

An Chomhdháil Bhlíantúil 2016

2015 Tuarascáil an Ard Stiúrthóra
agus Cuntais Airgid

GAA Annual Congress
www.gaa.ie





10 January 2015; Former Waterford hurler Paul Flynn, in his role of umpire for the day, chats with young supporters during a break in play, Waterford Crystal Cup Preliminary Round, Cork v University of Limerick, CIT GAA Grounds, Bishopstown, Co. Cork.



Annual Congress

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20 September 2015; James McCarthy, Dublin, is tackled
by Colm Cooper, Kerry. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior
Championship Final, Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.



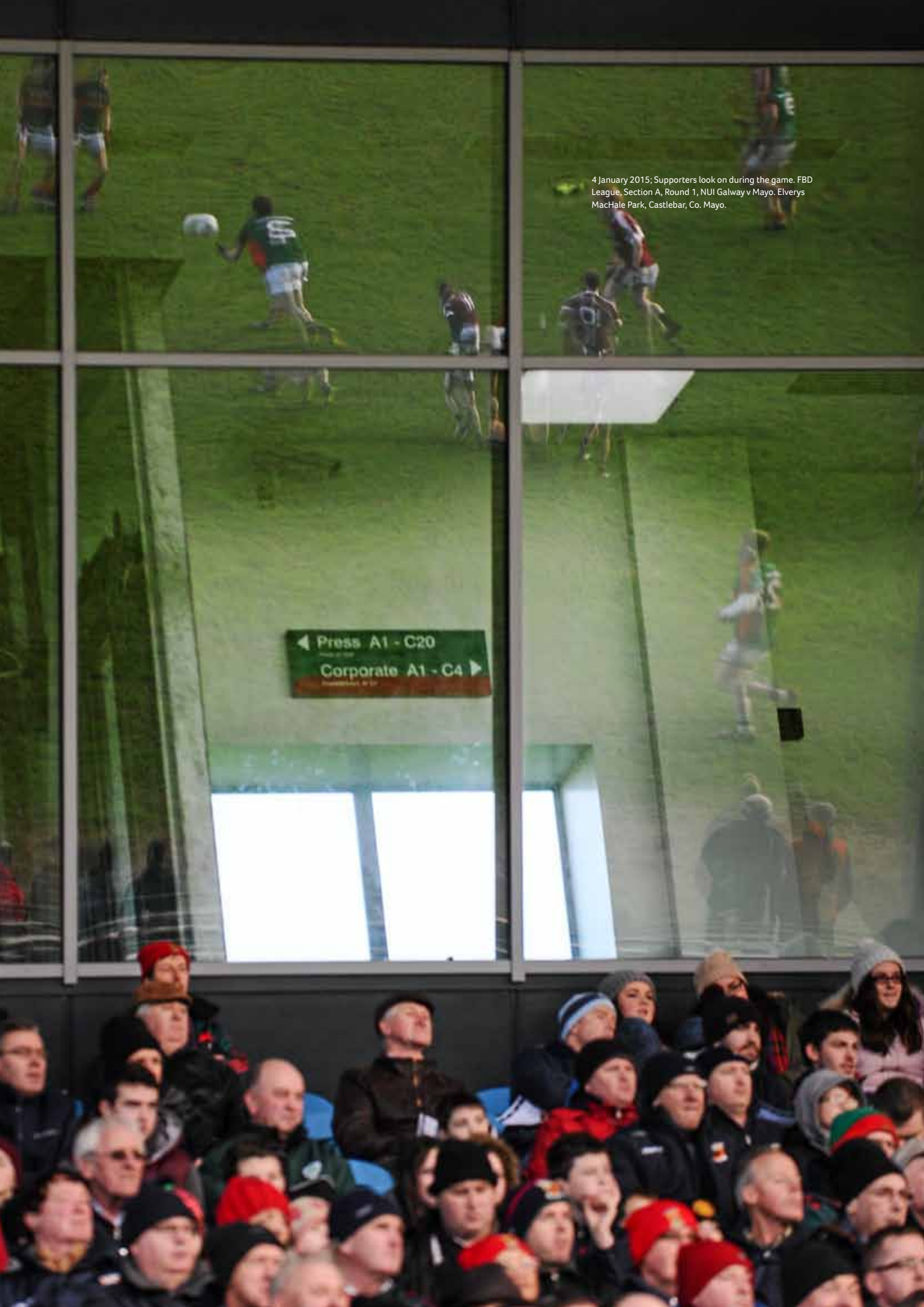
22 November 2015; Mike Casey, Na Piarsaigh, in action against JJ Hutchinson, Ballygunner. AIB Munster GAA Senior Club Hurling Championship Final. Ballygunner v Na Piarsaigh. Semple Stadium, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

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At a glance

2,028	Affiliated GAA clubs playing our games
411	International clubs affiliated to the Association
1,475,949	Supporters attending 2015 Inter-County football and hurling championship games
102,384	Children participating in Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps
400,000	Followers of official GAA facebook and Twitter
3.4 million	Minutes watched on the official GAA YouTube channel



4 January 2015; Supporters look on during the game. FBD League, Section A, Round 1, NUI Galway v Mayo. Elvery's MacHale Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.

An Clár

An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2016

An Aoine, 26 Feabhra 2016

2.00pm	Registration for all Congress delegates
4.00pm	Workshops/Ard Chomhairle meeting
6.15pm	Tea
8.00pm	Opening of Congress (Adoption of Minutes & Standing Orders)
8.15pm	Ard-Stiúrthóir's Report
8.45pm	Adoption of Accounts Adoption of Insurance and injury scheme accounts
9.15pm	Consideration of motions
10.00pm	Congress adjourns

An Satharn, 27 Feabhra 2016

10.00am	Resumption of Congress - Consideration of motions
12.30pm	Óráid an Uachtaráin
1.00pm	Lón
2.00pm	Resumption of Congress – Youth Forum Report to Congress
2.20pm	Consideration of remaining Motions
5.00pm	Conclusion of Congress
5.05pm	Ard Chomhairle meeting
6.30pm	Mass
8.00pm	Congress Banquet

Standing Orders

In order that the proceedings of Annual Congress be carried out without delay, the following Standing Orders will be observed:

1. The Proposer of a Resolution or of an Amendment thereto may speak for five minutes, but not more than five minutes.
2. A delegate speaking to a Resolution or of an Amendment must not exceed three minutes. A maximum of two delegates from any one County shall speak on any one motion.
3. The Proposer of a Resolution or an Amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other Delegate may speak a second time to the same Resolution or Amendment.
4. The Chairman may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed, call on the Proposer for a reply, and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
5. A delegate may, with the consent of the Chairman, move "that the question be now put", after which, when the Proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Where the Congress considers it appropriate, a vote may be by secret ballot.
7. A speaker to the Ard Stiúrthóir's Report/Workshop reports or to any other general discussion shall not exceed three minutes on any one topic.
8. Any motion seeking to amend a rule in the Official Guide must have a majority equal to two-thirds of those present, entitled to vote and voting.
9. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter on the Agenda except by the consent of a majority equal to two-thirds of those present, entitled to vote and voting.
10. The Chairman may change the order of items on the agenda with the support of a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting.



Report of the Ard Stiúrthóir Páraic Ó Dufaigh

Introduction

Hurling championships in recent years had dazzled us with their brilliance, so it was to be expected that the first year of a return to more normal competition would slightly lessen the excitement levels. For all that, there were two remarkable features of the 2015 championship. One was the unexpectedly rapid rise of Waterford, who followed their fine Allianz League title with a pulsating charge in the championship. They deserved the admiration they received; their skilful and relentless hurling gave lie to the received wisdom that it takes years to build a team fit to challenge for national titles. We look forward to the continuation of Waterford's campaign in 2016.

What is one to say about Kilkenny? They not only defeated all-comers to win another championship, but they defeat one's ability to say anything new or original about their achievements. Gaelic games may well be amateur, but we all know the intensity that teams bring to their hurling, so it is a genuinely extraordinary fact that Kilkenny continue to find the means to stay ahead of their rivals, almost year after year. It is exactly this latter fact – that they continue to dominate hurling after so many years – that is so remarkable. Kilkenny hurlers never become blasé or complacent; winning one year never diminishes their hunger to win the next year. They have excellent hurlers, of course, but so do (and did, over the years) other counties. There is something in Kilkenny hurling, beyond the great players, tradition, county pride or match tactics, something to do with resilience, with a mental attitude that finds defeat incomprehensible,

unbearable or even insulting, that raises them to levels of performance that other teams cannot match. (Brian Cody probably knows what this is!). Their cumulative achievements have been exceptional, and Gaelic games followers are right to be proud of such brilliant sportsmen. It was wholly fitting, then, that the elegant skills of TJ Reid won for him the award of Player of the Year.

The football championship gave us an absolutely absorbing final. The carping of a few who lamented the absence of silky summer skills surely missed the point: the awful weather conditions determined that this was to be a contest of attrition. There was never a stage where the match did not seem ready to tip in an unpredictable way: a funny bounce, or a slip of hand or foot near goal, could have turned the direction of the game in the opposite direction. But Dublin deserved their victory, as they deserve great credit for a third title in five years. We must congratulate Jim Gavin who has managed Dublin to two of these titles, and Jack McCaffrey who won the Player of the Year award.

Elsewhere on the playing fields, we salute the two winners of the U-21 championships, Limerick in hurling and Tyrone in football, as we do the winners of the minor championships, Galway in hurling and Kerry in football. And in the ferociously contested club championships, where Gaelic games, and indeed the Association itself, are visible in their most vibrant and relevant condition, we applaud the All-Ireland championship winners of Corofin (senior football), Ballyhale Shamrocks (senior hurling), Ardfert (intermediate

“What is one to say about Kilkenny? They not only defeated all-comers to win another championship, but they defeat one's ability to say anything new or original about their achievements.”

20 September 2015; Dublin's Paul Flynn lifts the Sam Maguire cup after their win in the GAA All-Ireland Senior Championship final.

Tuarascail An Ard Stiúrthóra



“There was never a stage where the match did not seem ready to tip in an unpredictable way: a funny bounce, or a slip of hand or foot near goal could have turned the direction of the game in the opposite direction.”

football), O'Donovan Rossa (intermediate hurling), Brosna (junior football) and Bennettsbridge (junior hurling).

The International Rules returned to Dublin in November for a one-match Series, which allowed us to see that, when both countries field their best players, the Series easily justifies its continuation. Those who attended the match seemed to share the opinion that it whetted the appetite for a second match, especially as the Australians were seen to improve considerably as the game progressed.

It is gratifying to record that attendances for both leagues and championships remained strong. Competition for spectator patronage is intense, from inside and outside sport, and we must now promote our competitions vigorously every year. But the games themselves must also be attractive,

and, despite the reservations expressed about modern Gaelic football, there continues to be great loyalty to one's county in inter-county competitions.

There is, however, a feature of the wider context of Gaelic football that does cause concern. A significant number of counties do not have the financial resources, either from commercial income and/or through their fundraising capacity, to be serious contenders to win an All-Ireland title. This is becoming a permanent structural imbalance in competitiveness which, when combined with the unequal population distribution over counties, reduces potential All-Ireland winners to a relatively few counties. This has to be a matter of concern, particularly if we want the championship to continue to draw the strong attendances that we celebrate above.

28 February 2015; Delegates, including Australia, during the GAA Annual Congress 2015. Slieve Russell Hotel, Cavan.



Congress 2015

While Congress 2015 was generally described as ‘quiet’, it nonetheless passed a number of significant motions as it considered the reports of the Hurling 2020 and the Minor Review committees. While both reports contained recommendations that fell within the remit of Central Council for decision, the focus at Congress was on proposals that required a change of rule. In terms of the Hurling 2020 committee, this meant, primarily, the playing rules, and Congress passed its motion that only one defending player may stand on the goal-line to defend a penalty puck. It also decided that, for free pucks awarded on the centre point of the 20 metre line and on the semi-circular arc, no more than five defending players could stand on the goal-line. Congress also supported the Hurling 2020 proposal to introduce the advantage rule into hurling, and opted for automatic promotion of the winners of the Christy Ring Cup to the following year’s Provincial Qualifier group. The implementation of the changes to playing rules has gone smoothly and has been to the benefit of the game. The penalty puck has become an exciting feature of the game, with goalkeepers faring better than had been predicted, while, as in football, the introduction of the advantage rule has improved the fluidity of the game.

