

JANUARY 2020  
Eanáir 2020  
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# MEMBERSHIP, COMMUNICATIONS AND DATA PROTECTION

**AS YOU MAY BE AWARE, THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE FOCUS ON THE GAA'S SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND SOME OF ITS IMPLICATIONS, FROM A DATA PROTECTION PERSPECTIVE, OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS. SOME OF WHAT HAS BEEN SAID IS TRUE, SOME IS INACCURATE AND SOME IS COMPLETELY MISLEADING. IT IS WORTH REITERATING SOME OF THE KEY POINTS TO TRY TO BRING SOME CLARITY.**

## WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?

There has been a lot of traction in the National Media and the general public regarding the GAA's Social Media policy, which was published in 2018 and circulated to all clubs previously, and in particular the GAA's policy regarding Social Media Direct Messaging tools, including Whatsapp (but not just Whatsapp – all messaging applications of this type). The GAA's policy is that these tools should not be used for official club communications.

## WHY ARE THE GAA SAYING NOT TO USE MESSAGING APPS?

In certain instances, some of those tools may not support a club in adhering to Data Protection legislation. Specifically, if contact details are shared or if information is distributed in cloud storage outside of the EU (EEA) or if appropriate controls to protect personal data are not in place, breaches of GDPR may occur. It is for this reason that the GAA Social Media policy does not advocate their use by clubs.

## WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

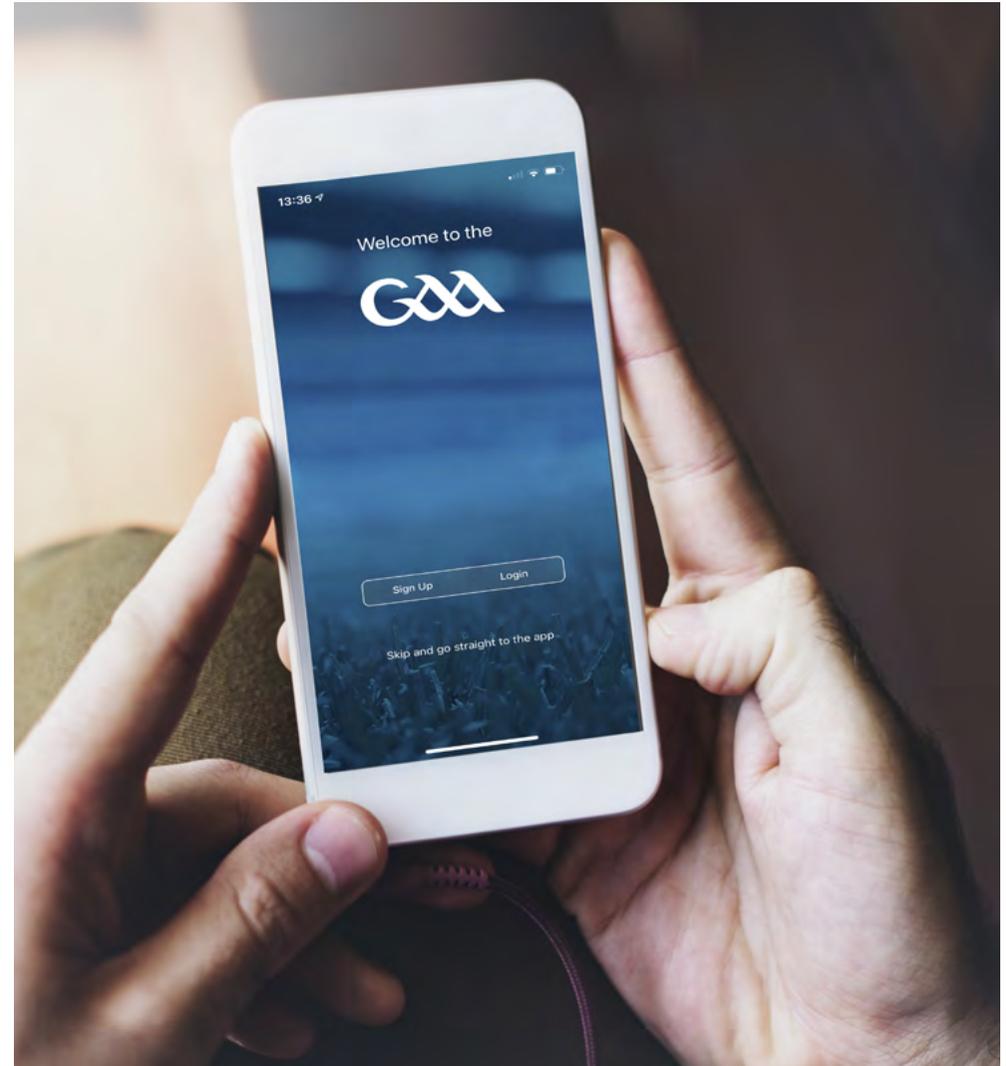
Most people have heard of the GDPR, the updated Data Protection legislation

that came into effect in 2018. This is good legislation for everyone as it protects our right to privacy and gives people the ability to control how their personal information is used. It gives this control by placing much greater onus on organisations or companies that hold our data (Data Controllers). In a legal context, GAA clubs are Data Controllers, as they hold personal data relating to club members, and as a result are obliged by law to manage that data appropriately.

There are lots of aspects to managing data 'appropriately' but some of the main requirements are to keep data safe, secure and to use it only for specified purposes. In addition, data controllers have to guarantee certain 'privacy rights' to individuals including providing a copy of all information held or deleting information if so requested. The full explanation of Data Controllers responsibilities and the rights of individuals is available on the gaa website ([www.gaa.ie/dataprotection](http://www.gaa.ie/dataprotection)).

The GAA, and GAA clubs, use Personal Data primarily for the purpose of membership registration and participation in games, but also for the purpose of communications regarding GAA activities. These purposes must be notified to all members and the Official GAA Membership form contains the correct wording to do so.

Direct Messaging Apps have functionality that allows Personal Data (phone numbers, photos etc) to be shared and, in a GAA context, consent to do this is not included in the templates provided.



If an individual requests a copy of their personal data, which they are entitled to receive, it is possible for GAA clubs to provide this from GAA systems. It is not always possible to retrieve data from third party systems and can be especially challenging if the individual requests that their data be deleted. Failure to provide a copy of data or to delete it is deemed to infringe a person's Privacy Rights and a breach of the GDPR.

#### **DOES THIS APPLY TO ME PERSONALLY?**

Personal use of Social Media or any App is not relevant to the GAA. Individuals can use whatever Apps they wish in a personal capacity.

#### **CAN I NOT JUST GET CONSENT FROM MEMBERS?**

Theoretically, yes you can get consent from individuals to use their data for any purpose whatsoever. It would be feasible to consent to use an App that shares contact details with all other members, for example. However, the wording required in doing so needs to be very specific and needs to cover exactly how data will be used. There is such a range of options that covering all potential processes is not feasible. The GAA has provided specific wording and guidance on how to obtain consent for the processes that we stand over.

#### **BUT IF I DO GET CONSENT, THAT'S IT SORTED?**

Unfortunately not. Individuals can choose to withdraw consent at any time and,

depending on how they choose to exercise their rights, may request a copy of all of their data or request that it is deleted. Depending on the App or Messaging tool used, this may not be possible. There is also a concern regarding messages of an inappropriate nature that may be posted, either deliberately or inadvertently, and the ramifications of this happening.

#### **OK, THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS, CAN I USE THOSE?**

There seem to be lots of other options that claim to be GDPR compliant, any many may well be, but the important thing is to ensure that the process that your club is using for membership and communications is compliant. This must be compliant from the moment that the member gives their data to you (the club) through to completion of registration on the GAA Games Management System. This may constitute a paper form, with the relevant consent and Privacy Notice information, which is transcribed onto the Games Management System by your club registrar or it may be an electronic process through the GAA App or other equivalent process.

#### **DOES THE GAA APP PROVIDE ON-LINE PAYMENT & COMMUNICATIONS?**

Yes. The GAA app provides clubs with the ability to receive membership payments online and it also provides clubs with the ability to issue communications to members or groups of members in a GDPR compliant manner.

