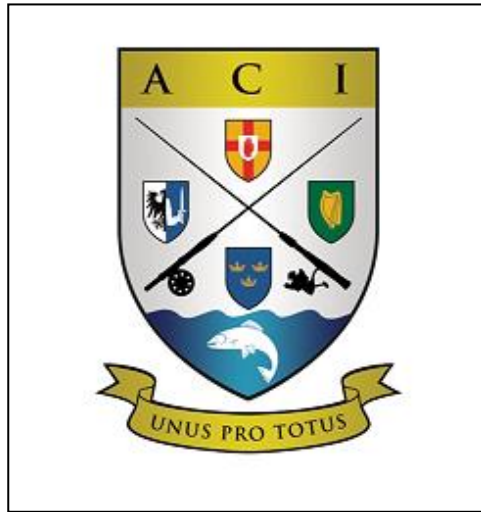


Angling Council of Ireland



Secretary's Report **Annual General Meeting Nov 2022** Jonathan Rice

Affiliations



North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation



Sport Ireland Coaching



Sport Ireland



Game Anglers Instructors Association

Member Federations / Organisations



Irish Angling Development Alliance, Irish Charter Skippers Association

Angling Council Ireland

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Annual Secretary's Report 2022

I wish to begin by thanking the ACI executive committee members and federation members for their full support throughout the year, it has been a pleasure working with such dedicated members. The unity of the organisation has enabled us to grow year on year, we have attracted additional federations / organisations allowing us to develop with a clear strategy and this has enabled us to deliver on many of our goals during year despite the impact of Covid 19. We are well placed going forward in 2023.

I am delighted to report there were no reported accidents or incidents recorded to date and again I wish to take this opportunity to remind all federations to ensure that safety is given serious consideration in planning and participation in all aspects of our angling sport. Recent drowning tragedies bring home the message loud and clear to members that safety must be promoted, considered and managed at all levels to protect our members and particularly new members to the sport. Health & Safety and Child Protection should be the first items on the agenda of all federation / organisation / club meetings.

The ACI Safety Policy and Safety Statement was updated in 2022 and again an updated safety statement is available for Federations / Organisations / clubs who are acting as employers for contractors etc. during the year. This is particularly important for contractor work schemes such as the salmon conservation funded projects or indeed any other development projects where risk exists. The Safety Statements are available to all affiliated angling clubs. Boat certification and suitability in terms of carrying capacity and the waters it will be used on are critical decisions when boats are being purchased however, they are very often overlooked and the results can be catastrophic.

SSTRAI has acquired 2 new angling boats for our Cork city Lee to Sea angling project.

We are delighted with the support from Sport Ireland, the National Lottery, and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

The second boat arrived recently and we are looking forward to continuing to deliver the project to the Cork city groups for many years to come. Working with Corks Sports Partnership, we have engaged with numerous groups throughout the city and many from the county. We now have 3 groups from different Headway (Acquired Brain Injury) centres, both male and female, COPE foundation, Scoil Bernadette transition year students with learning difficulties, Organisation of National Ex-service men and women Veterans from Cork City, Cobh and Ballincollig branches, Ukrainian Refugees, the Rainbow Club for Children with Autism (500 children and siblings' groups), Carers are undergoing training as coaches to support the project. Youth Work Ireland Cork, Women in Sport programme and youth ladies programme had great attendances during this year's great summer.

As part of safety training, we have made arrangements with the RNLI to conduct life jacket (PFD) checks at local club and regional level. We have also introduced the Cold-water Shock DVD as part of our club safety pack with kind permission of the RNLI. In addition to the safety equipment being used for coaching (throw ropes PFD's, safety glasses and caps) we have now made arrangements through the ACI with a supplier for the compact Life Jackets at a reduced cost for members. Minimum order is (10) we can consolidate for member clubs if required. These will be available very soon and all clubs will be notified.

The Maritime Safety Directorate and the Irish Coast Guard have developed a Code of Practice "The Safe Operation of Recreational Craft", this document is very detailed and divided into sections for ease of use depending on the type of craft being used. I would highly recommend this code and advise you to keep up to date with Marine Notices from the Department of Marine. There are a number of statutory requirements for recreational craft and members should be aware of them for their own safety and those of others. For full details follow the link below.

<http://www.dttas.ie/marine/MaritimeSafetyDirectorate/index.asp>

In association with the Angling Council of Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland and Angling for Youth Development (Ireland) (AFYD), we have developed a wading safely and river rescue training programme that we have rolled out now for a number of years as part of our coach continuous professional development plan. Two courses were run in 2022. Courses are available to all affiliated federations and organisations not just coaches. Keep an eye on the ACI website www.anglingcouncil.ie for course dates. Alternatively contact ACI Admin to arrange a specific course.

ACI have held many meetings throughout the year and our delegates represented the federation at events throughout the country.



ACI Coach Tutor Introductory Angling Coaching Course at Sports HQ. During Covid restrictions we have delivered most training online.

The ACI and member federations /organisations have formed the Angling Consultative Council Ireland under the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. Currently there is one external federation member. We have attended meetings over the past year and have worked through a detailed works programme dealing with national angling issues. We have made submissions on draft policy papers. Progress is slow, particularly in terms of obtaining responses to questions put forward. A number of issues raised have not yet been satisfactorily dealt with and remain open. It is understood that multi agencies are involved with some matters raised, particularly in relation to sea angling and aquaculture. We have received no response to requests for assistance for our Charter Skippers despite the DECC have written to Dept of Finance. Our Pike federations have made excellent submissions on the Pike issues on the great Western lakes and on the review papers. They have full support from the ACI on these matters.