“The Minor Review committee made significant progress, too, in their step-by-step efforts to address player-welfare concerns by persuading Congress to amend the rule governing age grades. As a result, from January 2017 players must be over 17 years to play at adult club level and over 16 years to play in the U-21 grade with clubs.”

The Minor Review Committee made significant progress, too, in their step-by-step efforts to address player-welfare concerns by persuading Congress to amend the rule governing age grades. As a result, from January 2016 players must be over 17 years to play at adult club level and over 16 years to play in the U-21 grade with clubs. This amendment, along with the rule change that came into effect in January 2015 limiting participation at inter-county minor level to players over 16 years of age, is evidence of the growing awareness of the need to protect the young talented player. There is still much to be done to protect those players from the dangers of overtraining and burnout, but these were, nonetheless, significant changes.

The passing of nineteen motions that brought further clarity to our rules was a reflection of the importance of the ongoing work of the Rules Advisory Committee as a standing committee on the rules of the Association, while the decisions of Congress in addressing concerns about the proposed clock/hooter system, the closed months for collective training and the registration of teams for senior inter-county championship games were sensible and commendable.

Feedback from the five Congress workshops – on our financial reports, working with the media, the work of the GPA, health and wellbeing, and player welfare – was also positive. However, the concerns expressed in the aftermath of Congress about the lack of worthwhile debate at, or even engagement with, the full sessions of Congress need to be addressed. One of the reasons why the feedback on the workshops was positive in 2015 was because the workshop topics were clearly of interest to delegates, which has not always been the case. And the workshop setting is less intimidating,

which encourages participation. The possibility, therefore, of re-structuring the Congress schedule to allow delegates to attend two of these sessions is worth considering. A mechanism for effectively reporting the main issues to emerge at these sessions to the full Congress could usefully be developed.

In terms of the full Congress assembly, it is difficult to know how it might be made more participative. A lot of good work is done each year on rule amendments that is necessary and productive. It is in the very nature of many of the proposals that seek to amend rules (as from the Rules Advisory Committee) that the benefits are obvious and non-controversial, and thus unlikely to generate much debate. For delegates, such deliberations can be a tedious (if necessary) part of Congress. In each of the past three years we have organised a pre-Congress briefing for key county officers on the motions to ensure that delegates understand the details of all the motions before them. And with the Finance and Ard Stiúrthóir’s reports available to units and to the public well in advance of Congress, much informal debate will already have taken place on issues raised.

It may be that one of the effects of this pre-Congress preparation has been to make Congress a less deliberative forum. What was particularly disappointing last year was that, in a year when the playing rules could be changed, there was little debate on the motions submitted by counties seeking to amend the playing rules of football. Given that the way Gaelic football is currently played has generated so much discussion, one would have expected that, for example, motions seeking to limit the use of the hand-pass would have encouraged lively discussion at Congress 2015. But it did not. The same applies to the Friday night session and the opportunity to debate the Ard-Stiúrthóir’s



28 February 2015; Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Aogán Ó Feargháil during his inaugural address to the GAA Annual Congress 2015.



report. This session is intended to facilitate a discussion on virtually any issue of concern to delegates, but it is my impression that such discussion has been diminishing from year to year. It may be that the report needs to be presented in a different way to the Friday evening session so as to facilitate a genuine debate on the key issues of the previous year.

Central Committees

Uachtarán Aogán Ó Fearghail invested considerable time and thought into the process of populating the Association's key central committees. It was time well spent, as was a meeting last March when the Uachtarán and I met with the Chairperson and Secretary of each committee to establish the protocols and strategies that would direct the work of each group. The terms of reference of each committee were revised to meet current needs and goals, and were co-ordinated to meet the requirements of the 2015–2017 Strategic Plan. This work was helped by a report on a review undertaken in late 2014 by Deloitte, at the request of our Audit Committee, into our Committee Governance and Structures. The report issued twenty-seven recommendations in areas of committee activity such as structure, terms of reference, committee effectiveness, succession planning for committees, and induction processes for new and re-appointed committee members. Among the key recommendations were:

- *the need to review succession arrangements for committees so as to avoid corporate memory loss and to improve continuity of committee membership;*
- *the ongoing need to evaluate the number and size of committees;*

- *the importance of matching the skillsets of members with needs of committees;*
- *the constant assessment of progress against strategic objectives.*

The advice on succession arrangements for committees is timely and easy to implement. It is particularly important in terms of the committees with responsibility for discipline,; the CCCC, CHC and CAC. Recent practice has been to replace all of the personnel on committees dealing with discipline at the time of a change of presidency. However, it is difficult in such a transition to ensure consistency in decision-making. I would suggest that we require that at least two members of the outgoing committee be retained when these new committees are established. Indeed, it is a principle that could be established to good effect on all our committees.

Review of Structure of All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship and National League

2016 is the final year of the current structure of the Allianz Hurling League and the All-Ireland senior hurling championships. It was right to review the structure of both in tandem. Once again, the issue relating to the number of teams in and the structure of Division One of the Allianz Hurling League proved quite divisive. A wide range of proposals were received covering all divisions. These advocated several variations within Division One, among which were two groups of six, seven and eight; there was also a proposal for one group of eight and one of seven. CCCC presented a strong case in support of the view that groups of six – with quarter-finals – have benefited hurling, arguing that such a structure has created an

extremely competitive Division 1A and 1B, guaranteeing each of the teams at least six very competitive matches, and also that it has reduced the number of 'dead rubber' matches. The difficulty, in the past, with two top divisions of eight was the huge variation in standard between teams in the second tier of eight, leading to too many one-sided games. The CCCC argument – that it is important that teams compete in leagues at a level appropriate to their potential each year – was compelling. Moreover, it was the view of Central Council that, while there may be just about twelve teams capable of competing at a high level, that degree of competitiveness would be lost if extended to fourteen, fifteen or sixteen teams.

It is regrettable that this issue has proved so divisive. There are valid arguments on both sides of the debate. I can appreciate that there are benefits for the stronger counties in a top division of eight, but the structure of two divisions of six seems to provide the best opportunity to help a few more counties reach the elite level. It does mean that some counties that believe they belong in the top tier are being asked to accept what is, for them, a less than ideal structure in order to assist in the long-term development of hurling. It is a debate that is likely to continue for some time.

“Twenty counties had made proposals on the structure of league and championship. Where the All-Ireland senior hurling championship was concerned, it was the view of most that the present system should be retained.”

Beyond the discussion on the Division One structure, Central Council made some adjustments to the structure of Division Three and to the process for deciding promotion and relegation. Time will tell whether these changes prove to be positive.

The review of the All-Ireland senior hurling championship was much less contentious. Twenty counties had made proposals on the structure of league and championship. Where the All-Ireland senior hurling championship was concerned, it was the view of most that the present system should be retained. Galway had proposed an open draw rather than a provincial-based system, but accepted that the consensus was that the current structure should be retained. It was agreed that Central Council will recommend the present system in a motion to Congress 2016 and that any proposals for minor amendments from counties could be addressed through individual motions.

The Allianz Football Leagues

The 2015 Allianz Football Leagues proved to be extremely competitive and drew good crowds to the regular programme of games in all divisions. It is clear that counties attach great significance to retaining or improving their league divisional status, manifested in the increasing intensity with which the competition is played from year to year. The final Sunday in each division is generally quite dramatic; however, the intensity seems to diminish when the semi-finals and finals of each division are played, and especially so in Division One. The obvious solution to this issue – that the team with most points wins the league – would free up some additional weekends/Sundays for club matches, but the financial benefit of these extra games is attractive to counties. While I understand the criticism of the play-off aspect of the leagues, there does not appear to be a desire to dispense with finals. However, I think we ought to give serious consideration to dropping the semi-finals in Division One and to playing the finals of all divisions on

the weekend after the final round of games. The momentum of the final round would, hopefully, carry through to the finals and would free up valuable time for the playing of club games.

The State of Gaelic Football

While attendances at football matches remained healthy, criticism of the current manner and style of, and tactical approach to, playing the game continued in 2015. There are concerns about the perceived negativity of football today, often expressed in apocalyptic predictions about the ‘death’ of football due to the ultra-defensive approach of teams. However, it is important to keep a sense of perspective and proportion. When one looks at films of major games from the past, one sees that our current elite players are fitter, more skilful and more creative than at any time in the history of the game. It is also the case that the level of scoring is higher than it has ever been, that there has been a drop in the number of fouls committed and cards shown, and that the quality of long-range point-taking in this year’s All-Ireland senior championship was exceptionally high.

Given these positive features of the current game, it was all the more surprising to hear calls for the removal of the black card. I repeat the arguments I put forward in my report to Congress 2014. There, I expressed the view that teams that played football in the correct spirit had nothing to fear from the introduction of the black card, that there was some inconsistency in the application of the rule by referees, and that work remains to be done in communicating the precise nature of black-card offences to spectators. There is still work to be done in each of these areas, but instances of players being dragged to the ground are now rare, while the body-collide, an ugly and destructive foul that marred the game, has been virtually eradicated.

It remains the case, however, that spectators are often frustrated by the use of a ‘blanket defence’. The Standing Committee on the Playing Rules to

improve Gaelic football brought some interesting proposals to the November meeting of Central Council, including a limited use of the mark. It also presented a programme of work for 2016 that includes experimenting with placing a limitation on the number of successive hand-passes. It would be wrong to respond in knee-jerk fashion to the current emphasis on defensive play, and we must never forget that the playing of a team field game such as Gaelic football is a dynamic and evolving affair, one, therefore, subject to permanent innovation and change as coaches seek to develop new tactics to win matches and outmanoeuvre opponents. That said, it certainly makes sense to look at ways of making our games a more attractive spectacle.

Every year, it takes but a single one-sided result in the provincial championships to spark a demand for an overhaul of the structure of the provincial and All-Ireland football championships. In 2015, Dublin’s easy victory over Longford in the Leinster senior football championship was the signal for the criticism of the provincial structure to begin. Coiste Bainistíochta invited counties to make submissions on a revised structure, from which a few points clearly emerged. There was little appetite for removing or downgrading the provincial championships, nor was there a consensus on how the present championship model might be improved. There was recognition that there are some counties that cannot realistically aspire to winning either a provincial or an All-Ireland title, yet no suggested amendments to the current structure offer credible solutions to address this situation. After a lengthy period of consultation, three proposals on the restructuring of the championship were put before the 16 January 2016 meeting of Central Council, and the preferred option from these goes before Congress for consideration, along with motions from Ros Comáin and Ceatharlach.

Playing our games fairly

It is a matter of regret that, in 2015, the term ‘sledging’ was invoked with

greater regularity than ever before in conversations about Gaelic games. Many would say that verbal intimidation has always existed. What is different now, though, is the allegation that some teams are engaging in nasty, personal abuse on a systematic basis. This is a breach of rules that is difficult to deal with as, very often, offensive comments are made out of the hearing of match officials; in such cases, it becomes a matter of one player's word against another's. Such behaviour has no place in sport and reflects poorly on those who indulge in it. Ultimately, it is our players who are best placed to eliminate it. In this context, the launch in July of the GPA Fair Play Campaign, aimed at encouraging and rewarding good on-field behaviour among inter-county players, was most welcome. Consultation with the GPA membership had revealed a concern among players at the rise in

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incidents of verbal abuse and at a general breakdown in sporting play as it relates to the dishonest winning of frees, to diving and to feigning injury. Efforts to deceive referees are now much too common in our games, notably in football. It is this unsporting behaviour that led the GPA to establish a Fair Play Awards scheme, which rewards players for positive actions, in the belief that the most effective way of tackling and isolating the issue of

negative behaviour is to focus on displays of sportsmanship. It is too early to judge whether their campaign has had an impact. There were few initial signs of a change in behaviour, but it is encouraging that the players' body is determined to create the right playing environment and playing philosophy in our games.

