

2015 World Handball
Championships
Calgary Alberta

Official Program

WORLD HANDBALL HISTORY

Although the sport of handball was invented in Ireland several centuries ago, and Irish players scattered across the globe in the nineteenth century, taking the game with them to other continents and countries, the possibility of international competition did not arise until 1956.

In that year, the President of the Irish Handball Council, the Very Rev. Canon Carroll, was visiting the U.S. and brought up the possibility with the AAU handball President, Charles J. O'Connell. Two players from America, Harry Hyde and Tom Ginty, both with Irish roots, were chosen to cross the pond for a 1957 exhibition. In fact, Hyde's son, Bob, also made the trip. A total of eight matches were played in a ten day period in September, 1957, all in different locations in Ireland, and the results were an even split. Harry Hyde returned for further competition in 1958, but played only one winning match before the planned series did not materialize.

In 1960, the Irish council heard from players in Australia who proposed that Irish players come to Australia for a series of matches at Easter, 1962. They also proposed that Irish, Australian, and American players meet for competition in the U. S. in 1964. The 1962 event never came to pass, but the idea lingered, with hopes for 1964 still alive.

New York City, NY, U.S.A 1964

Indeed, players from five countries – Australia, Canada, Ireland, Mexico and the U.S.-- met for the first "World" event in the World Fair year of 1964 in New York City at the NYAC. This was a clear turning point, as all involved needed to agree upon common rules to follow, and the Irish players encountered their first 40 x 20 "small" courts. Jimmy Jacobs won the singles round robin while John Sloan and Phil Elbert won the doubles. The U.S. was undefeated in 8 matches, with Canada taking a play-off with Mexico for second place.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Open Singles – Jimmy Jacobs (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
John Sloan & Phil Ebert (U.S.A.)

Toronto, Ontario, Canada 1967

The next advancement took place in 1967 when the U. S. rules were agreed to as the unified rules for international competition and Ireland was chosen for the 1970 World event. Canada were hosts in 1967 where Joey Maher (Ireland) but playing for Canada beat Carl Obert (USA) in the Singles Championship and the Obert Brothers, Carl and Rudy beat Harry Capperman and Mickey Unroth (Canada) in the Doubles.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Open Singles -
Joey Maher (Canada/Ireland)
Men's Open Doubles –
Carl Obert & Rudy Obert (U.S.A.)

Dublin, Ireland 1970

The Irish council members took their charge seriously, with significant fund-raising efforts in 1968 resulting in the construction of a glass showcase court in 1969 in Croke Park. The GAA was highly instrumental in helping with the funding for this court. Top players from the same five countries at the 1964 World event converged on Croke Park in October, 1970. Pat Kirby of the U.S. defeated all comers in singles, with Ireland's Joe Maher earning second place. Ireland's Richie Lyng and Seamus Buggy went undefeated in doubles to win that crown, with Bob Wilson and Mel Brown of Canada taking second place. The 1970 competition revealed that the showcase court's design made the game much more easy to view by courtside spectators as well as a TV audience.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Open Singles – Pat Kirby (Ireland)
Men's Open Doubles –
Richie Lyng & Seamus Buggy

Dublin & Clare, Ireland 1984

In spite of the progress made since 1956, the international handball scene went dormant after 1970 until 1984. That year, in honor of the centennial celebration of the Irish Handball Council, Dublin and Clare hosted a World Tournament featuring play on the 60 X 30 court as well as the 40 X 20, in both singles and doubles.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Invitational Singles –
Merv Deckert (Canada)
Men's Invitational Singles 60 x 30 –
Tom O'Rourke (Ireland)
Men's Invitational Doubles 60 x 30 –
Richie Lyng & Seamus Buggy (Ireland)

Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada 1986

Canada hosted the 1986 event, in Kelowna, British Columbia. This was the first World event to which junior and women players were invited. Joseph Lynch convened the leaders of the various countries represented and reinvigorated efforts to create a functioning governance structure. Vern Roberts (USA) beat Ducksy Walsh (Ireland) in the Men's Invitational event.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Invitational Singles –
Vern Roberts (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Singles – Danny Bell (Canada)
Women's Open Singles – Sue Carey (Ireland)
Men's Invitational Doubles –
Poncho Monreal & Jon Kendler (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Don Duarte & Kelly Russell (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Sue Carey & Elizabeth Hall (Ireland)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Francis Kavanagh (Ireland)
Boy's 17 and Under Singles –
Peter McAuley (Ireland)
Boy's 15 and Under Singles –
Tyler Hamel (Canada)
Boy's 13 and Under Singles –
David Chapman (U.S.A.)

