

Presentation to Joint Committee on Transport, Tourism and Sport on the international recognition of Irish athletics

Mr Fergus O Dowd TD, Chairman

3 July 2019

Mr Chairman

We wish to thank you and the members of the joint committee for Transport, Tourism and Sport for your kind invitation to attend here today.

We are here as a group of former all-Ireland medal winners in athletics to speak to you about an ambiguity regarding representation of Irish athletes competing in international competitions.

Political Boundary Rule

In 1934 the, International Amateur Athletic Federations (IAAF), the world governing body for athletics adopted a new political boundary rule which divided this country into the 26 counties Irish Free State and 6 counties of Northern Ireland, with Britain claiming jurisdiction over the 6 counties.

The introduction of the political boundary rule split the sport of athletics in Ireland for the next 85 years and deprived generations of Irish athletes the honour of representing the Island of Ireland in international athletics. (Appendix A)

1999 Agreement:

The 1999 inter association agreement was based on a new All-Ireland structure for athletics, both at home and at international level. Recognition of this by all the parties involved would have resolved this dispute, but this has not happened.

Outline:

The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Athletic Association of Ireland state that the AAI is an all-Ireland body whose object is to foster and develop athletics throughout the island of Ireland, it defines Ireland as meaning the island of Ireland, and it says that a county board may be formed in any of the 32 counties of Ireland.

We now find ourselves in a situation where the Minister for Sport, Sports Ireland and the President and previous Presidents of the AAI are stating that the AAI must comply with the IAAF political boundary rule, which they say restricts the AAI international recognition to representing the Republic of Ireland

International recognition:

The area causing the most concern from the 1999 Inter association agreement is the international recognition of Ireland by the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF).

There are two opinions being expressed

First Opinion:

Athletics Ireland is an all island body and accepted as such by the IAAF and United Kingdom athletics since 1999 with Irish teams representing the island of Ireland at European and World championships.

Second Opinion:

Athletics Ireland is an all island body at home on the Island of Ireland, but when we go to the European and World championships the IAAF recognised Ireland as the Republic of Ireland and not the island of Ireland as per the political boundary rule.

Representing the Island of Ireland

Because of the 1999 inter association athletic agreement, we believe that Irish athletes should be accepted as representing the Island of Ireland at European and World Championships and enjoy the same recognition, which is granted by the International Olympic Committee to the Olympic Federation of Ireland to represent the Island of Ireland at the Olympic Games.

Brief History of Irish athletics

We would like to take this opportunity to give you some background on Irish athletic history. Athletics is one of the oldest sports in Ireland and over the last 150 years there has been 10 different associations who have promoted athletics on the Island.

Formation of the NACAI

In June 1922, following Irish Independence, three athletic associations,

The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) 1884,

The Amateur Athletic Association (1885) and

The Cross Country Association of Ireland, (1886)

merged to form a new Association called the National Athletic and Cycling Association of Ireland (NACAI).

The new association would govern athletics and cycling in the 32 Counties of Ireland.

IAAF membership

The NACAI applied to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) for membership and were approved at the Paris Congress in 1924, as the member for the Island of Ireland.

So for the first time in Irish sporting history one association for athletics and cycling represented the Island of Ireland in international Competition.

Dispute

In 1925 a dispute arose between the NACAI and a number of its Belfast clubs with some breaking away and forming a new Northern Ireland Athletic Association.

Britain Claims North

In 1930 the British Athletic Association claimed jurisdiction over Northern Ireland and Affiliated to the IAAF as Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

All Ireland Recognition

From 1924 to 1934 Irish athletics was recognized internationally as representing the Island of Ireland.

Special Congress

On the 6 October 1934, the NACAI held a special congress in Dublin to vote to accept or reject the border in Ireland.

The result was 31 votes to 23 to reject the political boundary rule in Ireland.

NACAI suspended

The NACAI was suspended by the IAAF on 1 May 1935 for refusing to recognise the border in Ireland. This left the vast majority of Irish athletes suspended from all international competition.

AAUE

6 clubs from Dublin and 1 from Clare refused to accept the democratic vote of the NACAI congress and broke away from the NACAI.

They formed the Amateur Athletic Union EIRE on the 1 April 1937.

Even though they had only 7 clubs the IAAF accepted them as the new member for Eire because they recognized the border.

The AAUE was dissolved in 1967 when a new association was formed called Bord Luthchleas na hÉireann (BLÉ). The IAAF accepted BLÉ as its member for EIRE because they recognized the border.

Efforts to resolve

Since 1934 the international recognition of Irish athletics has been in dispute, with efforts to resolve it taking place from the 1930s up to date.

Government decision

In the late 1990s, the Minister for Sport informed the athletic associations that the government had decided to fund only one athletic body and he encouraged the associations to come together and end their division.

Negotiations then took place between the National, Athletic and Cultural Association of Ireland (NACAI) Bord Luthchleas na hÉireann (BLÉ) and Athletics Northern Ireland (ANI)

These meetings led to the formation of Athletics Ireland.

Athletics Ireland 1999

Special Congresses were held in November 1999 where the delegates were informed there was to be a new athletic association for the Island of Ireland, which was to be based on an All Ireland structure both at home and at international level.

Luthchleas na hÉireann (BLÉ) voted to dissolve itself, the National Athletic and Cultural Association of Ireland (NACAI) voted to join the new association and Northern Ireland Athletic Federation (NIAF) was to continue as a constituent part of United Kingdom Athletics (UKA).

This allowed for the formation of Athletics Ireland to take place. Athletics Ireland then affiliated to the IAAF to represent the Island of Ireland. (Appendix B, C)

Today we have 2 associations, Athletics Northern Ireland who are affiliated to United Kingdom Athletics and Athletics Ireland.

Agreement Approved

The agreement was submitted to the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) the world governing body for athletics and was formally approved at its council meeting in Monaco in November 1999, where Athletics Ireland was accepted as the new member federation for Ireland.

The agreement was also approved by the United Kingdom Athletics (UKA). (Appendix D,E,F,G)

Athletics Ireland Constitution

At the beginning Athletics Ireland had no constitution, but its new officers consulted with its members and within 2 years a new constitution was approved at an EGM.

The constitution defined Athletics Ireland as an unambiguous All Ireland body and on the 26 August 1999 Athletics Ireland was incorporated as a Limited Company with its memorandum and Articles of Association closely following the previous constitution.

There is no reference in the Articles of Association stating that Athletics Ireland is a 26 county association.