The blight of unsporting behaviour is not, of course, solely the responsibility of players. Managers and coaches who encourage or ignore diving or verbal abuse of opponents also have a responsibility. And it is important to remind ourselves that this behaviour is not confined to the inter-county game; there is adequate anecdotal evidence to suggest that initiatives to rid ourselves of this behaviour need to extend to club level too. The vast majority of players, officials and supporters want our games to be played in accordance with the values of our Association. If we need to change our rules in order to achieve this, then we should do so.

One of the most disappointing events of the past year arose from incidents in an Armagh v Dublin challenge match in early July. Dublin footballer Davy Byrne received nasty facial injuries, an incident which, it would appear, led to a brawl involving a number of players, and which led also to Davy Byrne being hospitalised. The efforts of CCCC to investigate the matter followed an all too depressing pattern. Even though the name of the player alleged to have been responsible for Davy Byrne's injury was in general circulation, no assistance was forthcoming from the counties in

bringing the player to account. When the injured player, along with officials from both counties who were present at the game, attended a CCCC meeting called to investigate the incidents prior to throw-in at the game, nobody could (or would) provide any information that would have allowed appropriate disciplinary action to be taken. Given the unwillingness of either county to co-operate in identifying any of the guilty parties, the only option available to CCCC was the proposal of a fine, a penalty that was subsequently imposed at a hearing.

It will probably be considered naïve on my part to criticise the position taken by the counties, but the misguided loyalty that protects players who engage in violent behaviour on the pitch can only be seen, by those concerned with the good of the game, as a failure of leadership. Group solidarity is one thing; a code of silence that condones violence is quite another. And this is not just an issue for the counties involved in this incident. While a county may be pleased at avoiding the consequences of ill-disciplined behaviour, the reputation of the GAA suffers on such occasions. Moreover, a very negative message is sent to clubs and players at all levels about the need for discipline in the playing of our games. Is it really too much to expect that a player or official in these situations will stand up and say, 'Sorry, I did it and I accept the consequences'? We have all witnessed how elite professional sport has lost much of its integrity through a loss of genuine sporting values. Codes of silence and cover-ups remind us that Gaelic games are not immune to such damage.



20 September 2015; Michael Foley, Kerry, in action against Tadhg Fitzgerald, Tipperary. Electric Ireland GAA Football All-Ireland Minor Championship Final, Kerry v Tipperary, Croke Park, Dublin.

“This disciplinary system is very fair to the player, allowing him every opportunity to have his case dealt with fairly. It also reduces the likelihood of an injustice being done to a player. A statistical analysis of the decisions emerging from this system confirms that it works well.”

Our Disciplinary Structure

In 2015 the decisions of the Central Hearings Committee to clear Kevin Keane to play in the Mayo v Dublin All-Ireland senior football championship semi-final, and of the DRA to clear Diarmuid Connolly to play in the replay of that drawn game, led to calls to abandon our disciplinary structures, and to the familiar refrain of ‘they are not fit for purpose’. Much of the commentary came from individuals who, as is often the case, clearly didn’t understand how these structures operate, but one would have expected more from some of our own members who should have been capable of distinguishing fact from fiction. For my part, I do not believe that there is any fundamental weakness in our disciplinary structures. I may have been surprised by the decisions announced in the specific cases mentioned, just as I have often been surprised, as we all have been, by decisions made by disciplinary bodies outside of the GAA, and even by the courts. But we are surprised in these cases only because we are not privy to the debate or to considerations taken into account in reaching a decision. And, sometimes, too, decision-makers, as fallible human beings, will just get it wrong. The lesson

is simple: a wrong decision in no way indicates an inadequate structure. Let me explain our disciplinary process again. The Competitions Control Committee proposes a penalty, which is either accepted or rejected. If it is rejected, a hearing is granted. The Hearings Committee (decision-makers) either imposes a penalty or exonerates, based on evidence presented during the hearing. If a penalty is imposed by the Hearings Committee, and the defending party is not willing to accept the imposed penalty, an appeal can be lodged with and heard by the Appeals Committee. If the appeal is unsuccessful, the penalty remains and all avenues of appeal within the GAA are, at this point, exhausted. (The appeal can be successful only where there has been a clear infringement or misapplication of Rule by the Hearings Committee, or where the appellant’s right to a fair hearing has otherwise been compromised to such an extent that a clear injustice has occurred). However, if the defending party is still not willing to accept the imposed penalty, a request for arbitration may be lodged to the DRA (Disputes Resolution Authority), which represents an *external independent body* and whose decisions are binding.

6 September 2015; Ger Aylward, Kilkenny, in action against Daithí Burke, Galway. GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Kilkenny v Galway, Croke Park, Dublin.



This disciplinary system is very fair to the player, allowing him every opportunity to have his case dealt with fairly. It also reduces the likelihood of an injustice being done to a player. A statistical analysis of the decisions emerging from this system confirms that it works well. In the past five years (2011-2015), the CCCC has proposed 1,132 penalties arising from inter-county games. Arising from this, 146 players have sought hearings in order to challenge proposed penalties. In 50 instances, the proposed penalty has been overturned. Three cases have gone all the way to the DRA. In only one of those cases over the past five years – that of Diarmuid Connolly in 2015 – has the penalty been overturned. From the outcry that greeted the decision in the Diarmuid Connolly case, one might conclude that players are routinely going to the DRA to have penalties lifted. The facts tell us otherwise. Commentators were entitled to question the DRA decision in respect of Diarmuid Connolly (although one wonders if the outcry would have been as great if the player was someone other than Diarmuid Connolly), but it was nothing less than lazy headline-seeking commentary to use this to suggest that our disciplinary structures are not fit for purpose.

This is not to say, as in every aspect of GAA work, that there are not things that we can do better. We need to focus on the education of members of our disciplinary bodies at every level and to devise an education programme that will be an annual requirement for members of committees. Members must be fully familiar with the rules in the Official Guide, not an easy objective to realise. Our rule book is complex, which underlines the need to educate those who are overseeing the implementation of the rules. It is a task that should probably be overseen by our Rules Advisory Committee, with the organisation of courses resting with the Provincial Councils. None of these proposals suggests a need for structural change; they merely stress the need to ensure that our relevant committees are properly equipped to make decisions consistent with our rules.

Player overtraining and burnout, and our fixtures calendar

Since 2004 the GAA has made a number of attempts to address the issues of player overtraining and

burnout, and a fixtures calendar that does not provide club players with a fair schedule of matches. Beginning with the Competitions Review Task Force Report in 2004, and continuing through another seven major reports, the Association has investigated, discussed and made proposals to address the overtraining, burnout and fixtures questions, but without, for all that, adopting solutions to the difficult problems that these inter-related issues pose.

In my Annual Report to Congress 2015 I wrote that the findings and proposals of these reports contained within them viable solutions to the overtraining, player-burnout and fixtures-scheduling problems. I promised in my Annual Report to produce, later in 2015, a paper that would 'draw on all of these proposals and allow the Association to decide how it will address these player-welfare issues and the needs of club players'. That paper was duly circulated as a discussion document in November and offered a number of proposals drawn from the eight previously published reports. The report was made available to every unit of the Association and meetings were held with county officers in each province.



21 November 2015; Bernard Brogan, left, and Eoin Doyle, right, Ireland, celebrate with supporters after the game, EirGrid International Rules Test 2015, Ireland v Australia, Croke Park, Dublin.

I hope that all delegates will read the discussion paper carefully before making decisions that will have a major impact on the Association, our players and clubs. Without re-stating all of the arguments outlined in the discussion document, I would like to remind everyone of the two key issues that need to be addressed:

- *(i) at certain times of the year, talented players in the 17-21 age-group are being asked to train too much, to play too many matches for too many teams, and are afforded too little time for rest and recovery, leading to significant physical and psychological strains, and a negative impact on the academic performance of players at second and post-second-level education;*
- *(ii) the great majority of club players, specifically those not involved in inter-county teams, are not offered a fair, evenly distributed and planned schedule of club matches throughout the year due to the scheduling of inter-county fixtures, and, more generally, due to the greater influence that inter-county competitions have come to enjoy and exercise in recent years. This is a source of great frustration to clubs.*

The discussion paper argued that the task facing us is twofold: (i) to significantly ease the burden on young elite players by providing a more measured progression of training and playing for them, taking account of their age and development; (ii) to develop a revised calendar of fixtures in which a better balance between inter-county and club fixtures is established.

In relation to the first of these points, the discussion paper proposed that, *at inter-county level only*, the minor (i.e. U-18) hurling and football competitions be re-graded as minor U-17. If passed, it will mean that the elite U-17 player would be able to play at inter-county minor level (U-17) in a year when he is less likely to be sitting life-defining Leaving Certificate/A-level examinations. For example, in

2016 only 2,991 boys sitting the Leaving Certificate would be eligible to play at U-17 inter-county level (i.e. are U-16 or U-17), while 16,366 boys are eligible to play on an U-18 inter-county minor team (i.e. are U-17 or U-18). In addition, minor (U-17) inter-county competitions would not affect the playing of adult club fixtures as U-17 players are not permitted to play in adult club competitions.

The discussion paper also proposed that the U-21 football championship be discontinued on the basis that the elite U-21 footballer would no longer have the added pressure of training for and playing in, simultaneously, third-level championships, at inter-county U-21 level and, in some instances, at senior level. The proposal aimed to reduce the negative effects on their academic performance and on their physical and psychological wellbeing, and would have had the effect of substantially reducing the surfeit of competitions in the January-April period, thus reducing the levels of training and number of matches imposed on young elite players. As a consequence of this proposed change, the chances of young players experiencing overtraining, overuse injury and, ultimately, burnout would have been minimised.

Valuable feedback was obtained from the consultations with counties and provinces. As a result of that engagement, amendments have been made to three of the original proposals to go before this Congress for decision. First, there was a widespread concern at the gap that would be created in an elite football player's development pathway by ending age-based inter-county competition at U-17. This has led to the revised proposal to create a developmental U-20 competition that would eliminate some of the difficulties currently facing elite players in the U-21 grade. The revised proposal envisages a new U-20 football championship, starting in 2018 and to be played primarily in July. The competition would begin in the last week of June in

Leinster (the first round) and Ulster (the preliminary round) and in the first week of July in Connacht and Munster, with the All-Ireland Final taking place on the August Bank Holiday weekend. Under the rules, all games will finish on the day – there will be no replays. Extra time, if inconclusive, would be followed by a 'sudden death' free-taking competition. Eligibility would be restricted to those players who are overage for U-18 and eligible for U-20; players who have featured on a team list submitted to a referee for an inter-county senior championship game in the current year will be ineligible to participate.

This proposal, with its eligibility restrictions, will have several beneficial effects: (i) it will meet the player-development need for an inter-county championship to bridge the gap between U-17 and senior competition; (ii) it will avoid the simultaneous and intense pressures on players of coping with inter-county U-21 competition and preparing for and sitting vital school or college examinations; (iii) it will end the clash between third-level, senior and U-21 competitions; (iv) it will reduce the surfeit of competitions in the January-April period, and therefore the burden of too much training and too many matches for young elite players; (v) it will have no impact on the playing of minor club competitions; and (vi) it will have minimal impact on adult club championships, few of which games are played during June and July; and (vii) it will allow the U-20 championship to be played in better weather.

Overall, moving to a structure of U-17 and U-20 competitions as outlined here would represent a significant step in addressing the pressures facing talented footballers in the 17-21 age-group. Under these revised proposals, a relatively small number of (U-17) players would play inter-county minor football in the year when they sit Leaving Certificate/A-level examinations, and when most *do* sit



21 November 2015;
Michael Quinn, Ireland,
in action against Nick
Riewoldt, Australia.
Ireland v Australia. Croke
Park, Dublin.



LEFT: 21 November 2015; David Mundy, Australia, in action
against Jack McCaffrey, Ireland. EirGrid International Rules
Test 2015, Ireland v Australia. Croke Park, Dublin.

