy
Derry*

I've been in Australia since September 2007, landing on the weekend of the NSW championship finals, so I was immediately immersed in the Australasia GAA scene. My first season of football was in 2008 with Morley Gaels in Perth, Western Australia, playing under and with the O'Callaghan brothers Mick and Robbie, brilliant men. We won a couple of the pre-season tournaments that year and the craic was had. I moved to Sydney and got involved with Penrith Gaels for the 2009 season and haven't looked back, winning two NSW championships. Since then I moved onto coaching both the men's and ladies senior teams. This led to making the step to coach the NSW senior ladies, where we have won three State Games in a row. It's now an honour to have been chosen to coach and represent Australasia with the Irish-born women's at the GAA world games, and in my home County, Derry. I'm looking forward to seeing teams from all over the world and how the GAA is embraced in many different backgrounds and cultures.



Brendan Coleman
(Manager)

*Cormac McAnallen's
New South Wales*

*Valley Rovers
Cork*

I moved to Sydney over 10 years ago, originally from Cork in Ireland. My key achievements include being coach of the Australasia team in 2019, which won the World Games. I have also managed NSW ladies football team to win the last three State Games. I am currently the hurling manager for Cormac McAnallen's for the last two years where we have successfully won the Melbourne Sevens. Prior to moving to Australia, I was involved with Valley Rovers, Cork in a successful period where we went from intermediate to senior. I work in construction in Sydney. I'm excited about the opportunity to defend our title, having won it in 2019. It's a great opportunity to be involved with a talented bunch of players. I'm looking forward to the high level of competition for this year's games.



Irish-born women's football sponsors

Main sponsors



Ormond Civil is an Irish-operated civil construction company specialising in ground works such as piling, anchoring, steelfixing, shotcrete and formwork across ACT, NSW and South Australia. We were involved with sponsoring both the NSW ladies football and camogie Teams for the State Games in Melbourne last year so we were delighted to have the opportunity to get involved in sponsoring the Australasia ladies football team for the World Games this year.

ormondcivil.com.au



Irish-born women's football sponsors



Strawberry Hills Hotel is a local Surry Hills institution. The hotel caters for patrons from a diverse range of backgrounds. The hotel is strongly involved in community projects and whilst providing award-winning food and drinks, we support our patrons wherever possible.

strawberryhillshotel.com.au



Engineering Surveyors

VFT Engineering Surveyors (VFT) provide a comprehensive range of engineering surveying services to projects in the construction, rail, engineering, and mining industries throughout Australia. We use high precision Leica Instruments and since inception in 2003 have enjoyed participating and working on some of Australia's most landmark infrastructure projects.

vftes.com





Australasia's Kate Fenton shoots for a point in the international-born women's football final against New York at the 2019 GAA World Games in Croke Park, Dublin.

Photo: Piaras Ó Mídheach/Sportsfile

International-born women's football squad



Chloe Roesler



Rebecca Higgins



Anita Doecke



Lauren Saunders



Siena Covino



Kate Fenton



Tahlia Tatlock



Penny Rawinski



**Heather
Williamson**



Tiaré Verenitani



Tess DeGrandi



Alex Trezise



Tamara Knox



**Ryan Healy
(Manager)**



**Jimmy Donaghey
(Manager)**



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Chloe Roesler

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

I was born in Australia and have been playing Gaelic football for about eight years in South Australia. In 2016, I had the honour of being selected to be a part of the Australasia Irish-level women's football team for the Dublin World Games, which was a highlight of my Gaelic career. I am very excited to represent Australasia and my state again this coming July as part of the Australasia international-born women's football team. I'm excited to be able to play against people from all over the world who may have not grown up playing this amazing sport, but have found a passion for Gaelic football at some point in their lives. We're looking forward to putting our skills to the test on such a big stage.



Rebecca Higgins

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

I was born and raised in South Australia, growing up in Barossa Valley. My older sister Chloe asked me to fill in for her team in 2015, and I fell in love with the game from then on. My first state tournament was to New Zealand in 2015. Along with my sister, I was selected in the All-Stars team. I have represented South Australia in a number of State Games since, and was selected in the international-born women's team for the World Games in Waterford in 2019. This year, the World Games will be even more special as I get to play with my older sister, Chloe. And this time, I'll be travelling over with my Irish-born husband Chris (we met through Gaelic football at the State Games in New Zealand) and our two-year-old son. I'm excited to be playing with seven South Australian ladies who have taught me everything I know about Gaelic football, especially my sister Chloe.



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Anita Doecke

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

I was born in country Victoria but raised in South Australia. I started playing Gaelic football in 2003, with no experience or knowledge of the game. I come from a netball background and have been able to transfer these skills over to Gaelic. I mostly play in the backline, but I am able to go forward at times. I have represented the state (SA) at Australasia Championships most years up until now. I have also represented Australasian teams at the World Games in 2015 and 2019, coming second both times. I'm hoping our team will reach the finals at the 2023 World Games and have another crack at the ultimate goal. I'm excited about travelling to Ireland and competing against other teams from around the world. I am also excited about the depth and skill of our team and how we will match up against our competitors.



Lauren Saunders

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

I was born in the UK but moved to Australia in 2001. I've played Gaelic since I was 18. I have represented the state many times, and won premierships with Onkaparinga and Flinders O'Neill's. I have been part of the team of the year many times, and won some league best and fairest awards. In 2019, I captained the international-born Australasia side at the World Games. We made the final at Croke Park but unfortunately lost. I won the player of the tournament, which was amazing. Other than that I have played SANFLW football for North Adelaide and won a premiership in 2020. I have also played soccer for many years. I am a wife, mum of two beautiful children and a PE teacher. I'm excited to represent my country and play against some amazing athletes. I'm looking forward to meeting some of my team mates and playing with those SA girls I have known for years. I'm looking forward to wearing the green and gold again. It's been the biggest highlight of my sporting career to date.



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Siena Covino

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

I have been playing Gaelic football for about five years. I started playing as a way to keep fit in my off-season of soccer. I continue to play both but have increasingly enjoyed and improved in Gaelic football. I have competed at one Australasia competition representing South Australia. This will be my first World Games. I am a runner and this is the biggest strength within the game. I'm looking forward to meeting with and playing against a variety of people. I have never been to Ireland, so I am very excited to explore and immerse myself within Irish culture. I feel honoured to be playing at this level, so I am also motivated to excel my skills and knowledge of the game.