NASCO NGO meetings took place in Scotland in 2022. Martin McEnroe attended along with Paddy Sullivan Chair of SSTRAI. SSTRAI covered the cost of attendance.

ACI through SSTRAI continues to support Salmon Watch Ireland, Bob Seward is a Board member and we continue through SWIRL to work on the protection of wild Atlantic salmon. Currently SWI Ltd has

taken an injunction against the issue of an aquaculture salmon licence and are seeking financial support from anglers and federations to help protect stocks.

Martin Mc Enroe continues to serve as a member of the National Water Forum. Weekly updates are provided on the ongoing work of the forum and ACI has direct input to meetings through Martin.

Martin has pushed the Invasive Species Agenda over the past few years and a lot of progress has been made in terms of awareness among the forum members. Martin and Bob have worked with Invasive Species Ireland in the development of brochures and promotional material to raise awareness nationally.



Success for the IFSA Team Ireland at the Home Nations UK. Congratulations to all involved.



ACI

**GOVERNANCE
INFORMATION
AND ADVICE FOR
FEDERATIONS AND
CLUBS**

This document is designed to ensure all ACI federation members, their clubs and members are familiar with the ACI governance documents and training as required for a Sport Ireland funded NGB. The information and guidelines provided will also help you meet the statutory requirements in terms of Children First, child safeguarding, Health & Safety and Data Protection.



During 2021 we updated our new club welcome pack and distributed an ACI information pack to Federations.

This document provides much of the governance information required by federations and clubs to be compliant with regulations and Sport Ireland requirements in terms of angling Coaching. ACI is compliant with the Code of Governance for Sport.



Success again for IFSA coaches and youth team. Well done to all.

Angling For All – Angling for Youth Development Ireland & Angling Cast Programme

The ACI is the lead organisation in the roll out and delivery of AFYDI in Ireland. ACI coaches have been at the forefront of this project and we will continue to train and help supply Angling Hubs with equipment going forward. Martin McEnroe is working on a new midlands hub to be based in Athlone. May I take this opportunity to encourage all ACI Federations to participate in AFYDI and the CAST programme.

It is of the utmost importance that federations and clubs working with children and vulnerable adults must be Garda vetted and have completed Child Safeguarding training.

ACI clubs have been asked to complete a Safeguarding Audit through Sport Ireland, some clubs have yet to complete this and we are here to assist to ensure compliance.

Below is a summary of some of our events

Sport Ireland Dormant Account NGB Community & Disability Sports Inclusion Fund

The ACI Sports Inclusion programme is long established. The Angling for All programme provides angling opportunities for all anglers including those with disabilities. We work with individuals or groups to cater for those with special needs, intellectual or physical disabilities of all forms weather mild, moderate, or severe. We invite those new to angling to participate in taster days to try our sport and participate in a range of angling events.



Presenting the CAST certificates at Headway



COPE Scoil Bernadette students getting their CAST certs.



Headway (Acquired Brain Injury) group at Cobh

Introduction.

This programme funded through the Sport Ireland Dormant Account fund enables the ACI and its member federations to introduce, coach and train novice anglers in a wide range of angling skills, beginning with safety near on or near the water. We ensure plenty of fun elements for the young novice anglers and do our best to get them actively fishing as soon as possible. We then concentrate on helping them learn the necessary skills for them to become competent anglers. We use the ACI Angling Cast Programme which is a 6-stage certification programme and depending on the group we will work with them at a pace that is right for them. Our coaches are flexible, and we know we must be, also we understand that for many with disabilities their lives are very structured, and they have particular routines so we do what we can to facilitate this for each group and where practicable we will work with very small groups to help them along the angling pathway.



We have based a lot of this programme in Cork this year as we now have a reservoir stocked with fish and a good base to work from. We have been fortunate to secure a long lease with Irish Water and Cork County Council have supported us with this project. Inland Fisheries Ireland have also assisted with the venue development, and we have received funding from the Sports Capital Grants that has funded 50% of cost of a disability accessible angling boat for the venue and Cork Area.

This has allowed us to provide Cork with an Angling Hub through the SSTRAI Glanmire & District Salmon & Trout Anglers that is well stocked and well equipped to work with many groups and for us to provide coaching to those that want to start fishing under a controlled and safe environment. Our coaches are delighted to give back to the novice anglers of all ages. In addition, we have access to some excellent salmon fishing on the river Blackwater in Cork and Waterford Ballyduff area.

Our colleagues in the IFSA and IFPAC are working with many groups around the country delivering the CAST programme and working both ashore and afloat introducing novices to angling and helping those who have completed level 3 to move on to levels 4-6.

Some pics of events held 2021





Groups from the COPE foundation Scoil Bernadette completed the ACI Cast Level 1 -3 and really enjoyed the craic, we had great fun also both at the school and on the reservoir. We worked on casting practice in the school tennis courts and completed introduction to water safety and the safety equipment, life jackets and throw ropes, safety glasses and angling caps. They all caught fish, landed fish, unhooked fish, and helped return fish safely to the water. We operate a catch and release policy at the reservoir and students and teachers enjoyed fly fishing and had some great catches, it was hard to get the fishing rods off the teachers not to mention the students at the end of the sessions. The principle said he would like to continue this programme with the transition students, and we look forward to continuing work with them.

