



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
SPORT IRELAND

Sport Ireland
High Performance Investment

2025





2024 MEDAL HIGHLIGHTS

112 TOTAL HP MEDALS



54 SENIOR MEDALS

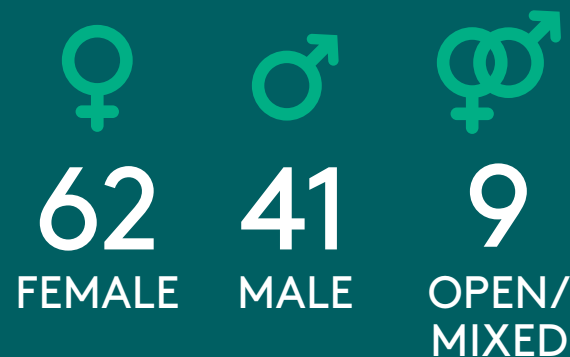
29 GOLD, 11 SILVER, 24 BRONZE

48 NON-SENIOR MEDALS

19 GOLD, 10 SILVER, 19 BRONZE



HP MEDALS GENDER BREAKDOWN



High Performance Investment 2021-2024

Sport Ireland’s investment in high performance sport is directed by the High Performance Strategy 2021-2032, which targets the achievement of medals at major international events, including the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games. There was a record €89m of high performance investment across the Paris Cycle (2021-2024), which was a significant increase on the €59m invested for the Tokyo Cycle (2017-2020).

Sport Ireland invested over €25m in High Performance Sport in 2024 (including the Sport Ireland Institute - €4.2m). This investment included:

High Performance Programme Funding - €10,886,662
Direct Athlete Support (Including the International Carding Scheme) - €4,667,400
2024 High Performance Impact Funding and Paris 2024 Funding - €2,225,955
Paris 2024 Funding – Olympic Federation of Ireland - € 450,000 <i>(Total across 2023 & 2024 - €900,000)</i>
Paris 2024 Funding – Paralympics Ireland - €400,000 <i>(Total across 2023 & 2024 - €800,000)</i>
High Performance Coaching - €1,162,285
Olympic Federation of Ireland - €500,000
Paralympics Ireland - €450,000



High Performance Investment - Paris Cycle Funding 2021-2024

	2021- 2024 HP Operations & Admin (Core Funding)	2021-2024 HP Impact/ Paris Funding	Total
Olympic Federation of Ireland	€2,020,000	€1,215,000	€3,235,000
Paralympics Ireland	€1,750,000	€800,000	€2,550,000

Note: Paralympics Ireland operate as the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) and facilitate Team Ireland’s participation in the Paralympic Games. In addition to the 2021-2024 Core and HP Paris Funding noted in the table above, Paralympics Ireland were in receipt of High Performance Programme Investment (HP Programme Funding, HP Impact Funding, HP Coaching and Direct Athlete Support). For 2021-2024, this amounted to €5,625,000. This is outlined in the table below.

High Performance Investment to NGBs - Paris Cycle Funding 2021-2024

	2021- 2024 HP Programme Funding	2021-2024 HP Impact/Paris Funding	2021-2024 HP Coaching	2021-2024 Direct Athlete Support	Total
Athletics Ireland	€3,365,000	€550,000	€143,900	€2,003,000	€6,061,900
Badminton Ireland	€1,200,000	€68,000	€85,000	€420,000	€1,688,000
Canoeing Ireland	€700,000	€187,500	€65,500	€420,000	€1,373,000
Cricket Ireland	€1,200,000	€1,160,000	-	-	€2,360,000
Cycling Ireland	€2,000,000	€320,000	€40,000	€2,005,125	€4,365,125
Golf Ireland	€2,000,000	€51,000	-	€1,225,000	€3,276,000
Gymnastics Ireland	€1,750,000	€480,000	€150,000	€633,000	€3,013,000
Hockey Ireland	€3,300,000	€787,000	€119,000	€804,000	€5,010,000
Horse Sport Ireland	€3,100,000	€940,000	-	-	€4,040,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	€3,500,000	€490,000	€252,300	€1,536,450	€5,778,750
Irish Judo Association	€750,000	€90,000	€85,000	€349,235	€1,274,235
Irish Rugby Football Union	€1,550,000	€815,000	-	-	€2,365,000
Irish Sailing Association	€3,200,000	€705,000	€207,684	€583,500	€4,696,184
Paralympics Ireland	€3,700,000	€298,000	€145,500	€1,481,500	€5,625,000
Pentathlon Ireland	€1,150,000	-	-	€175,000	€1,325,000
Rowing Ireland	€3,900,000	€910,000	€256,725	€2,617,600	€7,684,325
Swim Ireland	€2,900,000	€370,000	€253,000	€1,122,100	€4,645,100
Taekwondo Ireland	€500,000	€50,000	-	€149,000	€699,000
Triathlon Ireland	€1,000,000	€55,000	€115,000	€463,125	€1,633,125
Total	€40,765,000	€8,363,500	€1,833,609	€15,987,635	€66,912,744

