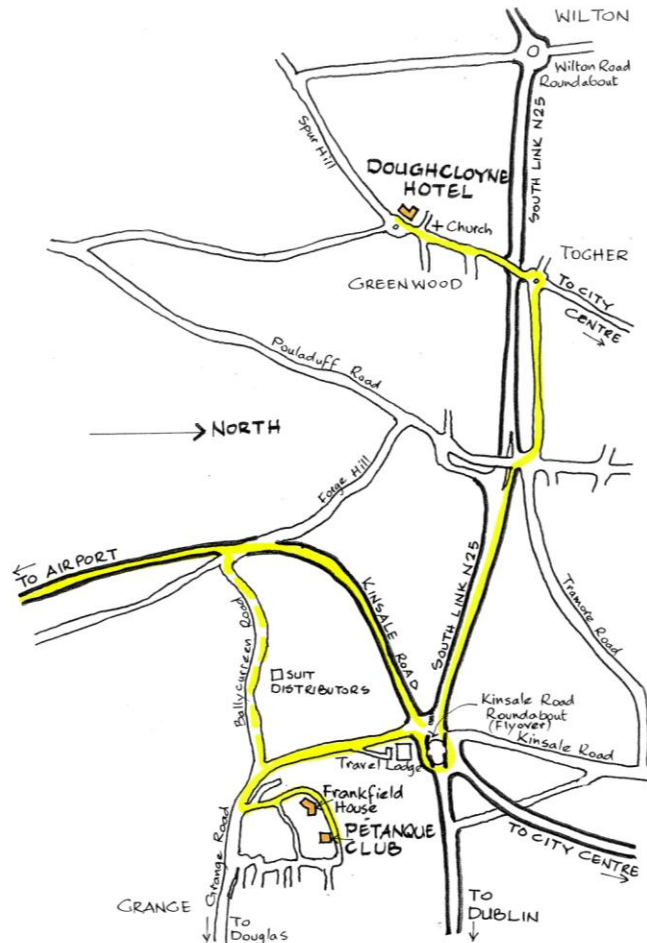




THE PÉTANQUE CELTIC CHALLENGE 2009



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The Irish Pétanque Association

HISTORY OF THE CELTIC CHALLENGE

Year	Hosts	Venue	Result	Winner
1990	Scotland	Birds and Bees, Stirling	S-25, W-16, N-Ir7	Scotland
1991	Ireland	The George, Clondeboye	Ir18, W-18, S-12	Ireland
1992	Wales	The Blue Boar, Brecon	W-22, Ire-13, S-13	Wales
1993	Scotland	The Anchorage, Troon	W-23, S-14, Ire-11	Wales
1994	Ireland	Frankfield, Cork	Ire-18, W-17, S-13	Ireland
1995	Wales	Monkstown Inn, Cardiff	W-20, Ire-14, S-14	Wales
1996	Scotland	The Bell Sports Centre,	W-19, S-18, Ire-13	Wales
1997	Ireland	Seeconnell, County	W-19, S-15, Ire-14	Wales
1998	Wales	Brecon RFC	S-26, W-25, Ire-23	Scotland
1999	Scotland	Drymen	W-27, S-25, Ire-21	Wales
2000	Ireland	Cahir , County Tipperary	Ire-31,S-30,W-29	Ireland
2001	Wales	Panteg House, Pontypool	W-28, Ire-26, S-25	Wales
2002	Scotland	Stirling	S-28, Ire-27, W-25	Scotland
2003	Ireland	Pickie Bowling Club,	S-31, Ire-25,W-23	Scotland
2004	Wales	Brecon RFC	Ire-27,W-25,S-23	Ireland
2005	Scotland	Inverness	S-26,W-25, Ire-23	Scotland
2006	Ireland	ALSAA Sports Club,	Ire-33, S-30, W-26	Ireland
2007	Wales	Abergavenny	W-28,S-26,Ire-23	Wales
2008	Scotland	Fochabers	W-28,S-27,Ire-25	Wales

THE SCOTTISH TEAM



Scotland 1 *The Midgetiers*
Paul Bretenoux, Susan Allan,
John Cameron



Scotland 2 *The Pisteols*
Robbie Stronach, Johnny Wilson,
Lynn Jenkins



Scotland 3 *The Bears*
Alec Davie, Gavin Hilson,
Mike Watt



Scotland 4 *The Barons, alias
Fatman, Robin and the Penguin,*
Donnie MacIntyre, Robin Gardiner,
Brian Ward

