

Press Release

Asian County Board: Announcement of ACB Regional Games for 2010

The Asian County Board is very pleased to announce the dates and venues for the ACB regional tournaments for 2010. The Regional tournaments are a fantastic programme to build awareness of Gaelic football, and development of the players and clubs in Asia.

Paraic McGrath, Chairman of the Asian County Board, commented: *"I would like to congratulate the clubs in Shenzhen, Jakarta and Seoul on winning the right to host the three regional tournaments of the ACB in 2010. Bringing our national game to different locations each year allows us to spread the "GAA Gospel" and exposes the game to a myriad of nationalities. These three clubs are quite diverse in their locations, languages and membership, demonstrating the progress the GAA has made in Asia over the last few years. Good luck to all the clubs, we hope you enjoy the experience and look forward to successful competitions and fun filled weekends."*

Information about each tournament - All China Games, South East Asia Games, and North Asia Games – is detailed below.

ALL CHINA GAMES

Shenzhen, People's Republic of China; April 24, 2010

Shenzhen, situated in the Pearl River Delta between the cities of Hong Kong and Guangzhou, will this year host the annual All China Games. This will be the second time the games will be held in Shenzhen, previously in 2006. The goal of this event is to be the biggest and most fun yet! Latest figures show a record eight Chinese cities represented, as the lads and ladies of the Central Kingdom prepare to do battle in this marathon one-day event!

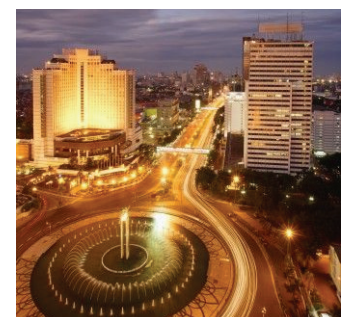


Hong Kong is the current holders of the Men's cup and the women team from Shanghai boast winning a great Ladies Cup final in 2009. The All China Games promises to be one of the most exciting tournaments of the year, giving an excellent demonstration of the very high standard of teams in the Asia region.

SOUTH EAST ASIA GAMES

Jakarta, Indonesia; May 29, 2010

Indonesia comprises of approximately 17,000 islands and covers three time zones. Jakarta is situated in the most Westerly time zone on the island of Java, which despite being Indonesia's fifth largest island, is actually the world's most populous, with more than 130 million people. The capital Jakarta is the largest city in South East Asia and will host the SE Asian Gaelic Games for the first time since the area was first settled in the fourth century (or so it is believed).



Jakarta International School (JIS) has very generously made their wonderful sports facilities (including an all-weather pitch) available and the staff at the school are also in training in order to enter a team in the competition. They will be joined by teams from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and of course the hosts Jakarta Dragonflies. The title holders, Singapore in the men's competition and Malaysia in the lady's competition, can expect a stern test if they want to keep their trophies. The business end of the tournament is grateful for the very generous support of Guinness, whose contribution will go a long way to making the whole event possible.

NORTH ASIA GAMES

Seoul, South Korea; June 05, 2010

With the ever increasing need for more competitive football in Asia, the North Asian Games were officially born in 2009. Seoul played host to 120 players on six men's and four women's teams from Japan and Korea. This year, on the weekend of June 5th, the Seoul Gaels are again delighted to host this fledgling tournament and hope to build on last year's success.



The usual suspects from Seoul, Daegu and Gwangju will be again joined by Japan's best and brightest, and word has it that there may be a few special guests in this year's tournament mix! Last year's men's champions Seoul St Pat's Syntek, one of Seoul's two Irish soccer teams that contribute to the Gael's playing pool, will be keen to maintain their hold on the men's cup. It is not yet definite if the women's champions KOPAN, a Seoul/Japan hybrid team, will bid to retain their title. But for sure, the 2010 North Asian Games will be another fun filled and skilful display of football.

The 2010 tournament will shift just outside of Seoul to take advantage of the facilities at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies' (HUFS) Yongin campus. As always, the football will be complimented by a most hospitable of welcomes from Seoul's numerous hostelries, and the Seoul Gaels are looking forward to welcoming the North Asian GAA fraternity once again to the Land of the Morning Calm.

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