2025-2028 High Performance Funding

€27m will be invested in high performance sport in 2025. Sport Ireland and the Government of Ireland is on track to achieve the targeted investment levels of €30m during the lifetime of the National Sports Policy 2018-2027. On the back of significant performance success and the achievement of key strategic milestones, the high performance system has now entered a new phase. The LA Cycle presents a renewed opportunity for further performance and system success, as well as a new level of expectation, accountability, and responsibility.

High Performance Programme Funding is the central component of Sport Ireland's investment in high performance sport. This funding supports National Governing Bodies (NGBs) to deliver their high performance programmes, which includes training camps, international competitions, centralised training costs, staff salaries, and senior and pathway athlete supports.

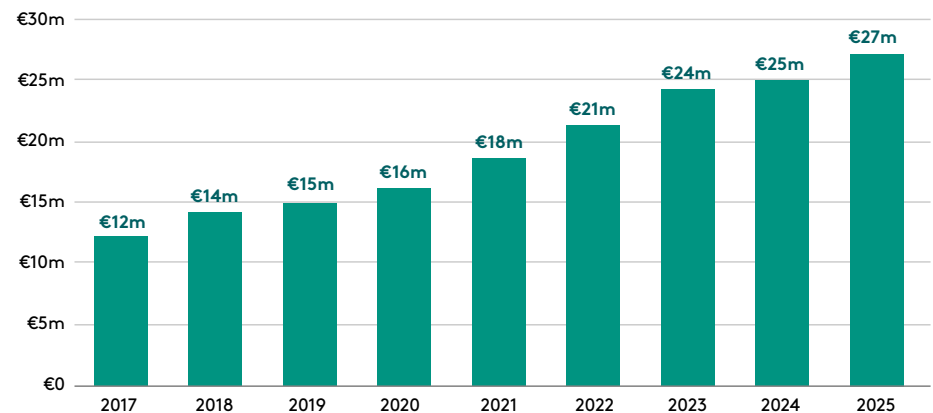
Sport Ireland provided High Performance Programme Funding to 19 NGBs/ Funded Bodies from 2021 to 2024. These organisations range from large to small in size (membership and athlete population), fully professional or semi-professional staffing models, and centralised or decentralised high performance programmes.

In September 2024, Sport Ireland invited NGBs to engage in the 2025-2028 High Performance Programme Funding process. There were a number of distinct outcomes of this process which achieves the principles set out in the High Performance Strategy 2021-2032:

- **Multi-annual:** Sport Ireland will proceed with multi-annual funding. The package of funding will increase from three years to four, covering the full Olympic/Paralympic Cycle (2025-2028).
- **Focused:** The number of sports identified as High Performance Programmes will reduce from 19 to 16.
- **Inclusive:** Sport Ireland will establish the Performance Development Programme which will allow for a more comprehensive but controlled approach to sports which have talented athletes and/or smaller or early-stage performance programmes.

The graph below summarises the investment from Sport Ireland to the high performance system over a 9-year period.

