

# Opening Address from Athletics Ireland President John Cronin

On behalf of Athletics Ireland, I would like to extend a warm and festive welcome to St Anne's Park, Raheny for our final National Championships of 2021. Today we have the Senior 35K Championship and for the first time the Masters 10K Championship along with non-Championship Developmental races over various distances for Race Walking. The 35K event is also part of the World Athletics Race Walking Tour and we are delighted to welcome many athletes from abroad, nine countries will be represented according to the entries at the time of writing. Thanks to Pierce O'Callaghan, Head of Competition Management, World Athletics for his assistance in getting the event included on the Tour. We revert to 35K from 30K for the first time since 2003 to align with the new global distance. Our Race Walkers have achieved outstanding international success over the years and 2021 was no different with the wonderful silver medal performance of David Kenny in the European Under 23 Championships in Tallinn, EST followed later by Brendan Boyce with a superb tenth place at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Our sport has seen some great days in recent week following the hugely successful National Cross-Country days in Santry and Gowran and the outstanding success of the 27th SPAR European Cross-Country Championships at the Sport Ireland Campus last Sunday. I am sure today will be another great day for race walking, following on from successful events at this venue in recent years. We return to Raheny for a Race-Walking event for the first time since the passing of many time host and LOC coordinator Pat Hooper RIP. We will keep Pat and his friend and other Raheny Shamrock stalwart Brian Corcoran RIP in our thoughts, both major contributors to our wonderful sport.

I would like to thank Andrew Lynam Chair and his Competition Committee along with Lizzy Broderick, Valerie O'Brien, and James Welsh from the Competition Department for the preparation for the event. Also, thanks to Ray Flynn and Cian McManamon for the coordination of the senior athletes and to Michael Lane and the Rob Heffernan Academy for the developmental athletes. It would be nice to think that maybe some of those taking part today would progress to international level and continue the fine tradition mentioned above.

Our gratitude to our hosts Raheny Shamrock, it is fitting that Pat's son Dave Hooper has taken on the role of LOC Coordinator and we thank him for all his efforts. To put on this event there is a requirement to have members of the international panel of Race-Walking judges in place. We are delighted to have four of the panel based in Ireland; Pierce O'Callaghan, Shaun Gallagher, David Kidd, and Zuzana Costin. We also are grateful to Ian Richards from Leeds who joins us today as an International Race-Walking Judge. Finally thank you to the officials, the athletes, and the coaches here with us today and we wish them well for the event.

Like at all our events please follow the Covid 19 precautions in place.

Have a great day of Race Walking and best wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas and a great 2022.

John Cronin  
President Athletics Ireland

## Message from Our Meeting Director

On behalf of our organizing committee, I would like to welcome Athletes Officials and Judges to our 35k championships. A special welcome to our overseas athletes.

Our sport of Race Walking is entering a new phase with the 35k replacing the 50k at major championships, so today's race is important as points are on offer for world championships next year. We are also honoured to hold the first ever race of the new world Athletics race walking tour

Today's race is tinged with sadness as it's our first championship since the passing of the local organiser here Pat Hooper R.I.P. We are very pleased that his son David has taken up the baton as the local organiser for Raheny Shamrocks.

Finally I want to thank all the officials and judges who have made this happen. Thanks to Chairman of Competition Andrew in his first year in the job who has pulled out all the stops to make this event happen and Lizzy Broderick in Athletics Ireland for all their support. Thanks also to my colleague Cian Mc Manamon in his first year on the other side of the fence and has been most helpful and willing.

*Ray Flynn*

Meeting Director

## Race Preview

With over 100 entries from 10 countries the winter walks championship over Ireland is set to be the largest edition in recent memory. The high number on entries aligns with the calibre of athletes set to battle at 11:00am in St. Anne's park, Raheny.

The highlight of the day will be the Irish Debut of **Perseus Karlstrom** (Sweden). Karlstrom is the 2019 World Championship bronze medalist from Doha, 2 time European Cup champion (2019 & 2021) and the previous winner of the world walking tour will be looking to set a marker for the 2022 season with a victory in the first race of the World Athletics Walking Tour. Karlstrom won't be having it his own way with 3 time Olympian **Brendan Boyce** (Finn Valley) to debut over 35km. Boyce may test himself towards Robert Heffernan's (Togher AC) national record of 2:31:18 as the 50km specialist debut's over 35km. With David Kenny (Farranfore) missing through exams and Alex Wright (Leevale) focusing on the shorter distances, Boyce will be outright favourite for the national gold. However the race podium will be a hotly contested affair with Polish pair **Rafael Sikora** and **Jakub Jelonek** along with **Stefano Chiesa** (Italy) poised to challenge. All three have posted strong marks over both 20km and 50km. With the 50km resigned to the history books there will be some young and hungry 20k specialists looking to resign the 50km specialists to the past. European U23 champion **Jose Manuel Perez** (Spain) and Olympic 20km 10th place **Callum Wilkinson** looking to demonstrate that speed trumps endurance when it comes to 35km. Finally there will be a number of international athletes looking to post World Team Champs and World Championships qualifying times on Irish soil including British twins **Dan** and **Domnick King**, **Bruno Erent** (Croatia), **Nick Christie** (USA) and **Johnathon Hobbs** (Great Britain). A battle is expected to complete the Irish program between **Adam McInerney** (Celbridge), **Joe Mooney** (Adamstown) and **Jerome Caprice** (DSD).

