



STRATEGIC PILLAR 5

# UNLOCKING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



# ATHLETE AND MEMBER FEDERATION FUNDING

2025 was another significant year for the Olympic Federation of Ireland's financial support of Irish athletes, teams, and Member Federations.

## Scholarships

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### Summer:

In 2025, the OFI launched its the LA2028 Olympic games scholarship programme. This seeks to support prospective Irish Olympians on their journey to qualification for the 2028 Los Angeles Games. This programme is supported through IOC Olympic Solidarity and the OFI contributes an additional €85k to this programme from internally-generated reserves.

Following a large number of applications, the eight athletes below were selected and share a total pot of €212k through to the LA Games.

- ▶ Evan Bailey (Swimming)
- ▶ Ronan Byrne (Rowing)
- ▶ Andrew Coscoran (Athletics)
- ▶ Grace Davison (Swimming)
- ▶ Hollie Elliot (Triathlon)
- ▶ Ewan McMahon (Sailing)
- ▶ Kate O'Connor (Athletics)
- ▶ Aoife O'Brien (Cycling)

### Winter:

In December 2023, the OFI awarded Winter Games 2026 Olympic Scholarships, with a total pot of \$210,000 being distributed among eight athletes. The funding for these grants is provided through the IOC's Olympic Solidarity programme, and the scholarships are designed to offer financial support to athletes who were targeting qualification for Milano Cortina in February 2026. The eight scholarship recipients represented seven disciplines and included a mix of experienced Olympians and Winter Games hopefuls.

The Milano Cortina 2026 Scholarship recipients were:

- ▶ Cormac Comerford (Alpine Skiing)
- ▶ Elsa Desmond (Luge)
- ▶ Claire Dooley (Dual Moguls)
- ▶ Brendan Doyle (Skeleton)
- ▶ Thomas Maloney Westgaard (Cross Country Skiing)
- ▶ Elle Murphy (Alpine Skiing)
- ▶ Liam O'Brien (Speed Skating)
- ▶ Seamus O'Connor (Snowboard Freestyle)

## **Team Support**

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In 2025 the LA cycle ‘Team Support grant’ was awarded to the Women’s 3x3 Basketball team and the Men’s Hockey Team. This will see Basketball Ireland and Hockey Ireland benefiting from a \$100k total grant, paid in three equal instalments from 2026 to 2028. This grant is supported through IOC Olympic Solidarity funding.

## **Make a Difference Fund**

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In 2024, the OFI’s annual golf day raised €30k for the Team Ireland ‘Make a Difference’ fund. The payments in this regard were accrued as a cost in the 2024 accounts and the money paid to four Paris athletes during the first six months of 2025 to help provide opportunities for enhancing their on-going LA Games preparation.

Our 2025 golf day raised a further €22k, all of which was paid to three Member Federations to help support their High Performance ambitions during the year, being Boxing Ireland, the Irish Clay Target Shooting Association, and Irish Sailing.

## **Youth Olympic Games – Dakar, Senegal**

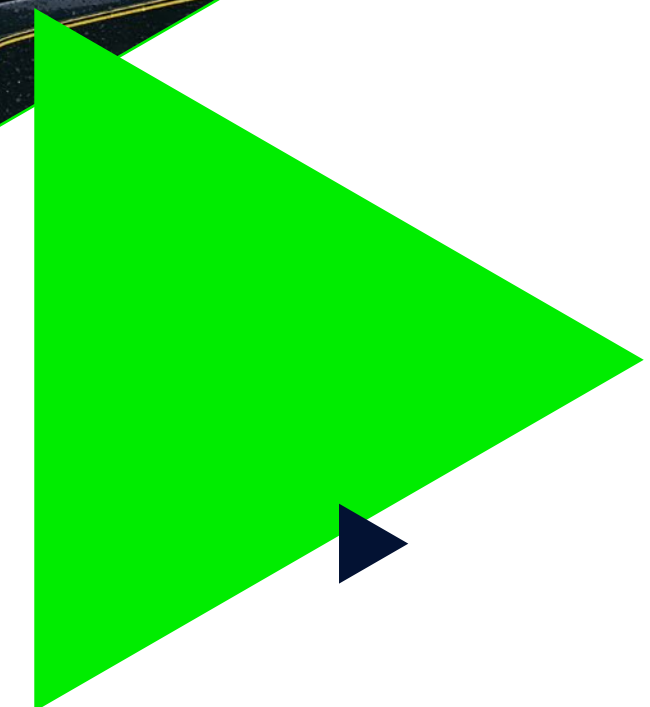
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In 2025 we successfully applied for a grant totalling \$25k to assist sports who at that time were likely to send athletes to the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar in November 2026. Payments in this regard have now been made, benefitting Athletics, Cycling, Gymnastics, Swimming and Table Tennis.

## **National Sport System Development Funding**

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In early 2026, the OFI worked closely with Badminton Ireland to facilitate successful \$70k application to the IOC to strategise and implement a National Sports System plan. This funding will fast-track the development of Badminton in Ireland and improve the sports’ facilities, structures, clubs and performance.



## Flogas Funding

Thanks to the generosity of our energy partner Flogas, the OFI launched two separate athlete-focused schemes in early 2025.

### Flogas Performance Programme:

Flogas donated €75k to the OFI in late 2024 from their successful 'Flogas Dual Fuel tariff' for the purpose of funding athlete's performances. This donation was deferred to the Balance Sheet in our 2024 year-end accounts and was recognised as income in 2025 as payments were made. Member Federations, athletes and coaches applied for support under this programme in one of the following categories.