High Performance Investment 2017-2025



High Performance Programme Funding

National Governing Body/ Funded Organisation	2024 HP Programme Funding	2025 HP Programme Funding Allocation	2025-2028 HP Programme Funding Allocation
Rowing Ireland	€1,093,333	€1,100,000	One year only
Swim Ireland	€756,666	€1,100,000	€4,400,000
Athletics Ireland	€841,666	€1,050,000	€4,200,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	€965,000	€1,050,000	One year only
Paralympics Ireland	€1,000,000	€1,000,000	One year only
Irish Sailing Association	€800,000	€1,000,000	€4,000,000
Hockey Ireland	€856,666	€950,000	€3,800,000
Horse Sport Ireland	€803,333	€900,000	€3,600,000
Cycling Ireland	€520,000	€725,000	€2,900,000
Gymnastics Ireland	€506,666	€725,000	€2,900,000
Golf Ireland	€516,666	€650,000	€2,600,000
Irish Rugby Football Union	€416,666	€600,000	€2,400,000
Cricket Ireland	€333,333	€600,000	€2,400,000
Badminton Ireland	€346,666	€500,000	€2,000,000
Canoeing Ireland	€216,666	€475,000	€1,900,000
Triathlon Ireland	€250,000	€280,000	€1,120,000
Total HP Programme Funding	€10,223,327	€12,705,000	€38,220,000

One year funding is allocated for Rowing Ireland and the Irish Athletic Boxing Association. This reflects the unique circumstances within each NGB. Sport Ireland will continue to engage with the NGBs with a view to agreeing funding requirements from 2026.

Sport Ireland provides a range of funding streams to Paralympics Ireland including High Performance Programme Funding (€1,000,000), Direct Athlete Support, (€307,000), and Administration and Operations Funding also known as HP Core Funding (€450,000). The 2025 “Core Funding” allocation is reflected in the table below.

One year funding is also allocated for Paralympics Ireland. An important strategic project is ongoing with Paralympics Ireland. This involves moving the swimming and athletics para sports programmes to Swim Ireland and Athletics Ireland, respectively. Sport Ireland is supporting Paralympics Ireland in this transition and have allocated additional resource to facilitate this project (€250,000). The long-term resourcing needs will be determined as this project progresses.

2025 High Performance Operations & Administration Funding

	2024 HP Operations & Admin (Core Funding)	2025 HP Operations & Admin (Core Funding)
Olympic Federation of Ireland	€500,000	€600,000
Paralympics Ireland	€450,000*	€450,000*

* Does not include the Transition Funding allocation (€250,000)



2025 Performance Development Programme

Sport Ireland is pleased to announce the allocation of up to €1m under the newly established Performance Development Programme. This initiative underscores Sport Ireland's commitment to fostering a more inclusive and sustainable high performance system, ensuring a broader range of NGBs can access targeted support to enhance their performance programmes and pathways.

The Performance Development Programme will be delivered to targeted NGBs. Building on the engagement and investment provided throughout the Paris Cycle, six NGBs will be included in this programme in 2025. As well as establishing a community of practice amongst these NGBs, they will receive support which is specific to their sport and reflective of their stage of development.

National Governing Body/Funded Organisation	2024 Allocation	2025 Performance Development Programme	Term
Irish Judo Association	€226,667	€200,000	One year only
Pentathlon Ireland	€286,667	€150,000	
Taekwondo Ireland	€150,000	€75,000	
Basketball Ireland	€150,000	€200,000	
Weightlifting Ireland	€25,000	€50,000	
Squash Ireland	€30,000	€50,000	
Winter Sports (Via OFI)	€50,000	€50,000	

High Performance Coaching

Investment under High Performance Coaching will increase from €1.2m in 2024 to €1.5m in 2025. Sport Ireland has led improvements in the high performance coaching landscape and made progress in addressing the challenges which exist. To date, significant progress has been achieved, and Sport Ireland has accelerated the recruitment of coaches within NGBs. Sport Ireland's investment in the recruitment of talented individuals to key coaching positions is done on a sliding-scale basis over three or four years with Sport Ireland front-loading investment for 100% of the support in Year 1, with a year-on-year increasing investment by the NGB to ensure the medium-term viability of these positions and long-term retention by NGBs. Mentoring and training has also been a key feature of work in high performance coaching in 2024 and is targeted at both new and established coaches operating in the Irish system.