The Articles of Association of the AAI include the following: (Appendix H)

1. The main object for which the company is established throughout the island of Ireland to foster the development of track and field athletics, road running, walking, cross country running, mountain running and ultra distance running.
2. "IRELAND" means the island of Ireland
3. Provincial Councils may be formed in each of the four provinces
4. "ULSTER" means the Province of Ulster comprising the Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Derry, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Monaghan and Tyrone.
5. County Boards may be formed in each of the 32 counties of Ireland
6. "COUNTY" means one of the 32 counties in Ireland
7. Strive to ensure that no racial, religious, political or other kind of discrimination be allowed in athletics and take all practicable measures to stop such discrimination
8. Strive to secure that there shall be no hindrance to participation of any country or individual in athletics competitions on racial, religious or political ground and to ensure that there be no such hindrance in athletics meetings over which the association or the IAAF have control.
9. The agreement between the parties recognised the right of the IAAF member with jurisdiction in Ireland to organise athletics throughout the Island of Ireland.
10. A member of Athletics Ireland to sit on the board of Athletics Northern Ireland and a Member of Athletics Northern Ireland to sit on the board of Athletics Ireland.

IAAF rules require all members to submit a copy of their constitution to the federation each year and AI has done this since 2002.

End of Acrimony

It seemed that decades of acrimony ended, athletes from any part of the Island of Ireland were entitled to represent Ireland internationally, but at the same time athletes from Northern Ireland who wanted to represent the United Kingdom (UK) were also free to do this. This arrangement gave parity of esteem for all athletes and created excellent cooperation on the ground.

Shadow over agreement

A shadow has fallen over the agreement, the fundamental founding principles on which Athletics Ireland was founded as an All Ireland association are now thrown into doubt because officials of AI assert that the AI can only represent the 26 countries Republic of Ireland at European and World Championships because it is obliged to obey IAAF rules and one of these stated that only one association can be recognized from each country because of the 1934 political boundary rule.

Athletics Ireland Position

In September 2009 the then President of Athletics Ireland Mr Liam Hennessey wrote in a reply to a letter from Bohermeen Athletic Club Co Meath, "that the Athletic Association of Ireland (AAI) is the member for Ireland and recognized as such by the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) in its constitution. The constitution states that the jurisdiction of members shall be limited to the political boundaries of the country they represent. Our area of jurisdiction is the republic of Ireland." (Appendix I, J)

Mr Hennessey's statement has been endorsed by his successors as president of Athletics Ireland that is Mr Ciarán Ó Catháin (2012-2016) and Mrs Georgina Drumm (2016-2020).

Ministers Statement

On the 14 January 2019 in a reply to a letter from Mr Larry Larkin the Minister for Sport, Mr Shane Ross made the following statement " "I have had enquiries made with Sport Ireland and I am informed that since 1924 Athletics Ireland has been affiliated to the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) the World Governing body for the Sport. Under IAAF statutes, Athletics Ireland Jurisdiction at international events covers the 26 counties and, as such, the status of Ireland at European and World Athletic Championships is on that basis." (Appendix K,L).

The Minister is incorrect in stating that it was 1924 when Athletics Ireland was affiliated to the IAAF it was in fact 1999. It was the NACAI who affiliated to the IAAF in 1924.

Dilemma

These statements are not in keeping with what is contained in the 1999 inter association agreement and completely undermine the foundations on which Athletics Ireland (AI) was built and leaves Irish athletics with a dilemma that must be addressed.

International Competition

The vast majority of Irish sporting organisations represent the Island of Ireland in international competition, this includes the Olympic Federation of Ireland and Cycling Ireland and 60 other associations. (Appendix M)

Cycling history

Irish athletic history and Irish cycling history have a lot in Common.

To solve the cycling dispute the three cycling organisations, the National Cycling Association (NCA 32 County), The Irish Cycling Federation (ICF 26 County) and the Northern Ireland Cycling Federation (NICF 6 County) came together and formed Cycling Ireland ending many years of bitter dispute in the sport. (Appendix N)

Cycling Ireland applied to the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) for a derogation from the political boundary rule for Ireland and were successful in getting full recognition for cycling to represent the Island of Ireland in all international competition.

We have been greatly impressed by the progress which the sport of cycling in Ireland has made since it overcame its history of acrimony and entered an era of whole hearted co- operation and incredible progress and success.

We would like to see this mirrored in athletics with Athletics Ireland and Athletics Northern Ireland standing proudly together for the good of Irish Athletics on the Island of Ireland and follow the example set by Cycling Ireland and seek all Ireland recognition at European and World Championships.

Olympic Games

When Ireland goes to the Olympic Games we go under the authority of the Olympic federation of Ireland, which represents the Island of Ireland in all sports including athletics and its known as Team Ireland.

The Olympic Federation of Ireland have stated that athletes from Northern Ireland have the option of participating under its auspices on an All Ireland Team or in the Great Britain Olympic team.(Appendix O)

Hockey players brothers Mark and Paul Gleghorne from Antrim went to the Olympic Games in Rio in 2016. Paul represented Team Ireland and Mark represented Team Great Britain (GB).

29 Athletes from the North across 7 sports with 6 in Track and Field went to the Rio Olympics, 8 competed for Team Great Britain (GB) and 21 competed for Team Ireland.

We believe this is the correct way forward with Athletes allowed to choose which country they wish to represent with no political boundary rule in operation.

For the good of Sport

In the context of building peace and reconciliation on this Island a political boundary rule has no place in Sport. It is now time to have it removed for the good of Irish athletics and with the assistance of the good Friday Agreement give Irish Athletes the right to compete for the Island of Ireland, Team Ireland as is the case when Ireland competes in the Olympic Games and the vast majority of other international sporting competitions, thereby making the future bright for all Irish Athletes.

The interplay between politics and sport is seldom far from the surface in Ireland, athletics exhibits this characteristic more than any other sport.

Seeking your support

We would be very grateful if the joint committee for Transport, Tourism and Sport would write to Mr Shane Ross, Minister for Sport expressing its support for all Ireland recognition for Irish athletics at European and World Championships and request Minister Ross to make representation to all the relevant organisations to ensure that this is achieved.

Proposals for the way forward

With good will from all sides the international recognition status can be resolved so as to allow Irish athletics join the family of Irish sporting organisations that represent the Island of Ireland on the European and World stage

We wish to submit the following proposals to the joint committee for Transport, Tourism and Sport for its consideration and support and to advise the Minister of Sport to request the following

That the Athletic Association of Ireland in consultation with Athletics Northern Ireland (ANI) will seek the approval of the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) for the Athletic Association of Ireland (AAI) to become their recognized member for the Island of Ireland.

This can be done by seeking a derogation for Ireland from the IAAF political Boundary Rule, if successful, this rule will remain in the IAAF constitution but it will not apply to Ireland.