WORLD HANDBALL HISTORY

Melbourne, Australia 1988

Representatives from six countries made the trek to Melbourne, Australia, for the 1988 tournament. This event continued the opportunity for women players to be involved, so the ongoing growth and popularity curve of the World event remained vigorous. Joseph Lynch and Caimin Jones served the World Handball Council as President and Secretary. Naty Alvarado won the Invitational event, with Peter McAuley of Ireland taking second. Kathleen Beddard of Canada won the Women's title with Sue Carey of Ireland taking second. In Doubles Joe Nendler/Poncho Monreal of the USA defeated John Fleming/Pat Cleary of Ireland. In Women's Doubles Lisa Fraser/Kathleen Beddard of Canada took the crown with Sue Carey/Bridget Mythen from Ireland taking second place.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Invitational Singles – Naty Alvarado (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Singles – E. Sherguga (Australia)
Women's Open Singles – K. Beddard (Canada)
Men's Invitational Doubles – Joe Kandler & Poncho Monreal (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles – John Robles & V. Mirand (Australia)
Women's Open Doubles – Lisa Fraser & K. Beddard (Canada)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles – Fergal Coughlan (Ireland)

Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A. 1991

In 1991, Joe Lynch notified the handball world that he would be resigning his position as National Secretary. Joe had been highly instrumental in endeavoring to get International Handball on a sound footing. Lorcan O'Rourke assumed the position of General Secretary of Irish handball and was present at the 1991 World event which took place in Phoenix, Arizona. This tournament saw 558 entries, a new and impressive record for entrants. Players from Britain joined players from Japan, Australia, Ireland, Mexico, and the U.S. Poncho Monreal of Mexico defeated Canada's Danny Bell for the Invitational title, while Anna Engele of the US won the Women's Invitational crown in a tie breaker

over Canada's Diane Vallee. The Invitational Doubles saw Doug Glatt and Rod Prince of the US defeat Jeff Wilson/Roberto Meneses of Canada. In the Women's Invitational Doubles: Anna Engele and Beth Rowley of the US won a close match over Canada's Lisa Fraser and Lavonah Muloin.

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Invitational Singles – Poncho Monreal (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Singles – John Robles (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles – Anna Engele (U.S.A.)
Men's Invitational Doubles – Doug Glatt & Rod Prince (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles – John Robles & Tony Mirinda (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles – Anna Engele & Beth Rowley (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles – Tyler Hamel (Canada)
Boy's 17 and Under Singles – Naty Alvarado Jr. (U.S.A.)
Boy's 15 and Under Singles – Michael Finnegan (Ireland)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles – Lupita Alvarado (U.S.A.)

In June of 1991, Canada's Bob Pruden took office as President of the World Council, and held this position until 1997, when Caimin Jones of Ireland assumed office.

Dublin & Clare, Ireland 1994

The 1994 event added a new country—France—to the other national teams that met in Dublin for the eighth international showcase of handball. Once again, the venues were located in Dublin and Clare, with 41 classes of events for Open, age-group, skill groups, juniors and women. Nearly 1,000 players from around the world made the commitment to play in this impressive event. The Invitational results showed Dave Chapman (USA) winning against Ducksy Walsh (Ire.). In the Women's open: Lisa Fraser (Can.) prevailed over Anna Engele (USA). In the Men's Invitational doubles: John Bike/Randy Morones (USA) handled Tom Sheridan/Egin Jensen (Ire). The Women's Invitational Doubles title went to Lisa Gilmore/Jessica Gawley (Can) over Fiona Shannon/Sibeal McKenna (Ire).

