

# HOCKEY IRELAND

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*Affiliated to the International Hockey Federation and to the European Hockey Federation*

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Angus Kirkland  
Director General  
European Hockey Federation

## **Re: Hockey Ireland's support for Inez Cooper's nomination as EHF Vice-President (Female)**

I am delighted, on behalf of Hockey Ireland, to have this opportunity to endorse and support Ms. Inez Cooper's candidature for election as Female Vice-President, of the European Hockey Federation.

Inez has a long and distinguished history of involvement in the sport of Hockey in Ireland. She has contributed to hockey in a multitude of ways, filling incredibly significant roles at club, provincial, national and international levels. She has carried these out with great efficiency, demonstrating excellent interpersonal relationships in a friendly welcoming manner. Her drive and passion for development in hockey are worth recording; she demonstrated these in her delivery speech when she was nominated by Hockey Ireland for a position on the FIH, where she narrowly lost out in the voting to the 2 candidates who were up for re-election. Hockey Ireland are proud of her and it is difficult to put into words the immense debt that we owe Inez. We look forward to her continued help, advice and support over the years to come.

As an experienced project manager, in 2019 she successfully chaired the LOC for Ireland's hosting of the Women's FIH World Series Finals in Banbridge, Northern Ireland and followed this by leading the extremely successful Tokyo Olympic Games, FIH Women's Qualifier Series in Donnybrook, Dublin in November of that year. This 'Donnybrook Event' twice broke the previous record for the largest attendance at a Women's International match in any sport in Ireland and culminated in ensuring that the Irish team became the first ever Women's team to qualify for an Olympic Games.

Next month she will celebrate eight years on the Executive Board of the European Hockey Federation (EHF). During this time, she has held the position of Chair of the EHF Education Committee, overseeing the successful delivery of individual education programmes across all cohorts of Umpires, Officials and Coaches.

She has also recently taken on the position of Chair of the EHF Officials Committee. In 2019 she was a speaker at the first European Hockey Female Leadership Forum where the EHF's strategic goal, to advocate, support and build desires for equal female leadership opportunities, was to the fore.

A Chartered Director, Ms. Cooper has also a remarkably successful business career and has worked across a range of jurisdictions, in several senior executive roles, within the financial services sector.

Hockey Ireland is extremely confident that Inez's extensive knowledge and leadership experience in both business and hockey, when coupled with her commercial capabilities and ability to think strategically will allow her to make an immediate positive contribution as Vice-President of the European Hockey Federation. Over the years she has shown that she has the commitment and organisational skills that are required to make continued positive and valued contributions to the workings of the Executive Board.

Hockey Ireland request that all the Member Nations look favourably on Inez's candidature for election as Female Vice President and support her with their votes. This would be of benefit to European Hockey and help to contribute to Europe's leading role across the globe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Rosa', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ann Rosa  
President, Hockey Ireland