

Tokyo Olympics Athlete Bios

Thomas Barr (400m Hurdles) - Thomas Barr (Ferrybank AC) secured Olympic qualification at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland where he ran a big season's best performance of 48.39 (7th June 2012). This performance marked his quickest time since winning a European bronze medal in 2018 in Berlin.

Tokyo will be Barr's second Olympic appearance having finished in 4th place at the Rio Olympics in 2016 (47.97).

Síofra Cléirigh Büttner (800m) – The Dundrum South Dublin athlete was another of the 800m division on fire throughout the indoor season, breaking the national 800m indoor record in Arkansas in a time of 2.00.58 back in February.

Büttner returned from college in the states to put together a string of impressive performances which started with a 2.01.78 in the Czech Republic, before going on to claim silver at the national championships on June 26th which sealed her ranking for Tokyo.

Andrew Coscoran (1500m) – The Star of the Sea AC athlete competed in 5 different countries from late May in his pursuit of Olympic qualification. His penultimate start resulted in him securing the national 1500m title in 3.48.29 on June 26th.

Coscoran has a 3:35.66 PB from the Sollentuna Meet in Sweden on June 13th of this year which ranks him 9th on all-time list (one place behind Eamonn Coughlan).

Mark English (800m) - Mark English (Finn Valley AC) ran the performance of a lifetime at the Castello Meet in Spain last week. English clocked a brilliant 1:44.71 which broke David Matthews long standing Irish 800m record of 1:44.82 which stood since 1995. This time was inside the 1:45.20 standard needed to secure automatic qualification for the Tokyo Olympics.

English competed at the Rio Olympics in 2016, bowing out at the semi-final stage.

Michelle Finn (3,000m Steeplechase) - Michelle Finn (Leevale AC) produced a stunning PB performance in the 3,000m steeplechase at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland last month to take nine seconds off her previous best to finish in 9:29.25, and in doing so secured Olympic qualification. Finn's time was less than a second off Roisin McGettigan's long-standing Irish record of 9:28.29 set in 2007.

Finn represented Ireland in the 3,000 metres steeplechase at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio, finishing 11th in her heat.

Eilish Flanagan (3,000m Steeplechase) - In May of this year, Eilish Flanagan (Carmen Runners AC) set a new Northern Irish 3,000m steeplechase record of 9:40.68 in Eugene, Oregon which cut 1.93 seconds off the previous record set by Kerry O'Flaherty in 2015.

Flanagan also set a new Irish and Northern Irish 2000m Steeplechase record with a time of 6:13.50 at the AAI Games in Santry last month.

Flanagan claimed silver with the Irish U23 team in the Euro Cross Country in 2019. Earlier that year she took silver in the women's 3000m S/C at the European U23 Athletics Championships in Gävle, Sweden.

Phil Healy (200m/400m/400m Relay) – The Bandon AC athlete has built on her 4th place finish at the European Indoor Championships (400m) earlier this year to cement her place in Tokyo with a string of consistent performances. Healy secured her FOURTEENTH national title in claiming the 200m and 400m gold medals at the national championships on June 26th & 27th.

Healy who is the Irish 100m record holder also has a 200 Metres PB of 22.99 which was a national record up until earlier this year (2nd all-time list).

Healy has a 400m PB of 51.50 which was set at the Mary Peters Track in Belfast back in May which places her 3rd on all-time list behind Joanne Cuddihy and Karen Shinkins.

Sarah Healy (1500m) - Sarah Healy (UCD AC) set a new 1500m personal best on her way to victory at the Folksam Grand Prix meeting in Gothenburg last month in a time of 4:07.78. This moved her to number seven on the Irish all-time list.

Healy went on to claim the national 1500m title in 4:15.08 on the 26th of June 2021.

- Healy claimed gold at the European U18 Championships for 1500m and 3000m in 2018.
- 2nd in the 1,500m at the European U20 Championships in 2019.

David Kenny (20K Walk) - The 21-year-old Farranfore Maine Valley athlete is set to compete at the European U23 Championships this Friday (July 9th). Kenny has been in flying form this season, securing a new 20K Walk PB of 1:23:06 in Dudince (SVK) back in March before going on to retain his national 20k walk title in Galway on June 12th. Kenny is coached by Olympic bronze medallist Robert Heffernan.

Sarah Lavin (100H) - Sarah Lavin (Emerald AC) became only the second Irish woman to ever break the 13-second barrier in the 100mH at the World Athletics Continental Tour silver meeting in Madrid in June 2021. Lavin ran a PB of 12.95, finishing 2nd.

Lavin has equalled or bettered 13.20 for 100mH on all her last 4 starts which secured her place in Tokyo through her world ranking.