“For the last two years the International Rules encounter has been a one-game competition, so devised to see if it could meet these necessary standards.”

these examinations (U-18), they would be playing with their clubs only. As U-19 and U-20 players, when the majority of this age-group attend college, they can play in an All-Ireland U-20 championship without the pressure of playing in and training for, simultaneously, third-level championships, at inter-county U-21 level and, in some instances, at senior level. While a smaller number of players eligible for the new U-20 category will potentially be Leaving Certificate or A-level students, the competitions would not start until after the examinations period (the last week in June for a small number of counties and the first week in July for most), a period currently used to complete our inter-county provincial minor championships.

The second concern expressed during the consultation with counties related to the abolition of all replays in provincial and All-Ireland senior championship games. While there was an acceptance of the impact of replays in provincial and All-Ireland senior championship games on club championship programmes, there was also a strongly expressed view that finals should be excluded from the proposal. There is no doubt that the opposition to the original proposal was partly dictated by financial concerns, but there was also a sentiment that the status of provincial and All-Ireland finals merits a replay when the first game ends in a draw. The revised proposal leaves open the possibility of a replay on nine occasions after drawn games, whereas, currently, there is potential for a replay on fifty-four occasions after drawn provincial and senior championship games.

Finally, the counties in Britain were unhappy with the proposal to abolish the All-Ireland Junior Football championship which, for most of their counties, is the only opportunity to compete for an All-Ireland title. A motion has been drafted for Congress that meets their need in this regard and that also has the potential to meet a developmental need

for some of our less successful counties. I recognise that some of the changes proposed, particularly the replacement, at inter-county level, of minor U-18 by minor U-17, and the discontinuation of the U-21 football inter-county championship, may prove difficult for some to accept. Yet we have reached a stage in our competition structures where something has to give, and, as I stated in the discussion document, I believe that tradition and precedence are insufficient arguments for resisting change in the face of the challenge to our values posed by the issues of player welfare and the denial of fair competitive activity to our club players. We must take action as part of the necessary process of adaptation to which a vibrant organisation must be open, an openness that, in the past, has been one of the GAA's strengths.

Interprovincial Championships

In 2012 Central Council spent an inordinate amount of time discussing the future of the Interprovincial championships. A committee, under the chairmanship of Jarlath Burns, produced a report laying out the options for the staging of the competitions. Despite abundant evidence that the public had little interest in the competitions, the enthusiasm of Central Council members for them remained undiminished. The familiar arguments for the case to revive and renew the competitions were brought to bear: play them over a single weekend, launch a major marketing campaign, let spectators in without an admission charge, etc. Following that Central Council debate, however, the cold truth made itself known: the 2013 competitions (six games) attracted total gate receipts of €12,220, a figure that fell to €7,126 in 2014.

The Football Review Committee (FRC) offered a further kiss of life in 2014 in the second part of its report to Central

Council. They suggested a re-launch of the Interprovincials as a weekend competition played over two days in a town or city with a strong GAA base, supported by live night-time television coverage and as part of a well-promoted weekend mini-festival, aimed particularly at younger audiences. Free admission should also be considered. Central Council discussed the recommendations at a meeting in June 2014 and, although the then-Uachtarán, Liam Ó Néill, and I expressed a contrary view, gave its support to the FRC proposal. It was subsequently decided that Ulster would host the 2015 football competition, with Connacht taking responsibility for the hurling equivalent. Enthusiasm for the idea of a weekend mini-festival, however, seemed to dissolve very quickly. In the absence of any more suitable date, both competitions were scheduled for December 2015. Weather conditions led to their postponement. But, in any case, given the number of elite players who had already indicated their non-availability, the signs for a renewal of public interest were not good. Maybe now is the time to accept the inevitable: our crowded playing calendar and a lack of interest among players and the public tell us that the competitions have no viable future.

International Rules

I wrote last year that the criteria for evaluating whether the International Rules Series should continue would be the interest levels of players (in Ireland and Australia), the engagement of the public in both countries and the ability of the teams to produce a high-quality match, free from over-physical play.

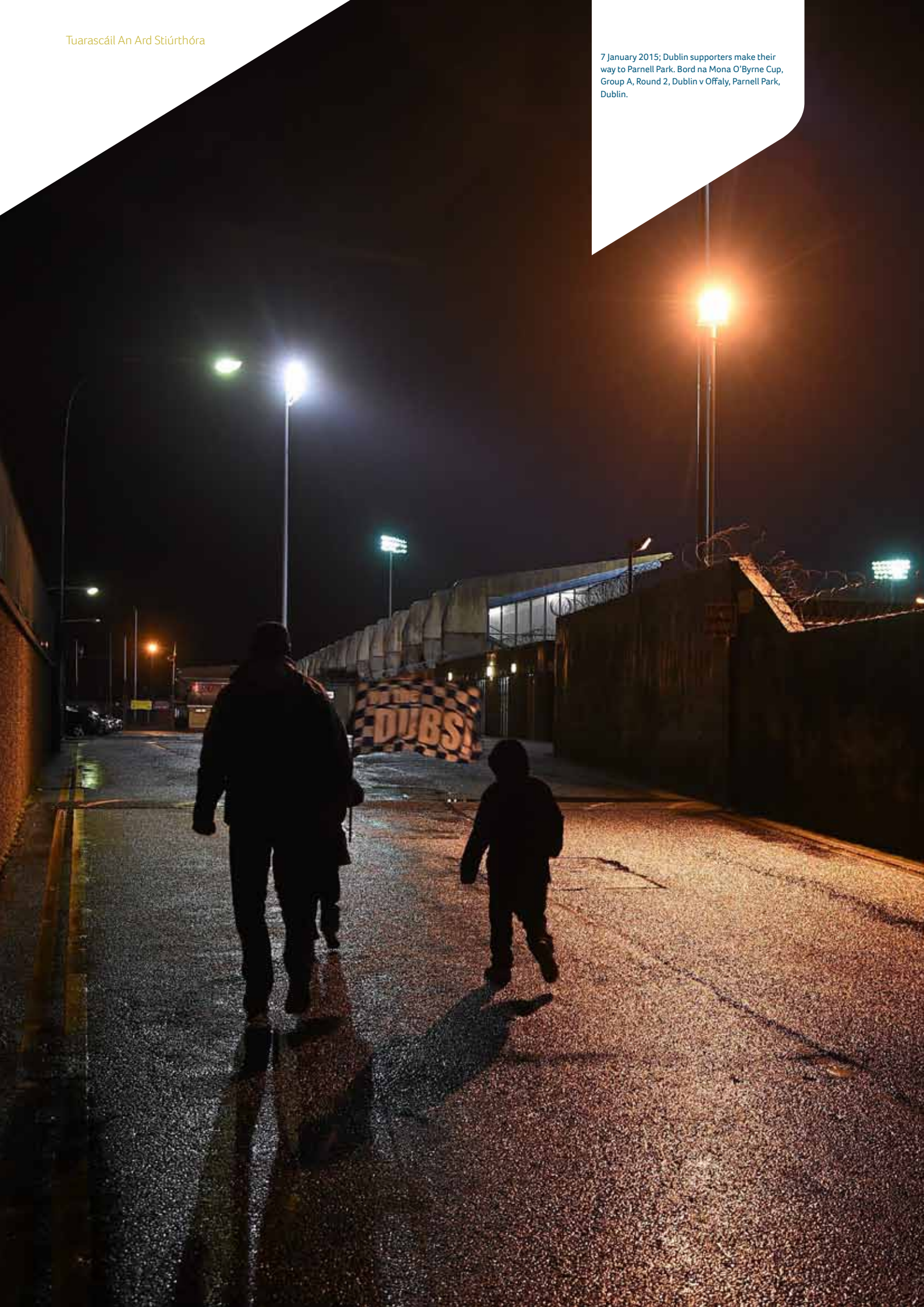
For the last two years the International Rules encounter has been a one-game competition, so devised to see if it could meet these necessary standards. In Perth in 2014, and in Croke Park last November, it was clear that, based on these measures of success, the Series certainly does have



23 August 2015; A young Tyrone fan. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship, Semi-Final, Kerry v Tyrone. Croke Park, Dublin.



7 January 2015; Dublin supporters make their way to Parnell Park. Bord na Mona O'Byrne Cup, Group A, Round 2, Dublin v Offaly, Parnell Park, Dublin.



a future. I would like to pay tribute to Joe Kernan and his team, outsiders on the morning of the game, for overcoming what was possibly the strongest Australian team yet assembled for the Series, and for doing so with a display of traditional catching and kicking that did much to restore belief in the basic skills of our own game. The result will have hurt the Australians' pride, which sharpens our anticipation of the 2016 Series.

We have held initial discussions with the AFL on the possibility of playing a future Series in a neutral country, and further discussions are planned for this spring. We have agreed, subject to the approval of Central Council, that there should be a Series next November; it remains to be decided whether it will be held in Australia or in a neutral country.

Relationships between players and County Committees

The issues that arose in Mayo and Galway in the final months of the year drew a weary response from (and sense of déjà vu among) many people. It was the now-familiar procedure of players calling for the removal of managers or management and the inevitable melodrama that has to be played out, leading, inevitably, it seems, to the management team stepping down. Inevitable, too, is the aftermath of anger, bitterness and broken friendships such upheavals produce. And it has yet to be proven that such internal turmoil leaves teams in a stronger position to realise their goals. Further, these heaves against management teams have an impact in other counties too, as they breed concern among administrators that a similar situation could occur in their county. The wider effect is to diminish trust between county administrators and the GPA, creating an atmosphere in which many people are quick to attribute all blame, unfairly, to the GPA. As ever in human affairs, the truth is more complex than that. Without revisiting what happened in Mayo and Galway and commenting directly on the breakdown in relationships that took place there are some general observations that can be made:

- *All of us have a responsibility to try to do things better in the future. We need to remember that our players are amateur, that they make a free choice to play our games and that they can walk away at any time. They are not contracted and, as a result, are entirely free to leave panels if and when they so decide. Whereas a professional player has to make the best of any dissatisfaction with a team manager, our players can simply withdraw their services. There is nothing we can do about that.*

- *Players are entitled to expect that they will be given the means to realise their full potential, as individual players and as members of teams, and that County Committees will provide the optimal resources they can afford to achieve this. They can also expect that team managements will provide the coaching and man-management skills necessary to cope with diverse talents and personalities.*

- *Administrators have a responsibility to ensure that a forum exists in which an ongoing and open dialogue takes place between county officials, team managements and players. Where that honest interaction takes place, difficulties can be addressed before they create a state of crisis. The County Teams Management and Panels Sub Committee, required under rule, is intended to provide a forum for open dialogue. Its function is to manage the relationships between the County Committee, county senior team managers and panels. However, it seems to me that its operation in many counties is dictated by a narrow interpretation of its role and that it tends to focus on day-to-day concerns relating to the payment of expenses, travelling arrangements, meals, team weekends, holidays, etc. County Committees have a responsibility to broaden the scope of the work of this sub-committee and to ensure that problems are identified and addressed as quickly as possible.*

- *Players, too, need to consider how they handle relationship problems with team managements and to be aware of the huge personal pressure and distress it creates for team managers when their*

competence is called into question in a very public manner. Players have the comfort and protection of being part of a large team group; team managers (and their families) are alone in facing the public challenge to the individual reputation of the team manager, causing them considerable stress and some humiliation. Calling publicly for the resignation of a team manager should be an act of last resort.

There are, I believe important lessons to be learned from what happened in Mayo and Galway. Both Central Council and the GPA are committed to developing a process that will make similar events less likely in the future. And there is a willingness on the part of Central Council and the GPA to assist in resolving problems; such interventions, indeed, have been extremely useful on a number of occasions.

Third-level competitions

In previous reports I have commented on the place of third-level colleges within the GAA and have noted the indifference of some county officials to the third-level contribution to the Association. There is a recurring demand that third-level competitions should be completed before Christmas so that county senior and U-21 teams have exclusive access to players after Christmas for training purposes. It was more than surprising to hear this argument repeated regularly at the meetings to discuss the paper on player overtraining/burnout and the GAA fixtures calendar, as it takes no account of the challenges involved in third-level fixtures-making, not to mention certain obvious facts.