CHAMPIONS:

Men's Open Singles – David Chapman (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles – Lisa Fraser (Canada)
Men's Open Doubles – John Bike & Randy Morones (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles – Lisa Fraser & Jessica Gawley (Canada)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles – Raymond Breen (Ireland)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles – Jessica Gawley (Canada)
Boy's 17 and Under Singles – Dominic Lynch (Ireland)
Girl's 17 and Under Singles – Fiona McKenna (Ireland)
Boy's 15 and Under Singles – Eoin Kennedy (Ireland)
Girl's 15 and Under Singles – Sibeal McKenna (Ireland)

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada 1997

Winnipeg, Canada, hosted the World event in 1997. Americans dominated the four-wall event, with John Bike defeating a young but promising David Chapman in the Open Final (This was the first occasion that multiple entries were allowed in the main events) Likewise, Anna Engele (USA) took the women's title with Canada's Lisa Fraser claiming runner up. In Open doubles: John Bike and David Chapman (USA) prevailed over Danny Bell and Merv Deckert of Canada. For Women's Open Doubles Lisa Fraser and Jessica Gawley from Canada won over LeaAnn Martin and Allison Roberts of the USA. In One-Wall play, Americans prevailed, with Dave Rojas winning over Eddie Maisonet in singles. For the Women's Open: Sydell Smith of the U.S. took top honors with Barbara Canton taking second. In Open doubles, Tony Roberts/Dave Rojas of the U.S. defeated Maisonet/Paul Williams also from the U.S. In Women's Open doubles: Americans continued their winning ways with Smith/Karen McConney downing Canton/Dori Ten, also of the U.S. Some intriguing developments took place elsewhere as well, with pelota players from Spain giving one-wall handball a try in Ireland (originally tried in 1932), and Irish players getting involved with handball in Belgium and Finland. Handball was also beginning to take off in Wales and London, using the Belgian game played in a squash court.

WORLD HANDBALL HISTORY

CHAMPIONS:

Four Wall
Men's Open Singles – John Bike (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles – Anna Engele (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
David Chapman & John Bike (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Lisa Fraser & Jessica Gawley (Canada)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Kenneth Kane (Ireland)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Fiona McKenna (Ireland)
One Wall
Men's Open Singles – Dave Rojas (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles – Sydell Smith (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Tony Roberts & Dave Rojas (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Sydell Smith & Karen McConney (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Cesar Sala (U.S.A.)

Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. 2000

Waterford Crystal continued its support for the game by sponsoring the 2000 Tournament held in Chicago, which boasted competition in more than 70 classes in four-wall and one-wall. The World Handball Council was headed by President: Caimin Jones, Vice President: Paul Williams, and Secretary/Treasurer: Pat Brennan. In one-wall competition, Cesar Sala (U.S.) won over Joe Kaplan (U.S.). In the Women's open: Karen McConney (USA) defeated Dori Ten (USA). For the Men's Open doubles: Tony Roberts and Dave Rojas (USA) won over Paul Williams and Eddie Maisonet (USA). In Women's Open Doubles, Dori Ten and Barbara Canton-Jackson (USA) prevailed over Karen McConney and Sydell Smith (USA). In 4-Wall Open: David Chapman (USA) handled John Bike (USA). In the Women's Open: Priscilla Shumate (USA) played a tough match to win over Anna Christoff (USA). In Open doubles: David Chapman and Danny Bell (US/CAN) combined to take the honors against John Bike and Kendell Lewis (USA). In Women's Open Doubles: Anna Christoff and LeaAnn Martin (USA) won against Lisa Gilmore and Jessica Gawley (Can).

CHAMPIONS:

Four Wall
Men's Open Singles – David Chapman (U.S.A.)

Women's Open Singles –
Priscilla Schumate (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
David Chapman & Danny Bell (U.S.A. / Canada)
Women's Open Doubles –
Anna Christoff & LeeAnne Martin (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Dessie Keegan (Ireland)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Megan Mehilos (U.S.A.)
One Wall
Men's Open Singles – Cesar Sala (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles –
Karen McConney (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Tony Roberts & Dave Rojas (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Dori Ten & Barb Canton (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Ferece Dominique (U.S.A.)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Theresa McCourt (U.S.A.)

Ireland 2003

Ireland hosted the 2003 event, with some 1,200 players from 13 countries competing in 76 events, all new records for the increasingly popular event. Caimin Jones concluded his term as President and Paul Williams of the US was elected President. Canada's Pat Brennan moved to VP and Con Moore, Ireland was elected secretary/treasurer. Ireland's Paul Brady started a run of four consecutive World Four Wall titles with a win over Tony Healy, also from Eire. Fiona Shannon continued Ireland's winning ways with her victory over Canada's Lisa Fraser. In doubles, however, the Canadians returned the favor as Fraser partnered with Jessica Gawley to take down Shannon and Sibeal McKenna. Americans dominated the One Wall competition, as Herman Mendez nailed a win over Tony Roberts in singles, with Anna Calderon matching his win with her own against Lian Chin. In doubles. Mendez partnered with Willie Polanco to beat Roberts and Dave Rojas, while Calderon teamed with Melody Ruiz to capture a win over Chin and Na Liu.