From Headway Acquired Brain Injury Group members.

" I never thought I would be able to fish again since my stroke and my wonky hand, it felt good to be back" JB

" I find it hard to switch off and relax, I feel so relaxed when fishing I never knew it would make me feel so good." GM

"Marvellous, just marvellous" OOD

"Time flies and the instructors are so nice and helpful, I love it"

- Great fun, brings out the best in people
- Roles have changed for clients, 1 is now the driver and another the "sat nav"
- Having never fished before it was great to be given the opportunity to try a new hobby
- Breaking down barriers of communication and getting to know each other in a different setting outside of the centre
- Location is accessible to all
- Equipment was adapted to meet the individual needs of the clients i.e. right sided weakness
- Coaches are very supportive and they have a good understanding of the cognitive difficulties that we may have.

Scoil Bernadette
Montenotte
Cork
Eircode: T23TK31
Phone: 021-4508256
09/08/21

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to commend SSTRAI Glanmire & District Salmon & Trout Anglers Association's CAST Angling Programme. I am a teacher in a special school for secondary aged pupils with mild to moderate general learning difficulties. I contacted Bob Seward regarding the programme as I was looking for an outdoor activity for my Leaving Certificate Applied students.

I was struck from the outset by the professionalism and flexibility demonstrated by Bob and his team. Having listened to my requirements, he tailored the programme to suit the particular needs of my pupils and delivered all aspects of the course to an exceptionally high standard. Some of the initial training was delivered onsite in our school and this was followed by a number of highly successful angling outings to Tibbottstown reservoir.

The coaches were all extremely knowledgeable and experienced anglers and my students quickly developed key angling skills and experienced the thrill of catching a number of trout. All of the coaches demonstrated enthusiasm, patience and kindness and clearly understood the challenges some of our children face as a result of their disabilities.

This was undoubtedly one of the best learning experiences these young people have had over the past number of years. I have rarely seen them so animated and excited, due in no small part to the fruitful rapport that the coaches developed with them. There was a marked improvement in student's confidence levels and after such a difficult year with Covid restrictions this experience enhanced their overall wellbeing.

As well as learning the life-long skill of angling, students developed their social and oral language skills too. One parent contacted me to say that her son, who has a specific language impairment and who rarely speaks, came home and told them all about the fishing trip! I have recommended the CAST programme to numerous colleagues and we are hoping to incorporate it into our school Transition Year programme moving forward.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Your sincerely,
Christina Hayes.

Date 18th of June 2021

Dear Friend

We are delighted to be partnering with The Angling Programme ACI CAST Angling Programme that is being run by the SSTRAI /Glanmire Angling Hub in Cork and that we have found a wonderful Team that can support us in bringing Angling to People with Autism and their families.

The programme with the Rainbow Club has trained Staff and volunteers as angling coaches to enable the Rainbow Club to become self-sufficient, we have 4 coaches trained already & we have 13 or 14 under training now on the CAST programme, they will also be trained as coaches this will be great for the Rainbow Club.

We have had a number of events at Tibbotstown, and the RC have provided a cup for competitions. The provision of all angling equipment and safety gear makes it easy for all to enjoy the angling without having to go to the expense of purchasing equipment just to try it out or that they may not be able to afford it either. The Rainbow club Cork Centre for Autism supports 518 members per week and many of these members will come through this program in the years ahead and knowing it is a place that is safe for our members, enjoyable and also familiar to them will be really important.

Our Staff and Volunteer Team have all been delighted to train so they can support the children and young adults that will attend fishing. It has been an amazing experience for our Team here learning skills that will help young people with Additional Needs Excel in the art of fishing, Enjoying the sport and opening a new world to them. One of our young adults Sean O Mahony has found a new love for the sport it has helped him reduce anxiety, find a calm sport that regulates him and also has had a positive impact on his Mental Health. Sean like many people with Autism struggle to find things they can enjoy, that supports them and their needs and gives them a feeling of inclusion. It has given him an interest and something he looks forward to doing each week. He talks so positively about it and how much he enjoys it.

Giving people with Additional needs the opportunity to try new things in the right environment with the right support is truly wonderful as it is opening doors for them allowing them to have the experiences other people can have. Having this accessible for them and their families. We are very excited to see many of our members take part and once we have had all training complete, we are delighted to receive a free Annual Membership for the Rainbow Club. Our first 87 young adults will take part in the months ahead and we will bring groups from younger ages from Easter onwards 2022.

We are delighted to be part of this amazing initiative and we look forward to many days fishing with our members,

Karen O Mahony CEO



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www.rainbowclub.ie

Mahon Community Centre,
Avenue De Rennes, Mahon, Cork



Reg Charity No.: 20156091 | Reg Company No.: 598982

RAINBOW
CLUB CORK
CENTRE FOR AUTISM

Karen O Mahony CEO
Board of Management

Jon O Mahony Vice CEO & Director, Diarmuid Dooley Chairperson, Gobnait Burke Secretary, Martha Torpey Director & Volunteer Liaison Officer, Pat Torpey Director & Liaison Officer, Patrick Cremen Director, Sean O' Húigin Director, Andrew Morgan Director, Niamh Burke Director



Deep water Quay Cobh, Denis here in black an example to us all, spends most of his day in a wheelchair, he said he never stood for so long out of the wheelchair without pain, 2hrs 20min until he fished with us at Cobh deep water quay.

