



THE IRISH AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

IRISH INVITATIONAL 2015

Royal Dublin | The Island | Portmarnock



Ambassador O'Malley with Partnership Board Members L-R: Board Member Liam Connellan, Executive Director Mary Sugrue, Golf Championship Series Chairman Aidan Browne, Ambassador O'Malley, Board Members Mike Clune, Niall Power Smith, and Sir Bruce Robinson

Inaugural Irish Invitational Raises Funds for RDS Limerick Science Fair

The inaugural Irish Invitational was a great success, drawing in over 50 golfers for three days of competition and camaraderie. Golfers enjoyed challenging courses and uncharacteristically beautiful weather during the September 15-17 rounds at Royal Dublin, The Island, and Portmarnock.

Rich and Patrick Corbett were the lowest net score winners for the tournament. It was only fitting that an American working in Dublin took the top prize at a tournament committed to promoting Irish-American business relationships.

To wrap up the Invitational, tournament participants attended a gala dinner at the Royal Dublin Golf Club. There, they heard remarks from U.S. Ambassador to Ireland Kevin O'Malley, Royal Dublin Society (RDS) President Dr. Matt Dempsey, Partnership Board Member Liam Connellan, and Golf Championship Series Chairman Aidan Browne.

The Partnership would like to acknowledge Irish Invitational Co-Chairmen Aidan Browne, Ted Sheehan, and Mike Clune for their incredible work in making this tournament a reality.

Proceeds of the Irish Invitational benefited the Limerick Primary Science Fair, a joint initiative by the Irish American Partnership and the RDS.

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Ambassador O'Malley addresses guests at the gala dinner with RDS President Dr. Matthew Dempsey in front view



Steve Green and Tournament Co-Chairman Ted Sheehan with Christy O'Connor Snr at Royal Dublin Golf Club



Ready to tee-off at Portmarnock, winning team Rich and Patrick Corbett with Tom Fitzpatrick and Sandy Pegram





Inaugural Irish Invitational Raises Funds for Limerick Science Fair

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Minister O'Sullivan at the Limerick Primary Science Fair Launch

Building on the success of the RDS Primary Science Fair in Dublin, the Limerick expansion opens up scientific investigation and learning to dozens of new schools. The RDS Primary Science Fair aims to develop students' scientific skills and curiosity. It is a venue for students to develop numeracy and literacy skills, exchange ideas, and for teachers to gain a professional network of contacts to share best practices. Students are encouraged to design a project, investigate a question, and analyze their results.

The Fair is not a competition; rather, it is a team presentation to gain feedback from peers and teachers outside of their own school.

Facts and Figures from the 2015 RDS Primary Science Fair in Dublin:

- 120 schools
- 3,000 students
- 10,000 visitors
- 51% first time applicants
- 43% of applicants from outside of Leinster

For the past two years, the Dublin Fair has been 120% over-subscribed and difficult for many schools to attend due to the length and cost of travel necessitated. The Irish American Partnership provided travel grants for rural schools to ease the financial burden, but the distance and over-subscription prevented many interested schools from participating. For this reason, the RDS and The Irish American Partnership are piloting a regional expansion model, beginning in Limerick in 2016.



"The RDS Primary Science Fair is one of the highlights of the year for my class. Each September we start looking around for suitable projects and have great fun in working through them. It's also a unique way for my class to learn and each year they always respond really well to the creativity and thinking challenges involved. It'll be great to have RDS Primary Science Fair Limerick on our doorstep next year."

-Veteran of four RDS Primary Science Fairs in Dublin, teacher Clare Farrell of St Patrick's GNS, Co. Limerick

Part of the RDS Science program, the RDS Primary Science Fair encourages primary school teachers to focus on developing students' core scientific skills by investigating a question or problem. Feedback from teachers indicates that it's not just science skills that benefit but general literacy, oral language, and numeracy skills can improve through primary science fair participation. International studies have also demonstrated a direct link between primary school science engagement and later academic science achievement.

The 2016 RDS Primary Science Fair Limerick takes place in association with the Irish American Partnership and supported by the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition and Mary Immaculate College. It will take place on January 15 and 16 2016 at Mary Immaculate College. Further details on the Fair can be found at www.rds.ie/primaryscience.

The Regional Model

The increasing popularity of the Dublin fair has inspired the Partnership and RDS to create a network of regional primary science fairs for students to attend. The regional fairs will be more accessible to a wide range of students, who will no longer have to travel great distances or confront high costs to attend.

Thank you to all those who participated in the Irish Invitational. Your support will provide 2,000 additional students with the opportunity to engage in scientific learning and discovery at the Limerick Primary Science Fair.



Ballyvaughan NS students receive an award for their RDS project on hydroponics

"The RDS Primary Science Fair is a fantastic initiative. It nurtures young students' natural curiosity and sense of wonder and provides them with a great stage to show off their endeavours....All partners deserve our thanks for this initiative. Enhancing science and maths at primary level is an important goal. This year we've seen very strong evidence that the Government numeracy strategy is really making a difference among primary school students. The RDS Primary Science Fair complements that success and having the event here in Limerick will be a great boost for our youngest scientists in Limerick and throughout the region."

-Minister for Education & Skills Jan O'Sullivan





Paul McGinley Becomes Patron of the Irish American Partnership Golf Championship Series

During the Irish Invitational Gala Dinner, Golf Championship Series Chairman Aidan Browne announced that Paul McGinley will serve as the patron of this year's Series. The Partnership formed a relationship with McGinley in 2013 during a breakfast they held in his honor, and he has been a friend ever since.

McGinley first captivated the golf community when he holed the winning putt during the 2002 Ryder Cup, securing a European victory. He successfully returned to the Ryder Cup in 2004 and 2006, and served as a vice-captain for the European team in 2010 and 2012. In 2014, he once again made headlines as the first Irishman to serve as Captain of the European Ryder Cup team, where his leadership clenched a European victory. While he has won four European tour titles, his true passion lies in the team format. He has been on victorious teams during the Ryder Cup, Seve Trophy, World Cup, and Royal Trophy, and will hopefully continue his success for years to come.



The Partnership started coordinating golf tournaments in 1990 with tournaments in the United States and Ireland, and has continued the Golf Championship Series ever since. The series currently includes tournaments at Newport Country Club in Rhode Island, Beverly Country Club in Illinois, and Schuyler Meadows Club in New York, as well as the Irish Invitational Tournament with rounds at Royal Dublin, The Island, and Portmarnock.

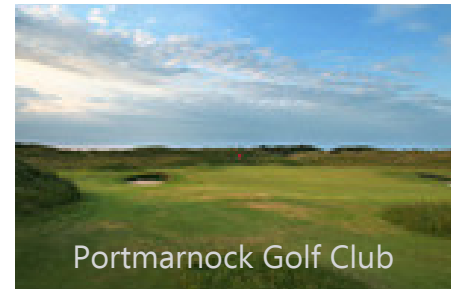
Thank you for participating in the inaugural Irish Invitational!



Royal Dublin Golf Club



The Island Golf Club



Portmarnock Golf Club

Upcoming Tournaments

We hope you can join us next summer at:



June 6, 2015
Beverly Country Club
Chicago, IL



June 13, 2015 (to be confirmed)
Newport Country Club
Newport, RI



June 20, 2015
Schuyler Meadows Club
Loudonville, NY