THE WELSH TEAM



Wales 1 *Penarth* Tony Smith,
Jean-Yves Robic, Laurent Mirbelle



Wales 2 *Fatty Returns*
Neil Dobbins, Paul Bond,
Matthew Frank



Wales 3 *DIP 1* Ian Bailey, Peter
Westall, Don Jenkins



Wales 4 *The D.J.s,*
Jake Caston Dave Cannon,
Jeff Ball

SATURDAY

Rd	Team	Opponents	P		Rd	Team	Opponents	P
1	Ireland A1	Ireland B1	1		4	Ireland A1	Ireland B4	6
1	Ireland A2	Ireland B2	2		4	Ireland A2	Ireland B1	7
1	Ireland A3	Ireland B3	3		4	Ireland A3	Ireland B2	8
1	Ireland A4	Ireland B4	4		4	Ireland A4	Ireland B3	1
1	Wales 1	Scotland 1	5		4	Wales 1	Scotland 4	2
1	Wales 2	Scotland 2	6		4	Wales 2	Scotland 1	3
1	Wales 3	Scotland 3	7		4	Wales 3	Scotland 2	4
1	Wales 4	Scotland 4	8		4	Wales 4	Scotland 3	5
2	Ireland A1	Ireland B2	5		5	Ireland B1	Wales 1	5
2	Ireland A2	Ireland B3	6		5	Ireland B2	Wales 2	6
2	Ireland A3	Ireland B4	7		5	Ireland B3	Wales 3	7
2	Ireland A4	Ireland B1	8		5	Ireland B4	Wales 4	8
2	Wales 1	Scotland 2	2		5	Scotland 1	Ireland A1	1
2	Wales 2	Scotland 3	3		5	Scotland 2	Ireland A2	2
2	Wales 3	Scotland 4	4		5	Scotland 3	Ireland A3	3
2	Wales 4	Scotland 1	1		5	Scotland 4	Ireland A4	4
3	Ireland A1	Ireland B3	2		6	Ireland B1	Wales 2	1
3	Ireland A2	Ireland B4	3		6	Ireland B2	Wales 3	2
3	Ireland A3	Ireland B1	4		6	Ireland B3	Wales 4	3
3	Ireland A4	Ireland B2	5		6	Ireland B4	Wales 1	4
3	Wales 1	Scotland 3	6		6	Scotland 1	Ireland A2	5
3	Wales 2	Scotland 4	7		6	Scotland 2	Ireland A3	6
3	Wales 3	Scotland 1	8		6	Scotland 3	Ireland A4	7
3	Wales 4	Scotland 2	1		6	Scotland 4	Ireland A1	8

SUNDAY

Rd	Team	Opponents	P		Rd	Team	Opponents	P
7	Ireland B1	Wales 3	6		10	Ireland B2	Scotland 1	1
7	Ireland B2	Wales 4	7		10	Ireland B3	Scotland 2	2
7	Ireland B3	Wales 1	8		10	Ireland B4	Scotland 3	3
7	Ireland B4	Wales 2	1		10	Ireland B1	Scotland 4	4
7	Scotland 1	Ireland A3	2		10	Wales 1	Ireland A2	5
7	Scotland 2	Ireland A4	3		10	Wales 2	Ireland A3	6
7	Scotland 3	Ireland A1	4		10	Wales 3	Ireland A4	7
7	Scotland 4	Ireland A2	5		10	Wales 4	Ireland A1	8
8	Ireland B1	Wales 4	2		11	Ireland B3	Scotland 1	6
8	Ireland B2	Wales 1	3		11	Ireland B4	Scotland 2	7
8	Ireland B3	Wales 2	4		11	Ireland B1	Scotland 3	8
8	Ireland B4	Wales 3	5		11	Ireland B2	Scotland 4	1
8	Scotland 1	Ireland A4	6		11	Wales 1	Ireland A3	2
8	Scotland 2	Ireland A1	7		11	Wales 2	Ireland A4	3
8	Scotland 3	Ireland A2	8		11	Wales 3	Ireland A1	4
8	Scotland 4	Ireland A3	1		11	Wales 4	Ireland A2	5
9	Ireland B1	Scotland 1	5		12	Ireland B4	Scotland 1	2
9	Ireland B2	Scotland 2	6		12	Ireland B1	Scotland 2	3
9	Ireland B3	Scotland 3	7		12	Ireland B2	Scotland 3	4
9	Ireland B4	Scotland 4	8		12	Ireland B3	Scotland 4	5
9	Wales 1	Ireland A1	1		12	Wales 1	Ireland A4	6
9	Wales 2	Ireland A2	2		12	Wales 2	Ireland A1	7
9	Wales 3	Ireland A3	3		12	Wales 3	Ireland A2	8
9	Wales 4	Ireland A4	4		12	Wales 4	Ireland A3	1