Headway Ballincollig Cork

The angling cast programme has provided Headway clients with the opportunity for some to develop new skills and others to reacquaint themselves with skills they hadn't the opportunity to use in a long time.

Participating on this programme gives our clients with a relaxing atmosphere to strengthen neurological structures often damaged due to their brain injury such as mental, emotional, and physical areas. This group also offers our clients the opportunity to develop a hobby and social outlet that is transferable to their own communities and improving quality of life.

Jackie McCann

3.1 AREAS OF OPERATION

Some photographs and comments from events below.

- River Blackwater Salmon and Trout Angling Cork and Waterford
- Tibbotstown Reservoir Brown and Rainbow trout Fishing
- Cork, Clare, Kerry, Wexford Sea Angling Shore
- River Lee Tidal Waters Angling
- Beach Angling Waterville
- Coach Training online, Waterford, Cork Harbour and in Rathcormac.
- Sea Angling Boat, Donegal, Cork, and Wicklow.
- Pike Angling Youths

Youth Sea Angling with IFSA in Co Clare



Our IFSA sea anglers are delighted to be back with outdoor angling adventure events on beaches, and shorelines and boats around the country. Encouraging people back out has not been too difficult, a fish of the month initiative was well received by the novice and experienced anglers alike. The CAST programme is now embedded in our angling coaching and we are working with lots of groups in communities around the country.

Dormant A/C support through Sport Ireland for community and inclusion programmes enables the delivery of so much more to groups, the provision of equipment and training enables good coaching sessions in safe environments which is so important to all those involved. It also helps reduce the cost making it much more accessible for all. Angling is a cradle to grave sport and it provides wonderful outdoor adventure opportunities for all ages and all abilities, male, female or other.



First time fishing and first ever fish a rainbow trout, had a great day with Andrew on the lake boat.



Shore casting rods in use at Cobh. This venue is ideal for disability groups with secure railings and adjacent to the railway station, good carparking and multiple seating areas for those that need it. Coaches keep a watchful eye and assist where necessary during all activities. This venue has been used numerous times for our events. The venue is suitable during summer and winter, it is well lit and close to amenities. We are also working with our IFSA colleagues for the boat angling elements, particularly for the competitive groups.

We now have a stock of angling equipment for Sea shore and boat, Game and Pike / Perch angling for multiple groups.

Headway Cork have acquired their own equipment through the ACI / SSTRAI with some support from Cork Sports Partnership. We can facilitate multiple user groups at the same time. It is hoped to introduce the group to boat sea angling later this year. We are working on obtaining 2 small 22ft craft with capacity of 5 on each for Cork City and harbour fishing next year.

ANGLING PICS



IFSA Ladies in action at Fenit Pier Co. Kerry

Bull Huss, Shark and Rays in July



Great to see everyone concentrating on the casting and fishing and not on their disability. Everyone had a great day. All bait, rigs and equipment provided by ACI/SSTRAI. Anglers just need to turn up with an open mind and enjoy the experience.

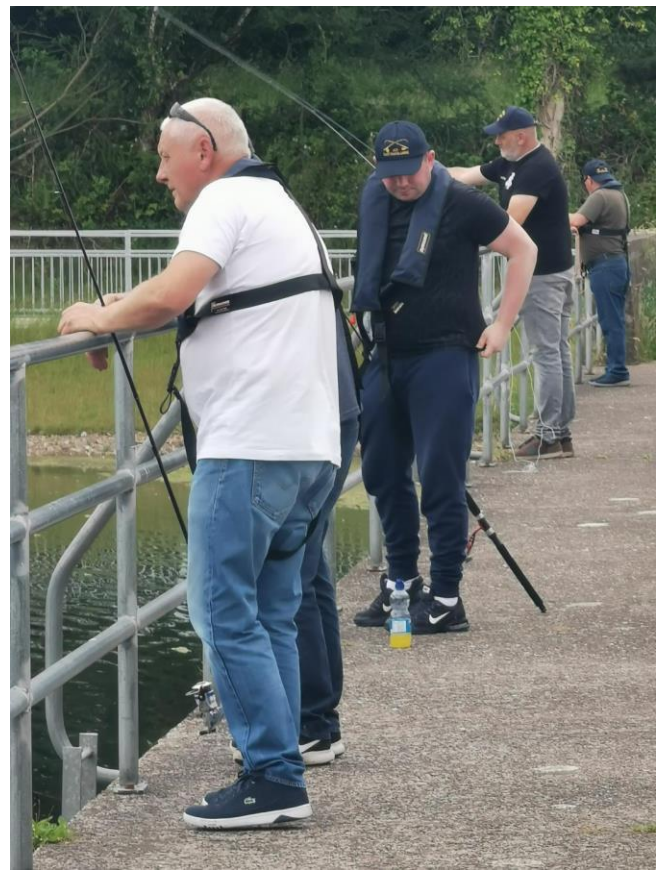


Wheelyboat at Tibbotstown "Captain Craig" giving the orders, he caught 2 nice brown trout, Rainbow Club coaches Claire and Andrew assisting. The Wheelyboat was part funded by Sports Capital Grant, Cork Sports Partnership and the Club.

Cork Sports Partnership staff member Cathal Geraghtyhooked into a nice rainbow trout at the taster day for Cork Youth Leaders. The aim of these taster days is to show youth leaders from around Cork what angling has to offer their respective groups. Plenty of action and they also experienced coaches working with a disability group afterwards.