Kate Fenton

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

I am mum of two kids, a social worker, and live in Adelaide. I've played many sports, but Gaelic football is my favourite. I have been playing Gaelic football in Australia for 20 years, and just love the game. I have played for South Australia for many years at the State Games, and this is my third World Games, which has been such an honour to be part of. I am so excited to be playing again in Ireland. I love seeing the growth of the game and all the countries coming together. I am just so excited to be playing at the World Games again and I am very grateful for this opportunity and being part of the team.



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Penny Rawinski

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

I originally come from a soccer background where, I represented South Australia. I was invited by a friend to play Gaelic football as a way to stay fit in the off season. I absolutely loved it and have been playing for the last 20 years. I was part of the SA team that won the Australasia State Games in Adelaide in 2008, and the team that lost in the final to Wellington in Melbourne in 2022. In the local league I have been part of a hugely successful team, winning many premierships including a streak of seven in a row. A highlight for me was winning best on the ground in our grand final in 2023, even though our team lost by a point. I am excited to represent Australasia in the World Games, to meet new people and to play the game at the highest level. It is an amazing opportunity.



**Heather
Williamson**

*Wellington/Hutt Valley
New Zealand*

I started playing Gaelic football and camogie about six years ago in Wellington, and have loved it ever since. I was born in Wellington and lived there most of my life. I've played in many tournaments over the years and won a few trophies as well. My favourite being my first ever Feis in Christchurch. I still remember my coach Trevor running up the sideline half way onto the pitch with me. Other highlights are winning the Australasia intermediate football for the first time, and also the NZ senior football champs this year after eight years. I am very much looking forward to going to Ireland and seeing lots of long-lost friends. I can't wait. I'm also excited to be able to play at another level and meet people from all over the world who love GAA as much as I do.



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Tiaré Verenitani

*Wellington/Hutt Valley
New Zealand*

On arrival to New Zealand in 2018, I had my first introduction to Gaelic games with Wellington/Hutt Valley GFHA. With persistence and dedication throughout the season, I was awarded most improved women's footballer for the 2019/20 season. To fast-forward on to 2022, it was an honour to represent the Wellington/Hutt Valley women's intermediate team in a historic win at the Australasia State Games. Selected to play on the international-born women's team, as an Australian-Fijian native, my flying Fijian side will be taking the long-haul flight to compete in the northern hemisphere. Returning to the Emerald Isle is exciting in itself after five years. I never imagined that on my return visit it'd be to participate in the GAA World Games. It'll be an experience of a lifetime to remember. The real excitement will kick in the moment I run onto the pitch: Rai tu mai, rai tu mai; oi au a virviri kemu bai!



Tahlia Tatlock

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

Australian born and raised. I work as a dispensary technician in a small seaside pharmacy. My career highlights include: winning regionals in Geelong in our first-ever games; traveling to and winning regionals in Gold Coast and receiving an All-Star; and playing for Vic Country in the State Games. I also play Aussie rules; I have previously played VFLW for Geelong Cats. In basketball, I have won the Country Basketball League grand final. I am looking forward to representing my country and getting to wear the green and gold. I'm excited to be playing against the best, travelling to Ireland and meeting new friends.



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Alex Trezise

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I was born and raised in Australia and have a longstanding involvement in a number of sports. My Gaelic football honours include selection on the All-Star team at the State Games, and recognition as the player of the tournament at the regional games. I have had other national representations for Australia in fistball, and won an All-Star offensive player award in Texas, USA for basketball. I am honoured to represent Australasia in the upcoming World Games. This event presents a unique opportunity to compete at the international level and gain valuable experience playing against top-tier players. I am most excited about the prospect of engaging with fellow competitors from diverse backgrounds, forging new connections, and immersing myself in the atmosphere of world-class competition.



Tamara Knox

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I was born in Australia and am of Irish and Scottish descent. With a background in basketball and Australian rules football, I was excited by the game of Gaelic football when presented with the opportunity to play five years ago. It quickly became my favourite sport in the world. In my first tournament for the Geelong Gaels, we won the Regional Games and I earned myself an All-Star medal. Since then I was named the inaugural captain of the Geelong Women's League team, and represented Country Victoria in the 2022 State Games. There are few things that can top wearing the green and gold, but I look forward to the camaraderie of the team, and building friendships with people who share a passion for Gaelic football. I am also excited by the prospect of gaining this experience, so that I can bring it home and use it to continue to build the Gaelic games for non-Irish-born folk in country Victoria.



International-born women's football player/manager profiles



Tess DeGrandi

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I was born in Australia and grew up playing AFL. I started playing Gaelic football in 2021 with the Geelong Gaels. I represented Victoria Country in the Australasia State Games 2022, where I was chosen in the All-Star squad. I'm really looking forward to travelling overseas for the first time - I can't wait to visit Ireland and experience its culture. I'm excited to be representing Australasia and being part of a great team.



**Ryan Healy
(Manager)**

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I played at the World Games in 2019 in international-born men's team. Career highlights include winning the State Games with Victoria intermediate men in 2018, and coaching Geelong Gaels women's team to Regional Games victory in 2022 on the Gold Coast. The most enjoyable part of Gaelic football is coaching juniors and seeing them become senior footballers, like Tess DeGrandi. I'm looking forward to being involved from the perspective of a coach, and supporting the team to achieve as much as possible.



**Jimmy
Donaghey
(Manager)**

*Flinders O'Neill's Urris
South Australia Donegal*

Been in Australia five years. Was never a good footballer but love being involved from the administration side of things, and I am now Secretary of the Gaelic Football and Hurling Association of South Australia. I'm looking forward to seeing non-Irish players from around the world coming to Ireland to play Gaelic games. Also, being from Inishowen in Donegal, hopefully getting the chance to introduce people from Australia and New Zealand to the hugely historic city of Derry, which I know well.