THE IRISH A TEAM



Ireland 1 *Imported Talent*

Pierre de Pizzo, Richard Elvin, Peter Melis



Ireland 2 *The Leesiders*

Jackie Broderick, Jim Ryan, Tom O'Keefe



Ireland 3 *The Academics*

Denis Nightingale, John McCloy, Mike Berry



Ireland 4 *Elvis and his Pals*

John Hennessy, Humberto Tavares, George Davidson

THE IRISH B TEAM



Ireland 5 *Red For Munster*

Paul Murray, Tricia Murray, Tim O'Neill



Ireland 6 *The Dubs*

Fergal Hogan, Jacques di Pizzo, John O'Grady



Ireland 7 *The Ruffians*

Ollivier Chedhomme, Mary Ruff, Conor Smith



Ireland 8 *The Pine Martins*

Martin Ryan, Sheila Broderick, Martin Lovisek

1989 **Wales invite Scotland to a match in Cardiff. Scotland accept and win by 9 games to 7.**

- 1990 Scotland invite Wales to a return match in the Birds and Bees Club in Stirling. Northern Ireland ask to join. Scotland win again by 25 games to Wales' 16 and Northern Ireland's 7.
- 1991 The Irish Petanque Association is formed. The three nations meet in The George in Clondeboye, Bangor Co. Down. John McCloy, with his last boule, on the last game secures a win for Ireland on points from Wales. The Scots are led by Bob Boyle, the Welsh by Colin Newman.
- 1992 The great Welsh side, with stars such as Felix, Chris Trig, Colin Newman, Rhys Davies and Tony Fox, emerge. They were to dominate the series for the next four years. In the Blue Boar in Brecon Wales take 22 games, with Ireland shading Scotland on points for the runner-up slot.
- 1993 At the Anchorage in Troon, Wales again dominate, as Scotland relegate Ireland to third spot. John Adams was the umpire. The Sumos of Charles Clarke, Christoph Degranges and Barra O hEireamhain emerge. Byron Milton, Mike and Ron Dow of Scotland are top triple.
- 1994 The first game in southern Ireland is held at Frankfield in Cork. On a weekend of glorious weather the Irish, without their star Breteche triple, win by 18 games to Wales' 17 and Scotland's 13. Ireland also host the Eurovision song contest, when Riverdance gets its first airing.
- 1995 The Monkstown Inn Cardiff is the venue. The first year that a Cahir triple plays for Ireland. Glyn Attley, Phil Bradshaw and Matthew Franks are the top triple as Wales dominate by 20 games to Ireland's 14, who squeezed past Scotland on points.
- 1996 Perth was memorable for its cold, wet weather. Paul Bond played for Wales, as they narrowly overcame Scotland, with Ireland a poor third. Best triple was Roy Lindsay, Morgan Ince and Keith Lord.
- 1997 The first and only time that the Celtic Challenge has been played indoors. The soft clay of the Seeconnell arena required spot accuracy in shooting, and plombé was an effective way of pointing. The Irish Breteches were the stars, winning all twelve games.
- 1998 Back to Brecon, with the three nations deciding that the B teams' results would now count in the scoring. The Scots celebrate their first win since the initial matches. Young Neil Dobbins plays on the B team for Wales. His father, Rod, plays with Paul Bond on the best triple.
- 1999 Wales come to Scotland and regain the trophy from the Scots. Ireland are third. John Cameron was the organiser of a great weekend.
- 2000 Cahir in County Tipperary is the venue, beside the great castle. Charles Clarke, playing for Ireland B, throws the last boule to beat Scotland and secure an Irish win.
- 2001 Wales regain the trophy on home soil at Panteg House in Pontypool.
- 2002 The Birds and Bees host the event in Stirling, and Scotland use home advantage to win. We had all been to the movie *Braveheart* and the nearby Wallace's memorial was therefore topical.
- 2003 The North Down Club hosts the competition at Pickie Bowling Club in Bangor. Second win in a row for Scotland, with Wales relegated to third place. Key to the result was Scotland's demolition of Wales 11 games to 5. The Belgian World Champions visit the games.
- 2004 Ireland rise to the occasion as the Challenge returns to Brecon. This is the first time Ireland win away from home.
- 2005 Inverness was memorable. On the Saturday we played in glorious sunshine on flat, uninteresting pistes. On Sunday we played in heavy rain on soft sand. Scotland had established a big lead before the rain set in, and they held on to it.
- 2006 Irish win as the games are played near Dublin Airport in bright sunshine. The flat pistes are not liked by some, and the noise overhead of aircraft landing is disturbing. Paul Bond, Glyn Attlee and Neil Dobbins are top triple, beaten only by John Murray's Irish B side.
- 2007 A relatively easy win for Wales in glorious Abergavenny. Paul Bond and the Dobbins father and son duo are the best triple.
- 2008 Fochabers was the venue, with good weather for once in Scotland. Roly-poly pistes meant that luck was a factor. Wales again take the trophy and the best triple.
- 2009 The second time the Celtic Challenge is played in Frankfield, Cork

