

CRICKET IRELAND

Creating a cricket island



ANNUAL
REPORT
2021



CRICKET
IRELAND

Members of Cricket Ireland
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1 May 2022

Dear Members,

We are pleased to present the *Cricket Ireland Annual Report 2021* – providing an overview of the financial and operational achievements of Cricket Ireland (also known as The Irish Cricket Union Company Limited by Guarantee).

Best wishes



Ross McCollum
Chairman
Cricket Ireland



Warren Deutrom
Chief Executive
Cricket Ireland



1 OVERVIEW

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| About Cricket Ireland | 4 |
| Chair's Report | 5 |
| Chief Executive's Report | 6 |

2 PERFORMANCE REPORTS

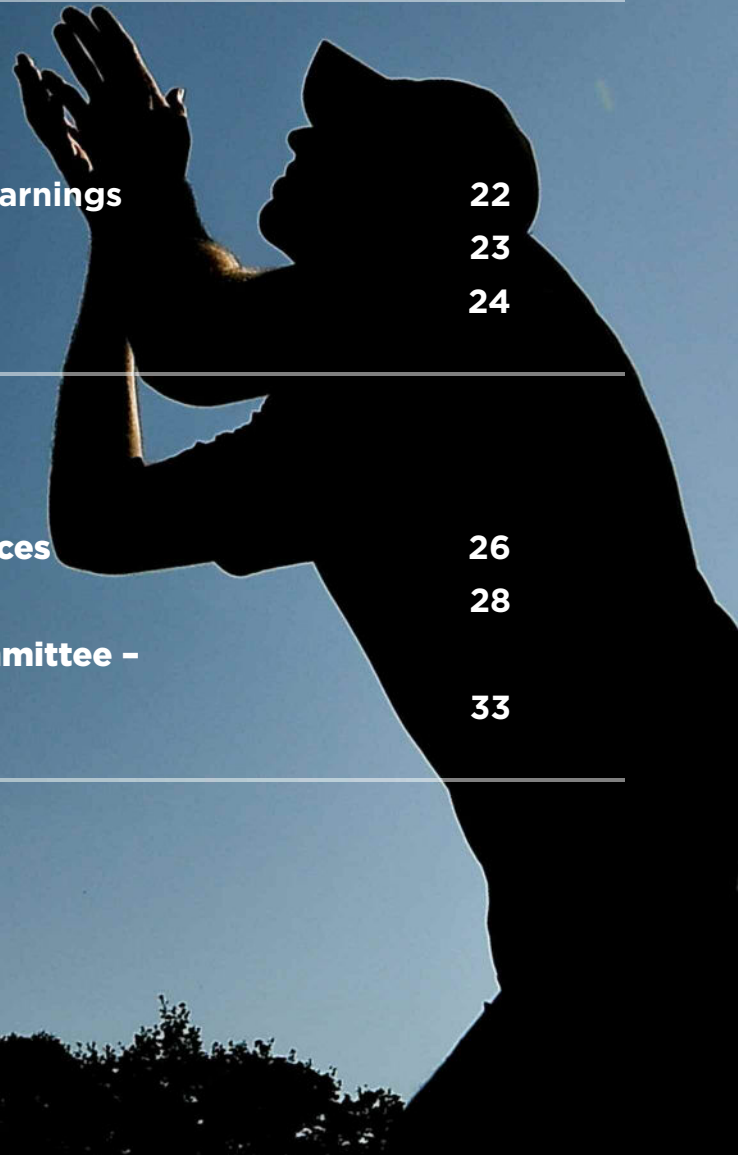
| | |
|------------------|----|
| High Performance | 8 |
| Participation | 13 |
| Commercial | 17 |
| Finance | 19 |

3 FINANCIALS

| | |
|---|----|
| Statement of Income and Retained Earnings | 22 |
| Balance Sheet | 23 |
| Statement of Cash Flows | 24 |

4 APPENDICES

| | |
|--|----|
| Appendix One: Committee Attendances | 26 |
| Appendix Two: Governance Code | 28 |
| Appendix Three: Audit and Risk Committee - Summary of Actions in 2021 | 33 |



1 OVERVIEW



About Cricket Ireland

Cricket Ireland is the national governing body for the sport of cricket in Ireland. It is responsible for setting the strategic direction and the national administration of cricket on the island of Ireland.

Cricket Ireland (also known as “The Irish Cricket Union Company Limited by Guarantee”) was established in 1923, with a brief to organise the national squad, primarily arranging fixtures against the Scotland and the English MCC, as well as occasional visits by English Counties and Test teams.

BRIEF HISTORY

Since 1792, cricket has been played in Ireland, when the Military of Ireland and the Gentlemen of Ireland took each other on in the Phoenix Park, where the game still thrives in one of the world’s oldest established cricket clubs.

By the mid-1850’s the game had expanded to the point where it was the largest and most popular sport in the country. Its success was such that the first team to represent Ireland beat their English counterparts in 1855. The game went into decline towards the end of the century, largely a victim of politics and class, although it continued in the north of the country and in the heartlands of central and northern Dublin. Any thoughts of resurgence in the sport was restricted greatly when the Gaelic Athletics Association (GAA) introduced Law 27 in 1902, banning GAA players from either participating or even watching the so-called ‘English sports’ of football, rugby or cricket. The ban lasted for more than 70 years.

NATIONAL RE-EMERGENCE

Proper competitive national fixtures began for Ireland in 1980 with entry to the English Gillette Cup, and while it was a long road to becoming a competitive side, everything changed at the national level as a result of Ireland’s performance at the 2007 ICC Cricket World Cup.

Entering the tournament proper after success in the qualification stage, Ireland went on to defeat Pakistan and Bangladesh, and tie against Zimbabwe on the biggest stage of all – this was seen as unprecedented for an Associate Member country.

Subsequent appearances at the 2011 and 2015 Cricket World Cups further consolidated Ireland’s credentials as an emerging force, defeating England and West Indies respectively along the way.

THE WOMEN’S GAME

Women have been playing cricket since the 1880s in Ireland, and while formal competitive cricket was played sporadically throughout the 20th century, it wasn’t until the Irish Women’s Cricket Union was established in 1982 that a more structured approach was taken to promoting Irish women’s cricket on the international stage.

Ireland Women’s first capped international match was in 1983, and progress was rapid as they established themselves as the second best in Europe after England soon after. Ireland Women played their maiden Test match in 2000 and a year later won the European Championship by beating England in what was an effective ‘final’.

In 2001, the Irish Women’s Cricket Union amalgamated with the then Irish Cricket Union.

FULL MEMBERSHIP

On 22 June 2017 the ICC announced that Ireland had been granted Full Membership status and had become a fully-fledged Test Match playing nation. This granted Ireland Test status and allowed the organisation to join the ICC Future Tours Programme.