Sport Ireland developed a 'Women in High Performance Coaching Network' (WinHP) noting the more pronounced challenges in this area. High Performance Coaching has also been supported through the Pursuit of Excellence Programme, Mentor Development Programme and includes a new offering in 2025 for Performance Pathway Coaches. There has been strong buy-in to Sport Ireland's efforts in High Performance Coaching by the NGBs, and Sport Ireland will continue its work in this area in 2025.

In addition to providing financial support to NGBs, High Performance Coaching will offer additional support for the following programmes: the Sport Ireland Institute's Pursuit of Excellence Programme for coaches preparing for the LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Performance Pathway Coach & Mentor Development Programme, and the Women in High Performance Coaching Network.



Direct Athlete Support

Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
International Carding Scheme	€2,763,985	€3,113,500	€3,738,625	€3,914,900	€3,817,000
Athlete Career Transition (ACT)	€265,875	€134,750	€123,500	€132,000	€239,000
Player Funding Scheme (Hockey)	-	€150,000	€300,000	€300,000	€450,000
Golf Ireland Professional Scheme	€275,000	€275,000	€325,000	€325,000	€350,000
Total	€3,304,860	€3,673,250	€4,487,125	€4,760,900	€4,856,000

Notes:

The International Carding Scheme figure includes Individual Athlete Allocations, Relay and Pool Funding investment as well as reserves.

The 2025 Athlete Career Transition figure represents the estimate resource allocated, and additional funding allocated by the Government in December 2024.



2025 International Carding Scheme

The International Carding Scheme provides financial support to athletes for their training and competition programmes. The primary purpose of this funding is to support Irish athletes in reaching finals and achieving medals at European, World, Olympic and Paralympic level.

In 2025, Sport Ireland will invest €4.5m under the International Carding Scheme and the Player Funding Scheme. This will support 129 athletes and 11 relays/pool funding across 16 sports. Sport Ireland continues to support the Player Funding Scheme, and in 2025, an allocation of €450,000 will be allocated to Hockey Ireland to support players in its Senior Men and Senior Women's teams.

Ahead of the LA Cycle (2025-2028) Sport Ireland, alongside the NGBs, have reviewed and updated the International Carding Scheme criteria. The updated criteria reflects the progress of NGBs' High Performance Programmes and continued improved performances. Sport Ireland remains committed to supporting senior athletes at a level that is appropriate for their stage of development, and in a manner that enables them to continue to progress. Sport Ireland will provide funding on a one-year basis for 2025 and 2026. Multi-annual funding will be reintroduced for 2027 and 2028 as per the approach taken during the Tokyo and Paris Cycles. The Sport Ireland Institute provides world-leading services to Ireland's high performance carded athletes. It should be noted that the Direct Athlete Support Investment table does not capture the value of performance support services which is provided by the Sport Ireland Institute.

Improving the support to pathway athletes is a key recommendation for Sport Ireland and the NGBs in the Paris Cycle Review.

Over the LA Cycle, Sport Ireland will support and encourage NGBs to further develop their approach to the athlete pathway to ensure the pipeline of Irish talent remains strong and adequately supported at key points of the athletes' journey.



Athlete Wellbeing

The Sport Ireland Athletes' Lounge located on the Sport Ireland Campus has been developed to provide a private space and environment, exclusively for athletes. Within the lounge, athletes have access to various areas which allows opportunities for them to relax, socialise, study, and cook in between training and performance services appointments.

The Federation of Irish Sport appointed an Athlete Support Manager in September 2024. This new role, funded and supported by Sport Ireland, provides independent, confidential advice to athletes on various matters, including integrity, dispute resolution, and athlete welfare and wellbeing. The Athlete Support Manager will collaborate with NGBs to support the further development of athlete-centred high performance programmes.


The Sport Ireland Athlete Career Transition Programme (ACT), introduced in 2022, is world-leading in terms of its financial and service offerings to carded athletes upon retirement. Athletes availing of the ACT programme are guaranteed 50% of their current award from their point of exit from the International Carding Scheme. In an Olympic/Paralympic year, an athlete will receive the remainder of their funding for the year and secure 50% of their funding for the following year. The ACT programme provided support to 15 athletes in 2024, bringing the total number of athletes supported through this programme to 53 across the Paris Cycle.


