

Press Release

Asian County Board: Announcement of the 2010 ACB Asian Gaelic Games

The Asian County Board (ACB) is delighted to announce the selection of Hong Kong as the host venue for the 2010 ACB Asian Gaelic Games, taking place over the weekend of September 25-26.

During the bidding process, the Hong Kong GAA submitted an excellent proposal highlighting the unique advantages of having the tournament in such a central and vibrant city. Over 700 players expected to participate with teams from as far north as Japan, Seoul and Dalian; Singapore, Jakarta and Malaysia from the South; as far west as Qatar, Dubai and Abu Dhabi; Indonesia, Vietnam and Taiwan on the western front; and teams from all over China including Beijing, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Suzhou and Changsha.

Paraic McGrath, Chairman of the Asian County Board, commented: *“I am delighted to announce that Hong Kong GAA will host of the Asian Gaelic Games for 2010. They have been stalwarts of the GAA in the region for many years, running internal competitions, youth programs and successfully promoting our national sport amongst the expatriate and local community in Hong Kong. The organising committee are committed to hosting the best ever games and we wish Chairman Shane Harmon and his members the best of luck. We would also like to thank our sponsors and the GAA in Croke Park for all their help and also look forward to participating in the 4th annual Asia Pacific Irish Business Forum on October 8th.”*

Hong Kong sits on the South Coast of China and the former British Colony is home to seven million people. It will be the third time the Hong Kong GAA have hosted the annual flag-ship tournament in the Asian County Board calendar, as well as hosting the Vodafone All-Star football team in 2005.



Hong Kong is a vibrant city and is a must visit city for people with a penchant for shopping and socialising. In fact the 24 hour opening of bars and clubs will mean that there will be no lack of partying on offer to the participants in this year’s Asian Gaelic Games.

The 17 Asian and Gulf GAA Clubs are expected to enter nearly 60 teams for the 9-a-side football and hurling competitions; the opposition ranging from veteran and social teams, to the elite standards of the

Hong Kong men’s team who will defend their Derek Brady Cup title and the Singapore Lionesses, looking to hold onto the Ladies Cup trophy. A youth competition will also be held, demonstrating the depth and breath of development of the sport in the region.





There promises to be an unrivalled schedule of events in the week leading up to the Asian games with charity functions, golf trips, the Annual Hong Kong Irish Cup, sponsored by the Hong Kong Jockey Club and the 4th Annual Asia Pacific Ireland Business Forum. All in all it has the makings of a memorable event in Hong Kong in September 2010.

Shane Harmon, Chairman of the Hong Kong GAA (and an All Ireland Winner with Laune Rangers) commented *“It is a great honour for the Hong Kong GAA and the greater Irish Community to be selected as the host for this year’s Asian Gaelic Games. We expect this tournament will be the largest team participation event to be held in Hong Kong this year.”*



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Images from 2009 Asian Gaelic Games courtesy of photographer George Hatchell.

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