#### **OTHER OPTIONS ARE BETTER THOUGH, RIGHT?**

There are lots of 'club management systems' available, all with their relative merits and disadvantages. The important thing to remember is that your club's members must be registered with the GAA, on the GAA Games Management System, on an annual basis to be GAA members. Without valid membership players are not eligible to play and not covered by the injury fund. Non-playing members are not eligible to vote in Club AGMs or to seek elected office in the club or County Board. Using the GAA systems ensures that registration happens in one integrated process.

For communications, the GAA Games Management System provides one interface to issue Communications through email, text (SMS) or in-App. These messages are broadcast in a GDPR compliant way. It is only fair to highlight that in-app messages are currently broadcast only and recipients do not have the ability to reply. This functionality was designed, based on feedback from clubs, to avoid multiple people responding and creating long threads. It is intended to expand this to provide the ability to reply in a controlled manner so that, for example, recipients can confirm attendance at training and this functionality will be available later in 2020.

#### **IS THE GAA TRYING TO MAKE MONEY THROUGH ITS APP?**

No. The systems provided by the GAA are completely free for clubs to use. There is no licence fee for use of the system or surcharges on transactions. In fact, the GAA subsidises clubs who choose to receive payments through the App. The only charges are normal online charges (approximately 1.3% depending on card and value of transaction) for online payments and standard SMS charges for text messages sent.

#### **I'M JUST TRYING TO RUN MY CLUB, WHY IS THE GAA MAKING IT SO HARD?**

The GAA, like all organisations, is obliged to comply with Data Protection and Child Welfare legislation and, unfortunately, some of the steps required to comply with these laws are onerous. The GAA has designed processes and systems that comply with the relevant legislation and has made these available to clubs. There may be other processes that can be constructed in a compliant manner but the GAA has not verified these, our process is the process that we stand over.

**For the GAA App Communications  
How To Guide please go to:**

**[https://www.gaa.ie/api/pdfs/image/  
upload/pooiqmpnpue498fjevo.pdf](https://www.gaa.ie/api/pdfs/image/upload/pooiqmpnpue498fjevo.pdf)**

# Social Media Policy & Guidelines

# GO TO GUIDE

This is a guide to some of the most frequently asked questions to how GAA Units should behave online.



## KEEPING IN TOUCH

### Direct Messaging

The use of social media platforms and stand-alone apps such as Whatsapp and Messenger should not be used for official GAA Unit related communications (training, events, etc). These channels are not GDPR compliant when used for such communications. Text and email are still perfectly safe to use for updates (for adult members).



The GAA App includes a messaging functionality enabling Units to communicate with their members through the App which is a GDPR compliant messaging service. This messaging functionality allows Clubs to have auditing ability over the information processed within it.



In general, the following should apply when communicating with underage players:

- Use mobile phones, if deemed appropriate, only via an email system or the GAA app for communicating with the parents/guardians of players. Any exception to this form of group texting can only be preceded with following express permission from parents/guardians.
- Do not communicate individually by text/email sites with underage players.
- Do not communicate with underage players via social network sites.

## POSTING CONTENT ONLINE

### Remember this!

Top tips for web and social posts

- Keep the info on your team sheets to a minimum – just a name will do! Never include membership numbers or date of birth. In addition, for underage players, never use a photo or indicate a child's school (unless it's a school fixture).
- Keep the details of your Executive to a minimum; Name, GAA email address (when possible) and photo number will suffice. Don't include postal address or other personal details.



### Communicating with underage players and teams

Coaches, mentors and other officials should never place themselves in a compromising position by texting or communicating via social media sites with underage players. All such communications regarding GAA activities should be sent via the parents or guardians of the underage player, unless otherwise agreed with the parents/guardians.



- Don't tag individuals in posts on any channel.
- Don't share any posts that are not GAA-related.
- Only post photos you own/have permission to use that relate to GAA activity; never copy or share images from personal pages.
- Ensure comments on your posts are frequently moderated. If in doubt, remove any content you deem inappropriate.

## THINK BEFORE YOU POST

Before you post images (still or video) or personal information relating to underage members, ensure you are taking the GAA's guidelines into consideration. GAA Units should determine which, if any, social media accounts will be used to communicate personal information relating to underage members.

- Ask for the player's parent's permission to use their image. This consent could be included in the annual registration form or the GAA App.
- All children/young people featured in recordings posted online must be appropriately dressed.
- The photograph or recording posted online should focus on the activity rather than a particular young person.
- In general, no personal details relating to the young person should be revealed as accompanying materials to the photograph or recorded image, with the exception being where they are being publicly acknowledged (e.g. an award or personal achievement), for which consent has been given.
- Group and team photographs may be taken but it is not necessary to match a player's name with the position in which they may be standing or seated in the team photograph.



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## PLAYING BY THE RULES

All GAA members are subject to the GAA Code of Conduct when online, even when they are not acting on behalf of the GAA. You are responsible for your actions but remember that those actions may have consequences for the GAA.

The GAA expects the following standards to be adhered to by its members when posting material online:

- Do not post or share material which is violent, sexually explicit, obscene, hateful, or defamatory.
- Do not post or share inappropriate behaviour relating to underage players.
- Do not suggest or encourage illegal activity.
- Do not engage in trolling, bullying, or abusive activity.
- Do not falsely claim the GAA endorses or is associated with any product or promotion.
- Do not disclose confidential information in respect of the GAA.
- Do not engage in the disparagement of any race, ethnicity or religion.
- Always respect the GAA's values.
- Always use your common sense.



## HOW TO REPORT INAPPROPRIATE ACTIVITY

If you become aware of any member or official breaching any of the above social media guidelines, please contact your Club or County PRO. Alternatively concerns can be reported to [communications@gaa.ie](mailto:communications@gaa.ie).

The inappropriate use of social media by either an official or a member will be treated with the utmost gravity by the GAA and may result in disciplinary actions.



- Any instances of the use of inappropriate images should be reported to the GAA Unit's Children's Officer and/or appropriate person within the GAA Unit and also to the relevant statutory authorities if deemed necessary.
- Where underage members are invited to engage with a GAA Unit's social media accounts, parental knowledge and permission prior to the young person engaging in such communication must be sought.
- Ask parents not to post pictures of other children on their own social media accounts.

Please refer to the full version of GAA's Social Media Policy & Guidelines for further information.

- Such interaction with GAA Unit websites or accounts should also be carefully monitored to ensure underage members are not abused or trolled on line and that they themselves do not intentionally or otherwise post inappropriate comments or materials. The GAA has an Anti-Bullying Policy which should be adhered to at all times.
- The GAA has set out in detail its policies and standards for officials engaging with underage members in the "Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport when working with underage players" and the "Guide to Maintaining appropriate levels of behaviour in our work with children and young people". Please refer to them for further detail on any of the above.

By Damian Lawlor

## CLUB STILL COMES FIRST AS FORMER TIPPERARY ALL-IRELAND WINNER HEADS INTO 28TH SEASON AT SENIOR LEVEL

**DAVID KENNEDY REMEMBERS THE VERY FIRST SENIOR HURLING MATCH HE PLAYED FOR HIS CLUB, LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY.**

He was 15 and Loughmore were taking on Roscrea in a challenge match. They were short a few players that evening and so Kennedy, still in his school uniform, was plucked from the sidelines and placed in goals.

He's 43 now and still there.

In between he has enjoyed a golden career with club and county, winning Tipperary SH titles in 2007 and 2013, winning county senior football titles in 2004, '13, '14 and '16. He has won minor and under-21 medals too, but says they are too long ago to remember exactly when.

As we sit down to chat, there is no sign of his energy levels sagging. He has just arrived in from a training session in the gym and preparing for the 2020 season ahead. That means an incredible 28 years unbroken service to his club – most of it spent driving up and down the N7 and M8 from Kildare to outside Thurles.

“Now there were three years, 2015-2018, when I wasn't making the senior team anymore,” he says, “but I was always there on the panel if needed and in 2019 I got back when they looked for me to play in goal again. People make a deal of the fat that I'm still playing but I just don't see the big deal. The truth is I am still looking forward to playing this year and driving on again.”