There is a very narrow period of time in which to complete the programme of third-level games. The academic year in colleges begins in September, in some cases early in the month, in others late in the month. Some colleges hold their first-semester exams in December, while others hold them in January. This makes it impossible to play competitive games from early December to late January. In 2015 the last of the seven Higher



21 January 2015; Supporters queue at the turnstiles as they arrive in ahead of the game. Dr. McKenna Cup Semi-Final, Cavan v Fermanagh. Kingspan Breffni Park, Cavan.

Education senior football and hurling league finals was played on 3 December and the first game in their championships was scheduled for 26 January 2016. The reason for the eight-week gap is to allow students to sit examinations without the pressure of competitive games. It is unfair to expect colleges to complete the Sigerson, Fitzgibbon and other competitions before Christmas and, in effect, to confine third-level competition to a period from early October to the end of November. There is no doubt that some colleges contribute to the player overtraining and burnout. But so do many counties. It is valid to criticise colleges where it is justified, but let us make an effort to understand why Comhairle Ardoideachais cannot complete their competitions before Christmas.

I have made these same points before, but my comments have fallen on deaf ears. We should acknowledge the contribution that this sector has made towards the development of our games in several important areas – in the raising of playing standards, in the training of administrators, the provision of scholarships to elite players and in the huge investment in our games and infrastructure.

Many good non-inter-county players enjoyed representing 45 colleges and 218 teams in the 2015/16 competitions and value the opportunity to improve their standard of play through participation at this representative level. As I have stated before, third-level colleges should not have to defend their efforts to promote their games against those whose concern does not extend beyond the requirements of the inter-county game. On the contrary, they should have the support of administrators at all levels, who should appreciate the important contribution that the third-level sector has made to the growth of the GAA.

Anti-Doping

It was disappointing that an inter-county panellist had to be suspended in 2015 for a breach of our Anti-Doping Rules. While our existing provisions to educate players did receive considerable praise from the Anti-Doping Hearings Committee which heard the case, a review of our Anti-Doping Education programme was initiated following this suspension. The committee, in its findings, had urged the GAA to 'intensify its work to ensure that all players, county officers, coaches, managers, medical and allied sports science personnel, and player

representatives are fully cognisant of their obligations under the Association's Anti-Doping Rules'. Following this recommendation, a series of measures were put in place to improve the existing provisions and to increase awareness in the Association of anti-doping rules and policies, as well as of their importance in player welfare and in ensuring fair play in our games. Among the steps taken were:

- *a review of all anti-doping material on the GAA website;*
- *the implementation of new communications protocols to ensure that all players on county panels are made aware of their responsibilities with regard to anti-doping and testing;*
- *the launch of an information and awareness campaign by our Medical, Scientific and Welfare Committee;*
- *an increased focus on the education of Talent Academy squads;*
- *the development of a new induction programme by the GPA for players new to the inter-county scene.*

15 February 2015; Liam Blanchfield, Bennettsbridge, in action against Simon Wallace, left, and Liam Klocker, Fullen Gaels. AIB GAA Hurling All-Ireland Junior Club Championship Final, Bennettsbridge v Fullen Gaels, Croke Park, Dublin.



It is important to emphasise that all GAA players, and not only inter-county players, are subject to the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by Sport Ireland (SI). But, of course, this is not just a matter of rules. We need to ensure that all players are aware of the dangers to their health of using banned substances. If there was any complacency in relation to drug use among players, the confirmation of a breach in 2015 has removed it. All of us have an obligation to ensure that our games are not blighted by further breaches.

For the record, there were ninety-five tests carried out on our players in 2015 under the SI testing programme, with players from twenty-six different hurling and football panels being tested. As part of our commitment to the maintenance of hurling and football as drug-free sports, and having signed up to the provisions of the World Anti-Doping Agency, blood testing, as well as urine testing, will be introduced into Gaelic games in 2016.

We have worked closely with SI and the GPA on the introduction of this testing programme. The programme that will be rolled out – while meeting these requirements – has been designed to take careful consideration of the unique circumstances of our amateur players,

their support personnel and our team and training structures. In an ideal world there would be no need for such intrusions; however, in the times in which we live, blood testing is a necessary component in the endeavour to maintain the integrity of our games, which must take precedence over all other considerations.

Concussion

Motion 13 at last year's Congress proposed the introduction of a temporary substitute to allow a player suspected of concussion to be removed from play on the instruction of the referee, to be tested for concussion and only to be allowed to return to play following a negative result to the test. The motion was referred to our Medical Scientific and Welfare Committee (MSWC) for consideration, which decided that such an approach would not be in the best interests of our players or, indeed, the Association.

The committee, which includes medical experts from the GAA world such as Dr Pat O'Neill (Dublin) and Dr Kevin Moran (Donegal), strongly believes that the GAA's current guidelines on concussion are the best approach to this issue – indeed the guidelines have received widespread acknowledgement and

praise for their emphasis on the basic principle of 'if in doubt, sit them out'.

Among the MSWC's reasons for advising against a temporary substitute in our games are the following:

- *Our existing management guidelines are clear in their insistence that a player suspected of concussion should be removed from play and should not resume playing that day. A concussion substitute and sideline assessment would contradict these guidelines, which are based on international best practice.*
- *The proposal to use a concussion substitute presumes that concussion can be diagnosed within a short timeframe. This is not in keeping with best practice, which shows that symptoms of concussion can take several hours or longer to present.*
- *Concussion is a brain injury and concussion diagnosis is a clinical judgement. There is no test currently available which is 100% accurate for pitch-side concussion assessment. The introduction of a concussion substitute would contradict best advice and would be impractical to implement at all levels of the Association.*

RIGHT: 19 July 2015; Sligo minor players line up for a team photograph ahead of the game. Electric Ireland Connacht GAA Football Minor Championship Final, Galway v Sligo, Dr. Hyde Park, Roscommon.



It was also the view of the MSWC that, in other field sports where there is a more pronounced issue with concussion, specific concussion-substitution rule changes have not worked; and there have been instances where, even with independent doctors, players still return to play showing signs of concussion.

It was for these and other reasons that the MSWC recommended that the Association should not introduce a 'concussion sub'. It also advised against the introduction of independent doctors to complete an assessment during games. The committee rightly retains confidence in the professionalism, integrity and independence of our team doctors, who carry out their duties in the best interests of our players and their ongoing welfare.

The implications of these recommendations are that the current concussion guidelines should continue to apply; these will be subject to ongoing monitoring and review by the MSWC. The Association must continue to promote awareness of these guidelines, and of the risks of second-impact syndrome and other dangers of failing to manage suspected concussion appropriately.

One final, and critical, point: we look at so many issues affecting our games through their impact on the inter-county game. We should remember that thousands of club games will be played this year where a doctor will not be in attendance. It is vital that we communicate the essential message to all team mentors that GAA policy on concussion is simple and direct: 'if in doubt, sit them out'.

Online Transfer System

At the 2014 Congress it was agreed to pilot an online transfer system. Phase

1 of this pilot was introduced in 2015 for cross-provincial and overseas transfers, and ran alongside the existing paper-based model. The new system facilitated the online transferring of over 300 players – more than 15% of all inter-county transfers – since the website went live. In the month of April, traditionally the busiest month of the year, this figure went up to 25%. The pilot achieved the goals outlined in the original proposal: the new process is a lot less labour-intensive; there is a strict adherence to time limits associated with transfer applications; there is complete transparency in terms of the status of various applications; and our clubs and counties receive instant notification when a decision is made on an application.

The new solution has been accepted and supported by the majority of clubs and counties. An extensive training programme was undertaken, which included online training, the production of user guides and a seminar at last year's Congress. In 2016 we will continue with the second phase of the initiative, which will allow for transfers within provinces, in addition to those processed nationally. Transfers within counties will constitute the final phase of the project.

To date, the online transfer system has been well received, and I have little doubt that we will soon be in a position to have all our transfer applications processed electronically.

Player-numbering proposal

In last year's report I outlined my support for the player-numbering proposal, which obliges every county to register a 26-man panel on the Thursday morning before senior inter-county championship games. Once passed at Congress, the

proposal was implemented with little difficulty. Among other advantages, it has ensured that players on extended county panels can be released to their clubs for league games (and other activities) on the weekend of inter-county championship games and that panel details in our match programmes are accurate.

I want to commend Congress for agreeing to this proposal and to thank team managers and county board officials for co-operating with the implementation of the new procedures and for ensuring that all teams were registered properly and on time.

Distribution of Finance

Given the efforts being made by the National Financial Management Committee to try to address, in so far as it is possible, the disparity that exists in resources and fundraising capacity among counties, it was surprising to be subjected to well-publicised criticism from Dublin in relation to Central Council's contribution to the holiday fund for their football team. Dublin received the standard grant of €80,000 which goes to All-Ireland finalists. Having applied for additional funding due to their involvement in the All-Ireland semi-final replay with Mayo, Dublin were awarded a further €15,000. Considering that Dublin enjoys a much higher level of current funding from Central Council than any other county, that it enjoys vastly greater commercial revenues than other counties, that it incurs lower costs in terms of players' travelling expenses to games and

"The new system facilitated the online transferring of over 300 players – more than 15% of all inter-county transfers since the website went live."

1 August 2015; A television camera records the action at Croke Park. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship, Round 4B, Sligo v Tyrone. Croke Park, Dublin.



training than all other counties and that it has a far greater fundraising capacity than most, the charge of Scrooge-like behaviour against Central Council was disappointing and misplaced.

Media

Our television broadcast partners, RTÉ, TG4, Sky Sports, Setanta and BBC, carried 145 live-match broadcasts in 2015. They all deserve praise for their vast technical and presentation operations. In addition, they all supported their coverage with significant TV, print, radio and digital promotional campaigns. Our TV viewership remains strong in comparison to other live sporting events and our eleven-month playing season earns a near twelve-month media coverage of Gaelic games. Our partners in radio, RTÉ, Newstalk, Today FM, BBC, RnaG and twenty local IBL stations, and, of course, the print media, are also vital communication channels in the promotion of our games. We thank them for their support.

On the international front, GAAGO had an extremely successful second year of operation. It expanded its programming from 47 live games in 2014 to 108 in 2015. It also provided 'The Sunday Game' highlights programme to every continent, with strong penetration in North America and Australia and significant growth in Europe and Asia. The direct-to-fan service has now been accessed in over 180 countries worldwide, a figure that will increase in 2016. We can justly claim that GAAGO has been a very welcome addition to the international GAA scene. With the coverage of games available to emigrants in Britain through Sky Sports, we are providing for our members and supporters abroad as never before.

The 2016 senior football and hurling championships will be the last in the current arrangements with our TV broadcast partners; talks on new contracts will begin in early 2016. This accelerated process, which will include detailed research and consultation with various stakeholder groups, will allow for a longer lead-in time than usual and will facilitate greater forward planning for the 2017 season.

It is important to explain here the context in which discussions on new contracts will take place. Other sports bodies are becoming increasingly sophisticated in their exploitation of their broadcast rights, so the work to maintain the GAA presence on television intensifies accordingly. In recent years international representative bodies of other sporting organisations in Europe have established centralised rights-pooling and revenue-sharing agreements for their major tournaments. As a result, national federations share the globally generated media-revenue pot and are likely to see a significant increase in their incomes, irrespective of the size of their domestic market.

These international changes will have a knock-on effect on sport in Ireland, as they will significantly alter the balance of resources among the major Irish sporting bodies. Irish sports bodies whose codes represent globally-traded sports rights now benefit from an international marketplace, generating a windfall income simply not available to the GAA. The strength of this collective international revenue generation is compounded by the fact that major sports-rights inflation will never be a feature of the Irish sports broadcasting market. The larger the territory, the greater the number of competitors; Ireland is small, has relatively few

television broadcasters, so there is little competition and barely a market at all.