In 2021, Ireland Women qualified for the ICC Women’s Championship for the first time, initiating a programme of major investment in the women’s game, including the introduction of the first-ever full time contracts for women cricketers.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

There are 12 Directors on the Board of Cricket Ireland, five of which are independent. There are also five provincial bodies who have responsibility for the game in their respective regions. Five standing committees also provide strategic oversight of the high performance, grassroots cricket, governance and finance of the business.

Chair's Report



2021 was the year that cricket returned – and we witnessed some remarkable cricket from international to grassroots.

After the difficulties of 2020, the year 2021 represented a welcome return of much that we lost for a time. It wasn't quite back to 'normal', but the work put in off-the-field by Cricket Ireland, Provincial Unions and the clubs ensured that on-the-field we were moving in the right direction.

In 2021 we welcomed back international men's and women's cricket. We welcomed back an all-Ireland club cup competition. And, perhaps just as pleasingly, we welcomed back spectators to games.

The year was also one of transition for Cricket Ireland – transition of mindset as much as operations. As the months went by, you could almost see the crisis management mindset of 2020 was giving way to a more assured and, dare I say it, more optimistic organisation. Lessons had been learned, the business stabilised, and we began to invest in and grow the sport once more.

Not only were we watching our international teams play once more at home, our improved Inter-Provincial Series and Super Series flourishing, the return of one of our all-Ireland club cup competitions amongst many on-field deliveries – we also saw the addition of the Future Series, a women's all-Ireland T20 Cup competition and the launch of a number of new grassroots mass participation programmes. Each of these additions aimed squarely at the future and at growing the game we love.

Recognition must be given to Warren Deutrom and his team – with the support of Provincial Unions and clubs

– who managed the sport through these challenging years to a place where, at the start of 2022, we are seeing signs of real growth and investment in the sport.

Recognition must also go to our sponsors, business partners and government partners, like Sport Ireland and Sport NI who stood by our sport throughout. Collectively, they recognised and acknowledged the importance of cricket in the Irish sporting landscape through their ongoing support.

In particular, we would like to thank Sport Ireland, whose support included a significant funding grant which we received at the end of last year, which resulted in the organisation recording a deficit in 2021. We have already started to distribute these monies through schemes like the Club Resilience Fund, Sports Capital and Equipment Programme and through investment in facilities.

Before I finish, I would like to take the opportunity to add a personal note of thanks. This is my last year as Chair of Cricket Ireland. It has been a remarkable decade in the role – a decade that saw Irish cricket make great strides as a cricketing nation, as a sport and as a business. When I began the role, I had my hopes and ambitions, but the road ahead seemed long and uncertain. To be honest, even at my most optimistic I was never certain that Full Membership was a possibility by the end of the decade, let alone achieving it in 2017.

When I reflect on the last decade, I had hopes that one day I would see a men's Test match for Ireland. This was achieved. I had hopes that one day I would see the women's game professionalised. This was achieved. I had hopes that one day I would see a strong, growing and confident

organisation leading a sport on the rise in Ireland. I believe we are becoming just that – despite the challenges.

And that is my final message as Chairman. To the many players, coaches, administrators, fans, match officials, volunteers and business partners: maintain hope. Every organisation experiences growing pains, and every sport encounters obstacles to overcome. Cricket has had some great days in the past but, I firmly believe, has many more great days ahead of it. If we work together with a single-minded focus to grow the game, our sport will indeed become a major sport in Ireland, and a major cricket nation on the world stage.

My profound thanks to the members of the Board of Cricket Ireland – both past and present, to the members of sub-committees, to the management and staff of Cricket Ireland, and to the whole Irish cricket family. Maintain the hope and remain ambitious.

Ross McCollum
Chair

Chief Executive's Report



2021 was the year that cricket bounced back – a year that, despite its ongoing challenges, presented Cricket Ireland with a number of opportunities that we firmly grasped.

We launched two foundational strategies towards the start of the year – the new *Cricket Ireland Strategic Plan 2021-2023*, and our very first *Women & Girl's Cricket Action Plan*. Both documents pointed the way forward for the organisation, and we have seen a range of subsequent achievements delivered over the year since their release.

The Strategic Plan was released as the first part of a two-part 10-year plan for the organisation within which we broadened our priorities and identified new growth areas for the sport. Key to this was a commitment from all levels of the business to better balance our priorities in terms of funding and energy. Where once we would prioritise men's international cricket as the 'shop window' of our business, now we are on the road to redressing the long-term needs of other areas such as facilities, women's cricket, grassroots support and supporting our Provincial Unions to grow in their capacity and delivery.

The Women & Girl's Cricket Action Plan is an accompanying strategy that goes into greater detail on the work underway and upcoming to capitalise on the growth potential of this part of our sport. Having a dedicated Plan has helped focus attention and increased internal focus on the investment of time and resources needed – and you just have to look at the announcements made in recent months to measure how successful this has been to date.

The financial impact of COVID-19, though, is still taking its toll and we are by no means back on a pre-pandemic

footing. 2022 and 2023 were always going to be tight fiscal years for the organisation, but our longer-term outlook is bright with a new International Cricket Council rights cycle promising to lead to improved funding from 2024 onwards.

During the year, Cricket Ireland managed to maintain its operations, primarily due to the funding we received from Sport Ireland in late 2021. This does not mask the significant financial challenges we face this year and through to 2023 but will allow us to position the business to take full advantage of the hopeful upswing in funding arrangements from 2024.

Just as important as the work we have put in on the international and professional end of the sport was the work at the grassroots level. In 2021 we launched a range of junior programmes and initiatives aimed at the education sector. Our It's Wicket! and Smash-It programmes were met with positivity by participating clubs, and we will be rolling them out nationally from 2022.

Our partnership with UK-based charity Chance to Shine has also helped by launching a range of products into the school networks across Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland.

We also increased the visibility of our domestic game substantially, particularly through our livestream service. More than 6 million views were registered across our livestream product, which covered the women's internationals, Ireland Wolves, men's Inter-Provincial Series, women's Super Series, and the two all-Ireland Club Cup competitions.

On-the-field we saw a few notable milestones and achievements – Amy Hunter's world-record century, the men's Under-19s qualifying for the Under-19s World Cup, the men's

international team beating South Africa in a dramatic ODI at Malahide, and the women's international team winning two home series, an away series against Zimbabwe and qualifying for the ICC Women's Championship for the first time.

Off-the-field there was substantial improvements made around governance of the game, and we secured co-hosting rights for the 2030 ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

With the return of cricket at all levels of the game, our sponsors – such as ITW, Turkish Airlines, Hanley Energy, Clear Currency, Tildenet, Techfynder and O'Neills – began once more to receive recognition and visibility for their loyalty. In many instances, the crisis of recent years has only served to deepen our relationships with our sponsors, and through their continued support we believe that we are in a good position to emerge from the pandemic with confidence.