International-born women's football sponsors

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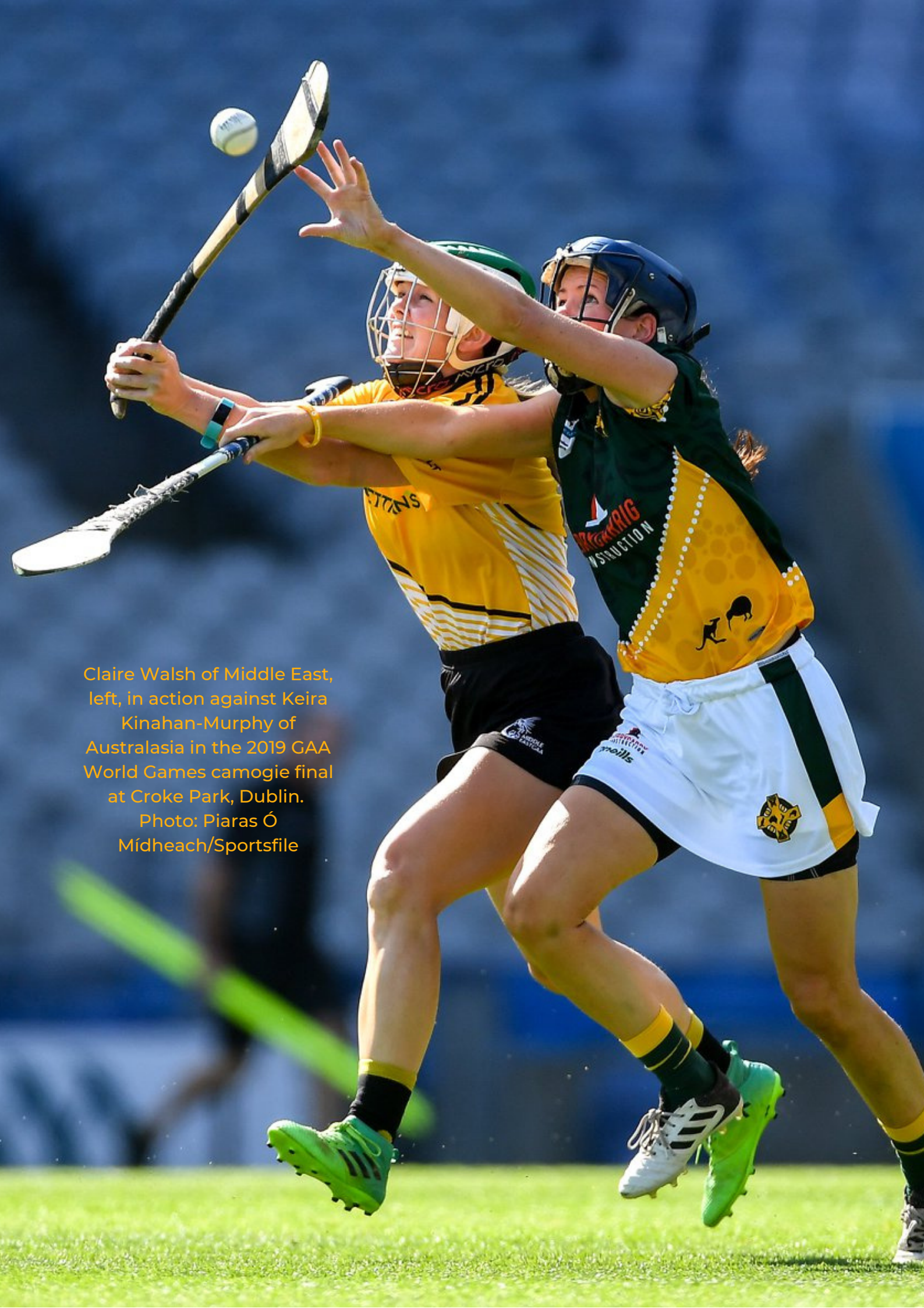
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Claire Walsh of Middle East, left, in action against Keira Kinahan-Murphy of Australasia in the 2019 GAA World Games camogie final at Croke Park, Dublin.
Photo: Piaras Ó Mídheach/Sportsfile

Camogie squad



Suzie Dunphy



Rachel Phelan



Lorna O'Dwyer



Andrea Mullins



Claire Nolan



Meighan Farrell



Shelly Farrell (C)



Áine Cunningham



Jackie Doyle



Jen Hosford



Lisa McCarthy



Paula Collins



Sarah Fitzgibbon



Tomás Oakes
(Manager)



Ollie Gordon
(Coach)

Camogie player/manager profiles



Suzie Dunphy

Craobh Phadraig *Windgap*
New South Wales *Kilkenny*

A mental health nurse, I came to Australia in October 2019. I have lived in three different states: Victoria, NSW and WA. My highlights have been the Melbourne sevens and the friendships made. I can't forget milking cows either. I'm lucky enough to have won the league and championship in WA with Western Swans, and WA player of the year 2021. With Pat's, I have won the league, championship 2022 and Melbourne sevens. I am most excited about playing camogie in Ireland with friends made in Oz, and everyone mixing with friends and family from home.



Lorna O'Dwyer

Michael Cusacks *Holycross*
New South Wales *Ballycahill*
Tipperary

I moved to Sydney in March 2022 and joined Michael Cusacks camogie. Some highlights have been getting to meet and play with a heap of new girls and all the nights out in the hills. Also getting to play on the State Games team and win that competition in Melbourne – it was a great time. I'm excited to travel home and meet everyone as it's my first time home since moving to Australia.



Andrea Mullins

Michael Cusacks *Ardrahan*
New South Wales *Galway*

I moved to Sydney in August 2022. With little to no choice from Mike Casey when I stepped off the plane, I joined Michael Cusacks and haven't looked back since. Coming from a well-established club team in Galway, it's great to be able to move across the world and play alongside the girls in Cusacks. My highlight so far has been getting the opportunity to play with the state team last September. It was a great experience and great chance to get to know the girls from the clubs you'd be usually be up against. I'm most excited about going home to visit my family and friends, and also playing alongside the girls on the Australasia team in Derry.



Camogie player/manager profiles



Claire Nolan

Craobh Phadraigh *Clara*
New South Wales *Kilkenny*

I arrived in Sydney in June 2022 with my boyfriend Kevin. After a few weeks of being here, we joined Craobh Phadraigh (AKA Pat's) to get to know more people. With a strong team, we won the NSW camogie championship. After this, I got to represent NSW at the State Games that were held in Melbourne, which we also won. My camogie career highlight is winning the Kilkenny intermediate county final with my club Clara in 2019. I'm most excited to get home to see my family and for them to join us in Derry for the games.



Rachel Phelan

Craobh Phadraig *Danesfort*
New South Wales *Kilkenny*

I moved to Sydney in January 2022, soon joining the Craobh Phadraigh camogie team. It's been great to play in this team, with highlights including being crowned Melbourne sevens winners in 2022 and 2023, and New South Wales champions in 2022. I'm looking forward to playing with this amazing group of camogie players and getting to see my family and friends back home.