Highlights of the 2025 International Carding Scheme

29 Athletes have been awarded the top category of **Podium funding**

28 Athletes have been awarded **World Class funding**

72 Athletes have been awarded **International funding**

 **72**
Male athletes
(56%)

 **57**
Female athletes
(44%)


Pool Funding

Awarded in boxing, cycling and gymnastics to support targeted athletes.

22 
Para athletes supported (17% of overall athletes). Additional five pilots/guides also supported in Para Cycling and Para Triathlon.

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Athletics Ireland	Ciara Mageean	Podium	€40,000
	Rhasidat Adeleke	Podium	€40,000
	Sharlene Mawdsley	Podium	€40,000
	Sophie Becker	Podium	€40,000
	Christopher O'Donnell	Podium	€40,000
	Sarah Lavin	World Class	€25,000
	Sarah Healy	World Class	€25,000
	Katherine O'Connor	World Class	€25,000
	Mark English	World Class	€25,000
	Andrew Coscoran	International	€18,000
	Brian Fay	International	€18,000
	Efrem Gidey	International	€18,000
	Eric Tyrone Favors Jr	International	€18,000
	Luke McCann	International	€18,000
	Sophie O'Sullivan	International	€18,000
	Nicola Tuthill	International	€18,000
	Cathal Doyle	International	€18,000
	Nicholas William Griggs	International	€18,000
	Fionnuala McCormack	International	€18,000
	Hiko Haso	International	€18,000
	Darragh McElhinney	International	€18,000
	Israel Olatunde	International	€18,000
Mixed 4x400m Relay	Relay/Pool	€60,000	
Women's 4x400m Relay	Relay/Pool	€60,000	
Total Awarded			€645,000

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Badminton Ireland	Nhat Nguyen	World Class	€25,000
	Rachael Darragh	International	€18,000
	Joshua Magee	International	€18,000
	Paul Reynolds	International	€18,000
	Moya Ryan	International	€18,000
Total Awarded			€97,000
Canoeing Ireland	Liam Jegou	World Class	€25,000
	Ronan Foley	International	€18,000
	Alistair McCreery	International	€18,000
	Jake Cochrane	International	€18,000
	Noel Hendrick	International	€18,000
	Madison Corcoran	International	€18,000
Total Awarded			€97,000
Cycling Ireland	Lara Gillespie	Podium	€40,000
	Mia Griffin	World Class	€25,000
	Erin Grace Creighton	World Class	€25,000
Cycling Ireland (Para)	Josephine Healion	Podium	€40,000
	Linda Kelly (Pilot)	Podium	€40,000
	Katie-George Dunlevy	Podium	€40,000
	Richael Timothy	International	€18,000
	Christopher Burns	International	€18,000
	Mitchell McLaughlin (Pilot)	International	€18,000
	Damien Vereker	International	€18,000
	Pilot & Pool Funding	Relay/Pool	€40,000
Total Awarded			€322,000

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Gymnastics Ireland	Rhys McClenaghan	Podium	€40,000
	Adam Steele	International	€18,000
	Dominick Cunningham	International	€18,000
	Emma Slevin	International	€18,000
	Halle Hilton	International	€18,000
	Eamon Montgomery	International	€18,000
	Pool Funding	Relay/Pool	€80,000
Total Awarded			€210,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Kellie Harrington	Podium	€40,000
	Aoife O'Rourke	Podium	€40,000
	Shannon Sweeney	Podium	€40,000
	Jack Marley	World Class	€25,000
	Niamh Fay	World Class	€25,000
	Adam Hession	International	€18,000
	Kelyn Cassidy	International	€18,000
	Martin McDonagh	International	€18,000
	Dean Clancy	International	€18,000
	Daina Moorehouse	International	€18,000
	Jennifer Lehane	International	€18,000
	Gráinne Walsh	International	€18,000
	Aidan Walsh	International	€18,000
	Jude Gallagher	International	€18,000
	Michaela Walsh	International	€18,000
Pool Funding	Relay/Pool	€80,000	
Total Awarded			€430,000