A final word about Ross. There isn't enough time or space here to adequately reflect his contribution to our sport. Simply put, his 10 years as Chair have been transformative – his advocacy, skill and tirelessness have been an inspiration to us all. The cliché is to say that he leaves Irish cricket in a better state than he found it, but since what he leaves is unrecognisably different and improved from what he found, it's obvious we'll need a new benchmark. He departs with our admiration, our gratitude and our friendship.

2022 is the year we can welcome full-capacity crowds back to the cricket, so this year I am additionally pleased with being able to finish with: see you at the cricket this summer.

Warren Deutrom
Chief Executive

2 PERFORMANCE REPORTS



High Performance Report



The High Performance Department incorporates programmes for all high performance environments – men’s international teams, women’s international teams, the Shapoorji Pallonji Cricket Ireland Academy, national talent pathway and under-age international teams, domestic men’s Inter-Provincial Series, Arachas Women’s Super Series, and high performance facilities.

To support our work, the High Performance Committee acts in an expert advisory capacity in relation to the execution of the high performance strategy (men’s and women’s) and to support the High Performance Director in any matter relevant to the delivery of the high performance programme.

After an unprecedented year in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic which significantly affected the whole high performance and international programmes, 2021 was somewhat better in terms of a competition programme, but it was still majorly affected by the pandemic with many restrictions in place, and bio-secure environments both home and abroad for our men’s and women’s teams.

Key highlights for the year included:

MEN’S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME

Cricket Ireland awarded 21 player contracts for 2021, however Gary Wilson retired early in the year leaving 20 contracted players. Whilst George Dockrell started the year on a Retainer contract, by July he was awarded a full-time contract due to his performances throughout the first half of the year. Three new players were signed as retainer contracts – leg spinner Ben White, wicket-keeper Neil Rock and batter Stephen Doheny.

The men’s squad started the year with a warm-up ODI series against the UAE in January which ended in a 1-1 draw. Whilst it was good preparation for the World Cup Super League series with Afghanistan immediately after, the Afghan series was lost 3-0, despite two close matches.

In June the men headed to the Netherlands for three ODI World Cup Super League matches, and disappointingly lost the series 2-1 after losing the first match by 1 run, a match which we should have won.

With a preparation camp ahead of the WCSL ODI series with South Africa in July, the team was better prepared and drew the series 1-1, with one match abandoned and took 15 crucial points in the WCSL table. The series could have been won having been in a good position in the first ODI having posted a very competitive score. In the T20I series Ireland came up against a strong South Africa side and were below par losing the series 3-0.

We then ended the home season well in August when Zimbabwe toured having been postponed by a few weeks due to Covid related issues. Ireland won their first ever T20I series against a well-established full member 3-2. The WCSL ODI series was then drawn 1-1 with the 2nd ODI abandoned after posting a very competitive 282-8. Ireland finished the summer in 4th place in the WCSL table and with some key victories.

In September the originally scheduled Euro T20 Slam did not go ahead due to the pandemic.

Ahead of the T20 World Cup in the UAE, Ireland played the UAE in a 3-match T20I series losing 2-1. There is no doubt the preparation was good going into the event, but the bio-secure bubble throughout the year

was taking its toll mentally, and this added to the challenges.

The T20 World Cup was a huge disappointment after winning the two warm up matches and then a solid performance beating the Netherlands by 7 wickets in the opening game, Ireland then lost to Sri Lanka and Namibia and failed to get through to the second stage. A subsequent review of the preparation and performance at the event was conducted, with the recommendations endorsed by the Board in early 2022.

WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME

There were 21 contracts awarded to the women’s performance squad, with seven of those on one- or two-day contracts.

After a disappointing 2020 where no international cricket was played at all due to the pandemic and ICC events constantly postponed, 2021 was a far better year. The women’s international programme was somewhat different after over 650 days without a game, in May Scotland visited and Ireland performed very well after such a long period without international cricket. Despite training in bio-bubbles with significant restrictions, the team achieved a 3-1 win in the T20I series.

In July the Netherlands toured with a much closer series, saw Ireland win 2-1 with a match abandoned due to rain. This set the team up well going into the European T20WC Qualifier in Spain with a tournament win required for automatic entry to the T20WC Global Qualifier. Ireland won three games convincingly but the key game against Scotland was lost and Ireland finished 2nd in the tournament. However, one more place in the global qualifier went to the next highest ranked team, which was Ireland at the

High Performance Report

cut off period, and so qualification was secured.

As preparation for the T20WCQ in Zimbabwe, Ireland toured Zimbabwe in October and won an ODI series 3-1. This gave valuable acclimatisation, experience of the climate and surfaces and an understanding of the culture in Zimbabwe.

The T20WC Qualifier followed in November, where Ireland needed to finish in the top 4 to reach the World Cup and top 6 to gain entry to the ICC Women's Championship. The first match saw a loss to West Indies, but a win in the second match against the Netherlands left Ireland in a good position. However, Covid hit one of the teams heavily and after another outbreak the tournament was abandoned. Ireland qualified for the Women's Championship but not the World Cup due to our global ranking position.

INTER-PROVINCIAL SERIES

The 2021 series saw the Munster Reds included in the 50 over Cup for the first time, expanding both white ball formats to four teams. Leinster Lightning won the IP50 Cup and the North West Warriors won the IP20 Trophy.

WOMEN'S SUPER SERIES

The Super Series was reduced to two teams with the advent of the pandemic and with no overseas players at clubs and several players stuck in Australia for the first part of the season. This meant a lack of quality players and hence it was decided that two teams would ensure quality and give the national team players good preparation for the T20WC Qualifier. The Scorchers won the league across both formats.

IRELAND WOLVES AND NATIONAL ACADEMY

Despite the huge challenges of the pandemic the Ireland Wolves (A team) were able to tour Bangladesh in February and March, playing the two white ball formats. Whilst the Irish team did not win a game it was a hugely successful tour in terms of player development and experience given the limited opportunities during the Covid pandemic.

In the summer season the Wolves played the Netherlands A team winning a one-day series 2-1.

TALENT PATHWAY PROGRAMME

At Youth Inter-Provincial level the boys U17s and U15s were able to play their annual matches, however all planned boys and girls international matches were again all cancelled with travel to and from Ireland not permitted at times and residential tournaments not permitted in the UK. This also affected the men's and women's academy programmes.

However, a significant amount of Intra-Provincial matches were arranged at all levels and were a great success given the restrictions in place and general lack of cricket for young players. The highlight of the season was the establishment of the Future Series, which created a competition for the Emerging teams of each Provincial Union, and was a great success.

STAFFING

Glenn Querl was appointed Women's Pathway and Performance Coach; Gary Wilson (Wicket-Keeping) and William Porterfield (Fielding) were appointed as consultant coaches for the men's, women's and pathway teams; Stuart Barnes (Men's Assistant

Head Coach and National Bowling Lead) departed back to the UK in September after the Zimbabwe series and shortly before the T20 World Cup; Ben Smith (Batting Coach consultant) departed after the T20 World Cup; and Graham Ford stepped down as Head Coach in October after the T20 World Cup. David Ripley (former Northants Head Coach) was appointed interim Head coach until after the T20 World Cup Qualifier in February 2022.

