

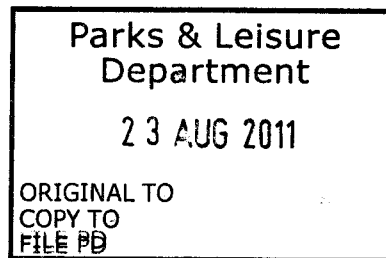


Transplant Sport Northern Ireland

Mr Hazard
Director
Leisure Service
Belfast City Council

17 August 2011

Dear Mr Hazard



Northern Ireland Transplant Athletes Excel at Home Games

I am writing in my capacity as the Northern Ireland Transplant Games Team Manager to update you on the tremendous performance of athletes from Northern Ireland at the recent Westfield Health British Transplant Games Belfast 2011.

The team representing the Belfast Regional Transplant Unit fielded a total of 67 athletes from all over Northern Ireland – 52 adults and 15 children. All of these competitors had received life saving organ transplants including kidney, liver, bone marrow, lungs and heart. We have been informed by Transplant Sport UK (the event organisers) that this is the largest team ever fielded in British Transplant Games history.

The team should be commended not only for their performances on the sports field but also for sharing their personal experiences over the past year with the public via the media to highlight the success of transplant surgery and to increase awareness

Transplant Sport NI Registered Charity Number No XT24124
Organ Donation – The Gift of Life - Giving people a sporting chance

about the need for organ donation. The positive impact of this is reflected by the fact that we have seen a significant increase in the number of people signing the NHS Organ Donor Register in Northern Ireland – I understand the figure now stands at 500,500 and is still rising.

The final medal tally was as follows:

Adults Team: Gold - 48, Silver - 33, Bronze – 18.

Children's Team: Gold -2, Silver - 2, Bronze – 3

List of trophies.

Ross Taylor Rose Bowl for Best Overall Team

Lifetime Achievement Award - Janet Coleman

John Gorna Trophy for Best Swim Team

Outstanding Female Athletic Performance - Orla Smyth

Outstanding Male Athletic Performance -Brian Armstrong

Best Performance Super Veteran Female - Irene Jeffers

Best Performance Super Veteran Male - Turlough O'Hagan

Best Adult Badminton Team (Female) - Helena Boyle and Rachel Curran

Victrex Ludorum Dry Senior Female Orla Smyth

Victor Ludorum Dry Veteran Male - Brian Armstrong

Best Female Cyclist (5 and 10K) - Lynn Patton

This successful performance is directly related to you and your staff's generosity in allowing our athletes to benefit from Boost membership of Belfast City Councils Leisure facilities. Indeed based on the team performance this year at least 22 of our athletes will be selected to represent the UK at the World Transplant Games in Durban during 2013. I wonder if you would consider allowing this membership to continue on an annual basis between February and August each year to allow our athletes the best preparation for future games?

On a final note I would like to express sincere thanks on behalf of our team for your personal interest and support in this very important cause.

Yours in sport



Frankie O'Kane

Team Manager

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