In contrast to the men's race the women's race will be a wide open contest that will go right to the final kilometers. **Mayara Luize Vicentainer** and **Elianay Pereira** (Brazil) are likely to show their intent early. Elianay Pereira, the two time Brazilian champion will have a stern test from **Agnieszka Ellward**. Just one minute separates their 20km and 50km PB's. Ellward, faster over the 20km while Pereira holds the better mark over 50km. Many international eyes will be watching to determine what distance the new event favours. Domestically **Kate Veale** (West Waterford) will front the fight to the international athletes. A 35km debut for the West Waterford star, should the race be tight in the final kilometers, the travelling Dungarvan contingent may spur Veale on to victory.

The shorter distances will contain a mix of athletes, some looking to set up trying a longer distance ahead of the 2022 season, while others are seeking an early qualification for forthcoming championships. **Heather Lewis** (Wales) will be in the mix with the men's race as she sees a qualification time for the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham over 10k. In 2021 **Oisín Lane** (Mullingar Harriers) established himself as a top junior with a 6th place finish in the European U20 Championships, he will be using the 20k race as a first step towards becoming a senior international. **Matthew Glennon** (Mullingar Harriers) will be keen to show he's the best Irish junior since, well, his training partner Oisín. **Emily MacHugh** (Naas), **Maria Flynn** (Naas) and **Ruth Monaghan** (Sligo) will all be keen to test their fitness ahead of bigger challenges in 2021, along with the up and coming youth stars.

Finally the juvenile athletes will have the unique opportunity to race alongside the elite stars and best junior talent of Ireland. An important phase in their development as they race alongside world and European medalists, under the eye of international judges. A chance to show off the hard work on their technique and endurance so far this winter. Credit to the coaches and clubs such as North Leitrim, Tuam, St Senans, Clonmel, St. Josephs, Mullingar Harriers, Celbridge, Waterford and Clareriver Harriers for travelling in such large numbers.

## Elite, Masters and Junior Entries

Event	Event Age Group	Name	Surname	Gender	Club / Country
10k Walk	Masters	Maggiehelen	O Connor	F	St. Joseph's A.C.
					St. Brendan's A.C.
10k Walk	Masters	David	Kissane	M	(Kerry)
10k Walk	Masters	Brenda	Gannon	F	Sligo A.C.
10k Walk	Masters	Sean	McMullin	M	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
10k Walk	Masters	Danny	Sharkey	M	Letterkenny A.C.
10k Walk	Masters	Ross	Alexander	M	Coolquill A.C.
10k Walk	Masters	John	Laste	M	Clonmel A.C.
10k Walk	Masters	Pat	Murphy	M	Castleisland A.C.
35k	Senior	Kate	Veale	F	West Waterford A.C.
					Dundrum South Dublin A.C.
35k	Senior	Jerome	Caprice	M	
35k	Senior	Brendan	Boyce	M	Finn Valley
35k	Senior	Mayara Luize	Vicentainer	F	Brazil
35k	Senior	Elianay	Pereira	F	Brazil
35k	Senior	Agnieszka	Ellward	F	Poland
35k	Senior	Jonathan	Hobbs	M	Great Britain
35k	Senior	Daniel	King	M	Great Britain
35k	Senior	Bruno	Erent	M	Croatia
35k	Senior	Nick	Christie	M	United States
35k	Senior	Dominic	King	M	Great Britain
35k	Senior	Stefano	Chiesa	M	Italy
35k	Senior	Jakub	Jelonek	M	Poland
35k	Senior	Perseus	Karlstrom	M	Sweden
35k	Senior	Rafał	Sikora	M	Poland
35k	Senior	Callum	Wilkinson	M	Great Britain
35k	Senior	José Manuel	Perez	M	Spain
35k	Senior	Joe	Mooney	M	Adamstown A.C.
35k	Senior	Adam	McInerney	M	Celbridge A.C.
20k	Senior	Oisín	Lane	M	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
20k	Senior	Sarah	Glennon	F	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
10k	U23	Tom	Partington	M	Great Britain
10k	Senior	Heather	Lewis	F	Great Britain
10k	Junior	Hannah	Hopper	F	Great Britain
10k	Junior	Jasmine	Nicholls	F	Great Britain
10k	U23	Erika	Pontarollo	F	Great Britain
10k Walk	U23	Eva	Delahunt	F	Sligo A.C.

