

SPRING 2016 EZINE

Spring greetings

Spring has finally sprung; days are longer; nights are shorter; and the weather is improving (albeit slowly) so put a spring in your step and get out and get active with your club, family and friends...

Keep an eye on our [events page](#) for upcoming events

PROGRAMME UPDATES

Operation Transformation



Thanks to everyone who joined Offaly Sports Partnership on their Operation Transformation walk in Cloghan in January, and to everyone who kept up the walking thereafter. Check out our [YouTube channel](#) for a video of the walk.

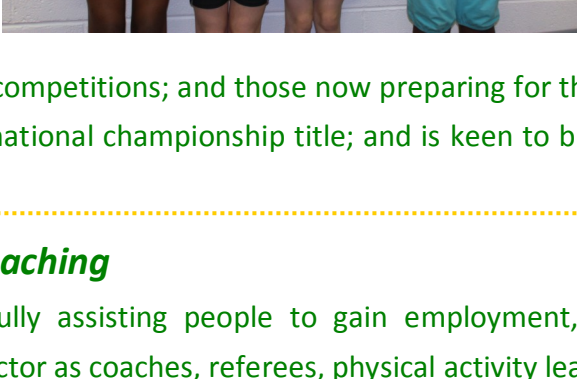
Well done also to Birr and Tullamore College (*pictured across at the end of their 5k run in February*) Operation Transformation groups; Ballykilmurray and Moneygall Community Transformation groups; and all those other groups that got involved in the Operation Transformation Programme 2016.



With runs, walks and cycling events kicking off now, why not keep up the good work and get involved in some kind of activity for the summer. Keep an eye on our events [page](#) for upcoming events

Integrated Academy for Athletics Performance (IAAP)

The IAAP continues to grow, and the objective of increasing visibility of migrant communities in inter club events is being achieved.



Congratulations to the members who took part in recent indoor competitions; and those now preparing for the summer season. The academy is pleased to have secured its first indoor national championship title; and is keen to build on the success if the 2015 track and field season.

Community Coaching

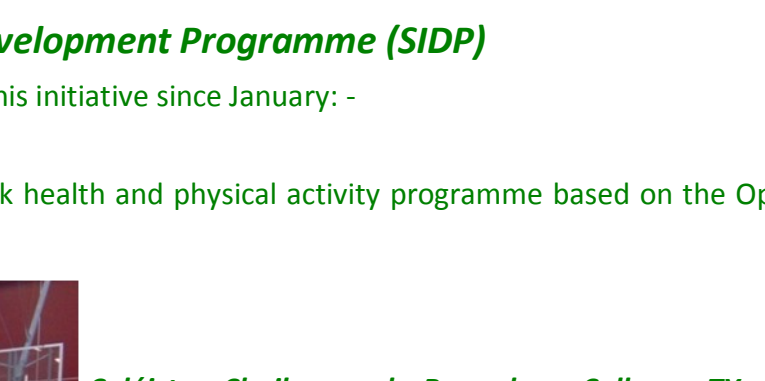
The Community Coaching programme is focused on successfully assisting people to gain employment, coaching, volunteering and further education opportunities in the sports sector as coaches, referees, physical activity leaders, etc.

Two programmes are currently under way (Tullamore community coaching) / nearing completion (Portarlington advanced community coaching; delivered in conjunction with Laois Sports Partnership and Portarlington Leisure Centre).

In addition, Offaly Sports Partnership are currently recruiting participants for our next Community Coaching programme taking place in Clara every Monday, Wednesday and Friday; commencing mid May, and running until early August. Topics to be covered will include Athletics and SPORTSHALL Athletics, Disability inclusion, First aid, Fitness testing, GAA, Golf, Rugby, Safeguarding Children (child protection training), Safe cycling, Soccer, Strength and Conditioning and Water activities (kayaking), etc Other sporting activities may be included depending on the interest of the trainees. Those trained can also expect to participate on a variety of work experience projects; and gain the skills and knowledge to pursue pathways into the sports sector.

Should you require further information on this programme or wish to register your interest to participate, please contact the office on 057 93 46843.

