

PRESS RELEASE 24th August 2014

Record turn-out for Community Games Festival Weekend 2 – 22nd to 24th August

The second weekend of the Community Games Festival saw record figures come to Athlone over the 3 days. As well as the nearly 4,000 participants going for gold, over 9,000 visitors came along to wish them luck!

Track and Field Events dominated the programme of events for the weekend but Drama, Singing and Music events were also very popular.

Speaking at the event, Gerard Davenport, President of the HSE Community Games said:

“We are delighted with the turnout this weekend. Walking around the campus and speaking with the many parents it was great to see everyone having such a positive experience over the weekend, being part of their children’s hopes and dreams while reminiscing themselves on their own memories of HSE Community Games. We are hoping that next year we’ll have an even bigger turnout as people start to realise it’s easy for everyone to become a part of HSE Community Games!”

While every child came with dreams of winning a medal the focus this weekend was on participation and every child proudly went home with their very own Participation Pin - a new incentive from HSE Community Game to encourage every child to get more active, regardless of whether they win or lose.

The HSE Community Games has teamed up this year with Healthy Ireland, the new national initiative promoting health and wellbeing throughout the country.

Ends

NOTE TO EDITORS

Photos are available from SportsFile and we are constantly updating our results which are available here: www.communitygames.ie/results-2014 . We will be sending on results in word format at 6:30pm when the last result is posted.

The HSE Community Games is an independent voluntary organisation which was set up in 1968. It is operating in over 600 local communities throughout the entire island of Ireland. The HSE and the Community Games aim to promote healthy active lives and to have a positive impact on young people and their families in maintaining their health, in particular through being active and eating healthily.

The HSE Community Games festival took place this year in Athlone Institute of Technology, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, over 2 weekends in August:

National Festival Weekend 1: 15th – 17th August 2014

National Festival Weekend 2: 22nd – 24th August 2014

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