With this in mind, it is crucial that we do not hamper ourselves in our approach to our upcoming broadcast negotiations. The Association has traditionally adopted a policy of free-to-air availability in the Irish market for the vast majority of its major competitions. In 2015, 114 games were shown live, or on full deferred coverage on terrestrial TV. This policy will remain central to the next set of rights agreements – there will be no reduction in the number of live senior championship games shown free-to-air. However, any restriction that prohibits the GAA from engaging with all interested parties, including subscription TV providers, would seriously reduce our negotiating power and thus our ability to achieve the true worth of our assets, and would inevitably lead to a greatly reduced media-rights income. In what is already a small pool of potential broadcast partners, we must ensure the existence of a genuine market for our games and maintain the option of engaging with all interested parties, regardless of whether they are free-to-air or subscription providers. This flexibility and freedom is crucial if we are to nurture a competitive tender process and thus ensure that the GAA achieves the proper value for its rights. Ultimately these broadcast revenues represent an important funding source for the work of the Association and its units.

Promoting our leagues and championships

As in the three previous years, a major effort went into the promotion of the 2015 senior championships. The objective of our 2015 marketing campaign was to



14 September 2015; Kilkenny hurling legend Henry Shefflin and four-time All-Star, Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps football ambassador and Donegal Footballer Karl Lacey, left, pictured with Alice Brannigan, left, aged eight, and Hannah Brannigan, aged seven, and twins Conor, left, and Tadhg Scanlon, both aged seven, at the announcement of a record breaking summer for Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps.

motivate people to attend and participate in our games. Our strategy was to build the GAA brand through an overarching brand theme and line, and to create an emotional connection with our members and supporters. ‘Nothing beats being there’ was a good tactical line, but, in order to encompass the wider audience, we needed an approach that delivered a more powerful and inclusive message. ‘Be there. All the way’ was an expression of the dedication and passion that motivates volunteers, who are bound to the GAA by a commitment to games played solely for the love of those games and by a dedication to club and county.

The campaign began on 4 May with the first broadcast of a 90-second TV commercial, and incorporated a wide range of ‘connection moments’ through TV, radio, website, docupills (mini-documentaries for online release), digital banners, outdoor advertising, social media, etc., with the aim of creating interest and stimulating people to attend games. The response to the campaign was positive, and the ads that communicated the overarching theme and line were well received. They provided a strong base for the provinces as they rolled out their own launches and marketing strategies. Our sponsors, too, activated a wide range of promotional activities over the summer months, and there has been a gradual improvement in the efforts of individual counties through their participation in open nights, website promotion, etc.

There has been close co-operation between provinces and Croke Park in running a strong marketing campaign around our championships. We have also greatly improved our engagement in social media, but much remains to be done, especially within counties. It is absolutely vital that counties appoint Public Relations Officers who have the skills necessary to exploit all the marketing and promotional tools available to promote our games.

Commercial and Sponsorship

The Association continues to benefit from outstanding support from our sponsors. **AIB** became a Senior Football Championship sponsor for the first time as part of the multi-sponsor model, and also extended their long-standing support of the AIB Club Championships. One of Ireland’s highest-profile rebrands saw **eir** become **eir**, and as a sponsor of the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship, **eir** used the final as an important element of their rebranding, with Croke Park featuring heavily in the television advertisement.

SuperValu and the GAA received an All-Ireland Marketing Award for Sponsorship Management in 2015, while **Liberty** was honoured internationally for their sponsorship of the All-Ireland Hurling Championship with a Silver Medal in the prestigious European Sponsorship Association (ESA) Awards in the ‘Best in Europe’ category. Also enjoying success at the ESA Awards was **Electric Ireland** in the ‘Business to Consumer’ category for the Electric Ireland GAA Minor Championships’ #ThisIsMajor campaign. The GAA also won an award at the inaugural Irish Sports Federation’s Sports Industry Awards in the Best Mass Participation category for the **Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps**.

Games Development

The defining objective of GAA policy, from a Games Development perspective, is to foster lifelong participation and engagement in Gaelic games and, in so doing, to expand opportunities to excel at child, youth and adult levels. The memories of playing in an U-8 blitz, the friendships made through the Cúl Camps, the experience of developing as a player and person in the Talent Academy squads – these remain with one for life, and explain why people are motivated to ‘Play and Stay with the GAA’. Providing opportunities for lifelong participation can be achieved only through the hard work and efforts of thousands of tireless volunteers

and hundreds of dedicated personnel operating within a comprehensive and clearly defined framework for Games Development, namely the Grassroots to National Programme (GNP). This framework facilitates the development and implementation of high-quality projects with the aim of providing games opportunities, skills development and applied lifelong learning initiatives.

Some such initiatives, like the Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps, are well established, and continue to flourish. Others, such as the Super Games Centres, are new, and have been developed to address issues of player drop-off at youth level. Some of the key projects undertaken in 2015 were:

Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps

The Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps are designed to provide boys and girls (aged 6-13) with a positive experience of Gaelic games. They are based on the objectives of maximising enjoyment and nurturing continued involvement. The Camps provide children with the chance to play and develop their skills in Gaelic football, hurling, handball and rounders. Children happily wearing their Cúl Camp jersey and jumper could be seen in almost every parish in the country, while children in faraway places such as Saudi Arabia, Perth and New York also eagerly participated in Cúl Camps. In 2015 the Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps broke all records with a participation figure of 102,384, spread over 1,100 Cúl Camps nationwide. This made the Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps the largest summer camp in Ireland, and represented an increase of 15% on the 2014 figures (89,022 participants – then an all-time high). Overall, participation levels have increased by approximately 37,000 since the establishment of the Camps in 2006.

The increasing popularity of the Kellogg’s GAA Cúl Camps is a testament to the quality of organisation, coordination, supervision and activity provided. A significant level of preparation is required from volunteers to ensure the positive promotion, smooth operation and high standards of coaching at the Camps.

Super Games Centres and Activity Day

Games Development is committed to ensuring that the Association continues to maximise participation at child, youth and adult levels. The establishment of GAA Super Games Centres epitomises this approach. The introduction of the Go Games model at child level, underpinned by the ethos that ‘Every Child gets a Go for the entire Game’, has led to a huge increase in participation. The number of children aged 10–12, registered as members of the GAA, has increased from 39,778 in 2010 to 61,487 in 2015. The challenge is to retain as many players as possible as they move into the youth and then adult levels. Currently, 58% of players withdraw from participation between the ages of 12 and 21.

In 2014, in conjunction with the University of Stirling, GAA Games Development undertook research into youth drop-out in GAA games through a PhD study. As part of Phase 1 of the study, research was conducted into the factors that lead to dropout. The findings called for a re-imagining of the current GAA offering to align it with the needs of young participants, rather than reflecting a ‘win at all costs’ approach. This would involve a process of modifying the traditional Gaelic games environments by changing the sport structure, rules, facilities and equipment in order to make the participant the highest priority. It would also mean creating an environment in which coaches, parents and peers emphasise the values of belonging, effort, encouragement and fairness. The Super Games Centres was the concept developed in response to this.

Phase 2 of the study, which began in September 2014 and concluded in March 2015, involved piloting and testing the concept of GAA Super Games Centres in ten participation centres across Ireland. As part of Phase 2, 2,430 players (boys aged 12–16) attended the centres at a pre-determined time and place, for one hour a week. Here, small-sided Gaelic games activities were organised for a total period of twenty-four weeks. At each session there was minimal

coaching intervention at the beginning and end of the games period; the focus, rather, was upon playing games.

The study culminated in a GAA Super Games Centre Activity Day in Croke Park on August 24, 2015. The participants and site-leaders from the pilot were invited to attend the Activity Day and the launch of the research findings. On the day, 200 participants were given the opportunity to play a total of three small-sided games each in Croke Park.

As a result of a reduced fear of failure in participants, their reduced expectation to perform and their receiving positive feedback, the Super Games Centres met with a very positive reaction. The quantitative research revealed the players’ intentions to drop out of the GAA decreased and the stress encountered by players was reduced. On foot of the Research Study and pilot, a total of sixty-five Super Games Centres will be established in 2016.

The Super Games Centres are an important initiative in our ambition to reverse youth dropout. However, the Association must continue to try out innovative approaches to foster participation so that our games remain as vibrant, responsive and player-centred as possible.

Féile 2015

The format of the Féile tournaments was changed in 2014, as a result of which the number of games played increased from 285 at the 2013 Féile na nGael and Féile Peile na nÓg tournaments to a total of 634 during the 2015 National Féile tournaments. Furthermore, activity at regional and provincial Féile events, which run in conjunction with the National Féile tournaments, ensures that the Féile weekends truly promote the philosophy that every player has the opportunity to participate and play in their respective Féile tournament at a level commensurate with their age, skills and strengths.

The 2015 Féile na nGael tournament was hosted by Ulster, incorporating

all nine counties, plus Louth. A total of 108 teams participated in the boys competitions, while 84 camogie teams took part. Regional Féile na nGael tournaments took place at seven venues nationwide, and an additional 54 boys teams and 33 camogie teams played at these events, while 36 teams participated in the provincial tournaments hosted by Connacht and Munster.

Carlow, Wicklow and Wexford combined to host the national Féile Peile na nÓg tournament, where 160 teams participated in the boys’ competitions and 74 in the girls’ competitions. Nine additional regional Féile events were held, as well as provincial Féile Peile na nÓg tournaments in Connacht, Munster and Ulster; 136 teams availed of the opportunity to play in these competitions.

The sense of pride, community and celebration that pervades the Féile tournaments should not be underestimated. With clubs from all over the country represented, as well as teams from New York and Britain, they provide a genuine sense of occasion. The work accomplished behind the scenes to ensure that the tournaments operate smoothly must also be acknowledged.

The increase in teams and games has inevitably led to a greater organisational workload, but volunteers and personnel have responded and the expanded format goes from strength to strength.

GAA Primary Teacher Summer Courses

Primary school teachers have long played a special and significant role in the growth of Gaelic games. Throughout the history of the Association, hundreds of thousands of teachers have given their time – both during the course of their working day and voluntarily after school – to introduce generations of children to Gaelic games. In many cases it is the local primary school teacher who has fostered and nurtured the skills of our young players by taking training sessions during and after school, organising blitzes, or bringing teams to matches with neighbouring schools.

8 June 2015; Dublin hurler Chris Crummy celebrates after his St Joseph's Fairview side scored a goal against Francis Street in the Sciath Pádraig Mac Giolla. Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Finals, Croke Park, Dublin.



“...sense of pride, community and celebration that pervades the Féile tournaments should not be underestimated. With clubs from all over the country represented, as well as teams from New York & Britain...”



26 December 2015; Paul O'Donoghue with the support of his St Mary's team-mate Aidan Walsh is tracked by Waterville's Mike Curran. South Kerry Senior Football Championship Final, St Mary's v Waterville. Páirc Chill Imeachall, Portmagee, Co. Kerry.



In recognition of this commitment and of its importance, and further to the GAA's objective of enhancing applied lifelong learning, GAA Games Development has designed a Summer Course specifically for primary school teachers, the primary objective of which is the advancement of teachers' knowledge and management skills in the context of the primary school PE curriculum. The course combines practical, face-to-face interaction with online theoretical modules. The face-to-face element runs over three days, with eight hours of online modules to be completed through the Association's Learning and Development Community Portal (www.learning.gaa.ie). The courses are delivered by GAA Games Development personnel, tutors and primary school teachers. In 2015 the GAA held a record twenty-two teacher Summer Courses nationwide during July and August (up from eight in 2011), with almost 500 teachers participating.

Supporting, Upskilling and Recognising Coaches

A central goal of Games Development is the provision of opportunities for Applied Lifelong Learning (ALL). In this regard, the National Games Development Conference has become a focal point in the Coach Education calendar. Over 900 delegates attended the 2015 conference, the theme of which was 'Putting Youth into Perspective'. Issues relating to youth players were discussed by a range of national and international speakers, including coaches from the world of Gaelic games and other sporting organisations, and by players and teachers. There were presentations from guest speakers, including Anthony Daly and Sonia O'Sullivan, and practical applied sessions, based on, for example, the club case-study offered by the members of Ballyboden St Enda's GAA Club in Dublin and the experiences of coach practitioners in inspiring a hurling revolution in clubs and schools in Limerick City.