THE CELTIC CHALLENGE 2009

WEEKEND PROGRAMME

The hotel serves breakfast from 7.00 am. Players will be collected at the hotel from 8.15 am to 8.30 am.

Friday Evening	7.30 pm	Welcoming Bar-B-Que in Frankfield House
Saturday Morning	9.00 am	Opening Ceremony Lord Mayor of Cork
Rounds 1 to 4	9.30 am	Ireland A v Ireland B Wales v Scotland
Lunch	1.00pm	One hour
Rounds 5 to 8	3.00pm Approx	Ireland A v Scotland Wales v Ireland B
Saturday Evening	Free	
Sunday Morning	9.00am	Resume
Lunch approx	12.30 pm	One hour
Rounds 9 to 12 approx	2.30 pm Approx	Ireland A v Wales Scotland v Ireland B
Prizegiving Dinner	7.30pm	Doughcloyne Hotel



Derek Jones, Umpire for the Games

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Frankfield House was constructed in 1753 for the Church of Ireland Minister for Cork. His lands bounded Vernon Mount estate and extended out to Bishopstown.

In 1800, the Bainbridge family purchased the estate, and six generations of the family lived there until the early twentieth century. During the famine, between 1845 and 1847, in a gesture to their suffering and starving neighbours, the Bainbridges paid local men one penny per day to build stone walls in and around the estate. Some of these walls can still be seen along the Grange road and around the Church of Ireland Church and the former schoolhouse, now a domestic residence.

Early in the twentieth century, during the struggle for independence, the house was taken over by the IRA and used as camp and a weapons store. But during the burning of Cork in 1921, a rag-tag militia of English ex-convicts and mercenaries (known as the Black and Tans because of their mismatched tunics and trousers) were hired by the authorities to quell opposition throughout the country. They discovered the IRA camp, took over the house and razed it to the ground. The only feature of the original building to survive the burning, was the limestone entrance façade, which remains intact today. The house was rebuilt between 1922 and 1923 but much more modestly than the original.

The Spillanes, a family of butchers, family occupied the much reduced estate from 1925 to 1953, and used the land to bury offal and carcasses. Skulls and bones are still being unearthed.

Mick Ryan, a famous Tipperary hurler, purchased the house and 72 acres for the now paltry sum of £3500 and farmed it from 1956 to 1979. He transformed the grounds into a golf course and constructed a bar adjoining the house, in 1980. The golf club became affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland in 1984 and celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Frankfield Pétanque Cork was established in Frankfield in January 1992 and continues to enjoy the greatest of relations with Mick's family and with the golfing members.

This is the second time the Celtic Challenge was played in Frankfield. In 1994 Ireland hosted it here and this was the victorious Irish team. Of those on this year's team you will see Jim Ryan, Martin Ryan, Tom O'Keeffe and Paul Murray.



The IPA thanks the Ryans of Frankfield for allowing the games to be hosted here, and for generously providing the welcoming bar-b-que

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CORK CITY AND COUNTY



The origins of Cork go back at least a thousand years when the lands around Cork Harbour were settled by seafaring people. The word Cork comes from the Gaelic *Corcach* which means bog. In the area of Cork City the land is low lying, and has substantially been reclaimed. Extensive marshes were filled and waterways culverted. Many of Cork's streets, such as

Patrick Street, South Mall and Grand Parade were once waterways, and there are enormous culverts under them.