Meighan Farrell

Craobh Phadraig *Thomastown*
New South Wales *Kilkenny*

I arrived in Australia in March 2022 and I've been having the time of my life ever since. I joined Craobh Phadraig where my sister Shelly plays, so it's great to be able to play alongside her again. I've met some great people over here, especially in St Pat's. It's like a big crazy family, which makes it a lot easier to feel at home. In 2022, my home club Thomastown won the club championship and Kilkenny won the camogie All-Ireland, which was unbelievable to see all the girls achieve. But it was also one of the harder parts of being away. You miss these things but I'm really lucky to be able to make new memories over here. I won a club championship with Pat's, which was unreal. Getting the opportunity to play for Australasia back home in Ireland with new and old friends, in front of my family, will be a special one. I'm looking forward to seeing my friends and family there and to play with the girls I've met over in Australia back home in Ireland.



Camogie player/manager profiles



Shelly Farrell (C)

*Craobh Phadraig Thomastown
New South Wales Kilkenney*

I've been living in Australia for four and a half years. I started playing for St Pat's when I landed. It's such a welcoming club and I'm so glad I joined. It's been so good playing GAA in Australia. I've met so many people through it and everyone helps each other out, which is really needed when you're so far away from home. We've been quite successful in the last three years, winning two Melbourne sevens and two championships, along with league finals and tournaments in Sydney. The State Games was a great experience, getting to play with girls from other clubs in Sydney that you would usually be playing against. I'm really looking forward to playing with the girls from the other states at the World Games. It will be a lovely experience for our family as my sister and I are both on the team.



Áine Cunningham

*Michael Cusacks Killeedy
New South Wales Limerick*

I'm in Australia a year, spending the last year in Sydney and I've just recently moved over to Perth. My achievements in Australia include the football championship in Sydney in 2022, and winning the State Games in both camogie and football, where I also picked up football and camogie All-Stars. In Ireland, I won the senior camogie championship with Killeedy in 2020. I also won the intermediate football championship with Dromcollogher in 2020 and 2021. I was awarded an All-Star with Limerick ladies football in 2020. I'm looking forward to going home to represent Australasia and being able to play alongside the friends I have made in Oz. I'm also excited to meet friends and family when home.



Camogie player/manager profiles



Jackie Doyle

Garryowen Victoria Ferns St Aidan's Wexford

I've been in Melbourne, Australia for 11 years. I've represented Victoria in both ladies football and camogie over the years, with the highlight trip being to New Zealand in 2015. I've also previously represented Australasia for camogie at the World Games in Dublin in 2016 where we won the final in Croke Park. I used to work in financial services, but have made a career change in the last six months to start a new career as a sports trader with Sportsbet. I'm an Australian citizen and can see Australia being my home for the foreseeable future. I've never been to Derry (had to Google it to see whereabouts it is on the map of Ireland), so really looking forward to getting to visit somewhere new. Also getting to play alongside not only some of the best camogie players in Australia, but Ireland, too.



Jen Hosford

Melbourne Shamrocks Victoria Glen Rovers Cork

I moved to Australia in 2017 after I completed my Bachelor of Early Years and Childhood Studies. I joined Shamrocks in 2018 and fortunately got to play at the State Games that year receiving an All-Star. This put me forward for the 2019 Australasia camogie World Games team, which we went on to win in Croke Park. This was an amazing experience to play with such great players but also highlighting the fantastic players that migrate and keep the sport alive within the Irish communities abroad. I'm excited to see the talent across the competition and play with the players I would have played against down through the years whether it was county, club or state.



Camogie player/manager profiles



Lisa McCarthy

Melbourne
Shamrocks
Victoria

Kildorrery
Cork

I moved to Melbourne in 2019, where I nursed throughout the pandemic as well as in regional Australia. My highlight sportswise was winning both camogie and football championships on the same day in 2021. It was a fantastic day with all the girls. The World Games is an unbelievable opportunity to represent Australasia in camogie. I'm so excited to take part in my first World Games, and hopefully do my family and club proud.



Paula Collins

Garryowen
Victoria

Courcey Rovers
Cork

I have been in Australia over six years where I work as a nurse. I have been playing for Garryowen since I arrived in Oz and played for Victoria in the state games in 2022. I'm excited for the World Games, and I'm especially looking forward to playing against my sister who plays for Britain.



Sarah Fitzgibbon

Melbourne
Shamrocks
Victoria

Milford
Cork

I initially came to Melbourne for a year back in 2018, but just over five years later I'm still here, and none the wiser how long more I'll call it home. I work as a nurse in a busy emergency department where no two days are the same. Having played camogie since a young age, it was a no-brainer to continue playing here in Oz as it's a great way to meet people and make friends. There have been many memorable moments through the years but a personal highlight would be winning the league and championship with Melbourne Shamrocks back in 2021, having never won anything as a club previous to that. I'm excited to play at home again, representing Australasia and, of course, it's great that our families will get to travel also. They miss out on so much when we're away so it'll be nice to experience it with them.



Camogie player/manager profiles



Tomás Oakes
(Manager)

Central Coast *Kilmessan*
New South Wales *Meath*

I've been in Australia just over seven years having moved to Sydney in 2017. I've been a member of Central Coast GAA since 2018, where I played hurling before getting involved with the camogie team in 2019. My honours as a manager include the NSW league, the Melbourne sevens and the State Games. I'm looking forward to the World Games and seeing some of the top Irish players.



Ollie Gordon
(Coach)

Clan na Gael
New South Wales
Western Gaels & Easkey
Sligo

I have been in Australia almost 12 years, owning and running my own company the last seven years. I enjoy being able to contribute to Irish sport and culture abroad. I have won three State Games as part of the NSW camogie management team, and one World Games as part of the Australasia camogie management team. I'm looking forward to getting back to Ireland to see the family. I'm also looking forward to representing Australasia again as a part of the camogie management team, and getting to know the teams and the girls from the different clubs around Australia. I'm excited to bring my club's newly established U10 and U12 teams in Western Gaels (Sligo) to watch the camogie team in Derry.



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Ruairí Allen of Australasia, left, in action against Middle East in the Irish-born men's football game in the 2019 GAA World Games at WIT Arena, Carriganore, Co. Waterford.

