



The Irish Team at the World Shore Angling opening ceremony with Cllr Paddy Kavanagh, Chairman, Wexford County Council, who welcomed the teams to Wexford, and Pat Walsh, President, IFSA.



Wexford's Jane Cantwell, a member of the Irish team, practicing for the competition at Morristcastle Beach on Sunday.

Teams hope to reel in a win

By AMY LEWIS

ANGLERS from across the globe were officially welcomed to Wexford shores last week at the opening ceremony of the FIPS-M 33rd World Shore Angling competition in the National Opera House.

A parade of the nations through Wexford town kicked off the event, as the teams flew their flags with pride in anticipation of a good week's fishing to come. Approximately 240 competitors representing 18 nations are taking part in the competition, which will run until this Friday November 18.

On reaching the Opera House, the 18 mens and 11 ladies teams were warmly welcomed by Chairman of Wexford County Council Cllr Paddy Kavanagh, MC of the event Cllr George Lawlor, Representative of Fáilte Ireland's Event Ireland team Frances Kinsella and FIPS-M representative Chris Clark, who

all made speeches at the ceremony. President of the IFSA Pat Walsh also addressed the crowds, encouraging them to make the most of their time at the event by making friends with fellow anglers along the way.

'The event went off to a really good start. The anglers from the other nations were so impressed with the venue,' said PRO of the Irish Federation of Sea Anglers Brian Reidy. 'There were cheers from the crowds as the teams paraded through the streets, some of them coming from other anglers who turned up to cheer on the Irish lads.'

Performers from Danescastle School, Loch Garman Pipe Band and the Doyle Academy of Dancers also wowed the visitors during the opening ceremony.

The visitors were given time to settle in to their accommodation at Clayton Whites Hotel before the formal fishing practice on Sunday at Morristcastle and Ballinoulart beaches. The official competition will run up until Friday, when a Gala dinner and prize-giving will be held in the hotel.

Those who wish to keep track of the results throughout the week can get live updates on the IFSA website.

Irish team member Joe Byrne from Gorey in practice at Morristcastle Beach.