Cork is said to have been founded by Saint Finbarr close to where St. Finbarr's Cathedral stands today. The original walled city centred on South and North Main Street. In 1690 Cromwell laid siege to Cork, when many thousands lost their lives. A mass grave for the dead was opened in the area of Christchurch and Bishop Lucey Park, which stretches from Grand Parade to South Main Street. The coat of arms of the city shows the castles that dominated the entrance to the harbour. Blackrock Castle, on the southern shore, was restored a few years ago, and now houses a planetarium and celestial observatory. Open to the public 11am to 5 pm. It is near the tunnel off the South Ring.

The 13th century Blarney Castle lies about 10 miles northwest of Cork. A popular attraction for visitors is to kiss the Blarney Stone, which is supposed to impart the gift of eloquence. The stone is said to be part of an original *Stone of Ezel*, brought back from the crusades and used as the coronation stone of Scotland. It was given by Robert the Bruce to Cormac McCarthy in gratitude for Irish assistance in winning the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. It was incorporated into the new castle at Blarney in 1446.



Gaelic games – hurling and football – are by far the most popular sports in Cork. The county is one of the few in Ireland that can boast a proud tradition in both sports. You may have noticed the statue of Christy Ring at the airport. He was one of the great stars of hurling in the sixties. Rugby in Cork, though a poor third in popularity, nevertheless accounts for many of Ireland's best players, such as Ronan O'Gara, Donnacha O'Callaghan, Tomas O'Leary and Peter Stringer. The current Irish trainer, Declan Kidney is also from Cork.

The river that flows through Cork is the River Lee. It divides west of the city into two channels, the north channel and the south channel. The anthem of Cork is the song "*On the Banks of my own lovely Lee*", commonly known as *De Banks*. To get to Frankfield you will have travelled on the South Ring. This in fact was the route of the old West Cork Railway. During the weekend of the Celtic Challenge the city will host its annual international choral festival.

South of Cork, 15 miles past the airport, is the small town of Kinsale. A popular tourist town on the coast, it is regarded as the gourmet capital of the south. Amongst its narrow streets are plenty of good pubs and restaurants. The renowned *Tap Tavern* is run by Mary O'Neill, wife of Our Ireland 5 shooter, Tim O'Neill.

Our sincere thanks go to Cork County Council, who are part sponsoring these games.

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A Message from the Irish President

Well its that time of year again - the birds are singing, trees are blooming and the cream of pétanque players from Ireland, Scotland and Wales have dusted off their boules and landed in Cork for the 2009 Celtic Challenge. This year's venue is probably as far from Fochabers as you can go in a straight line on the Petanque 'map' of the British Isles, so it is a hearty *Cead Mile Fáilte* to Cork, and the Frankfield Club, to all players and supporters from the 3 Celtic nations.

Over the years the Celtic Challenge has seen some great games, close finishes but more importantly firm friendships cemented between players, clubs and the three associations. Despite the sometimes inclement weather - I can remember trying to hold down the tent in what seemed like a force 8 gale at the North Down Club in Bangor a few years ago - everyone seems to enjoy the weekend no matter what the result - though it is always nice to win especially on home soil.

As we all know events such as this don't just happen - they need planning, and people to actually carry out the many tasks required to run a successful event so I would like to thank all the members of the Frankfield club and the IPA members from other clubs who have contributed to what I know will be a great weekend of sport and craic!

Last but by no means least on behalf of the Irish Petanque Association I would like to thank all our sponsors John Paul, Suit Distributors, Cork City Council and Stonhard as well as the Doughcloyne Hotel without whose support the event could not have been staged.

Denis Nightingale



A Message from the Tournament Director

On behalf of the Frankfield club I welcome you all to Cork. We want to make your weekend as memorable as possible, and it is my job to ensure that this happens.

Please make contact with me if there is any problem with your accommodation, or if you have a need for anything. We have people available to arrange transport, and to run errands. You are here to play petanque, and we don't want you distracted.

If you have enjoyed your stay amongst us you might consider returning. On the last weekend in August (Bank Holiday in the U.K.) every year we hold our "Boule Blitz" which attracts players from all over the U.K. Our doubles competition is played over the Saturday and Sunday. There are plenty of prizes, a good standard of play, and, most important, a friendly ambience.

I trust you will enjoy your weekend with us.

Sue Ryan

