



Name:	Deirdre Courtney
International No:	
Position:	Defender
Club(s):	Trinity, Muckross
Irish Caps:	33
Goals:	1
Debut:	2nd March 1985, v Scotland in Ayr
Age on debut:	20
Last match:	3 rd May 1991, Belgium in Brussels
Age on last match:	27

Player Bio

Early career Deirdre Courtney started her hockey at school with Santa Sabina, Sutton.

Club career Attending Trinity College, Deirdre played her first club hockey from 1981-1987 with her university. She was a member of the 1982 team that won the Chilean Cup and played on the Irish University team in that year. In 1987 Deirdre played with Muckross until 1988, leaving Ireland for some time to work in England and the States. On her return in 1990 she rejoined Muckross and played until 2000. Deirdre was part of a very successful Muckross side in the 1990s. They won many Leinster Leagues and Cups but Deirdre only won one of 5 Irish Senior Cup finals she played in in 1994. Winning 3 Irish Leagues, Deirdre also played in Europe on 4 occasions with her club, twice at A Division coming 4th in Gronigen in 1995, just missing out on a medal and Russelheim in 1996.

International debut and career Deirdre played her first game for Ireland in 1985 against Scotland in the Home Countries Championships. Deirdre was disappointed not to be selected for the 1986 World Cup in Amstelveen. She played at international level until 1991 giving 7 years and scored her only goal against Spain in 1986.

Other Sporting Successes Deirdre played indoor hockey for Leinster and cricket for North Leinster. Like many other hockey players, Deirdre switched over to golf after her retirement from the game. She was proud to be awarded Golfer of the Year in Woodbrook in 2017.

Professional and Personal Bio With a BA in History, Deirdre worked in recruitment and marketing for 10 years. An opportunity arose to run hockey in Holy Child Killiney which she took on with gusto and served as a Senior Coach and Sports Administrator for 17 years. Deirdre was a member of the Leinster Schools Committee for 4 years and became President of the Committee for 3 years. Deirdre has spent many years coaching Junior Hockey at Muckross and is President of the Club for the last 4 years.

Other family hockey/sports connections: Deirdre's two daughters, Emma and Caroline have both played for Leinster and the Irish U16 hockey team and Caroline also went on to play with the Irish U18 hockey team.

Additional reference sources used:

Links to Irish Hockey Archives Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile/100057181072606/search/?q=deirdre%20courtney>