**Judge 5**

**John O’Brien – Dublin, Ireland**

I am an Irish, Gay, Fetishist who will be 55 in 2018. I have always had an interest in fetish gear (especially boots and waders). This developed into a love of leather over the years. The Irish Fetish Scene has been an area I have volunteered in over the last 17 years or more.

Over the years I have helped organise and ran Cloakrooms and second-hand gear sales for many of the gay fetish clubs in Ireland, LUBE, XXL, DressCode, Rule and latterly I was Secretary of Geared Ireland until stepping down recently to make room for new blood.

Some of the greatest highlights were when I was awarded the X-Award for Man of the Year in Antwerp in 2016 and when I represented Europe in Chicago as a Judge for IML in May 2016.

I was proud to be a Tally Master for Mister Leather Belgium in 2016 and 2017 and I am prouder still to be asked to be a Judge at this great Contest - Leatherpride Belgium is one of my favourite events... after Leather Pride Dublin obviously...