



Membership Summary 2008/09

- Current direct membership of Irish Gymnastics as of this weekend stands at 8587 members.
- This is an increase of over 400 members since last year.
- Based on the current economic climate it had been a concern of the BOM that membership of organisations such as our own could potentially suffer as families and individuals were forced to tighten their belts, a concern shared by many other NGBs in Ireland, however any membership growth in this environment can only be viewed as encouraging.

Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012

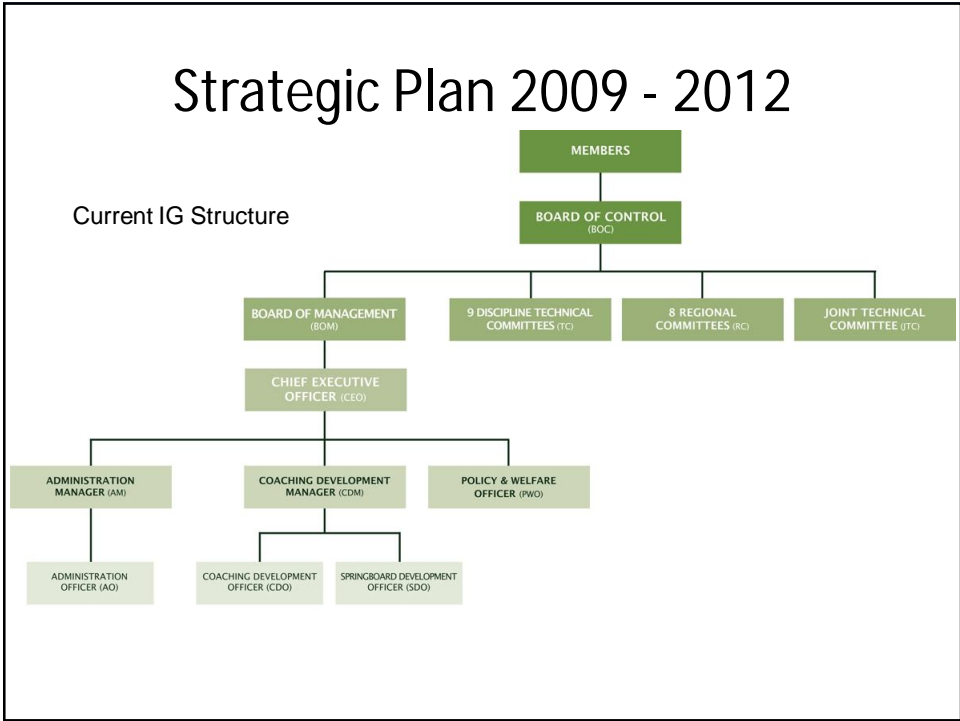
- After over a year of analysis and consultation with our membership and external partners, IG adopted the new Strategic Plan 2009 -2012 to guide the development of our organisation and sport over the next few years.
- Focussing on club support IG, as the national governing body (NGB), will develop to ensure education, policy, programming and events tie in to offer members participating in activities at all levels within our organisation, from club through to regional/national and international level, the opportunity to ensure they get the most out of our sport from their participation in our organisation.

Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012

- Some key milestones going forward include...
 - The appointment of a '**Participation Officer**' by end of 2010 to develop club based participation initiatives and programmes in addition to the development of an IG schools programme.
 - The appointment of an IG '**Events Officer**' by 2011 to provide professional coordination and event management of our national championships in addition to participation events such as Gym-Fest and hosting of appropriate level international competitions on an annual basis. The Events Officer will also work in conjunction with the Participation Officer in the development of a competitive schools system and be responsible for the coordination and management of the schools competition programme.
 - The creation of the IG '**Performance and Technical Unit**' by 2012, including a Performance & Technical Director to ensure a professional approach to producing a consistent system of performance.

Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012

- It is clear in the current economic climate that over reliance on public funding is ill advised; therefore the continued development of Irish Gymnastics along a model of self sustainability is essential. The rolling out of the IG Coach Education ladder (ongoing to 2012) along with crucial commercial initiatives such as 'IG Springboard' (due for roll-out in 2010) in conjunction with the support of the membership scheme are all key in attempting to ensure our sport is not hit with disaster like so many other sports who rely solely on the Irish Sports Council.



Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012

- The Irish Sports Council are in full support of our new Strategic Plan and it is worth noting this year that Irish Gymnastics was **one of only four sports** in Ireland to gain an increase in funding – a fact that I believe we can be very proud of especially considering the current economic climate.