ANTI-DOPING STATEMENT

In order to comply with Sport Ireland governance procedures, Cricket Ireland has an anti-doping code which is endorsed by both Sport Ireland and the International Cricket Council. Under Sport Ireland guidelines, Cricket Ireland is required to provide an anti-doping update annually at both Sport Ireland rounds of mid-year reviews with the NGBs and also for Cricket Ireland's annual report and AGM. Compliance with SI and ICC guidelines also require us to provide a system of anti-doping education for players as well as a robust system of player registration and declaration of undertaking showing that all players understood their responsibilities, in which anti-doping is one of them.

Since 2019 Cricket Ireland has been undertaking through Sport Ireland, unannounced and randomised in-competition drug testing during the Inter-Provincial Series.

In collaboration with Sport Ireland who support the initiative, a programme of education supports all international and domestic men's players in the requirements and procedures involved in the event they were randomly selected to produce a sample for analysis. This is completed individually online using the Sport Ireland e-learning platform in which players are



High Performance Report

required to watch a series of instructional videos and completed multiple choice questions.

On successful completion, the player is passed as Anti-Doping compliant and is issued a certificate proving compliance.

During the ICC global events (world cup and qualifiers) the ICC host anti-doping educational workshops, in line with WADA guidelines, for all squad players and staff. Anti-doping wallet cards are also distributed at these events. The ICC are revising their ICC whereabouts programmes that will now include the 12 Men's full members and Women's top 10 ranked ODI teams, so including Ireland. This revised system will include international team whereabouts, players whereabouts where they fall under certain criteria and a full submission of teams training schedules and fixtures in order to carry out testing where they feel necessary.

Testing was carried out for the men during the Afghanistan series in the UAE, homes series against Zimbabwe, and during the T20 World Cup. Two random individuals were tested at each and all were negative.

In the Inter-Provincials 6 tests were carried out which satisfies the minimum number set by ICC for domestic cricket. There was no testing completed for the women's team.

All were urine sample collection. To date, Cricket Ireland has not had a positive result for doping and we continue to pride ourselves on the development of clean athletes.

Every effort has been made to continue to support all members of our Men's and Women's squads prior to the beginning of the 2022 domestic season and joint education between

Cricket Ireland and Sport Ireland is currently being scheduled to support players before their respective seasons begin. This programme of education now reaches all Men's and Women's international players as well as domestic Inter-Provincial and Super Series players.

Richard Holdsworth

High Performance Director



Participation Report



2021 saw the Participation Department focus on several core programmes despite the challenges again posed by the pandemic.

RETURN TO CRICKET

Following the delayed start to the domestic cricket season, as a result of the pandemic, Cricket Ireland worked closely with the Provincial Unions and Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland to get action back on the field in a safe and healthy manner.

It was with much relief that all club cricket got back underway across the country by June.

LAUNCH OF NATIONAL JUNIOR PROGRAMMES

2021 saw Cricket Ireland launch its first national mass participation programmes for children.

Aimed at girls and boys aged 5-9 years, **Smash It** is about kids being active, making friends and having fun in an inclusive and safe environment. **It's Wicket!** introduces girls aged 9-13 years old to cricket through skill-based activities and games and empowers girls to own their cricketing experience. Both programmes aim to get children excited about cricket through discovery and play, learning fundamental movement skills needed for batting, bowling, fielding and wicket-keeping.

With sessions delivered by trained Activators, each participant received a branded Participant Pack containing t-shirt, backpack, bat and ball once they register. Activators receive a branded T-shirt, Zip Top and resource containing all session plans as well as online and face to face training. Sixty five Activators were trained, kitted out and delivered Smash It and It's Wicket! in 2021. Clubs receive a branded kit bag containing all of the equipment

needed to deliver Smash It and It's Wicket! successfully including bats, balls, stumps, cones and ropes.

The programmes were delivered by eleven Clubs, two Community Groups and a Provincial Union Hub during the pilot year with over four hundred children participating across both programmes. Of the children that participated, forty-three percent had never participated in any form of cricket in advance of Smash It or It's Wicket! The Net Promoter Score submitted by participants sat at 73 with Clubs NPS recorded at 80 - both well above average score.

The flexibility of the programmes empowers Clubs and Community Groups to deliver in a format that works best in their environment.

ALL-IRELAND CLUB CUP COMPETITIONS

Both the Irish Senior Cup and National Cup were once again postponed because of COVID-19. This was due to the timing of Provincial Unions returning to longer formats of the game, and the potential

burden of COVID protocols on traveling teams. This meant the All Ireland T20 Finals took centre stage again. The 2021 season saw a much welcomed inaugural Women's All-Ireland T20 competition. The first All Ireland Cup competition for womens cricket. The AIT20 finals took place on the 11th September at Bready CC. With CSNI CC and Bready CC playing in the semi-final with Bready CC progressing to play Pembroke CC in the final.

On a rain affected day Pembroke CC were crowned winners on the day.



The Mens final saw Brigade CC were crowned the AIT20 champions beating Cork Harlequins in an exciting final played at Leinster CC, Dublin on 22 August 2021.

Brigade CC secured their spot to represent Irish Cricket at the European Cricket League finals which take place in 2022.

We extend our sincere thanks to all participant clubs and their Unions - in a particularly difficult landscape of government restrictions and last-minute changes, clubs were



exceptionally accommodating, understanding and patient as we sought clarity and tried to navigate through a myriad of government protocols.

Our thanks goes to the clubs who hosted and supported the delivery of the semi-finals: Merrion CC, Carrickfergus CC, and to Leinster CC and Bready CC for hosting the finals.

‘ON THE FRONT FOOT’

We launched the new ‘On the Front Foot’ Leadership programme to develop female leadership within the sport. The open application process for On the Front Foot attracted thirty-five applications from females aged 18+ who are active members of cricket clubs across the island. From the original intention to accept sixteen current and future female leaders, a decision was taken to expand the programme intake to twenty-one based on the high quality of applications received. The participant group is made up of enthusiastic, committed women representing four Provincial Unions and twelve Clubs.

Three programme Mentors were recruited to support this phase of the participants leadership journey. Guided by Stevie Baxter of The Sporting Pursuit, Beth Healy, Lynda MacBeth and Nikki Squire form the Mentor group.

Beth Healy is the current Cricket Ireland International Women’s Manager and an active CSNI cricketer. Lynda MacBeth a current member of the NWCW Women’s Committee with both her son and daughter playing youths and adult cricket at St Johnston CC. Nikki Squire is a former Irish international cricketer and captain playing at three World Cups and winning thirty-seven ODI caps.

This cohort will complete the programme in May 2022.

CLUB CONNECTS

The **Club Connects** programme is based on the philosophy that Clubs are at the heart of organised sport and are often the primary way people from a wide range of local communities connect ‘face-to-face’ with the sport. For the second year, Club Connects was held successfully online.

The first of the 2021 Club Connects programme took place in May with Stevie Baxter from the Sporting Pursuit. Stevie delivered a workshop on ‘Creating Positive Cricket Experiences.’ This interactive workshop looked at why kids play sport and how as coaches, activators, and volunteers we can create fun, positive and engaging environments for kids to have fun and thrive in. Sixteen people from seven different clubs took part in this workshop.

Beginning in early October 2021, the first of eleven workshops on Diversity, Inclusion and Unconscious Bias began. These workshops were delivered to clubs, IACUS, Provincial Union and Cricket Ireland Board Members as well as staff in Cricket Ireland and the Provincial Unions. One hundred and eighteen people received the training.

CRICKET CONNECTS

Cricket Connects is a Cricket Ireland Participation initiative supported by Sport Ireland and the Irish Government’s Dormant Accounts Fund. It is a targeted project aiming to deliver.

- 1) quality assured training modules to existing or prospective Activators who can
- 2) deliver valuable cricketing experiences to people and groups not usually accessing cricket or

physical activity opportunities. The main aim of Cricket Connects is to encourage more people to have more involvement in cricket, and more often. There are two strands to the Cricket Connects project:

- Cricket Connects Activator Training and;
- Cricket Connects Community

Cricket Connects Community offers social cricketing experiences to local community groups and Clubs. It aims to connect with groups not usually accessing cricket or physical activity opportunities to provide high quality cricket experiences encouraging long term participation in the sport.

Cricket Connect Events: Cricket Connects Pop-Up Cricket aimed to encourage as many people as possible to give cricket a go at pop-up locations around Munster in 2021. The first iteration of Pop-Up Cricket was delivered as ‘Cricket in the Park’ at two Limerick City locations during August 2021. Delivered by Munster Development Officer, Arsalan Khalid, Shelbourne Park and Garryowen FC hosted three weeks of twice weekly sessions for twenty-six girls and boys aged between 12 and 17.

This was followed by a Pop up Super Sixes Cricket Connects tournament held at Cork Harlequins on 24 September. Having been introduced to Cricket Connects through the super sixes tournament Members of the team at Drishane Castle, Millstreet reached out to request information and training. Excited at the prospect of Cricket Connects Education and Training, five participants registered and completed training which was delivered at Millstreet over two days.. The delivery team comprised of Cricket Ireland Participation, Munster Cricket, Sporting Change, and North West Cricket Union delivered the education and training modules.



Modules included:

- Leadership and communication
- Coaching Kids
- Multi-cultural Awareness
- CricHIIT training

An evening session saw a youth group activity delivered by Munster Cricket Development Officer Ted Williamson supported by the newly trained Cricket Connects Champions to over forty-five children of all ages and abilities. A female only CricHIIT session was also delivered. The new group of activators subsequently completed their Safeguarding Training delivered by Cork Sports Partnership.

Impact: Having had limited opportunity to participate in any physical activity since arriving in Drishane, providing organised, fun, and regular team physical activity sessions for both adults and children has proven to be extremely popular amongst all residents. Being led by fellow residents now trained and with a network of support continues to provide a sense of ownership and motivation to participants now looking to create and integrate into their wider community in Millstreet. Residents have now identified the potential for wider community delivery via the local group, 'Friends of Drishane'. The intention is to secure a local facility for use in community cricket delivery supported by and delivered for the community of Millstreet.

THE BIG IRISH CRICKET SURVEY

The Big Irish Cricket Survey was an initiative of Cricket Ireland Grassroots Cricket Committee, in conjunction with Cricket Leinster, Munster Cricket, North West Cricket Union, Northern Cricket Union and Connacht Cricket Union. The Grassroots Cricket Committee is keen to ensure that every cricket voice from every cricket club, school or

organisation on the island is heard.

The Survey covered a range of areas.

- Playing Cricket
- Volunteering
- Clubs & Facilities
- Coaching
- Watching Cricket
- Participation Programmes & Pathways
- Schools Cricket
- Sentiment

The Big Irish Cricket Survey is part of Cricket Ireland's current strategic objectives that aim to consolidate the gains of recent years, invest in grassroots, grow the women's game and ensure we are as diverse, inclusive and welcoming a sport as any.

The survey encouraged the cricket community to actively input on aspects of the recreational game and have an influence on its future development. The Survey will provide vital information to ensure the recreational game continues to grow and that Cricket Ireland can support clubs who nurture the next generation of players, coaches and volunteers.

Data and insights will be mined from the survey responses and shared in 2022.

Elaine Nolan

Participation Director

Commercial Report



2021 saw a return to on-field activity for our game, which is critical to our sponsors and key stakeholders. We are extremely grateful to all of who have continued to support cricket while themselves dealing with the impact of COVID-19 on their businesses.

SPONSOR OVERVIEW

INTERNATIONAL

Our sponsorship deal with ITW for Ireland Men's squad brought with it a range of new partners to work with, including Coin DCX, Playing11 and Exchange 22. We have a Men's T20 World Cup coming up in Australia in late 2022, and we look forward to once more working closely with ITW on this campaign.

Hanley Energy continued to show its firm support for the Ireland Women's squad, as they have since 2017. With the women's game entering a new era, we look forward to deepening the relationship between the senior squad and its business partners.

Turkish Airlines also continued to support Irish cricket, which demonstrates their commitment to Cricket Ireland as well as how our growing global reach can be used as a platform to leverage and build affinity for a global brand of this scale.

DOMESTIC

In early 2021, Cricket Ireland entered into a multi-year partnership agreement with HBV Studios to livestream over 50 domestic matches including the majority of Inter-Provincial Series and Super Series matches and the All-Ireland T20 Cup finals. The response has been incredible with more than 6 million views across the season on our Youtube channel.

This year seen the introduction of Arachas as sponsor of the Women's Super Series competition. Arachas are Ireland's largest insurance broker - we are delighted to partner with them for the 2021 season, and hopefully beyond. The livestreaming of the Super Series gave excellent visibility and awareness of tournament which we aim to build on in 2022 with an additional team and more fixtures.

UNDERAGE SPONSORSHIP

Clear Currency sponsors both the Irish Senior Cup and National Cup competitions, as well as our underage international teams. Furthermore, they are the Official Currency Exchange Partners to Cricket Ireland and provide a great service for us. We look forward to building on this association into the future as opportunities grow and the club and international youth game further develops.

OUTLOOK

2022 looks to be an eye-catching year both on and off the field. Over the last number of months, we have built up a new Commercial Department to ensure that we can better manage, retain and build our relationships with all our sponsors and to grow our commercial success in the marketplace.

With some of the biggest teams in the world coming to Ireland to play in summer 2022, against both our Men and Women's senior teams, this look set to provide excellent opportunities to work with our sponsors to ensure we have top class activation and to maximise value derived from the season for all parties.