Thank you

Thank you most sincerely for listening to our presentation and we look forward to your support.
Yours Sincerely,

Larry Larkin, 2 Woodfield Barna Road Galway
Colm Rennicks, Bohermeen Navan Co Meath,
Tommy McDonnell, Dunboyne, Co Meath

Appendix

- A. History of IAAF political boundary rule
- B. Agreement for Athletic Association in Ireland
- C. . Memorandum of understanding relating to agreement for Athletic Association in Ireland
- D. Minutes of IAAF council meeting November 1999
- E. Letter from UK Athletics, confirming support for Athletics Ireland
- F. Letter from IAAF confirming their support for Athletics Ireland
- G. Irish Times report 4 December 1999 confirming Athletics Ireland position
- H. Memorandum and Articles of Association of Athletics Ireland
- I. Letter from Bohermeen Athletic Club to Liam Hennessy
- J. Letter from Liam Hennessy to Bohermeen Athletic Club
- K. Letter from Larry Larkin to Minister Shane Ross
- L. Letter from Minister Shane Ross to Larry Larkin
- M. List of All Ireland associations
- N. How cyclists solve their problem
- O. Letter from Sarah Keane, President of the Olympic Federation of Ireland to Larry Larkin

Friends of Irish Athletics

History of Political Boundary Rule

To put the issue in its proper perspective, one has to go back as far as 6th June 1922 when, consequent on the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty, the 3 rival athletics bodies, the Irish Amateur Athletic Association, the Gaelic Athletic Association and the Irish Cycling Association merged to form the National Athletic and Cycling Association of Ireland. A claim for recognition was immediately sent to the I.A.A.F. and after spending nearly two years examining the N.A.C.A.'s status, the International Federation admitted them to membership by an unanimous vote in January, 1924. It was thus a united national athletics body which competed in the Olympic Games in Paris later that year.

Once affiliated it became obligatory on the N.A.C.A. to enforce the international regulations and ensure the amateur status of all sports meetings held under licence, and this immediately brought them into conflict with a number of clubs in Belfast, where the banned practices of betting at athletics meetings, allowing dog and pony races to be held in conjunction with sports events and accepting the membership of professional football clubs were deeply rooted.

The N.A.C.A. promptly pointed out that it was in 1924, two years after the Irish Free State had been established that they were unanimously elected to membership of the federation as the governing body, not for the Irish Free State but for the whole of Ireland: that no territorial changes has since taken place: that athletes from Northern Ireland have competed unquestioned in the Irish team at the Olympic Games of 1924 and 1928 and that the dispute arose entirely out of the determination of the N.A.C.A. to maintain amateurism in its affiliated clubs. An official protest to the I.A.A.F. followed, and on May 26th, 1931, the federation's council met an N.A.C.A. delegation consisting of General Eoin O'Duffy, Dr. R.J. Rowlette and Mr. Patrick Lynch, K.C., in London. After much heated debate the council referred the matter to the international Congress in Los Angeles the following year and proposed the appointment of a joint A.A.A. – N.A.C.A. Commission "with power to decide all pending questions regarding disqualification suspension entries to the Olympic Games, etc."



Friends of Irish Athletics

A subsequent meeting between the two bodies in Belfast was only a partial success, but in 1932 the N.A.C.A. sent a team which marched behind a banner "Ireland" to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles and captured two gold medals through the medium of Dr. Pat O'Callaghan in the hammer competition and Bob Tisdall in the 400 metres hurdles. However, a few days afterwards while still at Los Angeles, the I.A.A.F. met in congress and decided on a vote that the N.A.C.A. protest was a political affair and accordingly refused to deal with it. There the matter rested until August 28th, 1934, when the I.A.A.F. again met in Stockholm to discuss the matter. After the N.A.C.A. delegates, headed by their president, Mr. P.C. Moore, had stated their case, the president of the I.A.A.F. asked the delegates to endorse the decision of the council that Great Britain and Northern Ireland be accepted as one unit for athletic administration.

These "whippet meetings", as they were termed, clearly infringed on the international amateur laws, but for some unaccountable reason the Northern authorities regarded the request as unreasonable interference in their internal affairs, and in July, 1925, ten Belfast clubs seceded from the N.A.C.A. and proceeded to establish an independent governing body on the basis that the Six Counties lay outside the area governmentally controlled by the Irish Parliament in Dublin.

A subsequent objection by the Northern body to the use of the Tricolour, which was the National Standard of the N.A.C.A. further complicated the issue and despite the efforts of the Central Council of the N.A.C.A. and the International Cross-Country Union to resolve the problem, the breach had widened considerably when on February 15th, 1930, the English A.A.A. stepped in to claim the Six Counties as within its jurisdiction.

A year previously, the N.A.C.A. had suffered another set-back when the International Cycling Congress in Zurich ruled that their area of control was restricted to the then Irish Free State, but this latest action by the English A.A.A. evoked immediate action from the N.A.C.A. president, Mr. J.J. Keane, who wrote to the President of the I.A.A.F., Mr. J.S. Edstrom, of Sweden, appealing for protection under international rule No. 7: " ... Associations shall acknowledge each other as the only legislative authorities for athletics in their respective countries." The reply only helped to worsen matters. "I cannot agree with you", wrote Mr. Edstrom. "Your association governs only the Irish part of Ireland. The inhabitants of Ulster belong to the English nation, therefore the English governing body will take



Friends of Irish Athletics

charge there. Formerly, your association governed all Ireland but since the formation of the Irish Free State, things have been different and we must live up to modern times."

The voting on the council's proposal was as follows:

For: Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary,
Poland, South Africa, Sweden (9)

Against: Ireland (1)

Abstained: China, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Greece,
Holland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Switzerland (10)

The council's proposal was declared carried.

Back at home, that Stockholm decision sparked off a white-hot controversy. For months the controversy raged on, but the show-down came in February, 1935, when, at the annual Congress of the N.A.C.A. in Wynn's Hotel, Dublin, it was decided on a vote of 27 to 24 to reject the I.A.A.F. ruling. Ireland was thus debarred from international competition as the N.A.C.A.I. refused to accept the sporting partition of Ireland. However, the matter was still far from settled. Some clubs were in favour of accepting the I.A.A.F. decision. Thus it caused little surprise when the principal Dublin clubs decided early in 1937 that something should be done to give Irish athletes the same opportunities for international competition as they had enjoyed in the 'twenties. Accordingly, they applied to the I.A.A.F. for affiliation as the Irish Amateur Union and were promptly accepted by the I.A.A.F. as representing the 26 counties of Éire. The new organisation – later known as the A.A.U.E. – ran open championships that year for the 26 counties and joined with the N.I.A.A.A. for the purpose of holding All-Ireland championships.

The dismembering of the once-virile Irish athletics body was complete and a country, catering for less than 2,500 athletes was left with three separate associations – an absurd position.



Agreement for Athletic Associations in Ireland.