GAA National Games Development Centre

The official opening of the GAA National Games Development Centre at Abbotstown on 2 April 2016 provides a strategically located facility that offers a great opportunity to develop our games, in particular along the heavily populated eastern seaboard. It ensures a significant GAA presence on the National Sports Campus site, with four excellent sand-based pitches, a 3G synthetic pitch and a hurling wall, all of which are floodlit. There will also be ten changing rooms, a small seated stand and ancillary facilities. It will provide a valuable resource for the implementation of national and regional initiatives in terms of games opportunities at child, youth and adult levels. It will serve as an ideal base for the preparation of teams, including those of hurling/shinty and International Rules, and will be an easily accessed centre for provision of education workshops. The centre will be an ideal venue for the hosting of second- and third-level games, and will provide valuable additional pitches through which Dublin County Committee can deliver its games programme. One unit that can especially benefit from this development is the Leinster Council. Given the growing population of Dublin and adjoining counties, the centre provides an opportunity to develop new cross-county competitions for large urban areas within travelling distance of the new facility. It also provides a challenge to the Leinster Council to ensure that it maximises its use of the centre to increase participation in our games in the most densely populated area of the country.

"GAA units have always taken care to ensure that our members enjoy the best possible facilities at our clubs. It is within the control of all units to see to it that the management and maintenance of our grounds provide for the safety of those who enter and use GAA grounds."

Use of GAA Facilities

GAA units have always taken care to ensure that our members enjoy the best possible facilities at our clubs. It is within the control of all units to see to it that the management and maintenance of our grounds provide for the safety of those who enter and use GAA grounds. Claim investigations by our loss assessors make it clear that we must: (i) engage competent contractors to design and build facilities, and who are covered by adequate insurance; (ii) ensure that safety statements or risk assessments are in place at all units; (iii) maintain proper records of accidents, incidents and usage; (iv) improve cleaning procedures; (v) place a greater focus on maintenance and upkeep; and (vi) train and supervise staff in their activities.

The GAA has regularly made its facilities available to support an increasing level of non-GAA use. Examples include (but are not limited to) the provision to community and other groups of meetings rooms, indoor halls, playing fields, all-weather facilities, walkways, playgrounds, functions rooms and bars.

If we wish to continue to provide this community service, we must:

- **implement safe systems of operation;**
- **ensure effective management and control of access to properties;**
- **ensure that all non-GAA users have insurance in place to enable risk to be diverted away from the Association's insurance;**
- **ensure that excluded or prohibited activities do not take place at events or on properties;**
- **implement effective maintenance and upkeep on all properties so that they do not deteriorate and become hazards.**

Factors outside the control of the GAA have led to an increase in the number of personal-injury claims being pursued in Ireland and to a large increase in the level of compensation being awarded by the courts. We currently have 260 open personal-injury claims being pursued against the Association. No more than 25% of these claims relate to the core GAA activity, the playing

17 March 2015; Ronan Steede, left and Daithí Burke, Corofin, in action against Paudie McGuigan, Slaughtneil. AIB GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Club Championship Final, Corofin, Co. Galway v Slaughtneil, Co. Derry, Croke Park, Dublin.





29 November 2015; Oulart the Ballagh captain Barry Kehoe leads the team down the tunnel before the start of the game. AIB Leinster GAA Senior Club Hurling Championship Final, Oulart the Ballagh v Cuala. Netwatch Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow.

of our games and fundraising for the benefit of affiliated units. The claims' experience underlines dramatically the fact that serious exposures exist across all units when GAA club facilities are provided for use to non-GAA users and for the support of non-GAA activities.

Clubs form an important part of the communities in which they operate, and the GAA seeks to be of service to our communities. However, our claims' experience indicates that we are making our properties available to outside groups with little control over the activities taking place and without documentation in place to divert risk away from the GAA insurance cover. If unacceptable current practices are not reversed, and if the claims' trends we have experienced in the past number of years continue, liability insurance in its current format may no longer be sustainable for the Association. Unsustainable claims' costs will mean we will be unable to continue to make our facilities available to the wider community. This is an eventuality we wish to avoid, as any such restriction would diminish the role that the Association wishes to continue to play in Irish communities.

Casement Park and Páirc Uí Chaoimh

In 2010 Ulster Council GAA proposed a scheme to upgrade Casement Park in Belfast to a 38,000-capacity all-seater stadium, incorporating 588 corporate seats, 3,832 premium seats, 2,580 m² of conferencing facilities, 370 m² of commercial units for rental and 560 parking spaces. The total cost of the

project was €77m, of which Central Council committed to contribute €15m. Planning permission for a 38,000 all-seater stadium was granted by the Department of the Environment in January 2014. A local residents group, the Mooreland and Owenvarragh Residents Association (MORA) applied for a Judicial Review into the decision, which was granted. On 18 December 2014, Mr Justice Horner quashed the existing planning approval for the Casement Park project, ruling that the Minister for the Environment had acted unlawfully when he granted planning permission for the redevelopment of the stadium.

In early 2015 the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure commissioned a Project Assessment Review (PAR), which examined concerns raised about the progress of the Casement Park project, and, in particular, about safety issues that had been raised in relation to emergency exiting. The review team, which included an independent team-leader from the Cabinet Office in London, issued its report on 5 August 2015. The review was largely supportive of the Ulster Council arguments on emergency exiting and stated that 'we believe that meeting the goal of successfully constructing and operating a strategic regional stadium at Casement Park is still achievable. Delivery of the stadium and associated benefits will be late, but the overall Business Case remains sound'.

Ulster GAA, Central Council and Antrim County Committee remain firmly committed to the development of the new stadium. The Project Board

continues to work closely with the planning and delivery teams to prepare a revised scheme for the stadium that will: (i) develop and provide a world-class stadium for the GAA in Belfast; (ii) enhance the local community; (iii) deliver a facility suitable for hosting club, county, provincial and national fixtures; and (iv) contribute to the economic and social development of Belfast and Ulster. A public consultation process is underway on new proposals. Following this comprehensive engagement process and consideration of the results and feedback of that work, Ulster GAA will prepare and submit a planning application later in the year. One can only admire the determination and resilience of the Ulster Council, its Project Board and Antrim County Committee, as they strive to overcome various obstacles. Although completion of the project will extend far beyond the original timeline, the objective is a vital one for the Association and the major investment of time and energy worth the effort.

Progress has been better in the redevelopment of Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Two stands have been demolished and considerable piling work completed. There was some delay to the project in the final months of 2015 due to the need to meet requirements attached to the drawdown of Government funding, including a statutory notification by the Government for assessment of state aid by the European Commission. At the time of writing, the completion date is 2 June 2017, which would allow for some major games to be staged in the newly developed stadium during that summer.

Pitch Maintenance

In my report to Congress in 2015 I referred to a seminar for groundsmen that took place in Croke Park in November 2014, attended by thirty-nine representatives from twenty-eight counties. The seminar drew attention to a number of deficiencies in current practice, and highlighted the difficulties many groundsmen encounter in maintaining their pitches – overuse and high wear, not enough recovery time between games, poor drainage, inadequate maintenance routines, lack of knowledge and training, use of outdated equipment, insufficient funding, lack of qualified and appropriately trained ground staff, etc. On the positive side, there was an obvious enthusiasm to address these issues and an acceptance that, despite the huge investment in ground development in recent years, we have been slow to develop a more scientific approach to pitch maintenance. The growth in the number of county training centres and the increasing number of clubs that are developing additional pitches emphasises

the importance of properly protecting and sustaining these important assets.

The seminar offered a number of useful suggestions that will require an investment in both training and equipment. As a follow-up to the seminar, we have been in discussion with the Golf Course Superintendents of Ireland (GCSAI), through its General Manager, Damian McLaverty, with a view to developing a GAA-specific Pitch Management Education Programme. The GCSAI, in association with our Croke Park Pitch Manager, Stuart Wilson, will work with us in the organisation of a GAA Groundsmen National Education Day at the National Games Development Centre at Abbotstown in May and also in the provision of up to four annual educational events. In addition, it is hoped that our groundsmen will have access to the GCSAI Continuing Development Programme. This link offers great potential for upskilling our groundsmen and for protecting the massive investment we have made in the development of our pitches.

Strategic Planning

The GAA Strategic Plan 2015/2017 was launched in 2015. The Plan sets goals to guide the Association's activities in six areas, each of which identifies specific strategies to achieve stated objectives and defines measures of success. An Implementation Committee has been monitoring the execution of the Plan's strategy. Good progress has been made since the March launch in the six areas, which are as follows:

- *Games*
- *Clubs*
- *Governance and Structures*
- *Finance and Commercial*
- *Communications*
- *Co-operation within the Gaelic games family*

28 June 2015; Westmeath supporters celebrate in the Hogan Stand near the end of the game. Leinster GAA Football Senior Championship, Semi-Final, Westmeath v Meath. Croke Park, Dublin.



RIGHT: 8 November 2015; Referee John Keane helps Kerril Wade, Sarsfields with his helmet. Galway County Senior Hurling Championship Final, Craughwell v Sarsfields. Kenny Park, Athenry, Co. Galway.



Significant progress has also been made in areas such as fixtures planning/scheduling, player retention, increasing participation, recreational games, coach education and governance. It is very encouraging to see, over the past number of years, that provinces, counties and clubs have been devising their own strategic plans to address areas of activity. Much progress was made in the implementation of these plans and there is no doubt that there is now an acceptance within the Association of the importance of identifying specific strategies to achieve goals and define measures of success. Many of these plans drew on the National Strategic Vision and Action Plan 2009-2015 and set goals for a period ending in 2015. It is vital that the culture of planning that has been established is maintained and, now that many plans have reached their 2015 end-date, that the process of setting new goals for the years ahead is a priority for all of our units.

Leadership Development

One of the frustrations of writing the annual report for Congress is that it often feels as if one is addressing the same issues every year. In time, many problems are successfully addressed, but the reality is that many are beyond the capacity of Croke Park staff or Central Council to resolve, as they are of a local nature.

“Our new GAA.ie website went live in January. Developed in partnership with market leaders Deltatre, the new platform offers a range of new and upgraded facilities to users.”

These issues can only be resolved through a combination of local knowledge, local leadership and a touch of local inspiration. Central Council can, of course, assist local efforts through the provision of resources, but the ability to influence what happens at local level is limited. Each county is unique in terms of population, number of clubs, the urban/rural demographic profile, the football/hurling balance, financial resources, etc. Solutions to problems have to be addressed within that unique local context. Whether or not that happens depends, above all, on the leadership provided at County Committee level. The performance of the key officers – Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer – is absolutely crucial in that regard and will largely determine whether a county makes progress in addressing issues. It is essential, then, that county officers have access to a high-quality programme of officer training that will develop the skills necessary to deal with the challenges facing their county. Hopefully, the National Education and Research Centre will provide that training.

The development of a major training programme for club officers was an important priority for the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee in 2015. Problems relating to the recruitment, retention and training of officers were documented in last year's report to Congress, so a commitment was given to make continuous support for club officers a strategic priority. Since then, very good work has been done by our National Officer Development Committee on the preparation of a new Club Leadership Development Programme (CLDP). This is a much-needed initiative that will help the principal club officers fulfil their roles successfully through the acquisition of knowledge and information and through developing leadership, management and communication skills.

In 2016 the programme will be offered in sixteen counties and a condensed programme will also be delivered in Britain. Each module will be delivered by experienced Leadership Associates who have all completed a three-day training programme. The programme represents an important milestone in the training and development of club officers, one that promises to strengthen considerably the management of clubs.

The National Education and Research Centre

The proposed National Education and Research Centre (NERC) is a collaborative partnership between the GAA and Dublin City University. When the partnership was initially discussed, it was noted that there was a need ‘to support the Association in the planning and execution of policy, with a particular focus on promoting best practice in the areas of player welfare, training and development and knowledge alliances’. Three elements that would constitute the essential work of the NERC were identified at the outset: (i) education and training (of officers, coaches, team managers/mentors, referees; employees and volunteers); (ii) player/team development, including performance management relevant to individual players and teams; (iii) research and innovation (using and harnessing knowledge and expertise from external sources to support the Association's decision-making across its core activities). There has been significant engagement on the NERC project since May 2015. The Association hopes to be in a position to outline further details on this initiative towards the end of the first quarter of 2016.