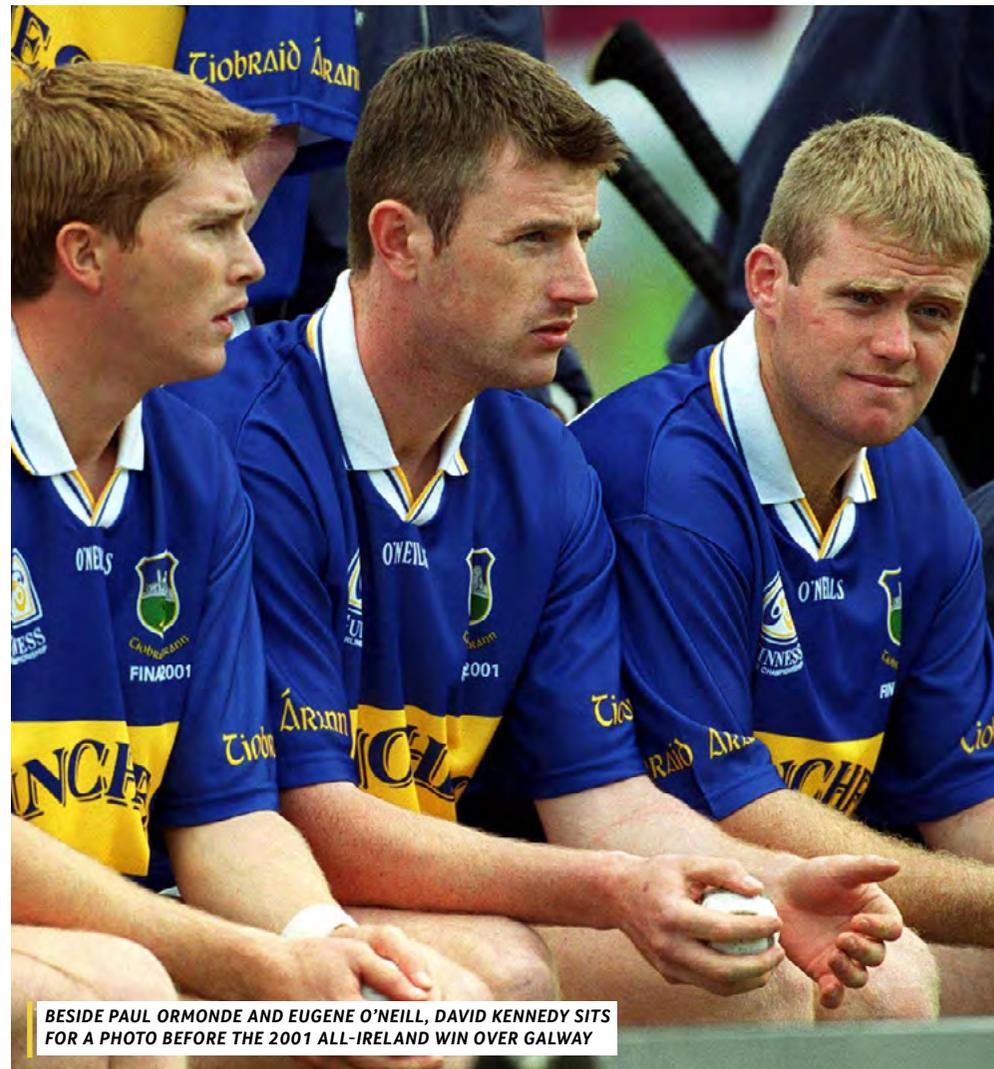
“Now, I can't control whether I will be picked or not, but I can control how well I prepare and how I look after myself. And if they want me, I will be ready. If they don't, I will be there anyway, training away in case I'm needed. That's what you do in a club.”

“I just love playing hurling. And I love my club. Outside of GAA I wouldn't have any interest in other sports. I might watch a few highlights of a soccer match, but it has always been hurling that consumed me. I love Gaelic football too. The key thing is I've been lucky with injuries, why wouldn't I stay going? I'm not going to be at home on the couch in the evenings watching Netflix anytime soon.”

What an innings Kennedy has had. He made his debut for the Tipperary senior footballers in 2008 and played one season for them before Nicky English called him into the hurling panel. As a steely, no-nonsense centre-back, he helped steer Tipp to the 2001 All-Ireland title and won two NHL titles along the way.

In 2005, he was left off the Tipp hurling squad and though he expected to pick up where his football career had left off, no-one contacted him. Yet, retirement was never an option.

Instead, Kennedy, a Garda based in Naas, joined the Kildare hurlers in 2006. He had been in the county working three years at this stage. And despite captaining Kildare for a period in between, he spent a total of 15 years driving down the M7 and M8 motorways to continue to line out for his club.



BESIDE PAUL ORMONDE AND EUGENE O'NEILL, DAVID KENNEDY SITS FOR A PHOTO BEFORE THE 2001 ALL-IRELAND WIN OVER GALWAY

He had to balance family life – he and his wife, Karen, have two young boys, Daire and Killian – as well as shift work with the An Garda Síochána.

“It was very tough,” he admits. “Especially with the shift work and when the kids were so young. Often times I dragged myself through training sessions just to get to the end. I would go down home for training, somehow get through it, be back up in Naas for work at 10pm, to start a night shift.

“Along the way you would have to get food and it wasn’t always the best food, but you had to keep yourself going. Still, despite the toil, I never questioned myself, although it was tough on the lads at home,” he adds.

“It is just what I love. I love Loughmore, love being fit and healthy and I think that my two boys see me now still playing and coaching underage teams and hopefully I am setting a good example for them.

“The only thing I might have changed if was doing it all over again would be to look for 9-5pm hours workwise but that’s it.”

After finally moving home to Tipp two years ago, Kennedy found game time hard to come by.

But last year he returned to the nets, managed to keep a clean sheet to help his side earn a draw against Nenagh Éire Óg and played three more championship games, 27 years after his first appearance for the team.

Across the years there has been heartbreak. Sadly, within a short space of time three years ago, Kennedy lost both his mam, dad and uncle. Great, steely teammates like the late Eddie Connolly have also passed away. Kennedy misses them all and says he will seize every moment he has left as a player.

“I won’t be rushing away,” he laughs. “There are probably some around the place who wish I might push off but to me playing is what it’s all about.

“I saw a 45-year-old playing in goals in the Kilkenny club championship so what’s to stop me from keeping on going? I never had much speed so there is little to lose. Our former Tipp kitman, Hotpoint Hayes, used to say that I had only two gears – forward and reverse – and he is right.”

His influence sustains. Two nights before Loughmore-Castleiney’s Tipperary hurling final against Nenagh Éire Óg some years back, Kennedy stood up to talk to his team-mates. Even then, their most experienced servant, his words were laced with caution.

“David made a great speech,” recalls club stalwart Tom McGrath. “He felt his own career was one of underachievement. Now that’s a serious thing for an All-Ireland winner to say. But he referenced the fact that in 20 years of playing senior club hurling, he and the club had only one senior final appearance to their name.

“He’s not one to walk away,” says McGrath, who hurled until he was 43 himself. “He’ll give you every ounce of what is in him. As I say, it’s a family trait. Hurling and football for Loughmore-Castleiney are just part of him.”



DAVID KENNEDY CELEBRATING MUNSTER CLUB FINAL GLORY IN 2007

## CHOOSING THE CORRECT HURLEY SIZE



### Correct Grip:

Shake hands with the hurley. Gripping the hurley with your dominant (strong) hand will give you a better strike and give you more control over your hurley.

### Ready Position

Your dominant hand (usually the hand you write with) grips the hurley. Your other hand is for balance.



### Correct Swing:

Hands are "locked".



### Incorrect Swing:

Hands are separated which will result in "shovelling" the ball and poor striking.



### Rising / Lifting

Grip Hand (dominant) stays in place

Lower Hand catches sliotar



### Fencing Game

If you cannot play this game for 30 seconds, then your hurley is probably too heavy



Note: Catching the sliotar in the grip hand will result in an awkward and poorer swing and should be corrected

### Sizing your Hurley

- Standing straight, looking forward and with your hurley held firmly (shaking hands with the hurley) at the "butt" (top of handle) swing your hurley like a pendulum.
- The hurley should brush the ground just opposite your toe.
- Your hurley will be held at a slight angle and the heel will almost be on the ground.