10k Walk	Junior	Matthew	Glennon	M	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Andrew	Glennon	M	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Jake	O'Brien	M	Moy Valley A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Sam	O'Sullivan	M	Clonmel A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Aisling	Lane	F	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Troina	Mooney	F	Adamstown A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Siobhán	Doherty	F	Tir Chonaill A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Ciara	Wilson-Bowen	F	Dundrum South Dublin A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Ciara	Mooney	F	Adamstown A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Méabh	O'Connor	F	Waterford A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Emily	MacHugh	F	Naas A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Maria	Flynn	F	Naas A.C.
10k Walk	Junior	Ruth	Monaghan	F	Sligo A.C.

## Juvenile Entries

Event	Event Age Group	Name	Surname	Gender	Club / Country
500m	U9	Emily	Doyle	F	St. Josephs
500m	U9	Arvil	Dolan	F	North Leitrim
500m	U9	Grofu	Newell	F	Clareriver Harriers
500m	U9	Tadgh	O'Callaghan	M	St Senans
500m	U11	Niamh	Connolly	F	North Leitrim
1k	U11	Cuisle	O'Callaghan	F	Tuam
1k	U11	Emma	Walsh	F	St. Josephs
1k	U12	Rachel	Treacy	F	Tuam
1k	U12	Amy	Walsh	F	St. Josephs
1k	U12	Grace	Fergus	F	North Leitrim
1k	U12	Cealagh	McGloin	F	North Leitrim
1k	U13	Mairead	McDonald	F	St. Josephs
1k	U13	Amy	Joyce	F	Clareriver Harriers
1k	U12	Ian	Harkin	M	North Leitrim
1k	Juv	Danial	Glennon	M	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
1k	Juv	Ellie	Dixon	F	Celbridge
1k	Juv	Ella	Connors	F	Celbridge
2k	U12	Karl	Casey	M	North Leitrim
2k	U15	Eabha	Hickey	F	West Waterford
2k	U13	Tailte	O'Callaghn	F	Tuam
2k	U13	Clodagh	Gannon	F	Tuam
2k	U13	Niamh	Clarke	F	Clonmel
2k	U13	Alice	Meeghan	F	Clonmel
2k	U13	Sarah	Mulvney-Kelly	F	North Leitrim
2k	U14	Clodagh	Cooke	F	St Senans
2k	U15	Robyn	O'Dwyer	F	Dundrum South Dublin
2k	U14	Evan	Walsh	M	St. Josephs
2k	U15	Lily	Doyle	F	St. Josephs
2k	Juv	John	Glennon	M	Mullingar Harriers A.C.
3k	U14	Savanagh	O'Callaghan	F	Tuam
3k	U14	India	Cuniffe	F	Tuam
3k	U14	Robin	Og Murphy	F	Longford

3k	U14	Lily	Ryan	F	St Josephs
3k	U16	Danielle	Fitzpatrick	F	Tuam
3k	U16	Doireann	Hickey	F	West Waterford
3k	U16	Keelin	Duggan	M	St Senans
3k	U13	Keefe	Dolan	M	North Leitrim
3k	U14	Matthew	Newell	M	Clareriver Harriers
3k	U15	Luke	Fitzmaurice	M	North Leitrim
3k	Juv	Rhea	Donnelly	F	Celbridge A.C.
3k	Juv	Leah	Murphy	F	Celbridge A.C.
3k	Juv	Aidan	Entrialgo-Bayon	M	Celbridge A.C.
3k	Juv	Lusai	De Faoite	F	Kenmare A.C.
3k	Juv	Holly	Tipping	F	Celbridge A.C.
3k	Juv	Chloe	Connors	F	Celbridge A.C.
5k	U18	Maebh	O'Connor	F	Waterford
5k	U14	Karen	Mulvaney-Kelly	F	North Leitrim
5k	U19	Darragh	Mitchell	M	North Leitrim
5k	Juv	Éabha	De Faoite	F	Kenmare A.C.
5k	Juv	Ava	Connors	F	Celbridge A.C.
5k	Juv	Saoirse	Kennedy	F	Celbridge A.C.
5k	Juv	Grainne	O'Connor	F	Clonmel A.C.
5k	Juv	Sophie	Monaghan	F	St. Senans A.C.
5k	Juv	Rhea	Donnelly	F	Celbridge A.C.

# Timetable

Time	Detail	Location
09:30	Race Number & Chip Collection Opens (All races)	Start/Finish Line
10:30	Race Number & Chip Collection Closes (All races)	Start/Finish Line
10:55	Final Call - 35k, 20k & 10k)	Start/Finish Line
11:00	<b>Race Start: 35k, 20k &amp; 10k</b>	Start/Finish Line
11:50	Final Call - 500m, 1k, 2k, 3k & 5k	Start/Finish Line
12:00	<b>Race Start: 500m, 1k, 2k, 3k &amp; 5k</b>	Start/Finish Line
14:30	Medal Presentation: All races	Start/Finish Line
15:00	Event Finish	