Headway client selecting the right fly



Enjoying the sunshine and practicing the fly casting



Sitting back, relaxing and enjoying the experience, no pressure, a wonderful group to fish with.

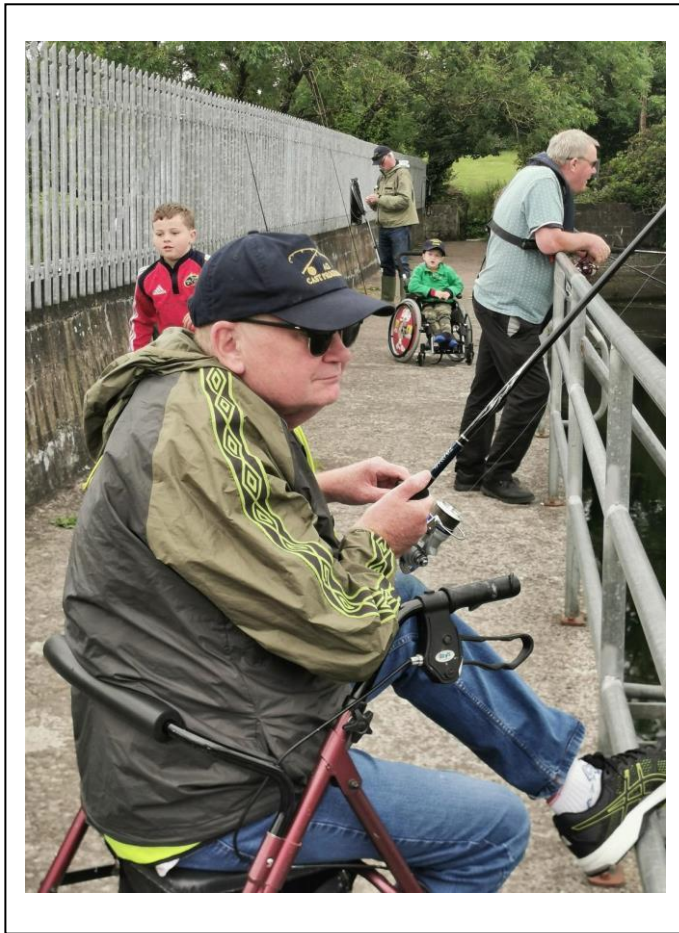
We normally take turns on the boats, particularly for those who feel comfortable on the water and who may find casting difficult due to their disability. We can troll the lures and they enjoy this.

Landing his first ever fish at Tibbotstown, and what a fish.



Walter's determination won out in the end with a fabulous 3lb brown trout. He well deserved it with all the casting and sorting out the tangles he would not let his disability get in the way of having some good days out with the lads, he has great spirit and is always good for a laugh.

Jonathan our coach is kept busy at every event working hard to help everyone get on the fish.



Smiles all round, Headway group members, a quality brown trout on the fly, note our junior members enjoy helping out and coaching.



Denis from Headway acquired brain injury group 1 took a break from the fishing and his wheelchair at the start of the dam wall for a walk to the woods, he is amazing. He keeps pushing himself to improve his mobility and he enjoys getting out.



Being out in the fresh air and participating in an adventure sport does a lot of good for your mental health, just one of the comments we often get, another is just have a look around, everyone is laughing and smiling and enjoying themselves.



Concentrating on the rising trout, trying to determine what they are feeding on, real dedication what a team. In the warm weather it can be difficult to get the fish to take, nothing stops these guys from trying and enjoying it.

Below one of the ones that did not

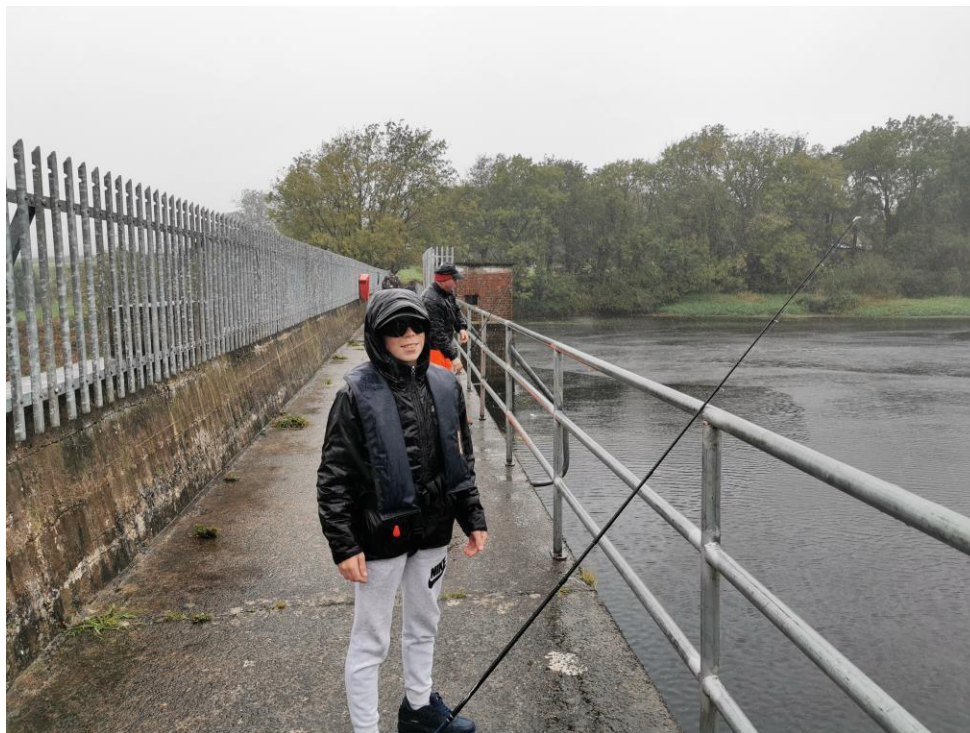


What a difference a day makes, summer and winter fishing with Headway in Cobh deep water quay.