- 1.1 This agreement written in one part governs the sport of athletics in the Island of Ireland.
- 1.2 This agreement between the parties recognises the right of the International Amateur Athletic Federations member with jurisdiction in Ireland, to organise athletics throughout the Island of Ireland.
- 1.3 Athletes from Northern Ireland will be free to choose to represent either Great Britain or Ireland in events under I.A.A.F. Rules 12 1(a) or (b).
- 1.4 Irrespective of which choice is made under point 1.3, all athletes from Northern Ireland will be eligible to be selected for Northern Ireland representative teams up to and including the Commonwealth Games.
- 1.5 Teams selected to represent Ireland in competitions not governed by I.A.A.F. Rule 12 1(a) or (b) will consist of athletes from the Island of Ireland. Similarly athletes from Northern Ireland, declared for Ireland in competition under I.A.A.F. Rule 12 1(a) or (b) will also be eligible for selection for teams representing Great Britain and Northern Ireland in competitions not governed by this Rule.
- 1.6 Where representative fixtures involving teams from both jurisdictions fall on the same date the Ireland Selectors will only select athletes with no other commitments.
- 1.7 This agreement recognises and accepts N.I.A.F. rights under I.A.A.F. Rules in membership with UK Athletics.
- 1.8 The Ulster Council is the representative of the Irish I.A.A.F. member and will act as such within the policy of the new body.

**Memorandum of Understanding
Relating to
Agreement for Athletic Associations in Ireland**

1. The name of the organisation will be:

"The Athletic Association of Ireland" and this name will be registered as the title of the member for Ireland with the International Amateur Athletic Federation.
2. Athletes will be free to exercise choice in respect of selection for Teams representing Northern Ireland.
3. The Athletic Association of Ireland will apply for Membership of C.S.I.T.
4. A nominee of the NIAF will sit on the Management Board and on agreed Sub-committees.

Signed:

BLE

NACAI

NIAF

<u><i>K. Wall</i></u>	<u><i>Michael Keery</i></u>	<u><i>John Allen</i></u>
<u><i>Gerard Mayle</i></u>	<u><i>Rita Brady</i></u>	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>
<u> </u>	<u><i>Paddy Kelly</i></u>	<u><i>Adrian [Signature]</i></u>
Date: <u>28 OCT 99</u>	<u>28/10/99</u>	<u>28/10/99</u>

**MINUTES OF THE
IAAF COUNCIL MEETING
18-19 November 1999
Monte Carlo, Monaco**

....(page 4)

4. ACTIVITY REPORTS

4.1 The General Secretary's Report

...

Member Federations

Ireland

**Council formally endorsed the new name of the
IAAF Member Federation in
Ireland as The Athletic Association of Ireland.**

uk:athletics



15th October 1999

Adrienne Smyth
Secretary Track and Field
NIAF
Athletics House
Old Coach Road
Belfast
BT9 5PR

Dear Adrienne

Thank you for the sending me a copy of the proposed agreement for Athletic Associations in Ireland.

UK Athletics supports the intent of this document and would like to congratulate all parties involved for their commitment to restructuring the governance of athletics in Ireland and creating a strong working relationship with the NIAF

UK Athletics also supports the move to recognise the right for athletes from Northern Ireland to choose whether to compete for Great Britain or Ireland in events under IAAF Rules 12.1 (a) or (b). We also recognise that all Northern Ireland athletes will be eligible for selection for competition up to and including the Commonwealth Games, irrespective of whichever country they choose to compete for in other international competition.

There will be implications of this agreement that will affect the current rules of UK Athletics which we will address, with your assistance, over the coming months.

I would be grateful if you would keep me updated on progress towards this agreement and also pass on my best wishes to colleagues in BLE and NACAI.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

David Moorcroft
Chief Executive

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Appendix F



INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

Fédération Internationale d'Athlétisme Amateur

General Secretary

Mr. Chris Wall
Honorary International Secretary
Bórd Lúthchleas na hÉireann
11 Prospect Road
Glasnevin, Dublin 9

+ 353 1 830 8763

4th November 1999

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your letter dated 13 October 1999, outlining as it did proposals for the formation of "The Athletic Association of Ireland".

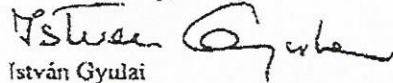
The International Amateur Athletic Federation is pleased to support the intent of this document and recognises its proposals for the restructuring of our sport on the island of Ireland.

We are pleased to confirm that upon receipt of the appropriate notification from you and, provided the Constitution of the new body will be in compliance with the IAAF Constitution, the IAAF will recognise it as our Member in Ireland under the name of "The Athletic Association of Ireland".

Please let me point out that the IAAF Council will meet on 18-19 November 1999 and if the relevant documents are submitted in time, all formalities can be done.

Congratulations to all involved in bringing forward these initiatives.

Yours sincerely,


István Gyulai

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The Irish Times - Saturday, December 4, 1999

IAAF confirms AAI position

By JOHNNY WATTERSON

The governing body of world athletics, the IAAF, have confirmed that the new Athletics Association of Ireland (AAI) are affiliated members of their organisation. And, in a statement yesterday, the AAI said it had been formally recognised by the IAAF at a meeting in Monte Carlo on November 18th. It also said that, in the absence of a specific constitution, it has agreed to the interim adoption of the relevant handbook rules of the IAAF. The general secretary of the IAAF, Istvan Gyulai, said yesterday that not only are the AAI in good standing with the IAAF, but that his organisation is aware of the recent changes which have just taken place in Ireland, which saw BLE and the NACA merge to form a single governing body for the sport.

The Olympic Council of Ireland (OCI), however, say that the AAI must first forward their new constitution for approval by them (as BLE is defunct) before they are admitted to the Olympic family. "Absolutely, they (AAI) are affiliated and are a federation in good standing," said Gyulai. "We were informed about the changes, the new name and the substance of the changes. Our council recognised the new name at its last meeting to wide approval."

When asked whether the AAI had submitted their constitution for approval by the IAAF and whether this was an important consideration, he said it was not.

"The constitution, when done, is subject to approval," he said. "They are in good standing with us and we are happy to have them in the IAAF."

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Appendix H

The Companies Acts 1963 to 2009
Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a Share Capital

MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND LIMITED

Company No. 474499
Date of Incorporation: 26th August, 2009

ICC FORMATIONS
ICC HOUSE
17 DAME STREET
DUBLIN 2

PHONE: 01 2405805

FAX: 01 2405806

COMPANIES ACTS 1963 TO 2006

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

OF

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND LIMITED

1. The name of the company is Athletic Association of Ireland Limited (also using the name "Athletics Ireland") (hereinafter called the "Association").