Photo: Piaras Ó Mídheach/Sportsfile



Irish-born men's football squad



Conor Ffrench



David Kelly



Michéal McWeeney



Diarmuid Larkin



Evin Scanlon



Liam Casey



Cory Quinn



Adam Neely



Seán McSweeney



Stefan McKenna



Shane Gaffney



Aaron McCarney



Kevin Smullen



Donncha Lynch
(Manager)



Barry Devine
(Manager)

Irish-born men's football player/manager profiles



Conor Ffrench

Clan na Gael *St Patrick's*
New South Wales *Wicklow*

I moved to Australia in December 2018 and have played for Clan na Gael in Sydney and Wolfe Tones in Melbourne. Before moving to Australia I played for the Wicklow county team from 2015–2018. I'm looking forward to playing in front of family and friends again, and hopefully being a World Cup winner.



David Kelly

Young Irelands
New South Wales
St Oliver Plunkett's
Eoghan Ruadh
Dublin

I've been in Australia three and a half years, and recently relocated from Sydney to Adelaide for the foreseeable future. My career highlights in Australia and Ireland have to be the journey and great people I have met and played with down through the years. My honours include representing and winning the State Games with NSW and getting an Australasia All-Star. In Ireland, I've played in a couple of Dublin SFC A finals (runners-up) and have a couple of Senior B championship wins. I'm looking forward to representing my adopted country and my new family at the World Games.



Diarmuid Larkin

Penrith Gaels *Bellaghy*
New South Wales *Wolfe Tones*
Derry

I'm half way through my sixth year in Australia. I was lucky enough to win a championship in my first year here with my club Penrith Gaels. I then went on to play for NSW in the coming years and won a couple of State Games. I was also fortunate enough to play in the last World Games in Waterford in 2019. I'm looking forward to playing with new lads from different states at this year's competition, and seeing friends and family at home.



Irish-born men's football player/manager profiles



Evin Scanlon

Michael Cusacks Naomh Barróg
New South Wales Dublin

I grew up playing for Naomh Barróg in Dublin, and have been living in Australia for six years. I won a Queensland championship in 2017 with John Mitchell's, and I now represent Michael Cusacks in Sydney. I was on the 2022 NSW team that won Australasia State Games last year. I am most excited about my family getting to see me play back home after six years of being away.



Liam Casey

Clan na Gael Cahir
New South Wales Tipperary

I'm from Cahir in Tipperary, and moved to Sydney in June of 2021. I have an agricultural background but I'm working in sales in Sydney. I'm passionate about all things sports related alongside a love for coffee. I set up a coffee horsebox called Buckabrew in 2021. My honours include: NSW Men's Championship 2022 with Clan na Gael; Australasia State Games with NSW in 2022; Philadelphia and North American Championships in 2018, and a Chicago Championship in 2016; Senior Munster Football Title with Tipperary in 2020; U21 Munster Championship with Tipperary; and Sigerson League and championships with UCD 2015-2016 and 2017. Having never played in an event like this, it will be fantastic to represent Australasia on home soil amongst friends and family who are travelling up to Derry for the competition. It will be great to see the GAA community at its fullest with the number of representatives from all around the world, and getting to play alongside some mates from different counties, states and regions.



Cory Quinn

Cormac MacAnallen's Mayobridge
New South Wales Down

I moved to Sydney in July 2022. I play football for Cormac MacAnallen's, and was picked to represent New South Wales at the Australasia State Games in 2022. My honours include the Sigerson Cup 2017, Down U21 Championship, and the Australasia State Games. I'm excited to represent Australasia back in Ireland, and I'm looking forward to meeting and playing with new players from states across Australia.



Irish-born men's football player/manager profiles



Adam Neely

*Penrith Gaels CLG An
New South
Wales* *Clochán Liath
Donegal*

I have been in Australia for three and a half years. A career highlight for me is winning the Ulster U21 championship with Donegal in 2017, and also winning the Ulster minor championship with Donegal in 2014, along with making it to the All-Ireland final that year. Taking part in the State Games with NSW was an honour for me here in Australia. I'm looking forward to testing the team against the best GAA teams across the world.



Seán McSweeney

*Garryowen
Victoria* *St Kieran's
Limerick*

I arrived in Sydney in November 2019, and moved to Melbourne in July 2021. I am an NPI Engineer for medical devices. Along with playing football, I enjoy taking part in triathlons. My honours include: 2020 NSW Senior Football Championship and man of the match; Michael Cusacks and Cormac McAnallen's Senior tournaments 2021; Victoria Senior League and Championship 2022; Pearse's Sevens Senior Football 2022 and 2023. I'm looking forward to getting to know new people and playing in a super competitive competition on home soil for the first time in nearly four years.



Stefan McKenna

*Sinn Féin
Victoria* *Dungannon
Thomas Clarkes
Tyrone*

I've been living in Australia for nearly seven years. Dungannon Thomas Clarkes in Tyrone is my home club who I grew up playing with, and played with most of my life. I've also played for Kevin Barry's in Philadelphia a few summers in a row. I've played with Tyrone U21s for three years and also had the privilege of playing with St Mary's University College, Belfast in the Sigerson and McKenna Cups. In Australia, I've played for Gold Coast Gaels in the Queensland league followed by Sinn Féin, currently in Melbourne. I am working as a chippy here and love Australia. Who doesn't. I'm excited to see the talent from across the world and see how much the GAA has expanded globally, and also playing with and representing an Australasian team with a bunch of new lads to get to know and play with. I'm confident we will make the finals; it would be a massive achievement to win the World Games.



Irish-born men's football player/manager profiles



Michéal McWeeney

*St Finbarr's
Western Australia*

*St Mary's
Kiltoghert
Leitrim*

I previously lived in Sydney and played football with Clan na Gael Bondi for three years. It was during this time we won the league and the championship. I was extremely lucky to captain the team to their first-ever senior title. I then got selected for the NSW team that won the State Games last year, where I was joint captain. I moved to Perth at the start of 2023, where I've joined up with St Finbarr's and I'm looking forward to the year ahead. I am excited to get the opportunity to represent Australasia on a global stage. I am also excited to be back on home soil so that my family and friends can watch me play for the first time in four years.



Shane Gaffney

*Greenwood
Western Australia*

*Erin's Isle
Dublin*

I have been in Australia for four years now. I play with Greenwood in Western Australia. My playing highlights include winning the championship in 2019, receiving player of the year in 2021, winning the championship in 2022 after being selected as captain of the panel for the year, and playing for Western Australia at the State Games in 2022, where I received an All-Star award. I am excited to be given the opportunity to head back to Ireland and play in the tournament. I'm looking forward to playing with new lads from different parts of Australia and getting to compete against players from other parts of the world.