We had the pleasure of welcoming a youth group from Moyross in Limerick, that we have worked with in the past. Despite the weather they really enjoyed the

fishing. Many repeat visits are planned for this great group, nothing puts them off the fishing and they enjoyed the coaching.



Many of the carers work on one to one basis with these young people, Garda Youth Diversion etc.

They were a pleasure to work with and so polite. We will have the boats ready for their next trip.



John O'Brien and Andrew Morgan completed the powerboat level 2 training in Cork Harbour as part of the Coach CPD training and for safe operation of the wheelyboat and preparing for the new powerboats for Cork Harbour Project.

Releasing a grilse on the Backwater during a fly-fishing taster day at Kilbarry Cork and Flowerhill Waterford



Coach Greg Farrell landed a nice fish also.

We are working with Cork Sports Partnership and have delivered taster sessions for Cork Youth Workers so they have some experience and may encourage their respective groups to come and fish with us from Sept to December. 9 groups have expressed an interest so far.

We held a second taster day at the end of August to accommodate more youth leaders. Cork Sports Partnership are liaising with the groups. Transportation is an issue for some groups, so we are testing out new fishing locations in Blackrock and on the river Lee.

We also attended the Cork Sports Partnership Sport Ability Events in UCC Mardyke during the summer where we set up an ACI Stand. This was very well received by Cork Sports Partnership and all in attendance were very impressed.

by what we had to offer, Bob, Sharon and myself attended, we also provided fly fishing and casting opportunities on the green throughout the day. We have many new groups now signing up with us as a result.



Sharon with the Lord Mayor at the ACI stand UCC Mardyke during Sport Ability Week 2022

ACI Women in Sport Project with Cork Sports Partnership promoting our ACI / SSTRAI events in Cork

**Cork Sports Partnership**

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Videos

See all



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5

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Upcoming events

See all

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HER OUTDOORS WEEK

8TH-14TH AUGUST



See more at www.corksports.ie

#FINDYOUROUTDOORS

SPORT IRELAND



See more at www.corksports.ie

HER OUTDOORS WEEK

8TH-14TH AUGUST



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COME & TRY TASTER SESSIONS

8TH-14TH AUGUST

EQUESTRIAN

BALLYHOLLY

KAYAKING

TRAGIMUNA

STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING

BALLYHASS MALLOW

FISHING

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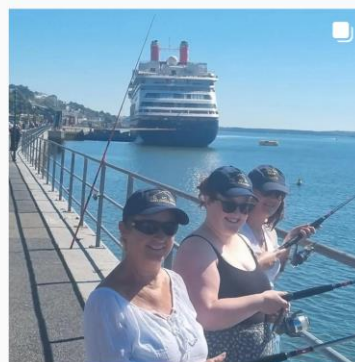
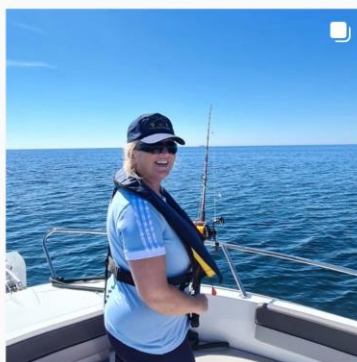
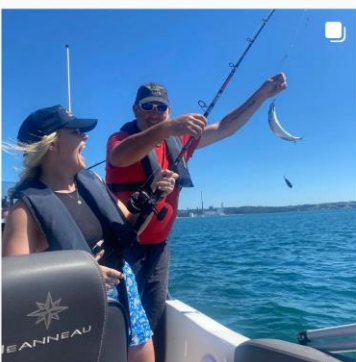
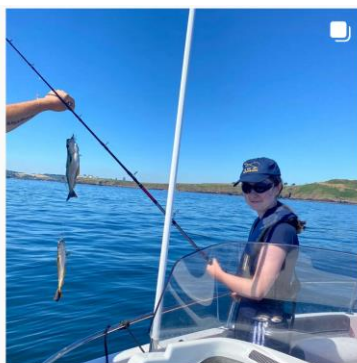
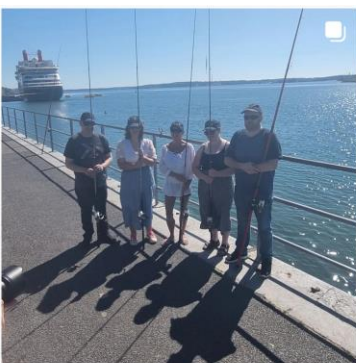


The ACI and SSTRAI got great press during the Women in Sport Week. Cork Sports Partnership were great support

Her Outdoors Week' women enjoyed a free fishing taster session with Angling Ireland and Cork Sports Partnership to sea angling, shore fishing and a two-hour boat angling session aboard the Lee Adventure Boat. Sharon and Katie Murphy, from Cobh, along with Claire Morgan of the Angling Council of Ireland.