### Too Long

- Hard to Swing, handle gets in the way
- Can develop a poor swing
- Probably too heavy also



### Too Short

- Limits length of strike.
- Golfers do not use putters on the T-Box!
- Will miss several hooks, blocks and flicks
- Will limit your reach for a ball
- Limits ground striking



### Just Right

- A heavy hurley will adversely affect your swing, strike and touch.
- It will limit your reaction and your ability to reach, stop shots, hook, block and flick.
- Goalies should note this point

For further information contact Martin Fogarty,  
National Hurling Development Manager: [martin.fogarty@gaa.ie](mailto:martin.fogarty@gaa.ie)

## MORE THAN 800 ATTEND SUCCESSFUL COACHING CONFERENCE

**EARLIER THIS MONTH MORE THAN 800 COACHES FROM ACROSS EVERY LEVEL OF THE GAA ATTENDED ANOTHER HUGELY SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL GAMES DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE.**

Held in Croke Park and sponsored by Sky Sports, the Coaching Conference is firmly fixed in the calendar of must-see events for Gaelic Games coaches at all levels. The Conference theme was 'Values, Behaviours & Culture – the Key to Sustaining Success'.

Yet again, the Conference drew some of the top speakers and performers in their field from around the world with one of the major highlights being the presentation from Kris Van Der Hagen, Director of Coach Education for the Belgian FA.

The international flavour was continued by Dr Darragh Sheridan based on his experience as Manager of High Performance Coaching at Sport New Zealand. Galway native Des Ryan gave an insightful presentation based on his work as Arsenal FC Academy's Head of Sport Medicine and Athletic Development.

All-Ireland winning former Kerry player and manager, Eamonn Fitzmaurice was a star attraction among the home grown speakers from the extensive list.

Coaches at every level of Gaelic Games are reminded that you can catch up on the presentations and learnings from the event as well as a comprehensive list of resources via: [www.learning.gaa.ie](http://www.learning.gaa.ie) and also by following @GAALearning on [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#).



**KRIS VAN DER HAGEN, DIRECTOR OF  
COACH EDUCATION FOR THE BELGIAN FA.**

By John Harrington

## GAA LAUNCH CONCUSSION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

**THE GAA LAUNCHED ITS NEW CONCUSSION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AT THE 2020 GAA GAMES DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE IN CROKE PARK.**

In the first of a series of videos that will hopefully increase awareness of the symptoms and treatment of concussion, Donegal star Ryan McHugh speaks about his experience of concussion (you can view this video below).

Chairperson of the GAA's Medical, Science, and Welfare Committee, Dick Clerkin, hopes the video campaign will help more people involve in the Association understand the realities of concussion.

"Last year we recognised through the MSW committee that the levels of awareness and understanding of the realities of concussion across all ages of the game but also the guidelines that the GAA have set out, they weren't really getting down to the grass-roots, to the player level that we would have liked," Clerkin told GAA.ie

"We would have heard that back through stories of players that have suffered concussion recently. There was a young girl from Clare, Laurie Ryan, who recently told her story of concussion and she would have felt that players weren't as well informed as they could, so we took all that on board.

"We had to consider as well how young players take in information now. It's not through PDFs or website links, it's through video content, it's through viral content that they see on social media, so we wanted to tap into that by generating

**DONEGAL DEFENDER RYAN MCHUGH SHARES HIS EXPERIENCE OF CONCUSSION AS PART OF THE GAA'S CONCUSSION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.**



some content that will get the message out there and direct people towards the GAA concussion guidelines.

"The first video we've developed with Ryan McHugh is the first of a number of videos that will hopefully tap into that

"While raising awareness, we also don't want to be alarmist.

"At the end of the day, a concussion is an injury in the same way as if you've hurt your knee. Any injury can be treated and if it's treated right then you can get back to full health with no ill-effects.

"Playing our games and participating in sport, the physical medical benefits far outweigh the potential risks of the likes of concussion.

"So it's about informing and educating so that if you do get an injury like concussion then you'll know how to treat it and how to recognise it. But don't let that deter you from playing."

To learn more about the GAA's Concussion Management Guidelines, go [here](#).

# 'IRELAND LIGHTS UP' WALKING INITIATIVE IS BACK WITH A BANG

**THE POPULAR 'IRELAND LIGHTS UP' WALKING INITIATIVE IS BACK WITH A BANG WITH OVER 380 PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND OVER 20,000 WALKERS GETTING OUT EACH WEEK DURING THE INITIATIVE.**

Ireland Lights Up represents a coming together of RTE's Operation Transformation, the GAA and Get Ireland Walking to provide a network of safe, well-lit environments for all members of the Community to get out and active.

John Horan, An Uachtarán Cumann Luthchleas Gael said: "In every corner of the country our network of clubs plays a crucial role in contributing towards a healthier Ireland."

Latton O'Rahilly's club member Deirdre Quinn explains how "Ireland Lights Up" changed her life for the better following a serious health scare.

"It's thanks to Lights Up Latton that I did get involved with them and I turned everything around. Ireland Lights Up is where people are going to meet up, have their chats and their little bit of gossip. If it wasn't for Ireland Lights Up Latton I don't know where I'd be today"

Interested clubs can sign-up at any point during Operation Transformation by simply clicking on the link [www.getirelandwalking.ie/GAA/](http://www.getirelandwalking.ie/GAA/)



A COLD DARK NIGHT DIDN'T STOP PEOPLE FROM TURNING OUT TO THE LATTON O'RAHILLY'S, IRELAND LIGHTS UP WALK



## GAA AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO PARTNER FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

LGFA CEO HELEN O'ROURKE, CHAIRMAN OF CCMA MICHAEL WALSH, UACHTARÁN CHUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL JOHN HORAN, CHAIRMAN OF LOCAL AUTHORITY CLIMATE CHANGE STEERING GROUP CIARÁN HAYES, CAMOGIE OPERATIONS MANAGER ALAN MALONE, DCCAE KATIE AHERNE, AND FORMER WEXFORD HURLER DIARMUID LYNG PICTURED AT THE GAA LOCAL AUTHORITY SDG LAUNCH AT CROKE PARK.

**THE GAA AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITY SECTOR, REPRESENTED BY THE COUNTY AND CITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (CCMA) TODAY (FRIDAY, 24TH JANUARY) ANNOUNCED AN INNOVATIVE NEW INITIATIVE PLEDGING TO WORK TOGETHER TO LEAD THEIR COMMUNITIES IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION.**

The partnership will capitalise on the leadership roles both organisations have within their communities, and the potential they have to engage with citizens of all ages to promote sustainable local development, environmental awareness and climate action.

The partnership builds on the GAA's status as a Sustainable Development Goal Champion and aligns with local government commitments under the National Climate Action Plan and Local Authorities' Climate Action Charters.

A steering group, composed of representatives from the Local Authority sector, the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association, have begun work on the development of a Green Club toolkit, which will be piloted in 2020 ahead of the roll-out of a National Green Club Support Plan in 2021.

The Green Club toolkit, which will be piloted across a small number of clubs throughout the country, will be focused on the key action areas of Energy & Water Efficiency, Biodiversity, Waste Management & Plastic Use and Transport

### **SUSTAINABLE CLUB AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS INCLUDE:**

- **Development of a Sustainable Club Toolkit**
- **Sustainable Club Workshops**

- **Promotion and Support of Sustainable Energy Communities**
- **A Sustainable Development Goal Action Module in the GAA/PDST TY Future Leaders Programme, with contributions across GAA/LGFA/Camogie Association input at all levels of the Mainstream Education System (with the Department of Education and Skills)**
- **Green Procurement Guidelines and Support**
- **Further Developing Croke Park as a World Exemplar Stadium in Sustainable Development**
- **Alignment to Statutory Funding Streams**

Speaking at the launch, Uachtaran CLG John Horan said: "An increasing number of clubs are seeking guidance in the area of sustainability, and our members are very anxious to play their part in the fight against climate change. The collaboration with the Local Authority Sector is an ideal partnership to help us to develop our clubs sustainability within and for communities and to reach people in every corner of Ireland with information that will help them to make changes in their own lives to support the effort against climate change and adapting to evolving challenges."