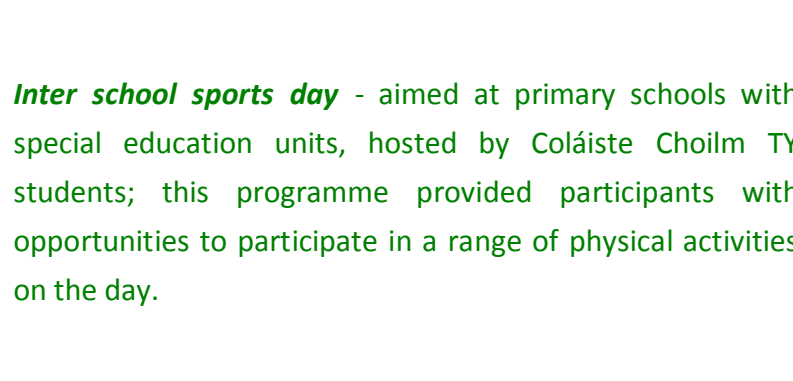
Offaly Sports Partnership's Community Coaching Programme is supported by : -



Sports Inclusion Development Programme (SIDP)

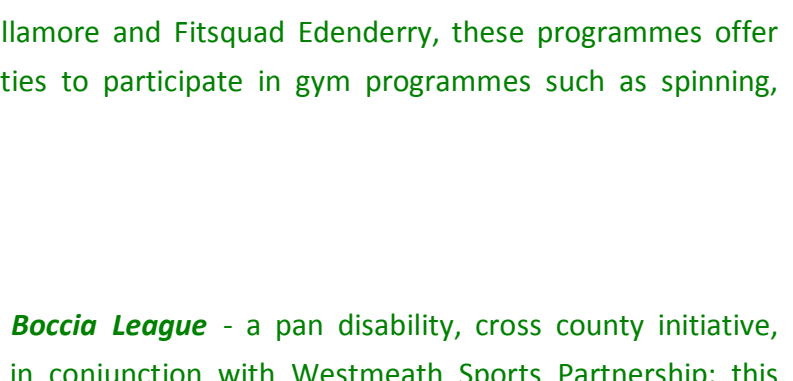
A variety of programmes have been delivered under this initiative since January: -

Bury Quay Operation Transformation - a seven week health and physical activity programme based on the Operation Transformation television concept.

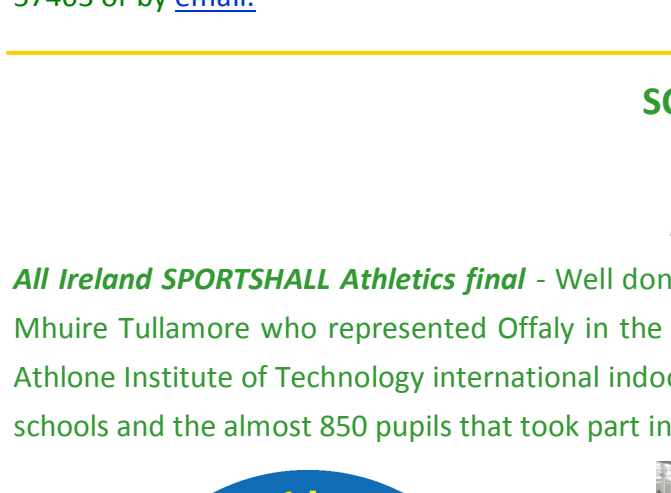


Inter school sports day - aimed at primary schools with special education units, hosted by Coláiste Choilm TY students; this programme provided participants with opportunities to participate in a range of physical activities on the day.

Coláiste Choilm and Banagher College TY / Irish Wheelchair Association Boccia - four week physical activity programmes hosted by Coláiste Choilm and Banagher College TY students supporting the participation of people with physical disabilities in sport and physical activity.



Gym programmes - delivered in conjunction with Aura Tullamore and Fitsquad Edenderry, these programmes offer people with sensory and intellectual disabilities opportunities to participate in gym programmes such as spinning, strength and conditioning, etc.



