

Re: Donegal Sports Ability Forum



Back L to R; Seamus Campbell Special Olympics, Gerard Holmes DeafHear, Bill Duncan People With Disabilities in Ireland, Owen McFadden Irish Wheelchair A, John Porter Gartan Outdoor Education Centre, Myles Sweeney Donegal Sports Partnership.

Front L to R; Patricia Coyle Aura Letterkenny Leisure Centre, Rosaleen Bradley Donegal Centre for Independent Living, Thérèse Laverty Donegal Sports Partnership, Denise Diver Donegal Down Syndrome Association.

Absent from Photo; Marcus Hufsky Disability Federation of Ireland, Mary McGrenra Irish Wheelchair Association, Charlie McLaughlin MS Ireland, David Magee Badminton Ireland, James McClean People with Disabilities in Ireland, Cath Waugh People with Disabilities in Ireland & Donegal Sports Partnership, Bluestack Foundation, Margaret McHugh Dept of Education, Niall McGee Inishowen Athletic Club.

Donegal Sports Ability Forum was established in September 2008, under the umbrella of the Sports Inclusion Disability Officer (SIDO) Programme, initiated by Donegal Sports Partnership. The SIDO programme commenced in February 2008 funded under Pobal's Dormant Accounts Funding and supported by the Irish Sports Council and the Health Promotion Department (HSE West).

The SIDO programme is a co-ordinated approach to sports development in County Donegal and involves participation of many organisations including; disability groups, sports clubs, National Governing Bodies of Sport, community organisations and schools with the ultimate aim of increasing participation of both adults and children with disabilities in sport and physical activity. A total of 21 SIDO programmes have been established in Ireland through the support of the Irish Sports Council. In Donegal the programme is coordinated locally by Thérèse Laverty Sports Inclusion Disability Officer.

The Sports Ability Forum examines provision of sport and physical activity for people with disabilities in Donegal, highlighting gaps in provision and exchanging information on current practices, initiatives and resources. It provides the opportunity for organisations to share information and work in partnership with a common goal of increasing overall participation in sport and physical activity.

Commenting on the Sports Ability Forum Thérèse Laverty (SIDO) welcomed the support received from all participating organisations in the forum and thanked them for their involvement and support to-date. Further information on programmes and events can be found on Donegal Sports Partnership Disability website on www.disability.activedonegal.com .If you have any queries relating to the Sports Ability Forum or have an item you would like discussed please contact Thérèse on 074 (91) 16078/16079 or Email: sidoactivedonegal@gmail.com .