

About the Panel

Anna Nolan – Presenter / Basketball

Anna Nolan is a television producer, broadcaster and opinion columnist. She began her television career when she stepped inside the very first Big Brother house, back in 2000. From there she worked at the BBC for two years. She moved back to Ireland and worked on the RTE documentary series, “Would You Believe”.

Over the last 20 years, she has produced some of the most-watched television programmes on Irish television, including Room to Improve, Operation Transformation and is now Head of Development at COCO Television.



Anna started playing basketball at the age of 13, representing her school, Loreto Crumlin, and club, Naomh Mhuire, in national and international tournaments. In 1989, Anna won the U19 National Cup with Naomh Mhuire, was named Tournament MVP and was called up to play with the first team, who went on to win the Senior Women’s National Cup that year.



Donal Óg Cusack – Hurling

Considered one of the best hurling goalkeepers of his generation, Donal Óg Cusack is a 3-time All-Ireland winner and 2-time All Star with Cork. In 2009, Donal Óg came out as gay, the first elite Irish sportsman to do so. Upon his retirement in 2013, Cusack moved into coaching and is currently the manager of the Cork minor hurling team. He is also a regular TV analyst on RTE’s *The Sunday Game*.

Nikki Symmons – Hockey

Nikki Symmons is a former hockey international, appearing 208 times and scoring 31 goals for Ireland between 2001 and 2013, retiring as the most capped Irish team player in history, male or female, a record only broken in 2015 by Shirley McCay. A European Hockey Federation Hall of Fame inductee and Athlete Ally Ambassador, Nikki now lives in Switzerland. Along with her current role in Global Communications, Nikki is the lead of an LGBTQ+ Staff Group and works with multi-nationals to develop their I&D policies.