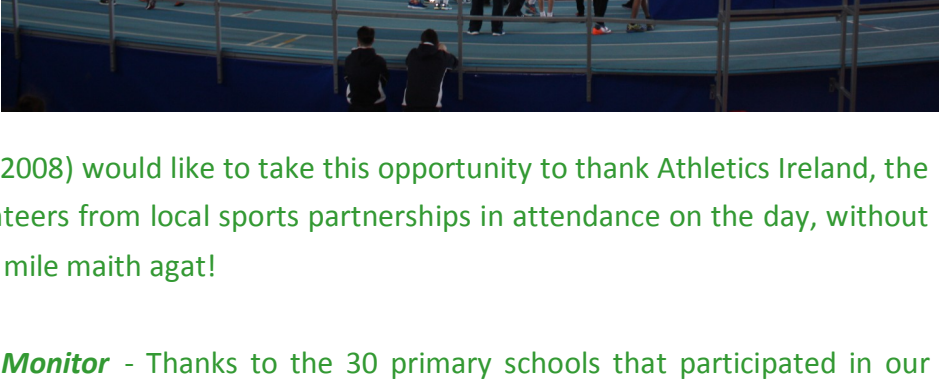
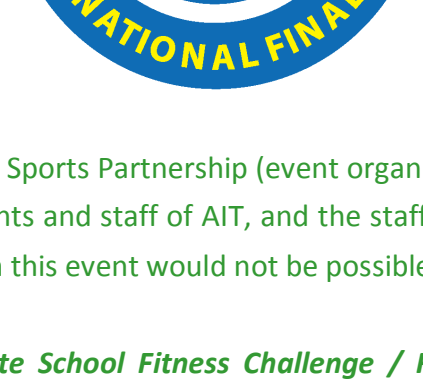
Midlands Boccia League - a pan disability, cross county initiative, delivered in conjunction with Westmeath Sports Partnership; this programme provides opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in competitive sport.

For more information Offaly Sports Partnership Sports Inclusion Development Programme, contact the office on 057 93 57463 or by [email](#).

SCHOOLS UPDATES

Primary schools

All Ireland SPORTSHALL Athletics final - Well done to Scoil Mhuire Bainríon (Edenderry Boys National School) and Scoil Mhuire Tullamore who represented Offaly in the All Ireland SPORTSHALL Athletics (primary) final on the 9th March in Athlone Institute of Technology international indoor arena. Well done also to the other 14 counties, their representative schools and the almost 850 pupils that took part in the event.



Offaly Sports Partnership (event organizers since 2008) would like to take this opportunity to thank Athletics Ireland, the students and staff of AIT, and the staff and volunteers from local sports partnerships in attendance on the day, without whom this event would not be possible. Go raibh mile maith agat!

Remote School Fitness Challenge / Fit School Monitor - Thanks to the 30 primary schools that participated in our Remote School Fitness Challenge / Fit School Monitor programme 2014 / 2015.

Offaly Sports Partnership are now recruiting schools to participate in our Remote School Fitness Challenge / Fit School Monitor programme 2015 / 2016. Contact the office by [email](#) to express your interest in this programme. Closing date for receipt of expressions of interest for this programme is Wednesday, 27th April.



Active School Week - Active School Week takes place from the 25th to 29th April 2016. If your school is looking for support to run events, check out the [Active School Week website](#) to see what's available in Offaly. Alternatively contact Offaly Sports Partnership on 057 93 57462 to see what supports we can offer.

Post primary schools



Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership - Offaly Sports Partnership would like to congratulate the 30 TY students from Tullamore College who completed their Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership In March 2016.

Offaly Sports Partnership are now recruiting schools to participate on the rprogramme in the coming academic year. If your school is interested in participating on the programme, please contact the office on 057 93 57462 or by [email](#).

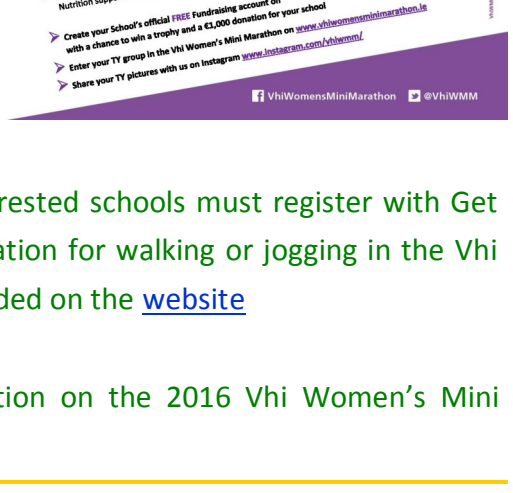
Vhi Women's Mini Marathon in association with **Get Ireland Walking** and **Everydayhero** from **Mycharity.ie** are working together to encourage schools across Ireland to increase girls fitness levels by training to walk or jog the 10k event which takes place on Monday 6th June.