Michael Walsh, CCMA Chairman said: "The GAA and local authorities both represent local leadership, community, legacy and vision. We each have relevant networks, knowledge, existing partners and facilities. Working together we can have huge impact and enable the necessary behavioural change in our communities."

# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE HELD FOR COUNTY OFFICERS

**THE LATEST GAA CONFERENCE FOR COUNTY OFFICERS, AN ANNUAL FORUM FOR OFFICERS TO MEET AND PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOPS, TOOK PLACE IN CROKE PARK ON 17 AND 18 JANUARY.**

The GAA hosted a County Officer Development Conference in Croke Park on 17 and 18 January, providing an opportunity for over 200 new and experienced officers to meet, network, discuss hot topics and exchange views.

The annual conference is a unique opportunity for the association's principal officers and administrators at county, provincial and central levels to get together. The theme of this year's conference was good governance, covering a range of topics from the essentials of financial management and child safeguarding to leadership themes such as teamwork.

The first day focussed on the 50 officers and administrators who were new to their roles in 2020. They received a warm welcome from Tom Ryan, Ard-Stiúrthóir CLG, before engaging in workshops to introduce them to their roles and responsibilities, key policies, senior staff and fellow officers.

The second day was attended by over 200 officers. Paddy Flood as Chairperson of the National Officer Development Committee (NODC), opened the event by remarking:

"It is our belief that every officer should be entitled to relevant support and resources in carrying out their volunteer role at club and county level, and equally that each officer has a responsibility to avail of this support so that whatever unit of the association they contribute to, they can do so in an informed



and skilled manner. I trust that the agenda for the 2020 conference will give you an opportunity to reflect on new ideas and developments, to share good practices with your colleagues from other counties and to pick up new knowledge and skills that will sustain you in your roles.”

Over 30 different speakers contributed to the event, which included an inspirational

keynote from Dublin's record-breaking manager, Jim Gavin, on the topic of building and managing successful teams. He delivered an enthralling 45-minute presentation which was akin to a Ted Talk as he gave insights into various aspects of leadership, team culture and performance management based on his remarkable sporting, military and aviation achievements.

Each officer group - Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers, PROs, Development Officers, IT Officers, and Operations Staff - also had a two-hour workshop with the most relevant departments and committees for their roles.

The other keynotes presentations on the day were:

- **Financial Governance for County Committees by Colin Morgan (Chairperson of GAA Finance Committee)**
- **Managing Today's Communications and Media Landscape by Conor Brophy (Director of Strategic Communications at Teneo)**
- **An Evidence-based Planning Approach to Demographic Changes by Colm Cummins (Chairperson, Community Development Committee, Urban and Rural)**



John Horan, Uachtarán CLG, closed the event by emphasising the importance of good governance. He said:

“Good governance cannot be a slogan. It needs to be something that is self-evidenced by actions and not words. Governance is a central theme of the work taking place this weekend and shows our on-going commitment in this regard.”

He encouraged counties to avail of the supports available from the various departments and committees at central level, and the Provincial Councils. He acknowledged the courage of all those present to take on a leadership role to improve Gaelic games and wished them every success in their endeavors.

The GAA's focus now shifts to club officer training from now until April.

Each County has been asked to schedule at least two workshops from the Club Leadership Development Programme.

For more information on workshops available in each county, read more about the Club Leadership Development Programme here - [https://learning.gaa.ie/club\\_leadership](https://learning.gaa.ie/club_leadership)

***The membership of the National Officer Development Committee is as follows:***

*Paddy Flood - Cathaoirleach - (Monaghan)*

*Brendan Minnock (Offaly)*

*Kevin Hennigan (Mayo)*

*Éibhear O'Dea (Limerick)*

*Eilís Kavanagh (Camogie Association)*

*Eoghan Tuohey (Officer Development Development Coordinator, Croke Park)*

*Fionntán O'Dowd (Ulster Council)*

*Michael Fahey (Roscommon)*

*Michael Monaghan (Galway)*

*Niall Mulrine (LGFA)*

*Oliver Keating (Westmeath)*

*Seán Óg McAteer (Down)*

*Ruairí Harvey - Rúnaí - (Organisational Development Manager, Croke Park)*



# ROLL OUT OF CLUB LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**THE ROLLOUT OF THE 2020 CLUB LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK HAS BEGUN ACROSS THE COUNTRY, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, LGFA AND CAMOGIE MEMBERS ARE ACTIVELY INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. THE NEW PROGRAMME AIMS TO STREAMLINE OFFICER TRAINING ACROSS ALL THREE ASSOCIATIONS, WITH ALLOWANCES MADE FOR KEY PROCEDURAL DIFFERENCES.**

326 Club Officers attended workshops across all 9 Ulster counties in early January, across a range of workshops. While primarily aimed at new Officers, the training events are also an excellent way of refreshing experienced officers in the key elements of their roles, while also being an opportunity to share ideas and experiences to enhance the running of all our clubs going forward.

There have also been extremely well attended workshops in Galway and Roscommon, across the Office 365 and Good Governance subject areas. Ulster have also participated in an Upholding Disciplinary Rules and Procedures Webinar, which allows learners from anywhere in the country and abroad to log in and participate in a workshop live from any location. It is anticipated that more dates will be added for

this workshop, with one for Kildare due to be pencilled in soon.

All general information on the CLDP can be found here - [https://learning.gaa.ie/club\\_leadership](https://learning.gaa.ie/club_leadership). Online modules can also be accessed here, as well as webinars when scheduled. Please note webinars can only be attended live, although the workshop will be available to review for participants for a short period after.

A full list of available modules can be accessed here - <https://learning.gaa.ie/OfficerTrainingModules>

For a full and comprehensive calendar of upcoming events visit - <https://learning.gaa.ie/OfficerTrainingCalendar>

Interested parties are asked to register in advance on the GAA Learning Portal here - <https://learning.gaa.ie/lms/course/index.php?categoryid=301>

Any counties who haven't scheduled events yet are encouraged to do so by contacting Officer Development Coordinator, Eoghan Tuohy - [eoghan.tuohy@gaa.ie](mailto:eoghan.tuohy@gaa.ie), and completing the Module Request Form - <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hrxFrNSvpUKfwz6H4bd>



# CLUB MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## SUMMARY

- Clubs must register their players and members for the 2020 season
- A review of key Club information called an Annual Club Update is required
- A review of System access privileges is required
- Step-by-steps guides to logging-in, resetting passwords and registering players and members are available
- Live online training sessions are available for Clubs
- A dedicated support desk (e-mail and phone) is available for Clubs

## REGISTRATION

Clubs are reminded that they must register their players and members for the 2020 season on the GAA Management System (GMS) which can be accessed by visiting [people.gaa.ie](http://people.gaa.ie)

## ANNUAL CLUB UPDATE

Club administrators are requested update key Club information, a process known as the annual club update, when they log in to the GAA Management System ([people.gaa.ie](http://people.gaa.ie))

This process has been broken down into six simple steps across three broad categories. When these steps have been completed, the club administrator will be able to proceed to the system as normal. To access further information, click here - <https://gmssupport.zendesk.com/hc/en-gb/categories/360001544240-GAA-Management-System>

Accessing the GAA Management System If you are a new Registrar that will be doing registrations for your Club, your Club Secretary, through their official GAA e-mail account must contact [gmssupport@gaa.ie](mailto:gmssupport@gaa.ie) to update the Registrar details on the GAA Management System. This will ensure that you can access the system.

When logged on, the designated Club Administrator (Secretary or Registrar) should go to the 'Register Members' page and complete the necessary steps.

This page will contain the details of all those people who have been registered with the Club in previous years. To add new members to the Club, go to 'Add and View Members', click on the 'Add' button, select 'Member' and complete the necessary steps.

Please note that any one whose name is in red on either the 'register' page or the 'add and view member page', is unregistered for the current year.

Only a Full Member who has paid his annual Club subscription by the due date set by the Executive Committee of the Club (which shall be prior to March 31st) shall be eligible to vote at, nominate for, or seek election to the Executive Committee at any following General Meeting of the Club in the membership year.