Andrew May
Chief Financial Officer





The organisation continues to encounter negative financial impacts due to COVID-19. While we did start to see a recovery on our income streams in 2021, we are still experiencing lower levels of income than we reported in 2019 (pre Covid). During the year, we received grants from the Government and the ICC which was critical in sustaining our business and allowing us to deliver a full schedule of activity.

We are reporting a deficit of €1,23M but to understand this fully we need to look back to the 2020 financial year in which the company delivered a result of €1.54m surplus. The surplus in 2020 was due to the timing of grants received from Sport Ireland for Covid resilience and the postponement of events and activities into 2021. For 2021, we had a full calendar of international and domestic home fixtures which had to be delivered in a bio-secure environment resulting in increased costs. Our international match day attendance was also limited to 500 spectators which had a large impact on gate receipts/revenue.

Sponsorship was adversely impacted during both 2020 and 2021 due to the strain of COVID-19 on business globally. We worked closely with all our sponsors during the year, as we recognised the financial hardships they have also been under and the understanding that preserving the relationship with them is paramount to Cricket Ireland.

The impact of COVID-19 led to continuing postponement of the Euro T20 Slam due to insurmountable logistic issues with players, quarantine requirements and multi-jurisdiction venues, and as a result the payment of associated fees was again not achieved in 2021.

During the year we once again applied to the Government, Sport Ireland and the ICC for assistance during these difficult times and we were successful in receiving the following Covid Support grants:

1. ICC member support fund; we applied for and received \$500k to assist with hosting of scheduled home fixtures
2. Sport Ireland Covid Resilience Fund
 - a. Cricket Ireland received an award in Dec-21 of €1.3m which will be recognised in 2022 due to the timing of receipt and associated activities.
 - b. There was an award of €200k under the Club Resilience Fund, which will be paid out to clubs in Q1 2022.
3. Award of EWSS (employee retention scheme) which enable Cricket Ireland to retain our full workforce during 2021.

Other key areas of note during the year were:

- Cricket Ireland negotiating a new Broadcast Deal for Men's and Women's home matches for a 5 year period from 2022 to 2026. This deal will bring with it secure income and the opportunity to plan and operate with more confidence given the onerous requirements of ICC full membership.
- Our Senior Women's team qualified for the 'ICC Women's Championship' which will see them playing the Top 10 teams in the world over the next 3 years.
- The Under 19 Men's team qualified for the Under 19 Men's World Cup which took place in January 2022. They equalled their best

performance ever in the tournament and qualified for the next U19 World Cup in the process.

- The elite domestic men's competition in the 50-over format was expanded to include Munster, a new emerging inter-provincial competition was launched, and the Women's Super Series was expanded to include a 20-over format
- A report was commissioned into the performance of the Men's senior team at the T20 World Cup in 2021. Portas Consulting and former Ireland men's coach Adi Birrell were engaged to deliver this report and the Directors received a final copy of the report in February 2022.
- Cricket Ireland have been selected to co-host the ICC T20 World Cup in 2030 along with the England & Wales Cricket Board and Cricket Scotland.
- The company launched a 3-year strategic plan, a Women's & Girls Cricket Action Plan, a Media and Digital Strategy, and commissioned an independent review into Board sub-committees and gender balance on committees.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

Our longer-term outlook remains positive and over the next 12 to 24 months we are working to rebuild our commercial income streams back to pre COVID-19 levels. New opportunities continue to open up throughout the business and with the recently announced professionalism of the Women's game we are hopeful of strong growth in this space.

For 2022, we have one of the busiest schedules for both the Men's and

Women's game with a strong line of fixtures including India Men and Australian Women coming to Ireland, we are hopeful of a return to full capacity at our venues this summer.

A key area of focus over the next 12 months is to secure funding to start the much-needed development of indoor training facilities, and the National Stadium at the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus. These developments are critical to our elite players to ensure we provide them with fit-for-purpose facilities to train and play on throughout the year.

Andrew May

Chief Financial Officer



3 FINANCIALS



STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2021

| | 2021 (€) | 2020 (€) |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Income | 8,885,993 | 7,327,987 |
| Direct expenses | (6,504,461) | (3,219,104) |
| Gross surplus | 2,381,532 | 4,108,883 |
| Administrative expenses | (4,465,456) | (3,177,932) |
| Other operating income | 853,055 | 606,411 |
| Net (deficit) / surplus before tax | (1,230,869) | 1,537,362 |
| Tax on (deficit) / surplus | - | - |
| (Deficit) / surplus for the financial year | (1,230,869) | 1,537,362 |
| Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year | 1,541,035 | 3,673 |
| (Deficit) / surplus for the financial year | (1,230,869) | 1,537,362 |
| Retained earnings at the end of the financial year | 310,166 | 1,541,035 |

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2021 or 2020 other than those included in the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2021

| | 2021 (€) | 2020 (€) |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Fixed assets | | |
| Tangible assets | 1,067,982 | 1,026,564 |
| Current assets | | |
| Stocks | 130,869 | 84,943 |
| Debtors: amounts falling due within one year | 1,542,825 | 579,223 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 1,622,718 | 3,188,142 |
| | 3,296,412 | 3,852,308 |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | (2,771,033) | (1,728,695) |
| Net current assets | 525,379 | 2,123,613 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | 1,593,361 | 3,150,177 |
| Creditors: amounts falling due after more one year | (1,283,195) | (1,609,142) |
| Net assets | 310,166 | 1,541,035 |
| Reserves | | |
| Accumulated surplus | 310,166 | 1,541,035 |
| Total reserves | 310,166 | 1,541,035 |

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2021

| | 2021 (€) | 2020 (€) |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | |
| (Deficit)/surplus for the financial year | (1,230,869) | 1,537,362 |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Depreciation of tangible assets | 114,014 | 115,218 |
| Covid 19 wage subsidy | (853,055) | (606,411) |
| (Increase) in stocks | (45,926) | (19,596) |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors | (963,602) | 198,654 |
| Decrease in amounts owed by related party | - | 504,994 |
| Increase in creditors | 716,391 | 1,346,502 |
| Net cash generated from operating activities | (2,263,047) | 3,076,723 |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets | (155,432) | (181,907) |
| Government grants received | 853,055 | 606,409 |
| Net cash from investing activities | 697,623 | 424,502 |
| Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents | (1,565,424) | 3,501,225 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year | 3,188,142 | (313,083) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year | 1,622,718 | 3,188,142 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year comprise: | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 1,622,718 | 3,188,142 |
| | 1,622,718 | 3,188,142 |