The 2013 European U20 silver medallist secured the 100mH national title in comfortable fashion on June 27th in a time of 13.17.

Marcus Lawler (200m) – The Clonliffe Harriers AC athlete is no stranger to success on the world stage having secured a bronze medal in the 200m at the World University Games in 2019.

The 2020 national champion is ranked 3rd on the Irish 200m all-time list with a personal best time of 20.40 (16 July 2018).

Lawler secured qualification for the Games via his world ranking.

Ciara Mageean (1500m) - 2019 saw Ciara Mageean (City of Lisburn AC) win bronze in the 1500m at the European Indoor Championships. Mageean secured the Olympic standard in July 2019 before going on to make the World Championships Final in Doha where she placed 10th in a new PB of 4.00.15, becoming the first Irish woman to make a World final since Sonia O’Sullivan in 1997.

- Mageean set a new Irish Indoor 1,500m record of 4:06.42 in the US (25th Jan 2020).
- Mageean followed up by setting a new Irish 800m record by breaking the two-minute barrier to run 1:59.69 (July 2020).
- She then broke Sonia O’Sullivan’s 1000m record with a 2.31.06 in Monaco (14th Aug 2020).

Mageean finished 11th in the 1500m semi-final at the 2016 Rio Olympics with a time of 4:08.07

Nadia Power (800m) – The Dublin City Harriers athlete has had a stunning two years since securing an 800m bronze medal at the European U23 Championships in Sweden in 2019. Power claimed the national 800m title in 2020 before going on to clock a 2:01.01 PB at the Stadio Quercia in Italy last September.

Power carried this form into the 2021 Indoor season where she broke her own national 800m indoor record with a stunning 2:00:98, beating her own record of 2:02:44 which was clocked in Vienna back on January 30th.

Power produced a string of consistent performances across Europe over the last six weeks to securing her place in Tokyo via her ranking.

Leon Reid (200m) – The Menapians AC athlete claimed the 200m national title in impressive fashion on June 27th, clocking 20.79 to defeat Mark Smyth (20.97) and Marcus Lawler (20.99).

His 20.27 from Birmingham (GBR) in 2018 remains his PB and ranks him number 1 on the Irish all-time 200m list.

Louise Shanahan (800m) – Louise Shanahan of Leevale secured her place at the Games in the most dramatic of fashion, with the bonus points achieved from her national 800m title proving vital in her quest for Olympic qualification. Shanahan was ranked 51st going into the national championships

before moving inside that all important top-48 positions with the gold medal display in a time of 2:03.62.

Shanahan secured the national 1500m title in 2020 and went on to secure an 800m PB of 2:01.44 at the Mary Peters Track, Belfast on the 29th of May 2021.

Mixed 4 x 400m Relay Team (4 athletes from the following 6):

- **Cillin Greene** – Green (Galway City Harriers) is 10th on the Irish 400m all-time list with a PB of 46.18 which was achieved in Genève last month. The Galway athlete claimed gold in the 400m at the 2021 national championships in 46.38 on June 26th.
- **Chris O'Donnell** – (North Sligo AC) 3-time national 400m champion Chris O'Donnell went 3rd on the Irish all-time list with a stunning 45.55 in Luzern on 29 Jun 2021. O'Donnell was part of the team which secured Olympic Qualification for the Mixed 4 x 400m relay team in Poland last May.
- **Robert McDonnell** (Galway City Harriers) – Robert McDonnell has continued his rapid rise in 2021 with a brilliant 400m PB of 46.59 at the Mary Peters Track in Belfast on the 29th of May 2021. McDonnell would go on to secure the U20 national title at 200m, before finishing with bronze in the 400m at the national senior championships.
- **Phil Healy** – (Bandon AC) Healy has a 400m PB of 51.50 which was set at the Mary Peters Track, Belfast back in May which places her 3rd on all-time list behind Joanne Cuddihy and Karen Shinkins.
- **Sophie Becker** (Raheny Shamrock AC) – Becker continued on from an impressive 2020 which saw her secure the national indoor and outdoor titles. Becker claimed a 400m PB of 52.32 at the Mary Peters Track in Belfast on May 29th 2021 which places her 5th on Irish all-time list. Becker was a member of the Women's 4x200 Metres Relay team which secured second place at the World Relay Championships in a NR time of 1:35.93 in Poland (May 2021).
- **Clodhna Manning** – Kilkenny City Harriers athlete Clodhna Manning secured a 400m PB in taking first place at the recent AAI Games in a time of 53.07. Manning continued her fine form by claiming the 400m silver medal for 400m at the national championships behind Phil Healy.