CHAMPIONS:

Four Wall
Men's Open Singles – Paul Brady (Ireland)
Women's Open Singles –
Fiona Shannon (Ireland)
Men's Open Doubles –
Paul Brady & Michael Finnegan (Ireland)

Women's Open Doubles –
Lisa Fraser & Jessica Gawley (Canada)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Noel McHugh (Ireland)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Maria Daly (Ireland)
One Wall Big Ball
Men's Open Singles – Herman Mendez (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles –
Anna Calderon (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Herman Mendez & Willie Polanco (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Anna Calderon & Melody Ruiz (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Victor LoPiere (U.S.A.)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles – Na Liu (U.S.A.)

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada 2006

The 2006 event landed in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The World Handball Council was led by Paul Williams of New York as President, with Canada's Pat Brennan as Vice President, and Con Moore of Ireland as Secretary-Treasurer. In One-Wall Open Singles: Cesar Sala prevailed over Joe Kaplan (USA), while Karen McConney (USA) outlasted Dori Ten (USA). In Open Doubles: Tony Roberts/Dave Rojas (USA) defeated Paul Williams/Eddie Maisonet (USA). For the Women's Open Doubles: Dori Ten/Barbara Canton-Jackson (USA) thwarted Karen McConney/Sydell Smith (USA). In Four-Wall Open Singles, Paul Brady (Ire.) overcame Tony Healy (Ire.) and Fiona Shannon (Ire.) secured a win over Anna Christoff (U.S.) in the Women's Open Singles. In Open Doubles: Tony Healy/Eoin Kennedy (Ire.) won a marathon match against Paul Brady/Michael Finnegan (Ire.). In Women's open doubles, the host country found the winning combination when Lisa Gilmore/Jessica Gawley (Can.) were victorious over Fiona Shannon/Sibeal McKenna (Ire.).

CHAMPIONS:

Four Wall
Men's Open Singles – Paul Brady (Ireland)
Women's Open Singles –
Fiona Shannon (Ireland)
Men's Open Doubles –
Tony Healy & Eoin Kennedy (Ireland)
Women's Open Doubles –
Lisa Fraser & Jessica Gawley (Canada)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Robert McCarthy (Ireland)

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Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Marianne Rushe (Ireland)
One Wall Big Ball
Men's Open Singles – Willie Polanco (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles –
Theresa McCourt (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Willie Polanco & Tony Roberts (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Theresa McCourt & A. Cleynik (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Bill O'Donnell (U.S.A.)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Anastasia Oleynik (U.S.A.)

Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. 2009

Portland, Oregon, hosted the 2009 World Tournament, with the Multnomah Athletic Club and the Sunset Athletic club serving as the key venues. Once again, 1,000 players convened to celebrate the game they love. Pat Brennan assumed the position of WHC President, with Con Moore as VP and Vern Roberts serving as secretary-treasurer. Paul Brady continued to lead the way in Four Wall singles by winning a tough match against American Allan Garner. Irishmen Eoin Kennedy and Michael Finnegan secured a victory over their countrymen Robert McCarthy and Brian Carroll in doubles. Ireland's Fiona Shannon won against Aisling Reilly. Shannon continued her dominance with a doubles win, teaming with Sibeal Gallagher over Maria Daly and Aisling Reilly in an all-Irish final. In One Wall play, John Rookie Wright of the US showed his mastery with a win over fellow American Giovanni Vasquez. Americans also dominated the doubles, with Willie Polanco and Tony Roberts defeating Andre Calle and Victor LoPierre. The same held true in Women's play, with Karen McConney beating Brenda Pares DuBose, who then turned it around in doubles, with her partner Bernice Torres prevailing over McConney and Michelle Melendez

CHAMPIONS:

Four Wall
Men's Open Singles – Paul Brady (Ireland)
Women's Open Singles –
Fiona Shannon (Ireland)
Men's Open Doubles –
Eoin Kennedy & Michael Finnegan (Ireland)