Aaron McCarney

*Southern Districts
Western Australia* *Fintona
Pearses
Tyrone*

I've been living in Australia now for the past four years, currently residing in Perth WA. I'm a machine operator by trade and a keen golfer in my spare time, when I'm not playing Gaelic. My accolades to date in Ireland and Australia include: 2006 U16 league medalist with Fintona Pearses; Tyrone minor and U21 player; 2017 Fintona Pearses player of the Year; 2017 Teamtalk Mag top scorer of the year; 2019 Championship and league winner with Cormac MacAnallen's; 2021 league winner with Southern Districts; 2021 Southern Districts player of the year; 2021 WA state player of the year; 2022 Southern Districts player of the Year; 2023 sevens winner with Southern Districts. I'm looking forward to playing with players from different states and representing Australasia on home soil.

Irish-born men's football player/manager profiles



Kevin Smullen

Clan na Gael *The Downs*
New South Wales *Westmeath*

I moved to Australia in November 2017 and have lived in Sydney since. I joined Clan na Gael football team in 2019, and have since won a league in 2021, the championship in 2022, managers' player of the year 2022, the Australasia State Games 2022 with NSW, and, most recently, the 2023 league and championship. I'm looking forward to representing Australasia back on home soil in Ireland, and looking forward to meeting family and friends from home.



Donncha Lynch
(Manager)

Clan na Gael *Allen Gaels*
New South Wales *Leitrim*

I played for Allen Gaels in Leitrim at all levels winning minor, intermediate, U21 x4 and senior championships x4 during a golden period for the club from 1994 to 2001. During this period I also represented Leitrim at all levels including senior, winning a Connaught junior title in 2003. In Australia, I've joint-managed Clan Na Gael Bondi senior men's team since 2020, winning the league in 2021 and 2023 and the senior championship in 2022. At state level, I was part of the management group with Barry Devine and the team that won the State Games with NSW. A career highlight for me is being chosen to joint-manage the Australasia Irish-born men's football team at the World Games in Derry. I'm looking forward to representing our adopted country Australia whilst meeting family, friends and supporters at a festival of Gaelic football.



Barry Devine
(Manager)

Penrith Gaels *Cookstown*
New South Wales *Fr Rocks*
Tyrone

I arrived in Australia in March 2003, and joined Penrith Gaels GAC. My club honours here in Australia include four club championships and five NSW club tournaments. At the state level, I represented NSW from 2003 to 2008, captaining the side to the title in 2007. I've won three Australasia State Games, three State Games All-Stars and one State Games player of the tournament award. My management honours include: 2012, 2013 and 2022 Australasia State Games; 2013 NSW club championship; and five NSW club tournaments from 2012-2016. I'm looking forward to working with the players in the lead up to the games and preparing for the tournament.



Irish-born men's football sponsors

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Irish-born men's football sponsors





Matt Doecke of Australasia, in action against New York in an international-born men's football game in the 2019 GAA World Games at WIT Arena, Carriganore, Co. Waterford.

Photo: Alan Whykes

International-born men's football squad



Johnny Pegoraro



Adam Smyth



William Cheesman-
Dutton



Richard Eston



Jack Keynes



Liam Mounce



Liam O'Connor-
Dawkins



Josh Kavenagh



Jamie Conlon



Justin Evans



Justin White



Ethan Thomas



Steve Moylan



Andrew Smith



Carl Walsh
(Manager)



Diarmuid Blake
(Manager)



International-born men's football player/manager profiles



Johnny Pegoraro

*St Brendan's
South Australia*

I started playing Gaelic at 11 years of age. I have won five Hannigan cups and nine seven-a-side premierships. I have captained my club, U18s South Australia team and the men's South Australia team. One career highlight that stands out is playing in the men's state team alongside my twin brother and dad. I am looking forward to representing Australasia in Ireland.



Adam Smyth

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

I have played Australian rules football all my life, and started playing Gaelic football about five years ago. My honours include Flinders O'Neill's best and fairest 2019/20, GFHASA team of the year 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 and two All-Stars at Australasia Championships. I'm looking forward to the journey to see Ireland and see if i can match it with the best of Gaelic has to offer.



William Cheesman-Dutton

*Western Ireland
South Australia*

I've been playing Gaelic football for eight years now. Some achievements include five premierships, one best on ground in a grand final, five team of the year selections and a state selection. I'm most excited about travelling to Ireland and experiencing the culture, but also to test myself against the best talent across the world.



Jack Keynes

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

I'm a plumber from South Australia who decided to play Gaelic for AFL pre-season and ended up preferring Gaelic. I represented Australasia at the World Games in Waterford in 2019 and can't wait to be in Derry. I'm looking forward to playing against people from all around the world and socialising with them at the ball.



International-born men's football player/manager profiles



Richard Eston

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

English-born, Australian citizen. I moved to Australia in 2011 where I met my wife. I live in Adelaide and have been a police officer since 2015. I grew up playing rugby and soccer in England, and continue to play soccer for a local team in Adelaide. I have been playing Gaelic for three years and love it. I won player of the year in my second year at my local club, Flinders O'Neill's, and was proudly selected to represent South Australia at the 2022 State Games. I was named in the All-Star team at the State Games. Being selected to represent Australasia at the World Games is a great honour and I cannot wait to get to Ireland and begin. I'm most excited about the challenge and experience of playing all different countries around the world and my family being there to watch. I cannot wait to pull on the Australasian Guernsey and get started.



Liam O'Connor-Dawkins

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

Entered the game about three years ago to keep fit for the Australian rules season. Australian born and I have loved it since starting. I won the rising star award in my first year playing as a 17 year old. I then made the state squad in my third year after missing out in my second year. I'm now onto the Australasia squad after one State Games appearance. I'm looking forward to seeing how Australasia holds up against other countries. With a few of the boys having an AFL background and with AFL being a physical sport, I'm keen to see how well it holds up against other countries. I'm also excited to be exploring Ireland.



Josh Kavenagh

*Irish Australians
South Australia*

I was born in Australia. I have been playing in the state league in South Australia and have represented South Australia at the State Games. I'm excited to be going to Ireland and experiencing the culture.



International-born men's football player/manager profiles



Jamie Conlon

*Onkaparinga
South Australia*

*Fossa
Kerry*

I play Australian rules football and Gaelic as a midfielder. I have made the State Games All-Star team five times and won the State Games player of the tournament once. I'm looking forward to challenging myself and the team against strong opposition from around the world. I'm also excited to make the big dance and come out with the win.



