

National Irish Bank

4th National Adapted Physical Activity Conference

Football Association of Ireland
An Inclusive Approach

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Tralee IT



Football For All Programme (History in the making)

- FFA programme established 2002
- 2 Full time staff (Dec 2010)
- 13 different programmes
- Over 3,500 players involved
- 8 international teams



Approach To Date

- Individual Disability organisations
- Ad Hoc
- Creating Opportunities
- Increasing Numbers
- Segregated
- Disjointed
- Supporting international squads



The Way Forward

- Inclusion in Community Clubs
- Football opportunities
- Regular training
- Competition
- Training and education
- Player pathways (Talent ID)
- Life Long involvement in Football
- FFA Club Development Officers



 28 July 2006; Paul Dollard, Republic of Ireland, in action against Patrick Beekmans, Netherlands, Cerebral Palsy European Soccer Championships, 3rd / 4th place play-off, Republic of Ireland v Netherlands, Belfield Bowl, UCD, Dublin. Picture credit: Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE



Football For All Club

- Inclusion as best we can
- Pan Disability approach
- Children from 6 – 14yrs
- Volunteer coaches drive through local business community
- Training & Education
- Community Club
 - Training facility
 - One coach
 - Promotion in community
 - Buy in from the whole club
- Competition



Player Pathway

Existing Pathways

- Cerebral Palsy Players
- Deaf Men's Players
- Deaf Women's Players
- Visually Impaired Players (B2/B3)
- Powerchair Football

**International
Squads
(WC, EC,
Paralympics)**

Potential Future Pathways

- Blind Football (B1)
- Amputee Football

ETP Centres
(Players train & compete
for Regional Teams)

Club Teams/FAI FFA Clubs
(Players Train & compete for their
Club/programme)



FAI Inclusive Supporters Club

- New Aviva Stadium
- International Experience
- Boys in Green Support
- Online membership
- Match Tickets
- Pre-match events
- New friendships



DVD





Questions

SPORTSFILE

Paul McGrath with children and coaches at the launch of the FAI Football for All Club Programme. Aviva Stadium, Lansdowne Road, Dublin. Picture credit: David Malton