LEFT: 29 March 2015; The Clare and Kilkenny managers, Davy Fitzgerald and Brian Cody, shake hands after the game. Allianz Hurling League, Division 1A, Relegation Play-off, Kilkenny v Clare.

GAA website

Our new GAA.ie website went live in January 2016. Developed in partnership with market leaders Deltatre, the new platform offers a range of new and upgraded facilities to users. The site has been split into three separate portals. The main home of **GAA.ie** offers our most sought-after content – fixtures and results, tickets, news and video. It also hosts our live match-day coverage. **MyGAA** is the hub for those involved in our games at all levels – players, coaches, referees, administrators, etc. **TheGAA** is the home for all information regarding the Association as a governing body, its history and its structures. The reorganisation of the site means that all our site users will more easily find what they are looking for and, hopefully, will encourage further exploration of what the website has to offer. For our community outside Ireland, the website is a vital connection with the GAA at home and is also an opportunity to heighten awareness among the GAA membership in Ireland of the growth in activity across our international units.

Health and Wellbeing

The Healthy Club Project

The GAA's work in the area of health, wellbeing, and personal and community development reflects the Association's values. And, it turns out that – according to an independent report into Phase 1 of the Healthy Club Project – this work also benefits clubs and makes them more relevant to and inclusive within our wider society. Conducted by a team from Waterford IT's Centre for Health Behaviour Research, the report was launched in Croke Park in November, following a two-year evaluation into the activities of the eighteen clubs involved. The research identified how GAA clubs

play a role in supporting the health and wellbeing of members and their wider communities, but also suggested that there was considerable potential for clubs to benefit from this engagement. Over the two-year duration of the project, club-membership numbers increased, while club and community representatives also remarked on the positive impact that participation in the project had (by exposing club activities and health behaviours to new audiences) on attitudes to health and on the public perception of the club.

The evaluators also recorded improvements in the overall 'health promotion orientation' of clubs, specifically in areas relating to club policy, club practice and the club environment (both physical and cultural). Seventy-two initiatives were implemented across seven target areas (physical activity; diet/nutrition; health awareness; emotional wellbeing; social inclusion; anti-bullying; and smoking/alcohol) and were, for the most part, made available to both club members and the wider community. We look forward to working towards implementing Phase 2, which will begin in early 2016, with the aim of involving at least one club in every county.

The potential of the Healthy Club Project has been recognised by Irish Life CEO, Bill Kyle, and his Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) committee, with the company committing to a €1m investment in the project over three years to ensure that its potential is maximised.

Health and Wellbeing Structures

While the Healthy Club Project is currently operational in only a small number of GAA clubs, all our clubs support the wellbeing of their members and communities. The new structures being put in place aim to support and enhance this work to

ensure that we follow best practice and, where possible, respond to identified needs in an appropriate manner.

The National Health and Wellbeing Committee developed a comprehensive three-year plan in 2015 that reflects the goals of the Association's Strategic Plan 2015-17. At its core is the determination to provide all the support required to ensure that our members benefit – from the perspective of holistic health – from being part of their local GAA club, whether they play our games or not. The committee includes volunteer experts and advocates from a range of disciplines, including public nutrition and health promotion, emotional wellbeing and suicide prevention/response, coaching and counselling, and critical-incident response.

At a special forum held in Croke Park in October, the Community and Health team in Croke Park presented action plans to the chairpersons of the new health and wellbeing sub-committees at county level. These plans set each County Committee the task of overseeing five key actions in 2016. To make this effective at club level, we are asking our clubs to appoint (not elect) health and wellbeing officers. The national committee, with the support of the Community and Health team, developed a two-hour training module for this new officer role. This will be implemented in 2016 by Croke Park-trained volunteer tutors.

National Health and Wellbeing Conference

For those who would question the Association's investment of time, effort and money in what some might see as non-core activities, we should remember that 270 delegates attended the GAA's second annual Health and Wellbeing Conference in Croke Park in March 2015.

These delegates were GAA members from all over the country who were sufficiently engaged to devote a full day of their weekend in order to learn about the issue involved on behalf of their clubs. The conference, entitled 'Healthy Minds...Healthy Bodies...Healthy Clubs', featured leading national speakers from within and without the GAA, and offered practical tips and guidance to enable officers to promote and support health and wellbeing in their clubs.

Critical Response Plan (CIRP)

In an organisation the size of the GAA, it is inevitable that what we call critical incidents will occur every year. A critical incident is defined as any situation that overwhelms one's natural capacity to respond. These are as broad and varied in their nature as any situation that can befall an individual, club or community. In the vast majority of such situations, what clubs or counties needed most was reassurance that their response was appropriate.

In 2015 the Community and Health team was called upon by clubs and counties to support and guide them through a variety of difficult situations. Unfortunately, many of these involved the tragic death of a member.

Following approximately thirty-five such situations in 2014, it was evident that our units would benefit from a resource that could help them deal with such events. A professionally facilitated workshop in Croke Park in January, featuring representatives from clubs and counties that have experienced critical incidents in the past five years, contributed to the completion of the GAA's Critical Incident Response Plan. It is designed to help all GAA units:

- *better understand the nature of a critical incident;*
- *develop and maintain their own critical-incident response plan;*
- *follow recommended practices when supporting community*

responses to critical incidents to the best of their capacity;

- *ensure a consistency of care for all members following an incident, regardless of the situation/location;*
- *identify and access the range of national and local support services that are available to them in such circumstances so as to reassure members that they are not expected to bear alone the burden of dealing with critical incidents.*

One of the 2016 plans for County Health and Wellbeing Committees is to adopt their own Critical Incident Response Plan and to encourage and support, in turn, their respective clubs in preparing their plans. The resource and sample plan is now available for downloading at www.gaa.ie/community

Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative

In 2015 the Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative grew from its three-county pilot scheme to reach 130 15-18 years-olds from seventy-three clubs in counties Kildare, Dublin, Roscommon, Galway, Cork, Tipperary, Donegal and Monaghan. The programme operates as an innovative partnership between the GAA, Foróige and NUI Galway.

Participants who successfully complete all three modules between September 2015 and May 2016 – which involves thirty instructional hours exploring the concept of leadership and twenty hours of community action during which this concept is put into practice – will receive a FETAC Level 6 Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action from NUIG.

The programme is facilitated by thirty-seven volunteers from within the GAA and Foróige, each of whom completed a four-day training course provided by Foróige and NUI Galway. For their time and efforts, they were also awarded with a Foundation Diploma in Training

and Education by NUIG in a special ceremony in Croke Park on the day of the International Rules Series match.

Safeguarding and Welfare of Children

The enactment of the Children First Act by the Houses of the Oireachtas in November 2015, and the proposed introduction of the National Vetting Bureau Act, will require the GAA to fulfil all requirements and directives contained in the legislation. Many of the implications of this legislation have been anticipated by our Child Welfare and Protection Committee in recent years and are already Association policy. The GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport, a code in operation with Cumann Camógaíochta and Cumann Peile Gael na mBan, stipulates that coaches or others who work with children are required to:

- *undertake vetting in their jurisdiction (e.g. Garda or AccessNI);*
- *attend relevant child-welfare training courses;*
- *have a minimum coaching qualification.*

These minimum standards are in line with the requirements of the new legislation and are already met by most of our volunteer coaches. To ensure compliance with our stated child-welfare strategy, the GAA has to date vetted in excess of 75,000 members through Garda Vetting and AccessNI background checks. Almost 12,000 of these applications were received last year. In 2016, with the implementation of the new vetting legislation, it will be mandatory for all our members working with children to be vetted.

Legislation

The Children First Act spells out the reporting obligations on all those who work with children in GAA clubs. It is hoped that the Safeguarding Guidance booklet, to be issued upon implementation of the Act, will provide

30 March 2015; A general view of children parading around the pitch at Croke Park during the opening day of the National Go Games. Croke Park, Dublin



“The GAA continues to develop training materials for those working with children. A Children’s Officer Training Programme has recently been agreed as part of a concerted approach to training Children’s Officers at club and county levels.”

clarity on our day-to-day legal obligations and on the requirements to be met by those who work with underage players. We will be obliged to ensure that:

- *a national mandated person is nominated to oversee our Children First responsibilities and to see to it that all concerns are reported to Tusla (Child and Family Agency);*
- *every club and County Committee appoints a Designated Liaison Person (DLP) whose role will include the immediate reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla;*
- *the Association undertakes an assessment of the potential for risk of harm to children participating in our games and prepare an appropriate Child Safeguarding Statement in accordance with the Act.*

Our recently established International Child Welfare Advisory Committee will seek to ensure that, as a basic requirement, all units at international level sign up to agreed child-welfare policies and training-programme content.

Child Welfare Training

The GAA continues to develop training materials for those working with children. A Children’s Officer Training Programme has recently been agreed as part of a concerted approach to training Children’s Officers at club and county levels. The GAA’s Tackling Bullying Programme continues to be implemented nationwide, while a comprehensive training calendar has been agreed for 2016. The ongoing provision of the Child Protection Awareness Programme, endorsed by Sport Ireland, and the proposed Designated Person Training Programme, will facilitate compliance with legislative directives throughout 2016.



29 March 2015; Seamus Harnedy, Cork, in action against Andrew Shore, Wexford. Allianz Hurling League, Division 1, Quarter-Final, Cork v Wexford. Páirc Uí Rinn, Cork.

Information Technology

Tomás Meehan was appointed as the Association's first Chief Information Officer (CIO) in 2015. He has identified clearly the key objective of the GAA IT Department as being the provision of reliable IT services to all members of the Association, and thus enabling them to fulfil their roles within their team, club, county, committee or department as efficiently and effectively as possible. To help realise this objective, significant investment has been made in the Association's IT infrastructure over the last number of years, a commitment that has continued under Tomás's direction in 2015.

The Strategic Plan for the Association mandates that an IT strategy should be developed, and this is currently being drafted. In the interim, a number of projects have been initiated to address the immediate needs of the Association and to mitigate risks linked to older technology. Some of these projects have been undertaken so as to provide value for the Association as a whole at national level (the new website) and at club level (administrator training and

guidance). Others have provided specific benefits to smaller groups such as provincial grounds or County Boards.

The key projects and initiatives developed in 2015 are outlined below:

Infrastructure

1. Croke Park Infrastructure

The IT infrastructure in Croke Park was upgraded in 2015 in three key areas – external connectivity to the internet, the network used to transfer data within the Stadium, and the data centres used to store data – as follows:

EXTERNAL CONNECTIVITY

Croke Park is connected to the external world using *eir's* high-speed Next Generation Network (NGN). This connection was upgraded to ensure that the speed of internet connection is sufficient to meet the Stadium's current and projected future needs. The firewall, used to protect the Croke Park network from external threats, was also upgraded in 2015.

NETWORK

Incremental improvements have been made to the core IT network in Croke Park

following a major upgrade in 2014. The network performs to a very high standard and has been used as the backbone for a number of other enhancements in Croke Park, including new Digital Signs, IPTVs and CCTV upgrades. These upgrades have helped to improve the safety and security of patrons when attending games at Croke Park and when entering or exiting the Stadium. The two big screens in Croke Park were also replaced in 2015, with live match action, notifications and match-day entertainment being displayed during games. To ensure that Croke Park remains a premier venue for matches, conferences and other events, investment has also been made in upgrading the WiFi available in the Stadium to provide high-speed wireless internet connectivity to all internal areas of the Stadium.

DATA CENTRES

Because of the critical nature of systems used to run match days and other large events, several key IT systems are hosted internally in Croke Park. These systems include the Access Control System (ticket scanning) and the safety systems used to manage large crowds of people (e.g. the public address system). As it is imperative that these systems remain operational

14 March 2015; Michael Newman, Meath, in action against Gearoid Hanrahan, Laois. Allianz Football League Division 2 Round 5, Meath v Laois, Páirc Táihteann, