



Healthy Obsession: Jennifer Jung

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Jennifer Jung

Age: 32

Occupation: Physical therapist

Town: San Francisco

Sport: Gaelic football



Why: There were several Irish girls on one of my soccer teams, and they were constantly recruiting for their Gaelic team. One day they convinced me to come out and "just give it a try." I immediately loved it. This sport is the perfect combination of soccer, basketball and volleyball.

Greatest accomplishment: My first goal in a real game. It was the second half, and I was getting tired. I managed to pick off a pass from the other team and headed for goal. It squeaked in, wasn't super pretty, but was still my first goal in Gaelic football (worth three points, not just one).

Gear you can't live without: A good pair of cleats. I've always been partial to Adidas, partly superstitious. Recently though, I have been wearing Pumas, which I think makes my Adidas cleats jealous

Where you train: My team, Saoirse, is based on the peninsula, so we usually train in Burlingame.

Best time to train: Anytime we can get the most people together, which is typically a weeknight.

Biggest misperception about your sport: Most people ask me, "So, is it like rugby?" and the answer is *no*! There is no tackling. Even though the sport is a little rougher than soccer, it is nowhere near as full-contact as rugby.

Advice you'd give a rookie: Don't be overwhelmed by the community and the intensity with which the sport is pursued. Some of these girls have been playing their whole life and back in Ireland. In no time it may even seem normal to you.