- ▶ Enhanced training or competition support (extended training camps, additional competition opportunities etc); or
- ▶ Performance Coach Support (additional coaching hours, travel to international events, further qualifications etc); or
- ▶ Enhanced sports science provision (physiotherapy, nutrition, strength and conditioning, psychology, and testing equipment).

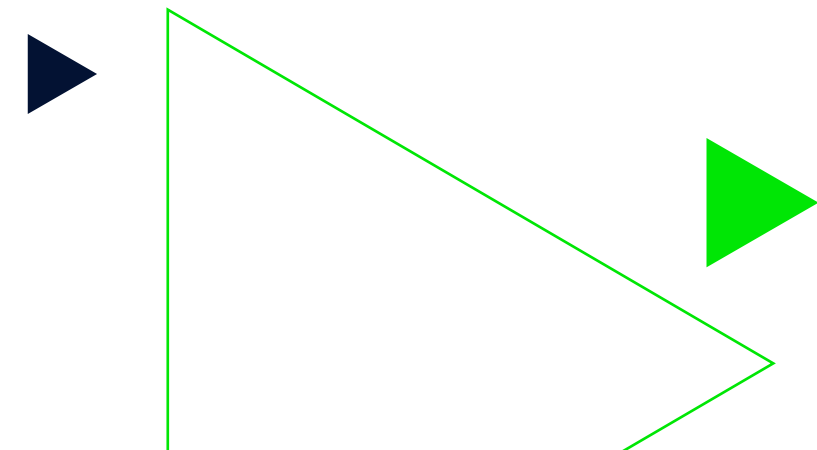
In 2025, €48k was awarded and paid to 13 athletes and €26k was paid to four Member Federations, being Basketball Ireland, Cycling Ireland, Rowing Ireland and the Snowsports Association of Ireland.

### Flogas 'Team Ireland Athlete Charity Foundation' Initiative

In 2024, Flogas donated €60k to the OFI's charitable foundation to support Olympic and prospective Olympic athletes to access educational and mentorship opportunities as well as to fund access to specific career re-training. This donation was deferred to the Balance Sheet of the charity's 2024 year-end accounts and was recognised as income in 2025 as payments were made.

The donation reflects the commitment of Flogas to support athlete welfare and their ambitions beyond the field of play. The scheme also seeks to assist the work of the Sport Ireland Institute's 'Life Skills' team by supporting the provision of Education, Mentorship and Life Coaching, and the teaching of Public Speaking and Presentation skills.

Following an application process, awards from this Flogas donation were committed to 19 athletes to fund Education opportunities as well as to 11 athletes to enhance their Public Speaking Skills and 10 athletes to provide them access to a Mentorship programme.



# COMMERCIAL

2025 proved to be a strong Commercial start to the Los Angeles (LA) cycle. Allianz Insurance are now our title Sponsor and we are delighted that we will be working with them all the way to the 2032 Brisbane Games and hopefully beyond.

At partner level, Deloitte, Flogas, Key Patent Innovations and McKeever Sport continue their invaluable support into the LA cycle.

In 2025 we also welcomed two new partners, Fiat Ireland and Spar Eurospar – both significant international brands and we look forward to a fruitful alliance. We are extremely grateful to all of our commercial partners, without which our athletes could not enjoy the level of support we are currently able to provide.



# TEAM IRELAND'S FITTEST SPONSOR

In May 2025, our sponsors went head-to-head with each other and Sport Ireland at the Sport Ireland Campus to see who would be crowned the third annual 'Team Ireland Fittest Sponsor'. With encouragement from our host, Olympian Thomas Barr as well as their own personal Olympic coaches, the teams participated in a number of sports in front of a vocal crowd.

Deloitte emerged the eventual winners after a strong relay finish, taking the title for a third straight year. A special thank you to Gourmet Food Parlour, the official catering supplier of Team Ireland, who provided lunch and a post-Games barbeque, as well as the Sport Ireland Institute and the Sport Ireland Campus staff for hosting us and of course to all our sponsors and partners for ensuring that the event was a huge success.

A big thank you also must go to each of the Olympic coaches who worked with the teams; Kate O'Connor, Sonia O Sullivan, Grainne Walsh, Kenneth Egan, Fintan McCarthy and Philip Doyle who put everyone through their paces and ensured a healthy balance of competitiveness and fun.



# TEAM IRELAND GOLF DAY

The Team Ireland Olympic Golf Fundraiser returned to the K Club in June 2025, bringing together athletes, partners, and supporters for one of the standout events in the Olympic Federation of Ireland calendar.

In its fourth year, the event continued to grow as a key platform for engagement, combining fundraising, storytelling, and relationship building in support of Team Ireland athletes. Despite challenging weather conditions, more than 120 participants took to the course in a four-person scramble format that was followed by an evening programme reflecting the strength and spirit of the Olympic community.

There was a strong cohort of Olympians and athletes that included Rhys McClenaghan, Michael Carruth, Philip Doyle, Aidan Walsh, and David Wilkins. Our partners and supporters were offered a unique opportunity to connect directly with those who have represented Ireland on the world stage.

The evening programme featured contributions from Olympians Thomas Barr and Fintan McCarthy, who shared their journey with those in attendance.

Our golf day plays an important role, not only in generating funds that directly support athletes to assist with their daily training and preparation, but also strengthens the connection between Team Ireland and its wider network, bringing together sport, business, and community in a shared commitment to Olympic success.

As Team Ireland reflects on its successes at Milano Cortina 2026 and looks ahead to Loas Angeles 2028, the golf fundraiser remains a cornerstone event in unlocking resources and building the relationships that underpin long-term performance.