CURRENT PROGRAMME UPDATES

Coach Education

- Sally Filmer – IG Coaching Development Manager reports...
 - **Intros completed in all active disciplines**
 - 122 Intro coaches qualified since last years AGM
 - **Level 1s completed & active**
 - Common Core
 - WAG
 - Trampoline
 - Acrobatics
 - 70 level 1 candidates completed course and in examination process
 - **Level 1s due for completion**
 - GYMStart level 1 August 09
 - Rhythmic level 1 Sept/Oct 09
 - Tumbling/MAG end 09

Coach Education

- **Level 2 Pilot**
 - Common Core – Pilot September 2009
 - WAG level 2 – Pilot November 2009
 - Roll out to rest of disciplines 2010
- **Tutor training**
 - Tutor assimilations on July 25th and 26th in Salto Gymnastics Centre
 - In house tutor training on September 7th - 8th and 22nd – 23rd in sport HQ
- **New coach education initiatives in development**
 - Pre School Gymnastics
 - IG Gymnastics/Dance Performance Course : To enhance dance, co-ordination and performance skills for gymnasts incorporating, hip hop, Street dance, parkour, theatrical and display elements
 - Cheerleading
 - Double Mini Trampoline add on module

IG Springboard Development

- PROJECT AIM: To commercially generate essential finance from the development of a resource targeted at translating the benefits of basic gymnastics training to other sports.
- With the appointment of Aimi Baker as Springboard Development Officer in June 2008 research, planning and development has been ongoing...
- In early 2009 IG agreed a partnership contract with the University of Ulster Jordanstown (UUJ) School of Sports Studies, through this partnership we have been working with Dr. Marie Murphy & Sinead Connelly utilising their expertise in the study of the benefits of gymnastics training for other sports, physical literacy development etc. and also now have access to a bank of research material, testimonials & video/biomechanical analysis that will add huge value and credibility to the resource

IG Springboard Development

- In parallel to our partnership with UUJ, our partnership with Coaching Ireland (CI) in relation to Springboard continues to develop.
- Discussions with CI at present centre around the inclusion of Springboard within the new CI Coach Licensing system due for launch within the next 3 years. Every coach will need to amass a certain amount of continuous professional development (CPD) credits within a determined period of time (i.e. 3 years) in order to have their coaching license renewed – CI have agreed that Springboard will provide a certain amount of these credits, the amount will be assessed on completion and pilot of the resource.

IG Springboard Development

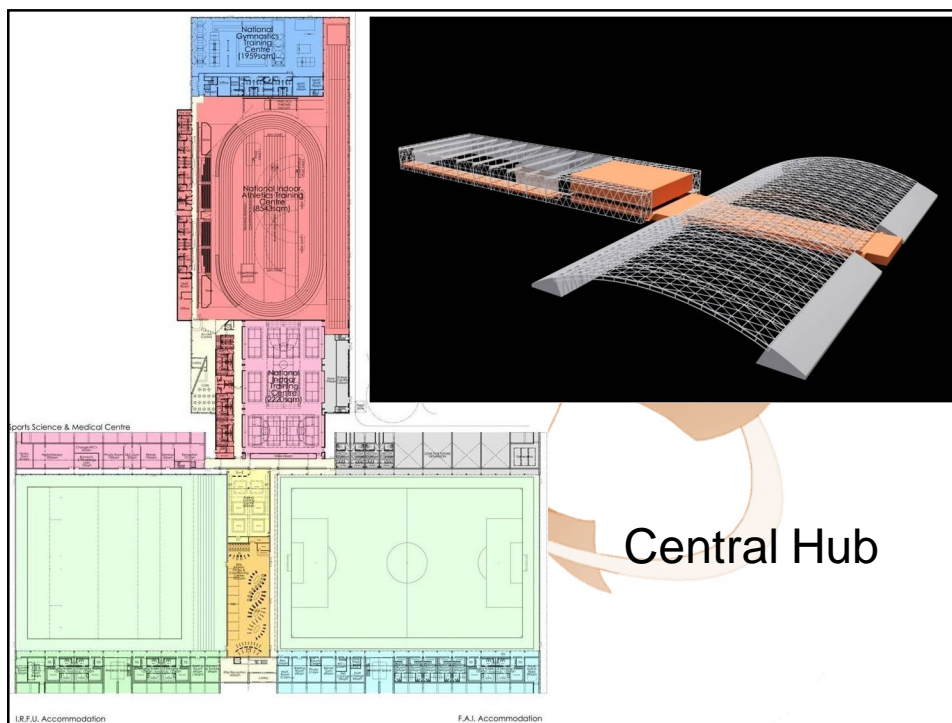
- Upcoming targets for the programme include...
 - Pilot of key sections with various sports August – October 2009
 - Review and restructure of resource based on outcome of pilots October – December 2009
 - Design & branding of resource September – December 2009
 - Training of Springboard Tutors Nov/Dec 2009
 - Launch & roll-out of programme early 2010.

