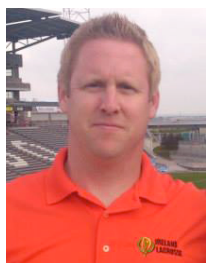




Ireland wins bid to host 2020 Men's Under-19 World Lacrosse Championships!



Michael Kennedy, Chief Executive Officer of Ireland Lacrosse, is pleased to announce that Ireland has been successful in its bid to host the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) 2020 Men's Under-19 World Lacrosse Championships. The bid was developed in partnership between Ireland Lacrosse (the national governing body for the sport of lacrosse in Ireland), Event Ireland (a division of Failte Ireland), Abbey Events and the University of Limerick.

The tournament will take place from 9-18 July 2020 at the University of Limerick. UL provides an outstanding venue for this event, with its top-class sports facilities, residential accommodation and extensive food options, all co-located on a beautiful campus along the River Shannon.

The 2016 edition of the tournament will see the Irish Men's Under-19 team make its debut in a major world championships, with the event taking place from 7-16 July 2016 in Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada (<http://www.2016worldlax.com/>). The team has been drawn in a group with China, Colombia, Korea, Scotland and Spain. Other participants include perennial favourite the USA, Canada, Australia, England, Germany, Hong Kong, Israel, Mexico, Taiwan, and the Iroquois Nationals. Lacrosse is originally a Native American Indian sport, played for centuries between tribes often as preparation for warfare or as a medicine game offered to the Creator, and, uniquely in world sport, the Iroquois Nationals compete in major international tournaments alongside other national teams. We are looking forward to welcoming these – and other nations in the process of developing under-19 programmes – to Limerick in 2020!



While originating with the Native American Indians, in the late 1800s the game was modernised by a Canadian dentist, who then brought teams to Ireland and the UK to play exhibition games, and such events contributed to the establishment of lacrosse in Ireland. The first team was formed in 1872 in Newtownards, Co. Down and by the 1880s an Irish men's national team had been formed, and in 1886 this team travelled to the US and Canada to play a number of exhibition matches over several months. Men's lacrosse then died out in Ireland in the early 1900s, and women's lacrosse emerged in the 1920s and was played right up until the 1970s. In 2001 the Irish men's team was re-established and in 2005 the Irish women's team was re-established. There are now five Irish national lacrosse teams – men's senior, men's indoor, men's under-19, women's senior and women's under-19 – and three of these teams are currently ranked in the top ten in the world.

For more information see the [Ireland Lacrosse website](#) or email mken尼迪@irelandlacrosse.ie. For information about the 2020 tournament, email Lacrosse2020@abbey.ie. Also follows us on Facebook ([/irelandlacrosse](#)), Twitter ([@IrelandLacrosse](#)), Instagram ([@IrelandLacrosse](#)) and YouTube ([Ireland Lacrosse](#)).

The announcement has also been posted on the [Federation of International Lacrosse \(FIL\) website](#) and on the [Inside the Games website](#).