



# LB e-NEWS

Leinster Deaf Sports Council  
September 2012

## Leinster Strikes the Double!



Leinster regained the Inter-Provincial Championship once again for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time at Athlone, Co Westmeath. Leinster beat Munster in the 1<sup>st</sup> semi-final through goals from Patrick Maher (2), Damien McMahon and Derek Jordan. Ulster cruised in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final against understrength Connaught. Then it was a classic final between Leinster and Ulster. Ulster led at half time but Leinster came back with a thrilling 3-1 victory. Patrick Maher, Eamonn Byrne and a half-volley cracker from Ross Byrne ensured the cup goes to Leinster. Ross Byrne was the player of the match with Ulster's Danny O'Dea awarded as young player of the match. Leinster's basketball dominance prevailed by winning for the 9<sup>th</sup> time.

It was a great weekend event, not only for Deaf Sports Ireland (DSI) or Leinster Deaf Sports Council (LDSC) but also for Deaf sports in general. Athlone Mayor Jim Henson who presented the cup remarked the phenomenal of this continuing championship after 40 years, which is rare nowadays. It is important that this continue for many years to come. Provided the championship continues for the next 10 years, LDSC would have the honour of hosting the 50<sup>th</sup> championship under the current province rotation.

## Deaf Sports: The Way Forward...



DSI is making a great effort to ensure the survival of Deaf sports of which it is at present vulnerable. Fortunately, Irish Sports Council, Football Association of Ireland and others continue to recognise DSI and its sporting development. LDSC will continue to support DSI's development through the Local Sports Partnership and respective Deaf sports clubs in the province. The completion of Deaf Village Ireland, which include a brand new Inspirational Fitness Centre Cabra, is timely. It will ensure the ownership and space for Deaf sports for many years to come. With DSI, LDSC will see it bearing the fruition.

Deaf sports are the nucleus of the Deaf community, bestowed by its own Deaf culture and sign language. The very survival of the Deaf community mainly rest with the continuance of Deaf sports. The Deaf community has successfully advocated for the pivotal use of Deaf sports centre within the Deaf Village Ireland, which would see Deaf sports to the next generation.

## Superlative Deaflympics



Over the summer we have seen successes of Irish sports in London Olympics and Paralympics, which are welcome for Irish sports in general. Then we have our own Deaflympics, which is largely undervalued outside the Deaf community. Deaflympics has been in existence since 1924, long before the first Paralympics in 1960. Through DSI, Ireland has been represented at every Deaflympics since 1973..

Deaflympics is recognised as an entity at its own rights by the International Olympics Committee. It is now high time for Irish government and media to take the note of this and recognise Deaf sports. Fortunately, Irish Sports Council has been supporting DSI but further investments are required not only to secure DSI but also enhance Irish participation in the future of Deaflympics.

## Leinster Deaf Sports Council Open Badminton



LDSC will hold its open badminton on 27<sup>th</sup> October at The Baldoyle Badminton Centre, Baldoyle Industrial Estate, Grange Road, Dublin 13. Entry fee is €20 with deadline for registration being 20<sup>th</sup> October. Format of Competition are Men Singles, Women Singles, Men Doubles, Women Doubles and Mixed Doubles. To enter and for further information contact Ivan Gryzlov at [ivangryzlov@gmail.com](mailto:ivangryzlov@gmail.com)

## Deaflympics Football Qualifier



Six of Leinster footballers have been selected to play for Ireland, which will play Germany for Deaflympic Qualifier on 29<sup>th</sup> September in Hannover. Selected players are Andrew Wynne, Roy Keating, Stuart Foy, Eamon Byrne, Kevin Dudley and Darren Dunne. Well done to them and wish them with our Irish players best of luck and may the win. The prize is a place at 2013 Deaflympics in Bulgaria.