2. The Main object for which the company is established is:

throughout the island of Ireland, to foster the development of track and field athletics, road running, race walking, cross country running, mountain running and ultra distance running (all collectively hereinafter called "Athletics") and associated disciplines, whether in competition or otherwise, and to disseminate technical and other information to entities affiliated to the Association;

3. In pursuance of the above objects the company shall have the following subsidiary objects:

- (i) establish friendly and loyal co-operation between all members of the Association (hereinafter called "Members") for the benefit of Athletics;
- (ii) strive to ensure that no racial, religious, political or other kind of discrimination be allowed in Athletics, and take all practicable measures to stop such discrimination;
- (iii) strive to secure that there shall be no hindrance to the participation of any country or individual in Athletics competitions on racial, religious or political grounds, and to ensure that there be no such hindrance in Athletics meetings over which the Association or the IAAF have control;
- (iv) compile articles and regulations governing national competitions for men and women of all ages in Athletics;
- (v) strive to ensure that for all elected positions in the Association, including the Board, there shall be no discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, politics, age or sex;
- (vi) ensure that all Athletics meetings between Members, including National, Provincial, County and Club Championships or games, shall be held under the laws and articles of the IAAF and the Association;

"County" means one of the 32 counties of Ireland;

"County Board" means, in relation to a County, the board consisting of representatives from Clubs in that County established pursuant to the Bye-laws;

"Delegate" means a person who:

- (i) is a Registered Member or a member of Athletics Northern Ireland, and is duly appointed by a County Board or Provincial Council to represent it as a delegate (or, where there is no County, is duly appointed by the relevant Provincial Council to represent that County) at any general meeting of the Association and notified in writing by the County Board or Provincial Council to the CEO before the general meeting; or
- (ii) is duly appointed by an Affiliate Member to represent it at any general meeting of the Association and notified in writing by the Affiliate Member to the CEO before the general meeting;

"EGM" means an extraordinary general meeting;

"electronic communications" has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;

"electronic signature" has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;

"*ex officio*" means, in relation to a person who is *ex officio* a member of the Board, any Principal Committee, committee, sub-committee or similar body (each of the foregoing a "Relevant Body"), that such person has the right to attend and speak at, but not to vote or be counted in the quorum for the purposes of, any meeting of a Relevant Body of which he is *ex officio* a member (unless specified otherwise in relation to a particular person and a particular Relevant Body);

"Finance and Risk Committee" means the committee referred to as such in Article 80(d)(iii);

"High Performance Committee" means the committee referred to as such in Article 80(d)(iv);

"IAAF" means the International Association of Athletics Federations;

"Ireland" means the island of Ireland;

"Irish Sports Council" means the Irish Sports Council established by the Department of Sports and Tourism;

"ISAA" means The Irish Schools Athletics Association;

"TUAA" means The Irish Universities Athletics Association;

"Juvenile" means, in relation to any particular day, a person who will be under the age of 19 years on the 31st December in the year in which that day falls;

"Juvenile Committee" means the committee referred to as such in Article 80(d)(v);

"Leinster" means the Province of Leinster comprising the Counties of Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time;

"Member" means a person who is admitted to membership of the Association in accordance with these Articles and whose name is entered on the register of Members of the Association and "Membership" shall be construed accordingly;

"month" means a calendar month;

"Munster" means the Province of Munster comprising the Counties of Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time;

"Old Association" means the unincorporated association called "Athletics Association of Ireland" to which this Association is the successor;

"Other Rules" means any articles, bye-laws, conditions, constitution, laws, orders, procedures, regulations, rules, terms of reference or other provisions (by whatever name called) providing for or regulating any aspect of the affairs of the Association (other than these Articles, the Bye-laws and the Rules of Competition) or of the IAAF in force from time to time;

"Principal Committee" means one of the committees listed in Article 80(d) and any committee created as a Principal Committee by Congress;

"Province" means one of Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster, each of which shall comprise the Counties determined from time to time by the Board;

"Provincial Council" means a council elected at the Annual Provincial Convention of the relevant Province and referred to in Article 17;

"qualified certificate" has the meaning given to those words in the Electronic Commerce Act, 2000;

"Registered Member" means any individual including each person in a group (e.g. a family) who is or are duly registered as (a) member(s) of a Club and whose membership of that Club has not either lapsed or been terminated by such Club and who has paid all fees, subscriptions or periodic contributions payable to the Association under these Articles, the Bye-laws or Other Rules;

"Registered Office" means the registered office of the Association for the time being;

"Rules of Competition" means the IAAF rules on competition as in force from time to time, as amended from time to time by Congress;

"Seal" means the common seal of the Association;

"Secretary" means the company secretary of the Association or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the company secretary of the Association;

"Standing Orders Committee" means the committee referred to as such in Article 80(h);

"Ulster" means the Province of Ulster comprising the Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Derry, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Monaghan and Tyrone or such other Counties as may be determined by the Board from time to time; and

"year" means a calendar year except in the context of elections to any office under these Articles, where "year" shall mean the period from the conclusion of one Congress to the conclusion of the next;

- (b) reference to any statute or statutory provision includes a reference to that statute or statutory provision as from time to time modified or re-enacted;
- (c) words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa; words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine and neuter gender and vice versa; and words importing persons shall include corporations;
- (d) any expression referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and any modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form provided that the expression shall not include writing in electronic form except as provided in these Articles and/or, where it constitutes writing in electronic form sent to the Association, the Association has agreed to its receipt in such form;
- (e) unless the contrary intention appears, the use of the word "address" in these Articles in relation to electronic communications includes any number or address used for the purpose of such communications;
- (f) expressions referring to execution of any document shall include any mode of execution under seal or under hand or under any mode of electronic signature as shall be approved by the Board and expressions referring to receipt of any electronic communications shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be limited to receipt in such manner as the Association has approved; and
- (g) "person" includes any individual, firm, body corporate, association or partnership, government or state or agency of a state, local authority or government body or any joint venture (whether or not having a separate legal personality).

- (c) that it establishes to the satisfaction of the Board that its bye-laws, rules, standing orders, procedures and memorandum and articles of association and any other constitutional documents do not conflict with and are consistent with these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition and Other Rules in all material respects;
- (d) that it agrees to comply with these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition and Other Rules and, in particular, the provisions thereof in relation to affiliation procedures or application forms and procedures for Affiliate Members as specified by the Board from time to time; and
- (e) that it agrees that, if it receives funding from or through the Association in a financial year, it will report to the AGM on, and account to the Board for, its activities in sufficient time for such funding to be reflected properly in the Association's audited accounts.