Women's Open Doubles –
Fiona Shannon & Sibeal Gallagher (Ireland)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Seamus O'Carroll (Ireland)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Shauna Hilley (Ireland)
One Wall Big Ball
Men's Open Singles –
John Rookie Wright (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles –
Karen McConney (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Willie Polanco & Tony Roberts (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
B. Pares-Dubose & Bernice Torres (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Andreas Paz (U.S.A.)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Raquel Garcia (U.S.A.)
One Wall Small Ball
Men's Open Singles – Yuber Castro (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles – Tracy Davis (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Yuber Castro & Willie Polanco (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Tracy Davis & Theresa McCourt (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Tyree Bastidas (U.S.A.)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Danielle Daskalakis (U.S.A.)

Dublin, Ireland 2012

Several venues served to accommodate 2,000 players in October of 2012 in Dublin, with Ireland's largest collection of four-wall and one-wall courts built for the occasion at Citywest. The changing of the guard in WHC governance went on apace as Con Moore, Ireland was elected president, with Mike Driscoll USA taking over as VP, and Mike Steele USA as secretary-treasurer. In the Four Wall handball action, Ireland's Paul Brady continued his mastery over the years by defeating Luis Moreno of the US. Aisling Reilly won over her Irish competition, Fiona Shannon. In doubles, Moreno teamed up with Andy Nett of the US to pull out a win over Brady and Michel Finnegan. In One Wall men's play, Tywan Cook prevailed over Yuber Castro, both of the US. Americans Wally Amaro and Herman Mendez pulled off a victory over Willie Polanco and Cesar Sala, also of the US. In Women's One Wall play Michelle Melendez took down fellow American Jessica Lopez. Karen McConney and Ber-

nice Torres from the US teamed up to grab a win in doubles against Jessica Lopez and Jessica Santiago also of the US.

CHAMPIONS:

Four Wall
Men's Open Singles – Paul Brady (Ireland)
Women's Open Singles – Aisling Reilly (Ireland)
Men's Open Doubles –
Luis Moreno & Andy Nett (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Fiona Shannon & Sibeal Gallagher (Ireland)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Killian Carroll (Ireland)
One Wall Big Ball
Men's Open Singles – Tywan Cook (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles –
Michelle Melendez (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Wally Amaro & Herman Mendez (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Doubles –
Karen McConney & Bernice Torres (U.S.A.)
Boy's 19 and Under Singles –
Michael Zhou (U.S.A.)
Girl's 19 and Under Singles –
Catriona Casey (Ireland)
One Wall Small Ball
Men's Open Singles – Tyree Bastidas (U.S.A.)
Women's Open Singles – Tracy Davis (U.S.A.)
Men's Open Doubles –
Tyree Bastidas & William O'Donnell (U.S.A.)

The Tradition Continues . . . 2015 Calgary, Alberta, Canada



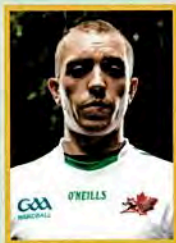


Ireland

Robert McCarthy –

Team Ireland Captain

40x20 Male Open Singles
Club: Mullingar, Westmeath
Honours: 40x20 All Ireland champion 2014, 2015, All Ireland 60x30 Champion 2011, 2012, 2013, WPH Players Champion 2014



Colin Corbett

40x20 Boys 19 & Under
Club: Tulla, Clare
Honours: 2015 19 & Under Irish Nationals Champion, 2015 Under 21 All Ireland Doubles Champion, 2012 17&Under World Doubles Champion, U16 40x20 Singles All Ireland, Under 16 40x20 Doubles All Ireland, 15&Under USHA Junior Nationals Singles & Doubles



Caitriona Millane

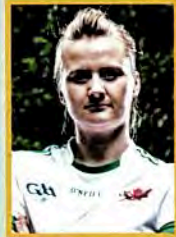
40x20 Girls 15 & Under
Club: Laochra Láimhe na Modhscoile, Limerick
Honours: 2014 U14 60x30 All Ireland Champion, All Ireland under 15 Champion 2015, 2015 15 & Under Irish Nationals Champion



Aisling Reilly –

Team Ireland Captain

40x20 Female Open Singles
40x20 Female Open Doubles
Club: St. Pauls, Antrim
Honours: Reigning Ladies Open World Champion, All Ireland Ladies Open Champion 2014, 2015



