

PPN Nominees for the Board of Waterford Sports Partnership

Please find below details of all 10 candidates (*in alphabetical order by area of interest*) who have been nominated for the Board of Waterford Sports Partnership. There are four positions, **ONE** vacancy for each of the following areas of interest.

1. Community – 3 nominees
2. Disability – 1 nominee only – deemed elected (here for information purposes only)
3. Sports Club – 4 nominees
4. Youth – 2 nominees

Community

Oliver Coffey – Comeragh Community Development Group

Oliver has been involved in Community Work for a number of years. In 2004 he was elected Chairperson of the County Waterford Community Forum, a position he held for seven years. He represented County Waterford VEC and County Waterford Community Forum on the Board of Waterford Sports Partnership over a total period of ten years. Oliver also co-ordinates the volunteers in the Mahon Falls/Kilrossanty area for the Sean Kelly Tour every year and feels that communities and sport play a big part in what goes on in Waterford City & County and believes that he can play an important role on the Board of Waterford Sports Partnership.

Stephen Imiren – Nigeria Community Waterford

Stephen has been involved in coaching since University in Nigeria where he was both the school football captain and coach in the mid nineties. He led the school to the finals of all University football league competitions. In Ireland he has completed both Step one and two football coaching training under Gary Power (FAI Development Officer). For the past eight years he has organised football training on a weekly basis for the immigrants at De La Salle secondary school pitch. Presently, he is the sport director of the Nigerian Community Waterford and has been in this post for the past five years. He is a coach at Ferrybank football club; coaching both u11A and U12B. As the sport director for Nigeria community, he organises yearly summer Athletics competitions for all categories of people; involving all races, including Irish. This normally takes place at RSA Waterford. On that day, we do racing, relay, high jump, egg race and football matches. Sometime we invite the major or other important personnel In Waterford.

Liam O'Donnell - Aglish Fit4Life & Couch to 5K

As Co founder with his wife Anne, Liam organises Aglish Fit4Life & Couch to 5K every Tuesday and Thursday night. The aim is to get all involved able to run 5K. An average of 20 people each night of all ages and charge €2 per night with all proceeds going to Children's Hospital Crumlin. To date over €9000 has been raised. A Fun Run also takes place each Easter Monday. Liam is also involved in Mountain Treking and has climbed the four highest peaks in the four provinces of Ireland for charity. Liam is also a involved in West Waterford AC as a committee members and has taken part in the Sean Kelly cycle.

Disability

Elaine Dunne – Waterford Disability Network – *Deemed elected (here for information purposes only)*

Elaine has been involved with the Disability Sector for over 15 years and has represented the sector and local organisations on numerous occasions. She herself has a disability and is fully aware of the barriers which face people with disabilities on a day to day basis. Elaine recently completed a Diploma in Disability Studies Level 7 and sits on many committees in the City and County and represents all those with a Disability of any type or age.

Elaine has a good geographical knowledge of the area and the needs of those with disabilities and is currently Chairperson of the Waterford Disability Network and believes in equality for all. She also believes she is a fair person, who can empathise and work with all and would represent the interests of all. She also sits on other Boards.

Sports Clubs

Colm O'Carroll – Newtown & Guillamene Swimming Club

Colm is currently secretary of Newtown and Guillamene swimming club. He was previously a committee member of Waterford Harbour Sailing Club. As secretary he has worked very closely with Waterford Council in developing plans for future improvements in both Coves. Following on from the success with 3 major improvement projects financed and assisted by Waterford Leader Partnership Ltd. Colm continues to meet with Waterford City & County Council on a regular basis re the maintenance and upkeep of the Coves. Colm is also in regular contact with Waterford Leader Partnership re future developments and funding. Newtown and Guillamene is not just a swimming club, they are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Coves and Glen and ensuring that this fantastic amenity is protected and developed in a sensitive manner for future generations. During the summer the club runs many successful events - A Children's Gala, Snámh Fàda, Diving competition to name but a few. Newtown Coves are used by hundreds of adults, children and visitors to Tramore every year. Colm is passionate about the Guillamene and Newtown Cove.