CLUBS

- 15. (a) Any club prepared to properly promote Athletics in any County or Province and which has at least 10 (ten) members who are registered with it (four of whom have attained the age of 21 years) and who will be entitled to be Registered Members if that club becomes Affiliated shall be eligible to apply for Affiliation. All members of an Affiliated Club must become Registered Members within a reasonable time (as determined by the Board in any case) after that club has become Affiliated.
 - (b) Applications for Affiliation by a club together with a copy of its constitution shall be submitted to the relevant County Board which shall have the power to affiliate clubs provisionally.
 - (c) Affiliation provisionally granted by a County Board must be confirmed at its next Annual County Board Convention which confirmation must obtain a special majority, i.e. 2/3 of those clubs present at that Convention and entitled to vote which 2/3 must also represent at least one half of the aggregate voting power of all Affiliated Clubs present at that Convention.
16. Clubs shall comply with, and be bound by, all the provisions of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition and all Other Rules. A Club's bye-laws, rules, standing orders, procedures and any other constitutional documents shall not be in conflict with any provision of these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or Other Rules.

PROVINCIAL COUNCILS AND COUNTY BOARDS

- 17. (a) Provincial Councils may be formed in each of the four Provinces in accordance with the Bye-Laws. Each Provincial Council may draw up bye-laws which shall in all cases be limited to its operations within its own area and will in no sense conflict with any IAAF/Association Articles.

- (b) Registered Members shall not be permitted to organise or take part in Provincial championships or games if their subscriptions to the Association are unpaid for the current year.
- (c) If at any time a position as Provincial representative on the Board becomes vacant through resignation or otherwise, the Board shall remind the Provincial Council concerned which shall appoint (within two months thereafter) a replacement representative to hold office until the next Congress. If the Provincial Council fails to appoint a replacement representative within that time the Board may do so.
- (d) Each Provincial Council shall prepare annually a calendar of all area championships, matches and invitation meetings to be held by the committees or other relevant bodies of that Province. The calendar shall include the Provincial championships. The Provincial Council in granting authorisation for any of these meetings shall ensure that they follow a logical sequence of progression towards the major meetings to be held the following year and that the dates of the aforementioned are duly protected.
- (e) County Boards may be formed in each of the 32 counties of Ireland in accordance with the Bye-laws. Each County Board may draw up bye-laws which shall in all cases be limited to its operations within its own area and will in no sense conflict with any requirements or rules of the IAAF or these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or Other Rules.
- (f) Registered Members shall not be permitted to organise or take part in County championships or games if their subscriptions to the Association are unpaid for the current year.

LAPSING/CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 18. Without prejudice to the application of the provisions of Bye-law 1 generally, and Bye-law 1.6 in particular, to club membership, failure to pay any annual subscription or Affiliation fee payable to the Association on or before 28th February or, if appropriate, any earlier date required by Article 12 will result in lapsing of the Membership or Affiliation of the person or organisation by whom or which the subscription or fee was payable.
- 19. Without prejudice to the application of the provisions of Bye-law 1 generally, and Bye-law 1.6 in particular, to club membership, cessation of Membership howsoever occurring:-
 - (a) shall not entitle the Member to repayment of the whole or any part of any contribution or subscription previously paid by him; and
 - (b) shall be without prejudice to the Member's liability to pay any contribution or subscription which has become due and payable before such cessation.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Appendix I

Bohermeen Athletic Club

Established 1927

Reformed 1963



To all executives in A.A.I

Mr Liam Hennessy, Mr Gerry Giblin, Mr Patsy McGonagle, Mr Paddy Fay
Mr Brendan McDaid, Mr Neil Martin, Mr Michael Hunt, Mr John McGrath
Mr John Allen, Mr John Saulters, Mr Ronnie Quigley, Mr Martin Fitzgerald
Mr Ray Flynn

Neilstown
Bohermeen
Co Meath

Dear

Members of Bohermeen Athletic Club, County Meath request an answer to the following:

Is the Athletic Association of Ireland (A.A.I) recognised by the International Association of Athletics Federation (I.A.A.F) as representing the Island of Ireland (thirty two counties) or the Republic of Ireland (twenty six counties) in all international competitions under I.A.A.F. Control?

We await your prompt reply.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Ball,
Chairman.

Appendix J



ATHLETICS
IRELAND

Mr Stephen Ball
Chairman
Bohermeen Athletic Club
Nielstown
Navan
Co. Meath

23rd September 2009

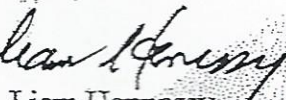
CC: All Board Members

Dear Stephen

I wish to reply to your recent letter as follows:

The Athletic Association of Ireland (AAI) is the Member for Ireland and recognised as such by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) in its Constitution. That Constitution states that "The jurisdiction of Members shall be limited to the political boundaries of the country they represent." Our area of jurisdiction is the Republic of Ireland.

Yours sincerely


Liam Hennessy
President

Appendix K

Caroline Larkin

From: Caroline Larkin <kilbracklarkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2018 2:15 PM
To: minister@dtas.ie
Subject: International Status of All

Dear Minister Ross,

I would be very grateful if you would answer the following question.

Does the Athletic Association of Ireland also known as Athletics Ireland Represent the Island of Ireland or the Republic of Ireland at European and World Athletic Championships.

Kind Regards
Laurence Larkin
0879161335

Appendix L

Caroline Larkin

From: Ministers Office <MinistersOffice@dtas.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 1:14 PM
To: Mr. Laurence Larkin
Subject: Ref:MO01062-2018

Our Ref: MO01062-2018

Dear Mr. Larkin,

Thank you for your recent correspondence in relation to Athletics Ireland.

Sport Ireland, which is funded by my Department, is the statutory body with responsibility for the development and promotion of sport, increasing participation at all levels and raising standards, including the allocation of funding across its various programmes.

I have had enquiries made with Sport Ireland and I am informed that since 1924, Athletics Ireland has been affiliated to the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF), the world governing body for the sport. Under IAAF statutes, Athletics Ireland's jurisdiction at international events covers the 26 counties and, as such, the status of Ireland at European and World Athletic Championships is on that basis.

All National Governing Bodies of Sport are independent, autonomous bodies and are responsible for their own governance procedures and competition rules for their sports. I would suggest that you contact Athletics Ireland directly for any further information in relation to this matter. Contact details for Athletics Ireland at (01) 8869933 or email admin@athleticsireland.ie.

I hope this information is of assistance to you.