Daniel Kavanagh

40x20 Boys 17 & Under
Club: St. Joseph's, Wexford
Honours: U14 60x30 All Ireland, UK open One Wall U16s winner, Belgian One Wall Open Mens B winner, 2015 40x20 All Ireland Minor Doubles, 2015 17 & Under Irish Nationals Champion



Conor McElduff

One Wall Big Ball
Male Open Singles
Club: Breacach, Tyrone
Honours: Irish One Wall National Champion 2014, 2015, 60x30 All Ireland Junior Singles & Doubles, 40x20 All Ireland Junior Singles, Canadian Open Doubles.



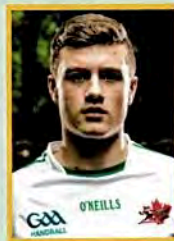
Paul Brady

40x20 Male Open Doubles
Club: Kingscourt, Cavan
Honours: Reigning World Singles Champion, 10 All Ireland Senior Singles, 10 All Ireland Senior Doubles, 10 US Nationals, 4 time World Champion, 1 World Open Doubles, 4 time US Open Champion, Race4Eight Players Champion 2015.



Tiarnán Agnew

40x20 Boys 15 & Under
Club: Kilkishen, Clare
Honours: 2013 U13 40x20 & One Wall Champion, 2014 40x20 & 60x30 All Ireland Champion, 2015 Colleges All Ireland Champion, 2015 15&Under Irish Nationals Champion



Catriona Casey

One Wall Big Ball Female Open Singles
Club: Ballydesmond, Cork
Honours: Ladies 40x20 Senior Singles & Doubles All Ireland winner, Ladies 60x30 Senior Singles & Doubles All Ireland winner, 2015 Irish One Wall Nationals Ladies Open Champion, Women's Open World Collegiate Singles and Doubles, 40x20 U14, U16, Minor and Intermediate All-Irelands, Under 13, 17, 23 & under Nationals Titles. 60x30 u14, u16, Minor All-Irelands.



Michael Finnegan

40x20 Male Open Doubles
Club: Kingscourt, Cavan
Honours: World U15 Singles Champion, 2 time World Open Doubles Champion, 10 All Ireland Senior Doubles.



Ciana Ni Churraoin

40x20 Girls 19 & Under
Club: Micheál Breathnach, Galway
Honours: 17 and under 40x20 and 1 wall world champion 2012, u19 1wall doubles world champion 2012, u17 1wall and 40x20 national champion in 2012, u17 40x20 national champion 2013, Minor All-Ireland Champion 2013 40x20 and 60x30, USHA Nationals Open Doubles Champion 2015.



Darren Doherty

One Wall Big Ball Boys 19 & Under
Club: Emyvale, Monaghan
Honours: 2015 Irish One Wall Nationals 15 & Under Champion, 40x20 All Ireland U16 Champion, World 13 & Under Champion, 40x20 Boys Senior Singles Colleges Champion.



Martina McMahon

40x20 Female Open Doubles
Club: Broadford, Limerick
Honours: 2015 Intermediate 40x20 Championship winner, 2014 Junior Ladies All Ireland Singles & Doubles Champion, 2014 One Wall Nationals Ladies Open Winner, Ladies B World Champion 2012, Ladies B One Wall World Champion 2012,



Elise McCrory

40x20 Girls 17 & Under
Club: Breacach, Tyrone
Honours: 2015 17 & Under Irish Nationals Champion, All Ireland U15 Singles Champion, USHA U15 & U19 Doubles Winner.



Maeve McElduff

One Wall Big Ball Girls 19 & Under
Club: Breacach, Tyrone
Honours: Irish One Wall National 19 & Under Champion 2013, 40x20 Girls Senior Singles Colleges Champion, 2012 World Girls 19&Under Doubles Champion.





USA

Team USA has been finalized for the 2015 World Handball Championships in Calgary! Congratulations to the following players who will be representing the Stars-n-Stripes this summer in Canada!

The USHA is fundraising to help fund TEAM USA players to the 2015 WORLD HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS in Calgary.

Team USA can board of the best all-around handball players with the top men and women excelling on one, three and four-wall and even in big ball and small ball.

Tyree Bastidas is the current US and World Champion in one-wall small ball singles. And, he's a triple threat when it comes to three-wall (a former national champ) and four-wall, where he's also won national titles in Juniors and Open doubles.