Statistics show that girls fall off in fitness levels once they start secondary school and Get Ireland Walking is working to change this by supporting girls to get active. To achieve this, Vhi Women's Mini Marathon in association with Get Ireland Walking is providing transition year students with an opportunity to raise money for their school or a cause by taking up the challenge.

Everydayhero from MyCharity is helping participating schools in their fundraising efforts by providing a free Vhi Women's Mini Marathon fundraising account, a trophy and a donation of €1,000 for the winning school and all schools are in with a chance to win.

The All Ireland Girls Transition Year School Challenge is open to all schools. Interested schools must register with Get Ireland Walking and organise a group of TY students to train regularly in preparation for walking or jogging. Follow the training & Vhi Women's Mini Marathon. They can follow the training and nutrition support provided on the [website](#)

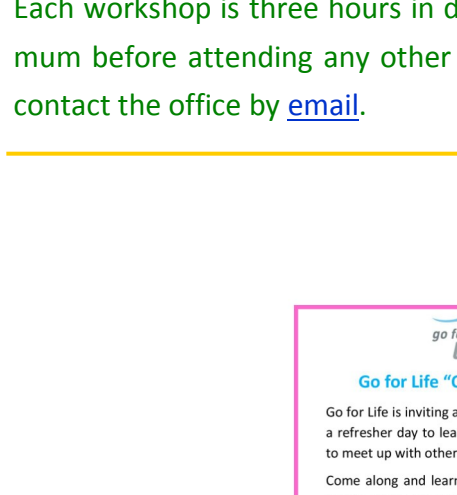
Interested schools can register with [Get Ireland Walking](#). For further information on the 2016 Vhi Women's Mini Marathon, check out the [website](#) or follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



Notes for clubs, facilities, groups and organisations on our database

Club database - Offaly Sports Partnership is currently in the process of updating its clubs, facilities, groups, organisations and schools' databases.

Clubs and facilities, please review the clubs and facilities directories [online](#) and advise of any changes by [email](#). Schools, groups and organisations, if you are concerned that the Partnership may have incorrect details for your school, group or organisation, please contact us by [email](#) to update your details.



Safeguarding children training - Offaly Sports Partnership has commenced roll out of the new Safeguarding Children (formerly code of ethics) workshops. Three workshops are now available: -

Safeguarding 1 – Basic Awareness Workshop in Child welfare and protection
Safeguarding 2 – Club Children's Officer Workshop
Safeguarding 3 – Designated Liaison Person Workshop

Each workshop is three hours in duration, and participants must have attended the Safeguarding 1 workshop at a minimum before attending any other workshop. For more information or to book a place on one of these courses, please contact the office by [email](#).

Upcoming events

Offaly events



Other events



[West of Ireland Women's Mini Marathon](#)

1st May 2016

[Royal County 5k & 10k](#)

2nd May 2016

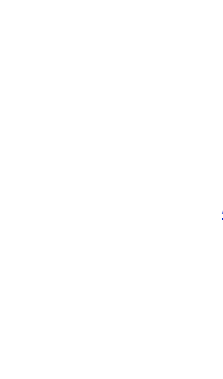
[VHI Women's Mini Marathon](#)

6th June 2016

An Post Yeats Tour of Sligo 2016
May Bank Holiday Weekend

[An Post Yeats Tour of Sligo 2016](#)

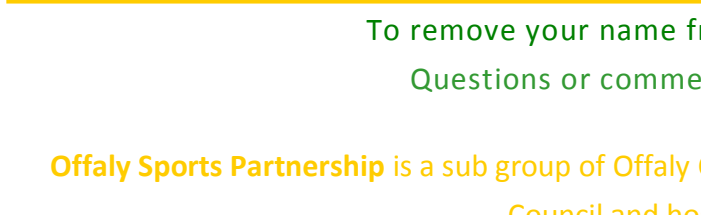
30th April / 1st May 2016



Bikeweek.ie
11th – 19th June 2016

[Bike Week](#)

11th to 19th June 2016



[An Post Meath Heritage Cycle Tour](#)
23rd & 24th July 2016

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#)

Questions or comments? [Email us](#) or call 057 93 57462