With best wishes,

Shane Ross

Minister for Transport Tourism and Sport

Appendix M

List of All Irealnd sporting organisations

1. G.A.A.
2. Rugby
3. Golf
4. Boxing
5. Badminton
6. Squash
7. Tennis
8. Hockey
9. Basketball
10. Horse Sport Ireland
11. Rowing
12. Sailing
13. Swimming
14. Table Tennis
15. Triathlon
16. Snow Sports
17. Irish Clay Target Shooting
18. Taekwondo
19. Baseball
20. Softball
21. Cycling
22. BobSleigh and Skeleton
23. Judo
24. Special Olympics
25. Mountaineering
26. Irish Underwater Council
27. Pitch and Putt
28. Handball
29. Irish Schools Athletic Association
30. Universities Athletic Association
31. Olympic Federation of Ireland
32. Cricket
33. Motor Cycle Union of Ireland
34. Volley Ball
35. Surfing
36. Martial Arts
37. Vision Sports Ireland
38. Irish Olympic Handball
39. Ladies Gaelic Football
40. Camogie
41. Gymnastics
42. Community Games
43. Inline Hockey

- 44.Coarse Fishing
- 45.Students Sports Third
Level
- 46.Lacrosse
- 47.Flying Disc Association
- 48.Waterski and
Wakeboard
- 49.Baton Twirling
- 50.Racquete Ball
- 51.Archery
- 52.Caving
- 53.Angling
- 54.Croquet
- 55.Horseshoe Pictures
- 56.Karate
- 57.Irish American
Football
- 58.Ice skating
- 59.Road bowling
- 60.Horse Racing Ireland

Appendix N

How cyclists solved their problem

Up until 1972 cycling in Ireland was bitterly divided between three organisations - Northern Ireland Cycling Federation (NICF), Irish Cycling Federation (ICF) and National Cycling Association (NCA, closely associated with the NACA). The division closely mirrored the situation in athletics. The only difference was that the NICF was independent of the British federation and that the NICF and ICF picked joint teams to represent Ireland in international events.

The administrators of the three bodies met and agreed that their sport would be better served by cooperation than dissension. Such cooperation would remove a poison from the sport. It would also lead to more effective use of the efforts of the many voluntary workers whose labours were diminished by being divided in three.

Agreement was reached, after a series of meetings between the three organisations, that as from 1979 they would open their competitions to each other. The calendars of races were coordinated. An umbrella committee was set up to coordinate their activities and select international teams to represent Ireland. Members of the NICF and local NCA formed a committee to deal with Commonwealth Games matters.

In a further development in 1988 the three organisations applied to the world cycling governing body for a derogation from the national boundary regulations and the recognition of a single body to represent Ireland. This was granted and what is now Cycling Ireland was formed. It was also agreed that any British citizen in Northern Ireland who did not wish to accept a licence from the new Irish body would be free to take a licence from the British Cycling Federation (BCF) and could compete in any event in Ireland on an equal basis with holders of Irish licences. They would also be eligible for selection for British teams.

In the late 1990s the BCF changed its constitution to extend its area of operation to the United Kingdom - thereby claiming jurisdiction over Northern Ireland. This immediately brought it into conflict with the world governing body and Cycling Ireland.

Following a lengthy period of discussions between Cycling Ireland, British Cycling and Union Cycliste Internationale the text below was signed at a meeting held in Bardolino on the 30th of September 2004 on the occasion of the 2004 World Championships. It has since been ratified by all parties. The text of the agreement is reproduced below in its entirety.

Agreement between Cycling Ireland and British Cycling Federation. September 2004

Preamble

10/08/2005

Proposed Agreement Between Cycling Ireland and British Cycling (August 2004)

Preamble

This agreement is made between Cycling Ireland (C.I.) being the National Governing Body for Cycling in Ireland and British Cycling (B.C.) being the National Governing Body for Cycling in Great Britain (both Bodies being fully recognised by the Union Cycliste Internationale (U.C.I.)). The purpose of the Agreement is to comply with the UCI resolution agreed to by both parties at the UCI congress at Zolder in 2002 and to regulate the implementation of the derogation from U.C.I. Regulations allowed by the U.C.I. for British citizens resident in Northern Ireland. B.C. and C.I. affirms that the sole intention of this proposal is to best serve the interests of all cyclists, resident within the islands of Britain and Ireland. B.C. and C.I. affirm that it is their belief that the interests of all cyclists are best catered for through the U.C.I.. This agreement is subject to the National Council of B.C. agreeing to change the constitution of B.C. in order to reflect the decision of the U.C.I. congress unanimously approved by delegates at Zolder (see below).

Draft resolution of the Congress of the UCI The Congress, considering that on 19 September 1988, the FIAC Congress in Seoul ratified the affiliation of the Federation of Irish Cyclists (now Irish Cycling) as the sole governing body of cycling in the whole island of Ireland, i.e. the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland which is part of the United Kingdom, and that the Federation of Irish Cyclists was admitted as the UCI member for the whole island of Ireland; considering that when the FIAC and the FICP merged into the UCI per 1st January 1993, the UCIs' constitution stipulated that the members of the UCI at 1st January 1993 shall be those federations which were members of the FIAC and/or the FICP on 30th September 1992 and that the status of the Federation of Irish Cyclists was not changed; considering that in November 1992 an agreement was signed between the British Cycling Federation (now British Cycling) and the Federation of Irish Cyclists (now Irish Cycling) which confirmed that the Federation of Irish Cyclists is the national governing body for cycling in the whole island of Ireland and in which the British Cycling Federation and the Federation of Irish Cyclists organized their cooperation, in the interest of cycling, especially with regards to British individuals living in Northern Ireland; considering that this agreement, which has expired in the meantime, was approved and supported by the UCI; confirms that Irish Cycling is the UCI member for the whole island of Ireland and, subject to the following, is the only federation having jurisdiction for cycling in the territory of Northern Ireland; encourages British Cycling and Irish Cycling to cooperate in mutual agreement and in compliance with the above principle, for giving consideration to the individual position of British citizens in Northern Ireland who want to take their license from British Cycling; decides that any such agreement has to be approved by the UCI; decides that any action, decision, or measure of any kind that is contrary to this resolution shall be null and void; calls on British Cycling and Irish Cycling to inform each other and the UCI of any measure or initiative one of them intends to take and that may be

This agreement is made between Cycling Ireland (C.I.) being the National Governing Body of Cycling in Ireland and the British Cycling Federation (B.C.F.) being the National Governing Body of Cycling in Great Britain (both Bodies being fully recognised by the Union Cycliste Internationale (U.C.I.))

The purpose of the Agreement is to comply with the UCI resolution agreed to by both parties at the UCI congress at Zolder in 2002 and to regulate the implementation of the derogation from U.C.I. Regulations allowed by the U.C.I. for British citizens resident in Northern Ireland.

The B.C.F. and C.I. affirm that it is their belief that the interests of all cyclists are best catered for through the U.C.I.

This agreement is subject to the National Council of the B.C.F. agreeing to change the Memorandum of Association of the B.C.F. in order to reflect the decision of the U.C.I. congress unanimously approved by delegates at Zolder (see below).