Sharon from Mayfield having a go at the Shore Angling in Cobh as part of Her Outdoors Week women's free fishing taster session with Angling Ireland and Cork Sports Partnership. Picture: Brian Lough





IFPAC youth competition. Novice anglers were brought through the ACI CAST programme by IFPAC. We were delighted to see the great support given by IFPAC. Well done to all involved





SSTRAI Coaches Sharon and Claire at the Kinsale Outdoor Education Centre L2 Kayak Training for the Kayak angling.

Headway Anglers at SSTRAI Tibbotstown Reservoir



Cope Foundation with their CAST Certs following the programme



Headway manager and anglers all catching fish, they are inspiring, overcoming any challenge you put to them.





A

Nice salmon on the blackwater caught during a coach training session at Kilbarry upper.

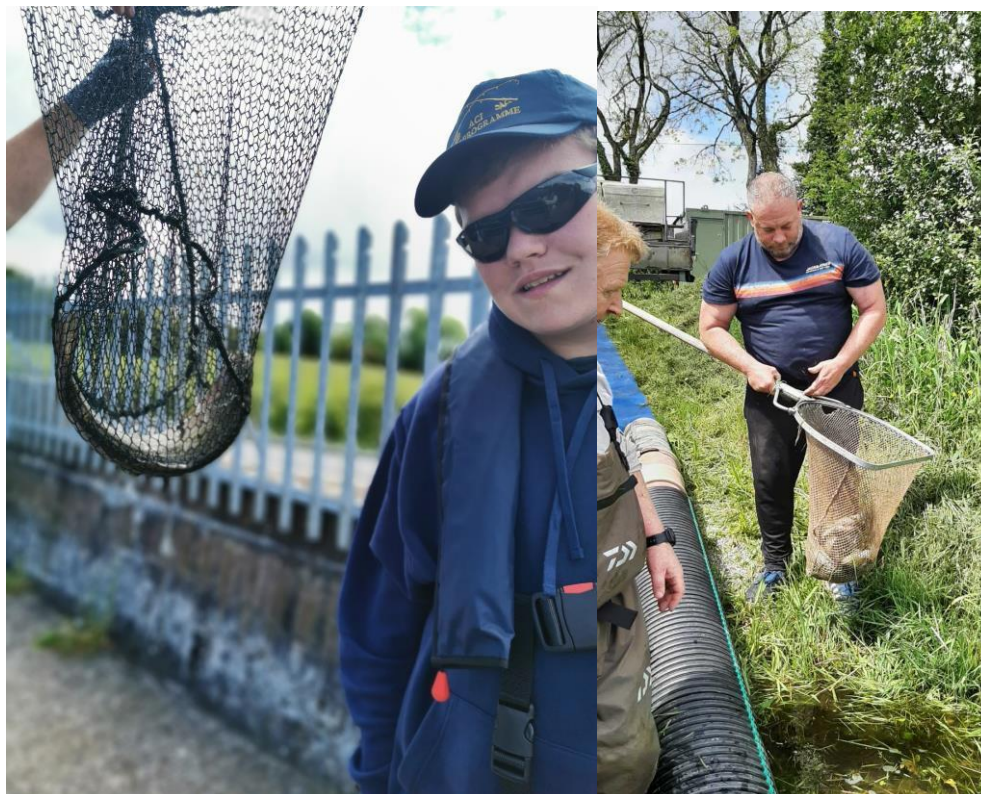


Estuary Fishing SSTRAI and IFSA, Rob Heffernan and his family joined in with us at the Marina Cork Taster day, we seaangling and fly fishing demonstrations and lots of practice rods for all to try out. We maintained good social distanceand disinfection protocols.



ACI Coaches undergoing the ACI First Aid defibrillator training during the course at Rathcormac. Course delivered by John O'Brien Paramedic First Aid Instructor and ACI Coach Developer under training

We have completed 3 introductory level coaching courses, Coaching people with disabilities, Health & Safety, Safe Wading and Water Rescue workshops and First Aid for Angling. We have 14 additional volunteers from the Rainbow Club for children with autism under training in preparation for a coaching course in September. The Rainbow club membership has now increased to 500 children, we are working with 87 of the older Rainbow club members to start with and carers / coaches in total 103 in small groups and all new coaches will be working with our experienced coaches / coach developers well into the future. This will be developed further with younger children and their families for next year.



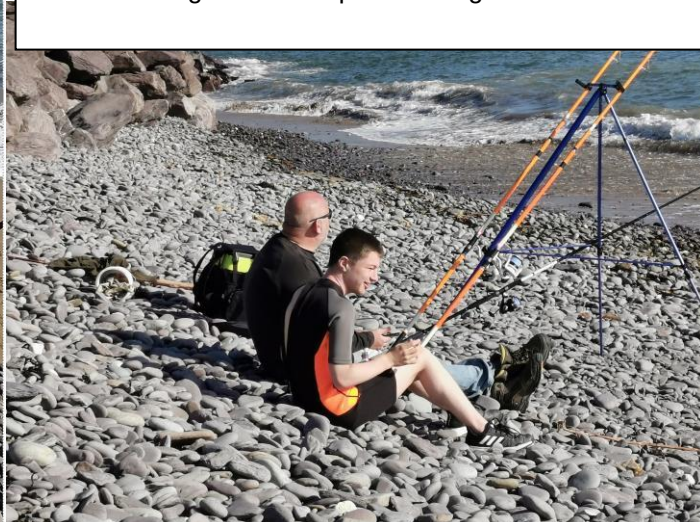
Coach Timothy Ahearn releasing trout into the reservoir as part of our stocking programme. 500 trout released at a cost of €2,500, we are aiming for a second stocking in September for the winter fishing for Rainbow trout.