Gerry O'Mahony – Dungarvan Boxing Club

Gerry is a founder member of Dungarvan Boxing Club (1988). He is a qualified Coach, I.A.B.A. Qualified Tutor N.C.T.C. Limerick and Two Star International Referee / Judge. He has been Team Manager for the National Boxing Team on several occasions. He is Chief organiser of the Celtic Box Cup which is an International boxing event, held in Dungarvan every September attracting large numbers from all over Ireland, the U.K. and Europe. Gerry has been President of the Munster Council I.A.B.A. for the past 9 years, Vice President of the National body of the I.A.B.A. and Director on the board of the I.A.B.A. Ltd. He was also a public representative for 5 years on Dungarvan Town Council and is fully aware of the problems facing local sporting clubs. Gerry works in the Sports Centre in Dungarvan and would have regular contact with a lot of the local sports clubs.

Sean O'Regan – Waterford County GAA Board

Sean has been heavily involved in the GAA all his life and has a keen interest in all other sports. He has been Secretary and Chairman of his club CLG An Chill, Chairman of the Eastern Adult Board and is currently Vice Chairman of Waterford GAA and has sat on several sub committees.

Recently Sean has become Chairman of the Waterford GAA's Health & Wellbeing committee along with being County Co-ordinator for the rural social initiative program driven by GAA headquarters. All of these positions have been voluntary. He believes that there is a natural fit between both bodies, the strong links within the communities and common goals would he believes develop further if successful with his nomination on behalf of Waterford GAA.

Lynda O'Shea – Johnville FC

Lynda has been a volunteer for the last 20+ years mostly in soccer in Waterford. Firstly involved with Kilbarry Rangers and then the Waterford Junior League as the first woman voted on since it was founded 1924. When Kilbarry Rangers finished, Lynda got involved with Johnville for a long number of years as secretary finishing in 2003 then getting involved in St Paul's Community College she has been the chairperson since 2006. Lynda has also been the chairperson of the Board of Management, the parents rep on the VEC for 5 years, a Director and PRO for both the National Parents Council Post Primary and the PRO for National Parents Council For Education And Training Boards Schools where she ran the leaving cert help line and also the annual conference. Back in Johnville FC again, first as the Child Protection Officer and now as Secretary, Lynda feels that she has a lot to give as a rep for the sports clubs and would have no problem in taking on any challenge to benefit all in the sports area.

Youth

Jamie Moore-Waterford Comhairle na nÓg

Jamie was first introduced to Waterford Sports Partnership (WSP) in a personal capacity five years ago as a participant in the Sean Kelly Youth Challenge. Since then he has been regularly involved in WSP activities through his work with Waterford Comhairle na nÓg(WCNN). Over the past three years, Jamie has assisted and partnered with WSP in organising many events targeting young people including National Play Day, National Bike Week, The Sean Kelly Tour, Toddler Travel and Family Fun, Smarter Travel and various other public physical activity events. This has afforded him and the young people he works with, to build up experience in running physical programmes and activities with young people and identify the challenges and limitations that accompany them – but also the positive social and physical impacts they have. WCNN represents young people from right across Waterford City and County with varying socio economic circumstances and physical abilities. Jamie feels he could channel the voices of young people through to the board of WSP and make a positive contribution to the implementation of WSP's strategy going forward. Youth participation is something he is passionate about and this is clearly demonstrated by the growth of WCNN over the past number of years. This is a dynamic he wants to bring to WSP. Jamie is also a member of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and would be well placed to support inputs from WSP at local policy development level.

Felix Okechulwu Obiesie – IGBO Community Waterford

Felix was born in Onitsha the southern part of Nigeria one of the major tribes in Nigeria called Igbo. He is currently chairman of Igbo Community Waterford, Chairman of PAN African organisation Waterford, Sports co-ordinator Nigerian Community Waterford and the current asst. PRO Waterford Integration Forum. Since 2007, Felix has been very

much active in co-ordinating football in Waterford for both youths and adults from various ethnic background as well as Irish youths and adults training every Sunday at 5pm and in the summer period also on Wednesdays, Co-ordinator of every summer sport event/summer fun day organised by his Community and both Nigerian Community and PAN African Community in Waterford.

Since Felix was 4yrs old sport has been his passion and has learnt to understand the benefits of how sport can improve someone's health. Sport is the major part of his life and he believes he will transfer his experiences together with the benefits to the youths.