Justin Evans

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

I have been a lifelong Adelaide resident and participated in various sports throughout my life. However, Aussie rules football has been my most beloved sport, and I have been playing it for multiple teams. I love spending my free time socialising with friends and exploring the beautiful sights of Australia when I'm not engaged in sports events. A friend invited me to try Gaelic a few years back. Ever since then, I've been playing it and thoroughly enjoying the experience. I am thrilled and honoured to represent my country, Australia, and to see how our team stacks up against others in the World Games. Excited to make some friends along the way.



Andrew Smith

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I started playing Gaelic football three years ago. My biggest highlight to date was playing at the 2022 State Games with Victoria. I'm excited to visit Ireland. Having heard from some previous Australasian players about the World Games, I'm really excited to experience the event for myself.



Liam Mounce

*Flinders O'Neill's
South Australia*

I play for Flinders O'Neill's and represented South Australia at the State Games in 2022. I have won several honours with my club, including picking up the players' player of the year award in 2021. I am excited to represent my state and country at the World Games, and to play against opposition all over the globe.



International-born men's football player/manager profiles



Steve Moylan

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I'm originally from Western Australia. I played Australian Rules into my late teens, playing with East Perth in the WAFL, before I "retired" to pursue medicine as a career. I'm a psychiatrist now, working in Geelong where I live with my family. In the hospital in Geelong I met a bunch of Irish doctors, and about 8 years ago they got me down at the ripe age of 32 to start Gaelic Football with the mighty Geelong Gaels. I've been at it since and enjoyed every minute of learning the new game. Whilst we've had a lean run at times, we've also had a number of highlights, with the peak for me being the Gaels winning the Regional Games in 2017. It's also been fantastic to be part of the growing Gaels community, with the grasshoppers and women's teams being so great to see. I'm excited by the opportunity to travel to Ireland and be immersed in this awesome international event that will celebrate such an important part of Irish culture.



Ethan Thomas

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I'm a 21-year-old roof-plumbing apprentice born and bred in Geelong, Victoria. I have been playing Gaelic football for just over a year now. I'm currently playing Aussie rules football for the Geelong West Giants, with whom I've won multiple premierships through juniors. Probably the biggest highlight so far was being named on the State Games intermediate All-Star team after playing for the Vic country side in 2022. I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone heading over to Ireland, building chemistry with our team during training and the games themselves, while seeing improvement on field, and seeing how far we can get during the tournament.



International-born men's football player/manager profiles



Justin White

*Geelong Gaels
Victoria*

I'm 36 years old and have played AFL most of my life. My career highlights in AFL include two senior premierships with Drysdale FC, team of the decade Drysdale FC, two best and fairest at Geelong West FC and two interleague GDFL teams. I'm looking forward to playing with a new bunch of players with similar sporting backgrounds at the World Games, and travelling around Ireland.



**Carl Walsh
(Manager)**

*Young Melbourne
Victoria*

*St. Joseph's
Miltown Malbay
Clare*

I'm the President of Young Melbourne, Vice-President of Gaelic Games Victoria and Vice-President of GFHAA. I've been in Australia for 22 years. I won a Sigerson Cup with UCC in 1988, a Clare county championship with Miltown St. Josephs in 1990, an All-Ireland B Championship with Clare in 1991, a Munster Senior Championship with Clare in 1992, and a National League Div 2 with Clare in 1993. I also represented Munster in 1993 and 1994. My passion is underage player and native-born player coaching, development and participation. I'm still playing at 55 and I hope there's another year in me. I'm excited about being a part of a great team of people representing Australasia, meeting people from all over the GAA world and visiting Derry city for the first time.



**Diarmuid Blake
(Manager)**

*Young Melbourne
Victoria* *Liscannor
Clare*

I have been in Australia for nearly six years. I have been the coach of the Victoria state team for three years with success in two State Games, and a narrow loss in the third. I have also coached club teams here in Victoria. I come from a very proud village of football and am hoping I can keep the traditions of the GAA alive over here. I'm excited to see so many international players playing our national sport at the games in July.



Irish-born men's football sponsors

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Sean O'Leary of Australasia
playing against Middle East
in the 2019 GAA World
Games hurling final at
Croke Park, Dublin.
Photo: Piaras Ó
Mídheach/Sportsfile



Hurling squad



Jamie Dwyer



Ger Fennelly



Seán O'Meara



Jack Commins



Kevin Kenny



Kevin Hetherton



Peter McCarthy



Aidan O'Flynn



Colm Kavanagh



Seán O'Leary



Darren Quirke



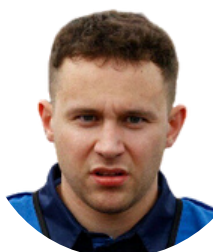
Shane O'Regan



Declan McManus



**Brian Vaughan
(Manager)**



**Ronan Coffey
(Manager)**



**Paul Barron
(Manager)**

Hurling player/manager profiles



Jamie Dwyer

Cormac McAnallen's *Cork*
New South Wales

I've been in Sydney for three and a half years, where I've been hurling with Cormac McAnallen's. I work as a part-time chartered accountant and I'm the full-time owner of Pick Right Sports. I'm usually a forward for 15-a-side, but ended up as a goalkeeper for sevens and nines through injury and luck. My honours include: 2022 Melbourne sevens; 2021 Sydney sevens; 2022 State Games; 2023 Melbourne sevens; 2008 Munster minor hurling championship; 2010 Cork, Munster and All-Ireland intermediate hurling championships with Ballymartle. I'm looking forward to taking part in such a unique tournament with so many teams from around the world. Hopefully I'll end my hurling career in Australia on a high.



Ger Fennelly

Craobh Phadaigh *Ballingarry*
New South Wales *Tipperary*

I've been in Australia since Paddy's Day 2022. My honours include: NSW hurling championship 2022; Gosburn tournament 2023; Munster and All-Ireland minor championship 2012; and several club honours in hurling and football. I'm looking forward to getting home to Ireland and meeting friends and family. The craic up in Derry should be good too.



Seán O'Meara

Cormac McAnallen's *Lorrha/Dorrha*
New South Wales *Tipperary*

Living in Sydney and hurling with Cormac McAnallen's since 2019. My honours include: 2019 NSW league; represented NSW in 2019 State Games; 2021 Sydney sevens; 2022 Melbourne sevens; 2022 State Games; 2022 State Games All-Star; 2023 Melbourne sevens. I'm looking forward to getting home and playing in such a unique tournament.