4 APPENDICES



APPENDIX ONE: COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES

Cricket Ireland Sub Committees 2021-22

| | Board | | Finance Committee | | Grassroots Cricket Committee | | High Performance Committee | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Status | Standing | Number Attended | Standing | Number Attended | Standing | Number Attended | Standing | Number Attended |
| Held in 2021 | 8 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | |
| Chair | Ross McCollum | 8 | Michael Howard | 4 | Andrew Fleming | 4 | Gary Keegan | 5 |
| | Sam Beckett | 8 | Alan Waite | 4 | Alan Waite | 3 | Jo Hopkins | 4 |
| | Peter McMorran | 8 | Barry Tucker | 4 | Phil Thompson | 4 | Kyle McCallan | 5 |
| | John Heavey | 6 | Ross McCollum | 2 | Aoife Maher | 3 | David Humphries | 2 |
| | Barry Tucker | 7 | Brian MacNeice (joined Aug) | 2 | Barry Tucker | 4 | Brian MacNeice | 5 |
| | Brian Dougherty | 6 | | | Mohammed Arif | 3 | Clare Shillington | 4 |
| | Greg Molins (stepped down April 2021) | 3 | | | | | Greg Molins (stepped down April 2021) | 3 |
| | Anne Nolan | 7 | | | | | | |
| | Susan Ahern | 7 | | | | | | |
| | Brian MacNeice | 7 | | | | | | |
| | Michael Howard | 8 | | | | | | |
| | Gary Keegan (joined April 2021) | 4 | | | | | | |
| | David Griffin | 8 | | | | | | |
| Management Lead | Warren Deutrom | | Andrew May | | Elaine Nolan | | Richard Holdsworth | |

| | Governance Committee | | Audit & Risk Committee | | Senior Management Committee | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Status | Standing | Number Attended | Standing | Number Attended | Management Group | Number Attended |
| Held in 2021 | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | |
| Chair | Anne Nolan | 4 | David Griffin | 5 | Warren Deutrom | 6 |
| | Joe Doherty | 4 | Legal (Susan Ahern) | 5 | Phillip Smith | 5 |
| | Frank Sowman | 4 | Governance (Anne Nolan) | 4 | Peter McCartney | 6 |
| | Peter McMorran | 4 | Finance/Audit (Bill Cunningham) | 5 | Joe Moynihan | 5 |
| | Brian MacNeice (joined Aug) | 2 | John Heavey | 3 | Andrew Fleming | 4 |
| | | | Dennis Cousins (left Aug 21) | 3 | | |
| | | | Angela Platt (left Sept 21) | 3 | | |
| | | | Andrew May | 6 | | |
| | | | Elaine Nolan | 6 | | |
| | | | Richard Holdsworth | 5 | | |
| | | | Paddy Grimes (joined Nov) | 1 | | |
| Management Lead | Warren Deutrom | | Andrew May | | Elaine Nolan | |

APPENDIX ONE: COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES

Cricket Ireland Ad-hoc Committees

| | Match Allocation Group | | Facilities Committee | | Nominations Committee | | Remuneration Committee | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Status | Ad-hoc | Number Attended | Ad-hoc | Number Attended | Ad-hoc | Number Attended | Ad-hoc | Number Attended |
| Held in 2021 | 3 | | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | |
| Chair | Sam Beckett | 3 | Michael Howard | 1 | Joe Doherty | 2 | Ross McCollum | 2 |
| | Peter Mc Cartney | 3 | Brian Dougherty | 1 | Ross McCollum | 2 | Anne Nolan | 1 |
| | Philip Smith | 2 | Peter McMorran | 1 | Aideen Rice | 2 | Michael Howard | 2 |
| | Angela Platt | 2 | Facility expert tbc | | Richard Johnson | 2 | HR Expert tbc | |
| | Joe Moynihan | 2 | another nominee tbc | | David Griffin | 2 | | |
| | Paddy Grimes (joined Nov) | 1 | | | | | | |
| | Andrew May | 3 | | | | | | |
| | Warren Deutrom | 3 | | | | | | |
| | Richard Holdsworth | 2 | | | | | | |
| Management Lead | Chris Griffin | | Chris Griffin | | Warren Deutrom | | HR Manager | |
| Secretary | Amanda Craig | | Chris Griffin | | Murray Power | | Janey Wylie | |

APPENDIX TWO: GOVERNANCE CODE

Statement



Governance Code for Sport Comply or Explain Form

Details of our compliance or explanations of why our organisation is not in a position to, or has decided not to fully adopt one or more recommended practices of the Governance Code for Sport.

Name of Sports Organisation: Cricket Ireland

Address: Unit 15C, Kinsealy Business Park, Kinsealy, Co Dublin K36 CD 70

Organisation type (please tick): Type A Type B Type C

Date that your Board signed Public Statement of Compliance: April 3, 2019

COMPLY OR EXPLAIN PROCESS

In the full Code document, an organisation can comply with the Code while not adopting all of the practices normally associated with full compliance. If your organisation is not in a position to, or has decided not to comply with one or more aspects of the Code, please set out the details below using additional sheets if necessary.

Indicate clearly the specific practices that are not being adopted (by using the number from the relevant checklist) and explain in adequate detail why your organisation is not in a position to, or has decided not to comply with those aspects of the Code as outlined in the following example. Please ensure all explanations provide sufficient and transparent detail on the reasons why specific practices are not being adopted.

EXAMPLE EXPLANATION OF WHY ORGANISATION HAS NOT ADOPTED A SPECIFIC PRACTICE:

| Practice Number | Practice Statement | Detailed explanation for not adopting this recommended practice: |
|-----------------|--|--|
| 2.2(e) | Appoint an audit committee of three or more directors. | We have only two Directors on our audit committee, because our Board only has seven members. We have however appointed an independent committee member with a financial background to the audit committee, to meet the three member requirement. |

APPENDIX TWO: GOVERNANCE CODE

Statement

The Governance Code for Sport identifies a series of recommended Board practices to support organisations to comply with the Code. Please complete below the number of recommended Board practices that have been adopted and embedded by your organisation.

| PRINCIPLE | TYPE A | TYPE B | TYPE C | NO. IMPLEMENTED BY YOUR ORGANISATION |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Leading our organisation | 10 | 12 | 14 | 14 |
| 2. Exercising control over our organisation | 16 | 17 | 19 | 16 |
| 3. Being transparent and accountable | 9 | 9 | 12 | 11 |
| 4. Working effectively | 11 | 15 | 17 | 17 |
| 5. Behaving with integrity | 10 | 11 | 13 | 13 |
| TOTAL | 56 | 64 | 75 | 71 |

Practice number: **2.2e**

Practice statement:

Does the organisation's annual report include a description of the audit committee's work?

Detailed explanation for not adopting this recommended practice:

A description of the audit committee's work has not been included within previous Annual Reports. However this will be rectified with the publishing of the 2021 Annual Report following the 2022 AGM (May 1st) and future Annual Reports will include this requirement.

Practice number: **3.1c**

Practice statement:

Does the annual report set out the number of meetings of the board and individual attendance by directors as well as the number of sub-committee meetings and attendance by members?