The New Yorker is a powerhouse and super fit, so never count him out.

Marcos Chavez is the elder statesman on the team, and a doubles specialist these days after a long and successful singles career. The current national four-wall small ball doubles champ is the "captain of the team," according to partner Sean Lenning.



Chavez stepped off the court with Sean after winning in a tie breaker and then stepped back on to take second in the four-wall big ball doubles. So, in spite of his age, don't doubt his conditioning.

Tywan Cook is the most recent addition to Team USA, after winning the US Nationals in late June. Tywan has a habit of peaking at the right time as he's also the reigning 2012 World Big Ball champion. Cook's a smooth two-handed game leaves



fans and opponents gasping as he "runs, dives, jumps and rolls around," in order to win points against the game's other great players. Cook's focus and attitude on the court make him a fan favorite.

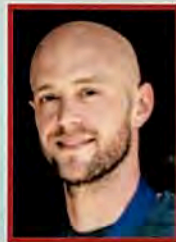
Danielle Daskalakis is also a triple threat when it comes to this year's worlds. Danielle has won titles in one, three, and four-wall as well as big ball and small ball. The lefty likes to put some spin on her serves so she can quickly convert the weak returns into points.



Timbo Gonzalez has won just about everything in one-wall big ball since the last world championships where he was slated to attend but couldn't make the trip at the last minute. Timbo will be looking make good on his potential to win the Worlds this time around. A fierce competitor, Timbo's a dynamo on the court.



Sean Lenning has won just about every championship offered in three and four wall, including this year's WPH Players championship that included the game's best players. When Sean is on his game, there's no reading his shots and there's stopping him. Seanw and Marcos Chavez are the reigning USHA Doubles champs and complement each other's games.



Sandy Ng was a Junior phenom in one-wall and four-wall before hurting her knee. That's repaired now and so is her handball game. Starting back slowly, Sandy won the one-wall small ball doubles last year and then slammed in this year's singles and doubles with Danielle Daskalakis.



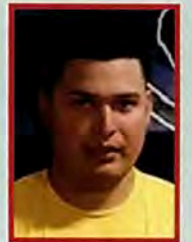
Emmett Peixoto has continued his climb up the four-wall singles ladder and has had just one player stand in his way the past two years. Runner-up to Paul Brady for the past two USHA Nationals, Peixoto has just one more step to the top of the singles ladder and he'll be looking to accomplish that each and every time, but especially at Worlds.



William Polanco. There's not an active player who has ever done more for international handball than William Polanco. Polanco has traveled, taught and served as ambassador for years, often at his own expense. On the court, Polanco has been the winningest lefty in small ball or big ball. On the right side with this strong hand in the middle, Polanco has good spin on his shots and amazing court coverage for a veteran player.



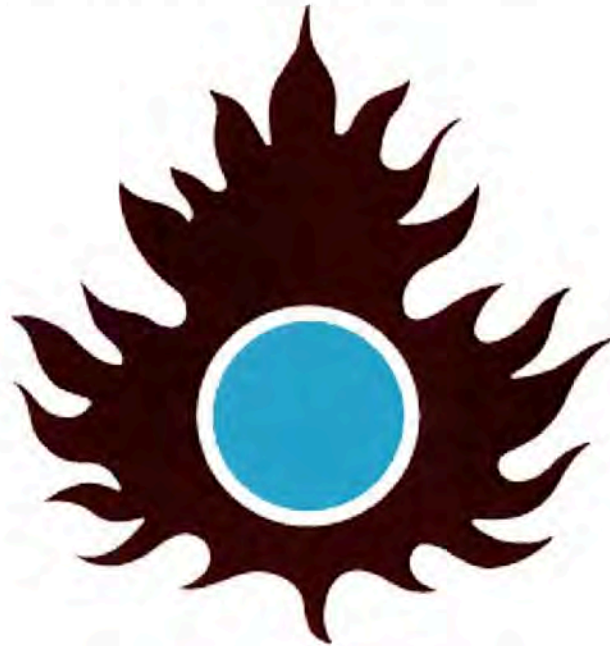
Allen Sanchez earned his spot on Team USA by helping Timbo Gonzalez earn his trip for their doubles win. Sanchez is a solid player with great serves and athleticism to keep the tempo high.





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