



2003

2013

*Amsterdam Gaelic Athletic Club*

*10 Year Invitational Tournament*

*Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2013*

## Club History

In a crowded Irish bar in Amsterdam on St. Patrick's Day 2003, an Australian and Irishman shook hands and formed what would become the centre of the Irish community in The Netherlands; Amsterdam Gaelic Athletic Club. Ten years later, the club has become one of Europe's leading GAA clubs and continues to go from strength to strength.

Amsterdam Gaelic Athletic Club have two men's gaelic football teams, and are 2011 European GAA Shield winners, 2012 BeNeLux GAA Championship winners, and 2012 BeNeLux GAA Shield winners.

Our Holland Ladies team is one of the most successful ladies gaelic footballs teams in Europe, and are former European GAA Ladies Championship winners.

Amsterdam hurlers were part of the winning Dutch team that claimed the 2012 European Hurling Championship, and Holland Ladies established their camogie club in 2012, and finished third in the European League in their debut season.

Amsterdam GAC has players from nearly every county in Ireland and has seen numbers surge over the past two years as a new generation of Irish emigrants search for new opportunities abroad. The club has players from over ten countries including America, Australia, Britain, Canada, France, and New Zealand.

As Amsterdam reaches its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the club has never been stronger. Having moved into new pitch facilities with Amstelveen Rugby Club in 2011, with a new clubhouse due for completion in 2013, new hurling & camogie teams as well as the growth in membership for all codes, the future is bright.

## Invitation

Amsterdam Gaelic Athletic Club is delighted to invite you to take part in our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations on St. Patrick's Weekend 2013.

After hugely successful 2011 and 2012 seasons, Amsterdam GAC are looking forward to the next ten years and hope you can join us to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Our celebrations will centre on our Invitational Tournament on Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>. The Invitational Tournament will be an all-day event featuring both a men's tournament and a ladies tournament with teams from Ireland, UK, and our local European GAA rivals.

Following the action, the club will host a tournament dinner in Amsterdam city centre, and we will have entertainment organised to mark both our 10th birthday and St. Patrick's Day.

As Monday March 18th is a public holiday in Ireland, we hope all clubs see this invitation as an opportunity for your members to enjoy a long weekend in one of Europe's finest cities, a chance to compete against some of Europe's strongest gaelic football teams, and to see how the Irish community celebrate St. Patrick's Day abroad.

## **Tournament Structure**

### Match Format

All matches will be 30 minutes; 15 minutes a half.

Each team can expect to play 4 to 5 matches during the tournament with the format being a multiple groups leading to the top teams reaching a semi-final and final.

### Playing Standard

To compare to the levels in Ireland, European GAA is played at a junior level for both the men's and ladies competitions. We will generally be looking for teams of similar level to attend. However, we welcome interest from clubs of all levels.

### Team Size

Both the men's and ladies tournaments will be played at 11-a-side level. This will allow clubs to travel from abroad with smaller numbers than usual.

### Tournament Fees

There will be a tournament fee of €35 per player, which is the standard fee adopted in European GAA. This fee covers tournament registration, a nutritious lunch, and dinner at our evening celebrations.

### Referees

Amsterdam GAC would welcome any of your local club referees who also wish to travel, and take part in our Invitational tournament. We will also have European County Board referees taking part.

## General Information

### Flights

Amsterdam is a 1 hour 20 minute flight from Ireland with flights from Belfast, Cork and Dublin airports into Schiphol (Amsterdam) Airport.

There are also flights from Dublin into both Eindhoven Airport (1 hour 20 minute train journey to Amsterdam) and Maastricht Airport (2 hour train journey to Amsterdam)

Below is an indication of current prices for flights for St. Patrick's Weekend 2013.

#### **Belfast - Amsterdam**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€125** with Easyjet

#### **Cork - Amsterdam**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> -> **€110** with Aer Lingus

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€130** with Aer Lingus

#### **Dublin - Amsterdam**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> -> **€120** with Aer Lingus

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€135** with Aer Lingus

#### **Dublin - Eindhoven**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€125** with Ryanair

#### **Birmingham - Amsterdam**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€100** with KLM

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€145** with Flybe

#### **London (Gatwick, Luton, Southend, Stansted) - Amsterdam**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€90 - €120** with Easyjet

#### **Liverpool - Amsterdam**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/Monday 18<sup>th</sup> -> **€80** with Easyjet

## Accommodation

Amsterdam is full of excellent accommodation options from 3-, 4-, 5- star hotels, to budget hostels.

Below is a sample of some of the options available to you, with the current prices for accommodation for St. Patrick's Weekend 2013.

There are many more options to choose from, and please don't hesitate to contact us if you require advice on any accommodation options.

1. Ibis Amsterdam Centraal – 3 Star Hotel  
Double/Twin Room: €85 - €95 **per room** per night  
Triple Room: €130 **per room** per night  
<http://ibishotel.ibis.com/gb/hotel-1556-ibis-amsterdam-centre/index.shtml>
2. Best Western Apollo Museumhotel Amsterdam City Centre  
Double/Twin Room: €100 **per room** per night  
<http://www.apollohotelsresorts.com/hotels/NL/amsterdam>
3. Durty Nellys Hostel  
€35 - €45 per person  
<http://www.durtynellys.nl>
4. Flying Pig Hostel  
€15 upwards for dorms per person  
€33 upwards for private rooms  
<http://www.flyingpig.nl>
5. Stayokay Vondelpark Hostel  
€30 - €40 per person  
<http://www.stayokay.com/>

## Contact

If you have any remaining questions regarding our Invitational Tournament, please do not hesitate to contact:

David Corcoran  
Amsterdam GAC Chairperson  
Tel: +31 (0)6 10135761  
Email: [corcoran.david@gmail.com](mailto:corcoran.david@gmail.com)

To find out more about our club, please visit:

Our Blog: <http://amsterdamgaa.blogspot.com>  
Our Website: <http://www.amsterdamgac.nl>  
Our Twitter: @AmsterdamGAC

**We look forward to welcoming you to Amsterdam in 2013**