Across

Cope Foundation Scoil Bernadette student, delighted after catching his first fish a nice rainbow trout.



The smiles say it all, after a lot of practice casting, success at last with his first ever fish, then a second. Living with autism will not hold Sean back, he wants to become an ACI angling coach junior leader. We will help him all the way and he is working through the CAST Programme. Mum and Dad are so proud. Below Craig from the Rainbow club celebrating after catching this beauty (member of the shark family) from the beach in Waterville, he loves being at or on the water, he is not sure about handling some fish species though.



The ACI Community and Inclusion Programme is working well albeit a late start due to Covid 19 restrictions. We are confident we will at least meet our target numbers and expect to well exceed them by end of year. Since we are back delivering, we have seen new groups forming up in Tipperary, Kilsheelan where there is a great interest from the young and older novice anglers. We had events throughout the summer. We have a number of new groups joining in September with Cork Sports Partnership, Organisation of National Ex-service Personnel ONE, Addiction recovery and over 55 sheltered housing groups, in addition to our main groups. We are working with a traveller community group to develop a specific youth angling project for young men.

The ACI through Sport Ireland and the Return to Sport Expert Group provided advice and training to federations and clubs to ensure we could maximise opportunities for people to participate in angling. The ACI delivered training to clubs and groups on the duties of Covid Compliance Officer and a Covid Designated Officer – both required to have completed the ACI Online Induction Course.

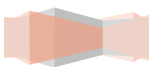
Each club/hub/group were required to complete and return the relevant documents, forward the names of their Nominated Child Protection and Covid Officers to their Provincial Secretary and the National Secretary prior to commencing any competitions or events.

The roles of the Covid Compliance and Designated officers have been covered in the ACI Online Induction Course. It was essential that the Covid Compliance Officer ensured that the guidelines as updated were adhered to, that the Covid documentation was completed and legible and maintained as required. To date we have had no reported issues due to events organised under the Dormant A/C's Community and Inclusion Programme, we worked with pods in the disability groups who were permitted to open and operate.



Not sure if they are wrestling or fishing, all smiles.

The fish was handled with wet hands, and they were just being careful to safely return the fish.



ACI executive members meet several times during the year for working group, delegate and Sub-group meetings dealing with various issues such as the New Strategic Plan 2022 to 2025, ACCI meetings, Department meetings and meetings with IFI, and Sport Ireland.

The ACI wishes to acknowledge Sports Capital Grants were received to purchase an angling boat for the SSTRAI Cork City Project.

- that the funding was provided by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
- that it was provided under the Sports Capital and Equipment Programme
- the total amount of the grant to our organisation was €60,000
- €60,000 of funding received in the period covered by the financial statement 2021
- the specific purpose for which the grant was provided (purchase of angling boat) boat purchased in December in the period covered by the financial statement
- The boat is insured to protect the state's investment and will not be used as security for any other activity without prior consultation with the parent Department and sanction of DPER.
- the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period fell within each band of €10,000 from €60,000 upwards and an overall figure for total employer pension contributions. (This applies even if salaries are not being funded by the Exchequer).
- that the grantee is compliant with the tax clearance procedures

Member federations have been working on issues such as,

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- Home and International Competitions
 - Habitat restoration,
 - River development projects,
 - Coach Development and coaching competition and CAST Programme
 - ACCI meetings
-
- Inland Fisheries Ireland meetings, New Fisheries Legislation, Salmon & Sea trout Conservation Projects. Pike and Trout review
-
- Angling for Youth Development (Irl.)
-
- Coach Professional Skills Training (First Aid) (Child Welfare Training) (Coaching People with Disabilities CPD) (Health & Safety, Safe Wading and River Rescue.)
 - Game Angling Instructors Association (GAIA), Training days on single handed.
 - Coaching people with disabilities training.
 - Angling Consultative Council Ireland Meetings with DECC

The Angling Council Ireland seriously oppose any further developments of open net pen salmon farming because of the extreme high risks involved. The risks are even higher when organic fish farming is planned as only a maximum of two sea lice treatments is allowed, anything above that will result in losing the organic status label. In support of job creation, we support the Irish tourism industry and we are doing our part in protecting and developing our natural resources.

The ACI is registered with the Irish Sports Council and Coaching Ireland as the NGB for Angling in Ireland. The ACI is also registered with NASCO NGO group. The ACI is also prescribed in fisheries legislation as the recognised national governing body for angling. Over the past number of years, the ACI has built up good relations with Comhairle na Tuaithe and participated in discussions on access to the countryside, access to waters etc. and helped to develop good communications and cooperation between the parties involved. The ACI has run several training courses for coaches and delivered many training programmes for groups with assistance from the local sports partnerships

New National Inland Fisheries Forum

The ACI member federations and organisations have been invited to become members of the National Inland Fisheries Forum for 2022 and beyond. Only 1 delegate will be allowed from each member organisation.

I take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped me during the past years however, I am not in a position to go forward for committee for 2023 and I wish ACI all the best going forward.

Jonathan Rice
Hon Secretary
Angling Council Ireland