Draft resolution of the Congress of the U.C.I.

The Congress, considering that on 19th September 1988, the FIAC Congress in Seoul ratified the affiliation of the Federation of Irish Cyclists (now Irish Cycling) as the sole governing body of cycling in the whole island of Ireland, i.e. the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland which is part of the United Kingdom, and the Federation of Irish Cyclists was admitted as the U.C.I. member for the whole island of Ireland;

considering that when the FIAC and the FICP merged into the U.C.I. per 1st January 1993, the U.C.I.'s constitution stipulated that the members of the U.C.I. at 1st January 1992 shall be those federations which were members of the FIAC and/or the FICP on 30th September 1992 and that the status of the Federation of Irish Cyclists was not changed;

considering that in November 1992 an agreement was signed between the British Cycling Federation and the Federation of Irish Cyclists (now Irish Cycling) which confirmed that the Federation of Irish Cyclists is the national governing body for cycling in the whole island of Ireland and in which the British Cycling Federation and the Federation of Irish Cyclists organized their co-operation, in the interest of cycling, especially with regards to British individuals living in Northern Ireland;

considering that this agreement, which has expired in the meantime, was approved and supported by the U.C.I.;

confirms that Irish Cycling is the U.C.I. member for the whole island of Ireland and, subject to the following, is the only federation having jurisdiction for cycling in the territory of Northern Ireland; encourages the British Cycling Federation and Irish Cycling to cooperate in mutual agreement and in compliance with the above principle, for giving consideration to the individual position of British citizens in Northern Ireland who want to take their licence from the British Cycling Federation; decides that any such agreement has to be approved by the U.C.I.;

decides that any action, decision, or measure of any kind that is contrary to this resolution shall be null and avoid;

calls on the British Cycling Federation and Irish Cycling to inform each other and the U.C.I. of any measure or initiative one of them intends to take and that may be reasonably be suspected to be sensitive to Irish Cycling on the one hand and British individuals in Northern Ireland on the other hand concerning its conformity with the present resolution and any agreement in relation therewith, as approved by the U.C.I.;

calls on the British Cycling Federation and Irish Cycling to create a permanent joint committee in order to fix and implement the terms of their co-operation and to permanently promote a relation of good neighbourliness;

calls on the British Cycling Federation and Irish Cycling to use and promote the sport of cycling as a vector for bringing peace and harmony.

Agreement

IT IS AGREED THAT

1. Cycling Ireland (C.I.) is the internationally recognised National Cycling Federation for the island

of Ireland. The British Cycling Federation (B.C.F.) undertakes that it will not seek to extend the area of its own control of cycle sport into the recognised territory of Cycling Ireland (C.I.).

2. The Northern Ireland Cycling Federation (N.I.C.F.) being a Body to which B.C.F. members in Northern Ireland may belong, has the right to administer the sport of cycling for these B.C. F. members resident in Northern Ireland, who wish to be members of N.I.C.F. and for this purpose the N.I.C.F. shall frame its own Technical Regulations which, where possible, shall run in accord with those of C.I. and the B.C.F. However, those, which relate to the eligibility of persons to compete in C.I. events e.g. categories, ages, gearing, etc., shall be in unison with those of C.I.

3. The B.C.F. may issue membership and licences to individual British citizens resident in Northern Ireland provided such persons do not wish to take out a C.I. membership and/or licence. However, only one licence may be held at any one time.

4. Members of the B.C.F. and C.I. may compete in events organized under the jurisdiction of the others at any time without the need for specific permission from their respective Federation, provided the member holds a valid licence. Save for U.C.I. calendar events in which specific permission to compete may be required. This permission can only be granted by either C.I. or the B.C.F.

5. Championships will normally be restricted to licensed members of the promoting Federation and it is the prerogative of the promoting Federation as to whether it wishes to open it's championships to licensed members of other Federations.

6. Holders of B.C. F. licence under the provisions of the Agreement will wear club race clothing of a design ratified jointly by C.I. and the B.C.F. to ensure non-duplication with the clothing of C.I. registered clubs.

7. The implementation of this agreement is subject to it's acceptance by the 2004 National Council of the B.C.F. coupled with the necessary changes to the B.C.F.'s Memorandum of Association. It may be terminated by a resolution of the delegates of the U.C.I. congress.

Signed on behalf of the British Cycling Federation
Jim Hendry Gen. Secretary
Barry Broadbent Board Member

Signed on behalf of Cycling Ireland
Jack Watson Hon. Secretary
PJ Nolan Hon President

Signed on behalf of the Union Cycliste Internationale
Peter Zevenbergen Board Member

Dated: 30th September 2004

Appendix O

Caroline Larkin

From: Linda O'Reilly <linda@olympicsport.ie>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 5:39 PM
To: kilbracklarkin@gmail.com
Subject: query on "Island of Ireland"

Dear Laurence,

Please find below an email from Sarah Keane for your attention.

Kind Regards
Linda

Dear Laurence,

Many thanks for your recent email and I do indeed know Clare and Kilkee very well, my father was a Clare man !

Regarding the title definitions of the Olympic Council of Ireland, we wish to confirm that the Olympic Council of Ireland represents the "Island of Ireland" and the British Olympic Association (Team GB) represents Great Britain as recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

Athletes from Northern Ireland can choose which National Olympic Committee they wish to compete for, and if they choose to represent Ireland they must hold an Irish passport.

Best Regards

Sarah

From: Caroline Larkin [<mailto:kilbracklarkin@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday 19 February 2018 11:15
To: Alex Bocsi <alex@olympicsport.ie>
Subject: Attention Sarah Keane President OCI

Hi Sarah,

My name is Laurence Larkin and I live in Galway City but originally from Kilkee in Co Clare, a place I believe you know very well from your family connections with the West Clare area.

I am doing research work on the international status of Irish Athletics and I have come across a Wikipedia page on the Olympic council of Ireland.

It states the OCI is the National Olympic Committee for the Republic of Ireland although Athletes from Northern Ireland may also participate as well as in the Great Britain and Northern Ireland Team.

In the Olympic Council of Ireland Articles of Association under the title definitions it states Ireland means the Island of Ireland.

My understanding is Ireland goes to the Olympics Games as Team Ireland representing the Island of Ireland.

The British go to the Olympic games as team GB representing Great Britain.

Athletes from the North of Ireland have the right to represent either Team Ireland or Team GB as they so wish.

I would be very grateful if you would confirm that the Olympic Council of Ireland selects and enters teams that represent the Island of Ireland at the Olympic Games and that the OCI is recognised by the International Olympic Committee as its member for the Island of Ireland.

Thank you for taking the time to read this mail and looking forward to your reply.

Yours Sincerely
Laurence Larkin
087 9161335