Jack Commins

Michael Cusacks *Gort*
New South Wales *Galway*

I've been in Australia for four years, and I've been hurling with Cusacks since I landed. First thing I won was the league this year and it was well worth the wait. I'm excited to be playing with Seán O'Meara instead of getting flaked by him, and looking forward to the session up in Derry once it's over.



Hurling player/manager profiles



Kevin Kenny

*Craobh Phadraigh
New South Wales*

*Dicksboro
Kilkenny*

I arrived in Australia in June 2022 with my girlfriend Claire. We both joined Craobh Phadraigh and won the championships in hurling and camogie. We also got to represent NSW and were again fortunate enough to win the State Games in our respective codes. My career highlight is winning the Kilkenny county title with my club Dicksboro in 2017. I'm excited to be going home to see my family and getting the opportunity to play in Derry's Centre of Excellence.



Kevin Hetherton

*Craobh Phadraigh
New South Wales*

*Craobh
Chiaráin
Dublin*

I've been living in Sydney for the past three and a half years. Joined Craobh Phadraig in 2020. We had a good three years, winning championships in 2020 and 2022, and the league in 2021. Best highlight would be our first championship in 2020; we were losing well at halftime but came back to win it in extra-time against Macs. It'll be great to play at home in front of family, and friends and not over a dodgy livestream.



Peter McCarthy

*Craobh Phadraigh
New South Wales*

*Piltown
Kilkenny*

I've been in Australia four and a half years, winning two NSW club championships over here with St Pat's. My highlight here was seeing Joey "Dodgy Knee" step up to take a penalty in a final, and not only falling over himself, but missing the penalty as well. I'm looking forward to seeing people I met years ago playing with different countries in Derry.



Hurling player/manager profiles



Aidan O'Flynn

*Cormac McAnallen's Freemount
New South Wales Cork*

I have been in Australia nearly five years, and am permanently moving back to Ireland this year. Since arriving to Sydney, I have won two Melbourne sevens, the NSW league and the State Games in 2022. I'm hoping to sign off from hurling in Australia with one last trophy in Derry.



Colm Kavanagh

*Sydney Shamrocks Colt/Shanahoe
New South Wales Laois*

Heading for six years in Sydney, after spending a summer in Chicago winning the final with Cú Chulainn's in 2016. Other than a couple of leagues with my home club, Colt in Laois, 2008 was our last championship final win at intermediate level. I'm excited to be heading back home to hurl.



Seán O'Leary

*Garryowen Watergrasshill
Victoria Cork*

I've been in Melbourne for 13 years, having come out for two years originally. I've been lucky enough to win Melbourne sevens, leagues and Garryowen nines titles along the way. I've captained and won two State championships with Victoria and played in the World Games final in Croke Park in 2019, where we were beaten by Middle East. The GAA has given me and my family lots of connections and friends in Melbourne and I look forward to many more. The World Games is another chance to go back to showcase how strong the game is outside of Ireland, and to play in front of friends and family once again. It's a chance to show Ireland the global GAA family and how it provides so much for the Irish abroad.



Hurling player/manager profiles



Darren Quirke

*Sinn Féin
Victoria*

*Middleton
Cork*

I've lived in Australia since February 2022, and I currently work as a recruitment consultant. In my first year here I won the Victoria hurling championship in 2022 with Sinn Féin. My career highlights would be Middleton winning the Cork U21 and senior county championships in 2013, and winning the senior county championship in 2021. I've never been to Derry so spending time up there will be good. Looking forward to catching up family and friends while at the games, and hopefully seeing some familiar faces from other teams.



Shane O'Regan

*Garryowen
Victoria*

*Watergrasshill
Cork*

I am living in Melbourne one year now. Since arriving in Melbourne and joining Garryowen, I've been involved in the league-winning team last year, and was also part of the team that won the Melbourne nines competition. Getting to play on the Victoria team for the State Games was a real honour for me and getting an All-Star for the competition will definitely be one of the greatest highlights of my hurling career. I'm looking forward to getting to travel home to play in Ireland again and in front of my friends and family.



Declan McManus

*Central Coast
New South Wales*

*Ballygalget
Down*

I've been in Sydney for four and a half years. I've won the State Games in 2019 with NSW. I also won a championship with Central Coast in 2019. I'm looking forward to playing back home in Ireland with a good bunch of lads.



Hurling player/manager profiles

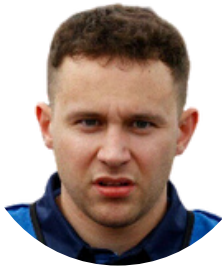


Brian Vaughan
(Manager)

Craobh Phadraigh
New South Wales

CJ Kickams Mullinahone
Tipperary

I moved to Australia in 2008 and got involved with Craobh Phadraigh in 2009. We have won five NSW titles, four Melbourne sevens, three State Games, one NSW league, a Gosburn and a Cusacks. My biggest achievements in Australia include being named Craobh Phadraigh and NSW club person of the year, both in 2022, as well as being involved with the Australasia hurling team for the third time. I'm looking forward to getting home to see my family and friends, the trip to Derry with the hurling team, but most of all, getting home for my younger brother's wedding.



Ronan Coffey
(Manager)

Craobh Phadraigh *Dunnamaggin*
New South Wales *Kilkenny*

I have been in Australia for just over a year, currently working as a mental health nurse in Sydney. Lifelong member of Dunnamaggin GAA in Ireland and got involved with St. Pats through my brother when I moved over to Australia. I've won an All-Ireland club championship with Dunnamaggin, an intermediate All-Ireland with UCD, Leinster minor championship, and Boston and North American championships with Offaly Boston. I'm looking forward to spending a week with Seán O'Meara and tending to all of his needs.



Paul Barron
(Manager)

Sydney Shamrocks *Carrickshock*
New South Wales *Kilkenny*

I've been in Australia since 2010, and I've played/been involved with Sydney Shamrocks ever since. I've three NSW championships, a few league titles, one Gosford, as well as one State Games with NSW as a player. I'm looking forward to getting home and showing that the hurling overseas is played at a good standard, and also competing against the other teams that will be travelling.



Hurling sponsors

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Hurling sponsors

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Australasia women's football captain Caroline Kennedy lifts the Rachel Kenneally Cup after beating Parnells in the 2019 GAA World Games women's football final at Croke Park, Dublin. Photo: Piaras Ó Mídheach/Sportsfile



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