## GAA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT

The Servasport Support contains a GAA Membership Training User Guides and FAQ explaining the system. To access

this information, click here - <https://gmssupport.zendesk.com/hc/en-gb/categories/360001544240-GAA-Management-System>

For any queries on access to the system, or on the system functionality, please e-mail or call the Servasport Helpdesk via the following details:

- Email: [gmssupport@gaa.ie](mailto:gmssupport@gaa.ie)
- Phone: + 353 (01) 865 8632

## SUPPORT TIMES

The usual support times are:

- Monday to Friday: 9a.m. – 5p.m.

## GAA Management System Webinars

The GAA Management System Webinars are a series of webinars being rolled out throughout January and February, providing Club Officers with an opportunity to improve their understanding of the GAA Management System.

Each webinar, provided by Servasport and aimed at the person responsible for registration in any GAA Club, will look at the following areas:

- Annual club update - New six step process for club administrators to ensure all club information is accurate and complies with GDPR.
- Registrations via the Official GAA app - Members can now register and pay for their membership via the Official GAA app.
- Registrations via the GAA Management System - Club representatives updating and registering members on their behalf.
- Player Injury Benefit Fund (Insurance) - Club representatives insuring their teams for the season ahead
- Support - Guidance on how to complete any tasks using the official GAA Management System and app

For more information on the GAA Management System and registration for the webinars please visit: <https://learning.gaa.ie/GAAManagementSystem>



## CLUB AND COUNTY PLANNING

**OVER THE PAST DECADE, THE OFFICIAL GAA CLUB PLANNING PROGRAMME HAS HELPED APPROXIMATELY 1,000 CLUBS DEVELOP STRATEGIC PLANS.**

Planning can help Clubs to:

- Reflect on why it exists, what it aspires to be and what it believes in.
- Decide on the areas of activity that it wants to pursue or needs to focus on.
- Agree on the key projects it will pursue.
- Devise a practical Club Development Plan for carrying out these projects.

### HOW A CLUB CAN GET INVOLVED

Any Club can get involved in the programme. The Club will need to fill out an Expression of Interest Form (EOI) available on the Administrator section of the GAA Learning Portal.

The EOI is then submitted to either the County Development Officer, Provincial Coordinator or National Coordinator.

### RECENT PLAN LAUNCHES

With the 2020 season rapidly approaching, both Clubs and Counties have been putting the finishing touches to their plans. Several other Clubs and Counties will continue their hard work into the early parts of this year and aim to have their plans launched before things get very busy. Shortly before Christmas, three Counties launched their plans after a tremendous effort from everyone involved through each process.



LEFT TO RIGHT: CIARÁN MCLAUGHLIN (CHAIR OF CLUB AND COUNTY PLANNING COMMITTEE), PHIL FLANAGAN (FERMANAGH VICE-CHAIR), GREG KELLY (FERMANAGH CHAIR), SEAN BURNS (FERMANAGH TREASURER), TOM BOYLE (FERMANAGH SECRETARY), TIERNACH MAHON (FERMANAGH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER). MISSING FROM THE PHOTO: BRIAN ARMITAGE (CHAIR OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE).

### FERMANAGH

Fermanagh GAA launched their Strategic Plan 2020-2023 at their County Convention on the 9th December 2019.

The plan is built around eight key themes, namely Governance, Building a Shared Future, Infrastructure, Culture, It and Promotion, Health and Well-being, Coaching & Games Development, Finance & Fundraising and Safeguarding.

County Chairperson Greg Kelly stated "I welcome the publication of our Strategic Plan for the next three years. This plan seeks to build on previous plans which have been, for the most part, successfully implemented since the turn of the century. It also seeks to compliment the Provincial and National Strategic Plans".

Both Antrim and Limerick also had successful launches for their

respective Strategic Plans also. A special mention goes to everyone involved in all of these plans after their commitment and hard work in producing these well drafted plans.

### FURTHER SUPPORT

If there are any further queries on Club and County Planning please contact your County Development Officer or Provincial Coordinator.

# IT IS NEARLY TIME FOR THE GAA NATIONAL CLUB DRAW... HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKETS?

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CLUB

Opportunity for your GAA Club to raise up to €25,000



**A CLUB CAN GET INVOLVED IN THE NCD BY SELLING UP TO 2500 TICKETS. ALL MONEY RAISED FROM SELLING THE NCD TICKETS REMAINS IN THE CLUB. THE 2020 DRAW HAS EVEN MORE PRIZES ON OFFER, VARYING FROM A RENAULT CAR TO ALL IRELAND FINAL TICKETS, A HOLIDAY VOUCHER AND MANY MORE.**

To qualify for the Club Specific Draw, all clubs must abide by the following terms and conditions:

1. *Sell a minimum of 200 tickets*
2. *Record all sold tickets on the online ticketing system.*
3. *Account for all funds raised in the club accounts – i.e. the amount shown in club income should correspond with the total ticket sales amount.*
4. *Adhere to all terms and conditions of the draw which are outlined on the back of the ticket.*

Additional tickets can be requested up until **Friday 7th February 2020**.

Tickets (sold/unsold) must be entered onto the Online Ticketing System before they are returned to your County Liaison Officer by **Monday 17th February 2020**.

**The GAA National Club Draw will take place on Thursday 12th March 2020.**

If you have any further questions, please contact [aisling.greenan@gaa.ie](mailto:aisling.greenan@gaa.ie) or [nationalclubdraw@gaa.ie](mailto:nationalclubdraw@gaa.ie)

# GAA DEVELOPMENT FUND IS OPEN

## **THE GAA DEVELOPMENT FUND IS OPEN FOR BOTH DEPOSITS AND LOANS TO ALL GAA CLUBS.**

The application form and criteria to apply for a loan from the GAA Development Fund can be obtained from the National Finance Department in Croke Park.

All Loan Applications and supporting documentation should be guaranteed by the County Committee and a recommendation provided by the Provincial Council before the Financial Management Committee review them.

The Financial Management Committee will review loans three times a year.

## LOANS

- A club may make an application for a loan from the Development Fund for purchasing property or development of club property.
- Bar Facilities or renting out facilities are not covered by the fund.
- The interest rate applicable is a variable interest rate, currently 1.9%.
- Funding is only applicable to vested GAA properties.
- Loan term is a maximum of 10 years.
- The maximum amount available to one club is €100,000 or £100,000.
- All loans must be guaranteed by the County Board and a recommendation received from the Provincial Council.

## DEPOSITS

- Clubs are encouraged to deposit money into the Development Fund as they get priority when making an application for a loan.
- The variable interest rate is also currently at 1.9%
- Forms for Depositing money into the Fund can be obtained from a member of the National Finance Department in Croke Park.



## 'How to Age Well' revealed at free local seminar



**WHO:** Professor Rose Anne Kenny, of Trinity College, and the GAA supported by Irish Life

**WHERE:** The Rose Hotel, Tralee

**WHEN:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February from 7 - 9pm

To register for a free ticket please go to:

[gaa.ie/community](http://gaa.ie/community)

or call 01-8964120 to reserve a place.

Walk-ins on the night will also be welcome. Light refreshments and entertainment will be provided.

## WHEELCHAIR HURLERS HONOURED

**MICHAEL SHEAHAN, MAYOR OF LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY, RECENTLY HELD A SPECIAL MAYORAL RECEPTION TO MARK THE FACT THAT THREE LIMERICK WHEELCHAIR HURLERS WERE ON THE FIRST EVER NATIONAL TEAM TO BE SENT INTO COMPETITION WITH THE GAA SENDING A TEAM TO TAKE PART IN THE EUROPEAN FLOORBALL EVENT IN THE NETHERLANDS LAST JUNE.**

Maurice Noonan, Gary O'Halloran and James McCarthy were joined by family and friends at City Hall where the Lord Mayor presented each player with a framed certificate to honour their achievement in representing Ireland at the floorball tournament.

The news follows on from the recognition given to Ulster wheelchair hurlers by BBC Sport late last year and continues the positive publicity being generated by this relatively new sport and is promoted by GAA Games For All.

The inter-provincial series of wheelchair hurling games will start in Galway on April 18 before being hosted by Ulster on May 16, Munster on June 20 and (venues tbc) and with Leinster in Enniscorthy on August 22.