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	Ian O'Sullivan	International	€18,000
Total Awarded			€18,000
Irish Judo Association	Joshua Green	International	€18,000
	Rachael Hawkes	International	€18,000
	Bearach Gleeson	International	€15,000
Total Awarded			€51,000
Irish Sailing Association	Finn Lynch	Podium	€40,000
	Robert Dickson	Podium	€40,000
	Sean Waddilove	Podium	€40,000
	Eve McMahan	International	€18,000
Total Awarded			€145,000
Paralympics Ireland	Pool Funding - Athlete Support Programme	Relay/Pool	€80,000
Paralympics Ireland (Para Athletics)	Orla Comerford	Podium	€40,000
	Greta Streimikyte	World Class	€25,000
	Shauna Bocquet	International	€18,000
	Mary Fitzgerald	International	€18,000
	Jordan Lee	International	€18,000
Paralympics Ireland (Para Swimming)	Roisin Ni Riain	Podium	€40,000
	Barry McClements	World Class	€25,000
	Dearbhaile Brady	World Class	€25,000
	Deaten Registe	International	€18,000
Total Awarded			€307,000

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Rowing Ireland	Paul O'Donovan	Podium	€40,000
	Fintan McCarthy	Podium	€40,000
	Philip Doyle	Podium	€40,000
	Daire Lynch	Podium	€40,000
	Fiona Murtagh	Podium	€40,000
	Ross Corrigan	Podium	€30,000
	Nathan Timoney	Podium	€30,000
	Aoife Casey	Podium	€30,000
	Margaret Cremen	Podium	€30,000
	Zoe Hyde	World Class	€25,000
	Alison Bergin	World Class	€25,000
	Eimear Lambe	World Class	€25,000
	Emily Hegarty	World Class	€25,000
	Imogen Magner	World Class	€25,000
	Natalie Long	World Class	€25,000
	Brian Colsh	International	€18,000
	Adam Murphy	International	€18,000
	Konan Pazzoia	International	€18,000
	Ciaran Purdy	International	€18,000
	Donnacha Keeley	International	€18,000
Siobhan McCrohan	International	€18,000	
Rowing Ireland (Para)	Katie O'Brien	International	€18,000
	Tiarnan O'Donnell	International	€18,000
	Steven McGowan	International	€18,000
Total Awarded			€632,000

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Cumann Snámha na hÉireann	Daniel Wiffen	Podium	€40,000
	Mona McSharry	Podium	€40,000
	Ellen Walshe	World Class	€25,000
	Danielle Hill	World Class	€20,000
	Tom Fannon	International	€18,000
	Shane Ryan	International	€18,000
	Eoin Corby	International	€18,000
	Charlotte (Lottie) Cullen	International	€18,000
	Ellie McCartney	International	€18,000
	John Shortt	International	€18,000
	Darragh Greene	International	€18,000
	Nathan Wiffen	International	€18,000
	Jake Passmore	International	€18,000
	Conor Ferguson	International	€18,000
	Women's 4x100m Medley Relay	Relay/Pool	€100,000
	Men's 4x100m Medley Relay		
	Women's 4x100m Freestyle Relay		
	Men's 4x200m Freestyle Relay		
Mixed 4x100m Medley Relay			
Total Awarded			€423,000
Table Tennis Ireland (Para)	Colin Judge	World Class	€25,000
Total Awarded			€25,000

NGB	Athlete	Category	Award
Taekwondo Ireland	Jack Woolley	World Class	€25,000
	Programme Costs		€15,000
Total Awarded			€40,000
Triathlon Ireland	James Edgar	International	€18,000
Triathlon Ireland (Para)	Chloe MacCombe	World Class	€25,000
	Catherine Sands (Pilot)	World Class	€25,000
	Judith MacCombe	World Class	€25,000
	Eimear Nicholls (Pilot)	World Class	€25,000
	Tom Williamson	World Class	€25,000
	Donnacha McCarthy	International	€15,000
	Sean Husband (Pilot)	International	€15,000
Total Awarded			€173,000





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