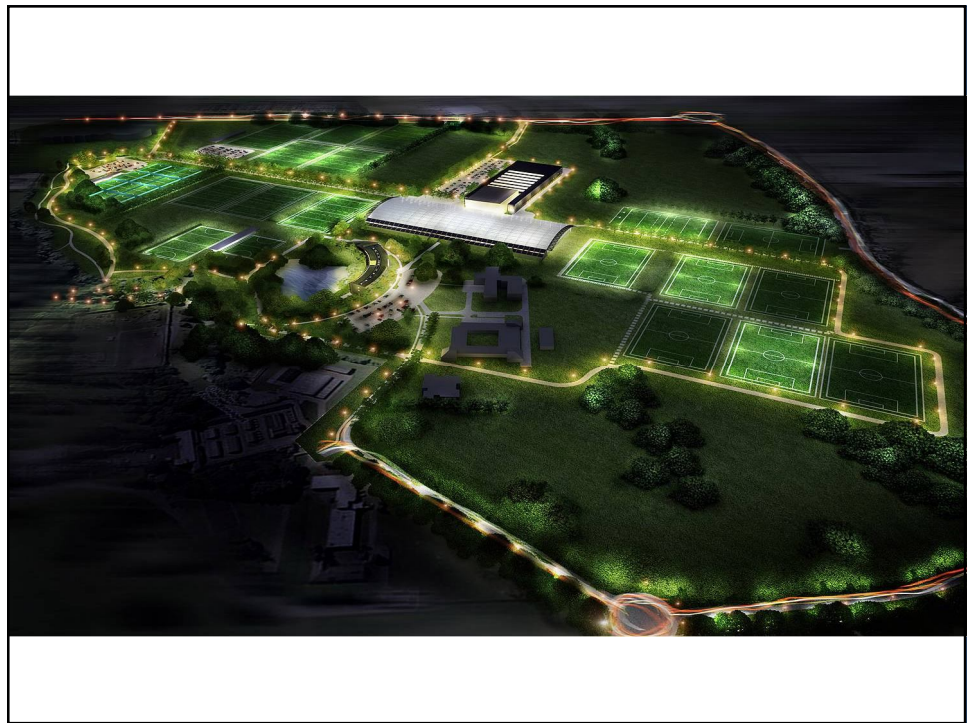
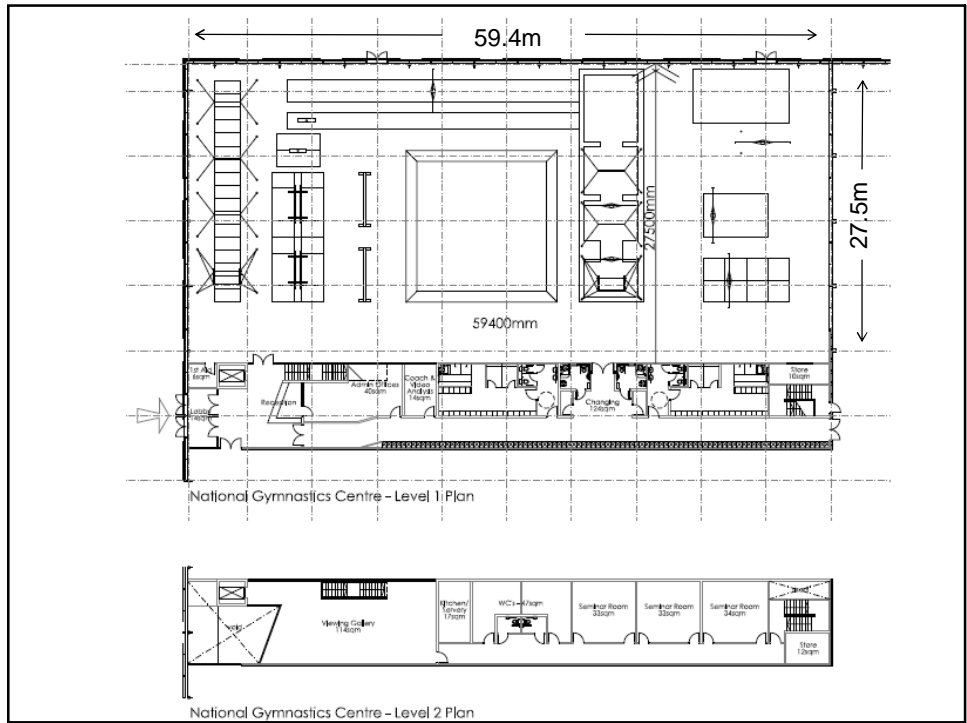
Facility Development