For more information on wheelchair hurling please contact the GAA's National Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Geraldine McTavish via [geraldine.mctavish@gaa.ie](mailto:geraldine.mctavish@gaa.ie)



**BACK ROW L-R: DAVE FITZGERALD COACH, MAYOR MICHAEL SHEAHAN AND GERRY MCNAMARA MUNSTER REP ON NATIONAL GAMES FOR ALL COMMITTEE  
FRONT ROW L-R: MAURICE NOONAN, GARY O'HALLORAN AND JAMES MCCARTHY**

# HURLING HEROES - TALES FROM THE HURLING GRASSROOTS

**THE GAA'S NATIONAL HURLING DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, MARTIN FOGARTY, REPORTS ON TWO SMALL CLUBS WITH BIG DREAMS AND BIG AMBITIONS FOR HURLING IN THEIR AREA.**

## LAOCHRA ÓG, WEST CORK

The pitch is a farmer's field kindly made available by a true Gael. Three juvenile pitches are located on it.

It is not level. To say that when on one pitch you can barely see the top of the goalposts of another pitch because of the hill is only a slight exaggeration.

All the juvenile teams from U6 to U14 in both codes train and play there. The club ran their first three Summer and Easter camps in this field. They play Go Games there and some league games at U11/12 if the visiting team don't object.

There is no running water or electricity at the field. The club use a generator to boil water if they are hosting an event to give parents a cup of tea and 100 plus children would train there during the summer on various nights. Toilet facilities are a Portaloo costing €900 to rent for the season. The club house is a discarded prefab and as chairman John Nash told me "It might look bad, well it is bad, but it is a step up from where we togged out as young lads – under a ditch!"

The club was established in 2014 with basically people meeting in a kitchen with a biro and piece of paper. They are a dual hurling and camogie club promoting the games in the West Muskerry region of Cork, an area where they were told had

no tradition of the games and which they have now reversed, fielding in total from U6 to U21 some 14 different teams.

They cover five different parishes encompassing nine national schools and four secondary schools. The club is building from U6 up and try to field an adult team each year, but this is a struggle at the moment until their young players reach the age. Members dip in to their own pockets regularly to keep the club afloat and meet the many costs associated with running a club.

Recently more goodwill has been extended to the club with a local school Coláiste Ghobhantan Ballyvourney making their pitch available to them. Local football clubs Naomh Abán Ballyvourney and Cill na Matra, also extended the olive branch and share their facilities with them. This is a great example of the real GAA and demonstrates how both codes of the organisation can work together for the good of the players and the community.

Slaughtneil from Derry have shown this comradery time and again. The "field" and these facilities are about ten miles apart. I was fortunate to attend Laochra Óg's summer camp and other activities and witness the club in operation. It was everything that the GAA stands for.

Two words –  
Community Spirit!

IT'S HILLY, BUT IT'S HOME FOR THE HURLERS OF LAOCHRA ÓG



**ST. FINBARRS DERRY**

Hurling was played in the late 40s in the Loup area of Derry but died away.

In January of 2017 I got a call from Ulster Regional Hurling Development Officer and Derry player Kevin Hinphey about the possibility of a new hurling club starting up in the area. I was heading up to watch Slaughtneil play Cuala in Armagh on February 25th, so we convened a meeting afterwards with Seamus Kane and two pals who had tested the waters with hurling the previous summer by holding about ten coaching sessions for a dozen or so children. Kevin and fellow coaching officer Colm Dillon had already introduced hurling to the local school St Patrick's Primary.

Finding a home for the new hurling club was one of the first challenges and when Ógra Colmcille Drumullan offered a base the results were extraordinary.

In May 2017 from that first "taster" group of around 12 players the first session back saw the arrival of in excess of 50 youngsters looking to take up the "Camán" and St. Finbarrs was reborn.

I visited shortly afterwards and was taken by Kevin to a schools coaching session of about 60 children. I couldn't travel with him as his car was packed with hurls and helmets that he had to borrow along the way to run the session. Some were even dumped in my car. I couldn't help noting that several of the hurls and helmets would not be accepted in the museum – they were too old!

The club currently has over 130 members with 70 playing junior members. The players come from a variety of parishes in the South Derry and the Lough Shore area and the formation of the Club has

ensured access to Hurling for all children in this area.

The current chairman of the club, Brian Waldron who hails from Kilkenny is coaching in seven schools in the area and these children form the club.

The St. Finbarrs Cup is now played for annually for all the feeder schools at P6/ P7 age groups and the club are fielding teams at every age group from U6 to U14, taking part in Go Games blitzes and tournaments at all ages. The U10s and U12s have had the privilege of playing at Croke park in Go Games for the last two years. They are competing well and are going from strength to strength.

They achieved their first on field victory in October 2019 when they won the Ulster U13 Regional Shield played against very competitive Letterkenny and Slaughtneil sides in Kevin Lynch Park Dungiven.

The club held a presentation night for the victorious U13's on November 9 and I had the honour of making the presentation and witnessing how the club had grown in such a short time.

2020 sees St Finbarr's make further strides with entry in the U12 NW indoor league, U10 and U12 blitzes, U14 league and Feile and the U13/U15 Táin Óg National leagues run by Croke Park.

St Finbarr's are indebted to Ógra Colmcille Drumullan for the use of their pitch and to St Patrick's primary school in the Loup for allowing the use of their facilities for meetings and courses.

St. Finbarrs is another example of what as few as three people with a bit of passion and enthusiasm can achieve in a short space of time.



**St. Finbarr's 1961**

Back Row; Hugh Corey, Brian Mitchell, Peter Kealey, Liam Hinfey, Colm Hinfey, Oliver O'Kane, Gerry O'Loughlin  
John James McPeake, George Logue, Frank Smyth. Front Row; Sean Smyth, Eugene Crozier, Pascal Donnelly,  
Francie O'Neill, Louis Doyle, Louis Henry, Joe McKee, Pat Russell.



**ST FINBARRS FIRST JUVENILE SESSION IN  
2017 AND THE START OF THE COMEBACK**

## GAA WELL-REPRESENTED AT TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

### THE GAA IS PROUD TO BE FRONT AND CENTRE AT THE IRISH PRIMARY PRINCIPAL'S NETWORK'S (IPPN) ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT THE CITYWEST, DUBLIN.

The GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association will be promoting its range of coaching & games development initiatives for primary schools. Principals can also access promotional goodies from the stand.

The GAA 5 Star Centre is proving to be of great interest, with almost 500 primary schools nationwide participating this year.

The initiative aims to ensure that each child gets 60 minutes of physical activity per week through Gaelic games and related activities. In doing so, it will enhance the development of children's movement abilities and wellbeing.

To become a GAA 5 Star Centre, primary school teachers organise a range of activities for all children to participate in, with GAA personnel acting in a support capacity. To be awarded a GAA 5 Star Centre flag, each class should participate in 6 hours / weeks of activities of their choice. In addition, one or more groups should participate in 26 hours / activities throughout the school year. With 2019-2020 places full, Teachers/Principals can sign up for the 2020-2021 school year after Easter via <https://learning.gaa.ie/5star>

Uachtarán CLG John Horan said: "Last year there was in excess of €11m invested by the GAA in the area of coaching and games development, funding which goes



THE GAA, LGFA AND CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION PROMOTING ITS RANGE OF COACHING & GAMES DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS AT THE IRISH PRIMARY PRINCIPAL'S NETWORK'S (IPPN) ANNUAL CONFERENCE

towards vital initiatives and also helps to create the 350 strong army of coaches assisting clubs and schools nationwide in the promotion and development of Gaelic games among young girls and boys.

"The services provided by the GAA make an enormous contribution to the health and wellbeing of Ireland's children. We want every single boy and girl in

Ireland to have had positive introduction to our games by the time they leave primary school. We are privileged, as an Association, to continue to have Gaelic games playing such an influential role in the culture of the vast majority of primary schools nationwide.

Without the contribution of Primary School Teachers, the GAA would not be the wonderful organisation it is today.

We want to recognise this significant voluntary effort through our new 5 Star flag, which we hope will be a symbol of how proud schools are to promote our games and our culture."