Detailed explanation for not adopting this recommended practice:

A description of the number of meetings/individual attendance by directors and # of meetings have not been included within previous Annual Reports. However this will be rectified with the publishing of the 2021 Annual Report following the 2022 AGM (May 1st) and future Annual Reports will include this requirement.

Please complete this form electronically and return via e-mail with the 'Comply or Explain Form' to: governance@sportireland.ie

APPENDIX TWO: GOVERNANCE CODE

Statement

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Practice number:</p> | <p>Detailed explanation for not adopting this recommended practice:</p> |
| <p>Practice statement:</p> | |
| <p>Practice number:</p> | <p>Detailed explanation for not adopting this recommended practice:</p> |
| <p>Practice statement:</p> | |
| <p>Practice number: 2.1c & 2.1d</p> | <p>Detailed explanation for not adopting this recommended practice:</p> |
| <p>Practice statement:</p> <p>2.1 (c) If your organisation is a charity as defined by the Charities Act 2009, make sure your group is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority and that the organisation complies with all associated regulations.</p> <p>2.1 (d) Decide if you would like to have 'charitable tax exemption' for your group (that is a CHY number) and or a Charities Regulator Authority (CRA) number.</p> | |

Please complete this form electronically and return via e-mail with the 'Comply or Explain Form' to: governance@sportireland.ie

APPENDIX TWO: GOVERNANCE CODE

Statement



Governance Code for Sport Public Statement of Compliance Form

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of Sports Organisation: | <u>Cricket Ireland</u> |
| Address: | <u>Unit 15c, Kinsealy Business Park, Kinsealy, Co Dublin K36 CD70</u> |
| Organisation type (please tick): | <input type="radio"/> Type A <input type="radio"/> Type B <input checked="" type="radio"/> Type C |
| Sport organisation type (please tick): | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Governing Body <input type="checkbox"/> Local Sports Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other Funded Body <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial/Regional/Local/Club Structure |
| Organisational Structure (please tick): | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limited Company (e.g. LTD, DAC, CLG, PLC) <input type="checkbox"/> Registered Charity <input type="checkbox"/> Local Authority |
| Date that your Board committed to start, or reaffirmed its commitment, to become compliant with the principles of the Code: | <u>16/02/2022</u> |

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The above organisation wishes to state that it has completed the process as set out for its organisation type and now complies with the principles as outlined below and practices of the Governance Code for Sport for a three-year period from the above date, when the Board certified compliance.

Principle 1. Leading our organisation

We do this by:

- 1.1 Agreeing our vision, purpose, mission, values and objectives making sure that they remain relevant;
- 1.2 Developing, resourcing, monitoring and evaluating a plan so that our organisation achieves its stated purpose and objectives;
- 1.3 Managing, supporting and holding to account staff, volunteers and all who act on behalf of the organisation.

Principle 2. Exercising control over our organisation

We do this by:

- 2.1 Identifying and complying with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements;
- 2.2 Making sure there are appropriate internal financial and management controls;
- 2.3 Identifying major risks for our organisation and deciding ways of managing the risks.

APPENDIX TWO: GOVERNANCE CODE

Statement

Principle 3. Being transparent and accountable

We do this by:

- 3.1 Identifying those who have a legitimate interest in the work of our organisation (stakeholders) and making sure there is regular and effective communication with them about our organisation;
- 3.2 Responding to stakeholders' questions or views about the work of our organisation and how we run it;
- 3.3 Encouraging and enabling the engagement of those who benefit from our organisation in the planning and decision-making of the organisation.

Principle 4. Working effectively

We do this by:

- 4.1 Making sure that our governing body, individual board members, committees, staff and volunteers understand their: role, legal duties, and delegated responsibility for decision-making;
- 4.2 Making sure that as a board we exercise our collective responsibility through board meetings that are efficient and effective;
- 4.3 Making sure that there is suitable board recruitment, development and retirement processes.

Principle 5. Behaving with integrity


We do this by:

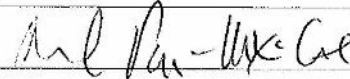
- 5.1 Being honest, fair and independent;
- 5.2 Understanding, declaring and managing conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalties;
- 5.3 Protecting and promoting our organisation's reputation.

COMPLY OR EXPLAIN

Please note the additional Comply or Explain Form which confirms the adoption of our organisation with the recommended practices of the Governance Code for Sport and/or the explanations where the organisation does not comply with specific practices including the detailed reasons why.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Lead Governance Contact Name: | <u>WARREN DEUTROM</u> | (BLOCK CAPITALS) |
| Governance Contact Email: | <u>warren.deutrom@cricketireland.ie</u> | |
| Governance Contact Phone: | <u>087 615 4047</u> | |

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------|
| Chairperson name: | <u>ROSS MCCOLLUM</u> | (BLOCK CAPITALS) |
| Signature: |  | |
| Date of signature: | <u>16th February 2022</u> | |

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------|
| Secretary name: | <u>MARK PERY-KNOX-GORE</u> | (BLOCK CAPITALS) |
| Signature: |  | |
| Date of signature: | <u>16th February 2022</u> | |

Please complete this form electronically and return via e-mail with the 'Comply or Explain Form' to: governance@sportireland.ie

APPENDIX THREE: AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE - SUMMARY OF ACTIONS IN 2021

Audit and Risk Committee – Report on Activity - May 2021 to April 2022

The Cricket Ireland Audit and Risk Committee has completed its second year as a separate committee reporting to the Cricket Ireland Board.

The membership of the committee is David Griffin (Chair), Andrew May (CFO), Susan Aherne, Bill Cunningham, John Heavey and Anne Nolan.

The committee instituted a competitive audit tender process during the summer and autumn of 2021 which resulted in the re-appointment of BDO as auditors to The Irish Cricket Union CLG. The committee then engaged closely with BDO during the audit process. A formal pre-audit meeting was held with BDO to discuss the audit plan for the 2021 year-end audit and the outcome of the audit process was reviewed in detail following completion of the detailed audit work enabling the committee to recommend approval of the financial statements to the Cricket Ireland Board.

The committee continued to monitor the Risk Register for the organisation and brought forward reports and updated registers to the Board in October 2021 and March 2022. The most significant risk areas identified continue to be in respect of available facilities for hosting matches and squad training, short to medium term financial constraints, broadcasting arrangements and IT controls and Cybersecurity. The committee is considering the use of an outside consultant to carry out focussed reviews of risks and controls in some of these areas. Work is ongoing on upgrading IT and Cybersecurity controls within the organisation.

The committee also reviewed in detail two internal audit reports carried out in this period by Sport Ireland and agreed detailed responses to these reports which were subsequently approved by the Board of Directors.

As equality, diversity and inclusion are now significant areas of focus for the Cricket Ireland management and Board, the committee has on its agenda for 2022-23 to look in more detail how changes in these areas might impact on the risk profile of the organisation.

David Griffin

Chair, Audit and Risk Committee





CRICKET IRELAND

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