- Following 2 years of planning and preparation Irish Gymnastics gained the inclusion of the National Gymnastics Training Centre (NGTC) in the planned 'Phase 1' of the Sports Campus Ireland project.
- At the instruction of the Minister for Arts, Sport & Tourism the National Sports Campus Development Authority (NSCDA) board lodged full planning for phase 1 with Fingal County Council on Friday 15th May 2009. The planning process is well underway and we await an update on its progress.

Facility Development

- What is in 'Phase 1'?
 - National Indoor Athletics Centre
 - National Gymnastics Training Centre
 - Boxing Training Centre
 - Indoor field sports training facilities
 - Athletes Accommodation – 100 2 Bed Rooms
 - Institute of Sports Science & Medicine - included in Central 'hub', providing...
 - Fitness testing – strength and conditioning
 - Bio-mechanical analysis
 - Sports Psychology
 - Sports Science Research
 - Sport Rehabilitation / Hydro Therapy
 - Physiotherapy Treatment
 - Medical Consultation Room
 - Elite Fitness & Conditioning Centre – included in Central 'hub'
 - National Indoor Training Centre (NITC) included in the Central 'hub' – complete with substantial seating for events.
 - Ancillary Shared Facilities & Parkland access.





Facility Development

- **How is the current economic climate affecting the development of the project?**
 - On the 3rd March 2009 Minister Cullen responded to questions in the Dáil in relation to the Campus stating that while no funding has been provided to date to begin construction on Phase I of the development in 2009, he confirmed that he is in ongoing discussions with the Minister for Finance to see what funding might be available to move forward with Phase I on a phased basis as well as with the NSCDA in this regard, while confirming that construction work has commenced on providing the €4.4 million headquarters for the Irish Institute of Sport to be ready for occupancy this year.
 - The NSCDA board have also confirmed they are looking into a number of additional funding options.

Policy & Welfare Development

- In September 2008 IG announced that Dermot Howlin would join us as our Policy & Welfare Officer with the remit to develop and tighten up all aspects of IG policy and address current and future ethics and welfare related issues for our sport.
- Dermot is vastly qualified in this area having worked in a similar capacity for both the GAA & Basketball Ireland while being a qualified 'Code of Ethics' tutor and being heavily involved with ISC Code/Ethics development.
- Dermot officially took up post in November 2008 and has become an invaluable addition to the team and a huge asset for Irish Gymnastics.

Policy & Welfare Development

- Since his appointment Dermot developed the 'Code of Ethics - Good Practice for Youth Sport in Irish Gymnastics' and this has been adopted into the rules and regulations by the Board of Control (BOC).
- Dermot has also updated our Anti-doping policy, set-up a thorough information page in the 'Education section' of the website and provided disciplines with relevant Anti-doping information.
- Dermot is also currently in the process of finalising the following policies and procedures for launch this year...
 - Garda Vetting/Access NI policy & procedure (due for launch in September)
 - New IG disciplinary policy & procedure (due for launch Autumn 2009)
 - New IG conflicts of interest policy & procedure (due for launch Autumn 2009)

Other upcoming developments worth noting...

- We are in the process of agreeing our 'ISC Carding' criteria for the Olympic disciplines of our sport for application in late 2009. Access to the ISC high performance funding will hugely aid in the development of performance results going forward and is a resource IG has not tapped into previously.
- We have also recently commissioned the next stage of developments for the IG website/membership system, these will include...
 - Update of club invoicing system
 - Update of Course booking system
 - Creation of a 'member flagging' facility for ethics & welfare related issues
 - Creation of an online competition entries system for clubs through the club profile section of the system.

On a personal note

- I would like to thank the staff, Board of Management, Board of Control, the Technical & Regional committees and all volunteers within the organisation for the efforts constantly made to develop the sport.
- On behalf of the staff I would like to extend our heart felt thanks to Jim O'Leary as outgoing President. All staff members appreciate, respect and value the huge contribution Jim has made to Irish Gymnastics, the support & guidance he has given us and most of all his constant passion for our sport and desire to see Irish Gymnastics firmly established as a leading sport in Ireland.

- Questions?