Further info and access to a range of learning resources are available

<https://learning.gaa.ie/primary-school>

# LINE UP FOR SCÓR NA nÓG ALL-IRELAND FINALS COMPLETE



**TÁ IOMAITHEOIRÍ CHRAOBH NA HÉIREANN DE SCÓR NA nÓG 2020 AR EOLAS AGAINN ANOIS. TAR ÉIS CEITHRE CHRAOBH CHÚIGE DEN CHÉAD SCOTH TÁ A FHIOS AGAINN CÉ A BHEIDH AG TABHAIRT AGHAIDH AR CHILL AIRNE AGUS AR CHRAOBH NA HÉIREANN AR 1 FEABHRA, 2020. NÍL AON AMHARS FAOI ACH GO BHFUIL BABHTAÍ CEANNAIS IONTACHA AMACH ROMHAINN AGUS GO MBEIDH SIAD UILIG AR SHÁRCHAIGHDEÁN.**

The line up is now confirmed for the Scór na nÓg All Ireland finals after four great provincial finals over the last two weeks. We now know who will take their places in the All-Ireland finals in the INEC, Killarney, on the 1st of February. There is no doubt that a great feast of song, dance, music, acting and recitation awaits us in the finals and that we will be treated to fantastic finals in all disciplines.

Congratulations to all who took part in the Scór na nÓg provincial finals agus gach rath orthu siúd a bheidh ag gabháil ar aghaidh go Cill Airne le hionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar a gcuid clubanna, contaetha agus cúigí.

After the weekend's action, the All-Ireland line ups are as follows:

#### **RINCE FOIRNE**

Ulaigh: CLG, Achadh Gallan, Aontroim  
An Mhumhain: CLG, An Caisleán Nua,  
Tiobraid Árann  
Laighin: CLG, Cill Chormaic-Cill Achaidh,  
Uíbh Fhailí  
Connachta: CLG, Cluain Cearbhán, Maigh Eo

#### **AMHRÁNAÍOCHT AONAIR**

Ulaigh: CLG, Loch Gabhna, An Cabhán  
An Mhumhain: CLG, An Port Rua, Tiobraid  
Árann  
Laighin: CLG, Béal Átha Móir, An Longfort  
Connachta: CLG, Mainistir Chnoc Muaidhe,  
Gaillimh

#### **AITHRISEOIREACHT / SCÉALAÍOCHT**

Ulaigh: CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin, Dún na  
nGall  
An Mhumhain: CLG, Seán Ó Treasaigh,  
Tiobraid Árann  
Laighin: CLG, Na Dúnta, An Iarmhí  
Connachta: CLG, Ail Finn, Ros Comáin

#### **BAILÉAD-GHRÚPA**

Ulaigh: CLG, Ualtar Ó Gréacháin, Doire  
An Mhumhain: CLG, Gleann Fleisce, Ciarraí  
Laighin: CLG, Uile-Bhánta an Mhóta, An  
Iarmhí  
Connachta: CLG, Mainistir Chnoc Muaidhe,  
Gaillimh

#### **NUACHLEAS**

Ulaigh: CLG, Gaeil Leitir Ceanainn, Dún na  
nGall  
An Mhumhain: CLG, Buiríos Ó Luigheach,  
Tiobraid Árann  
Laighin: CLG, Na Dúnta, An Iarmhí  
Connachta: CLG, Naomh Dominic, Ros  
Comáin

#### **CEOL UIRISE**

Ulaigh: CLG Naomh Éanna, An Ómaigh, Tír  
Eoghain  
An Mhumhain: CLG, Fionnúig, Ciarraí  
Laighin: CLG, Réalt na Mara-Baile Ghearóid,  
Loch Garman  
Connachta: CLG, Baile an Tobair, Maigh Eo

#### **RINCE SEIT**

Ulaigh: CLG Sheáin Mistéil, Gleann an Iolair,  
Doire  
An Mhumhain: CLG, An Bóthar Buí, Corcaigh  
Laighin: CLG, Naomh Seosamh, An Iarmhí  
Connachta: CLG, Mainistir Chnoc Muaidhe,  
Gaillimh

#### **TRÁTH NA gCEIST**

Ulaigh: CLG Naomh Columba, Dún na nGall,  
CLG Chill Shléibhe, Ard Mhacha, CLG Chorr  
na Féinne, An Cabhán  
An Mhumhain: CLG, An Bóthar Buí, Corcaigh,  
CLG, An Chreatlach, An Clár, CLG An Spá,  
Ciarraí  
Laighin: CLG, Bhulf Tón, An Mhí, CLG, Bun  
Bhosnaí, An Iarmhí, CLG, Ó Duibhir, Áth  
Cliath  
Connachta: CLG, Mionlach/An Sceachánach,  
Gaillimh, CLG, Gaeil Chill Chlais, Ros Comáin,  
CLG, Clár Chlainne Mhuiris, Maigh Eo

# FONDÚIREACHT SHEOSAIMH MHIC DHONNCHA AG GABHÁIL Ó NEART GO NEART



**IS SCÉIM TACAÍOCHTA DE CHUID CHUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL AGUS GHLÓR NA NGAEL Í FONDÚIREACHT SHEOSAIMH MHIC DHONNCHA ATÁ DÍRITHE AR CHLUBANNA CLG AR MIAN LEO AN GHAELIGE A CHUR CHUN CINN.**

Cuireann clubanna fud fad na tíre an Ghaeilge chun cinn ina gclubanna gan aon aitheantas. Is é cuspóir na Fondúireachta seo ná aitheantas a thabhairt don obair sin, agus deis a thabhairt do chlubanna forbairt a dhéanamh ar an obair sin, ar bhonn tomhaiste agus pleanáilte. Tá treoir agus moltaí ar fáil don scéim seo ach teagmháil a dhéanamh le hOifigeach

Forbartha Gaeilge Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, Jamie Ó Tuama, [jamie.otuama@gaa.ie](mailto:jamie.otuama@gaa.ie) nó le Glór na nGael ar [eolas@glornangael.ie](mailto:eolas@glornangael.ie).

Mar chuid den Fhondúireacht seo, freisin, tá ciste miondeontas ann le cabhrú le clubanna imeachtaí Gaeilge a eagrú ina gcuid clubanna. Cuirtear na cistí seo ar fáil ag amantaí éagsúla le linn na bliana. Bronntar boinn chré-umha, airgid agus óir ar chlubanna ag deireadh na bliana – ag brath ar an líon spriocanna a leagtar síos san Fhondúireacht a bhaineann clubanna amach.

Is in ómós do Sheosamh 'Joe' Mac Donncha (1953-2016) a ainmníodh an Fhondúireacht. Fear le háireamh a bhí i Joe a bhain go leor amach dó féin agus do phobal na tíre seo i gcoitinne le linn a shaoil. D'éirigh leis an post is airde a bhaint amach i gCumann Lúthchleas Gael. Mar iománaí, thóg sé Corn Mhic Cárthaigh leis siar go Gaillimh agus bhí sé ina Phríomhfheidhmeannach, agus ina Chathaoirleach, ar chuid de mhóreagraíochtaí na tíre seo, Foras na Gaeilge ina measc.

Is scéim iontach í Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha a thugann aitheantas do

clubanna ar fud na hÉireann a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn taobh istigh dá gcuid clubanna.

Seán Ó hÓráin, Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael. Trí chláru leis an bhFondúireacht tá do chlub ag tabhairt tiomantais go gcuirfear an Ghaeilge chun cinn go gníomhach agus go dtabharfar spás lárnach di i saol laethúil an chlub. Tapaigh an deis. Cláraigh leis an bhFondúireacht go beo!

Tá tuilleadh eolais maidir le Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha le fáil ag: <https://www.glornangael.ie/clg/>



Football

Hurling

Club

General

## MÍLE BUÍOCHAS

Thank you to all of those who have contributed to this month's edition of the GAA Club Newsletter. Your feedback is welcome and any comments, suggestions or queries should be directed to [clubnewsletter@gaa.ie](mailto:clubnewsletter@gaa.ie).

Produced by the GAA Communications Department in Croke Park,  
Edited by Cian Ó Murchadha  
and designed by DBA Publications in Blackrock, Co Dublin.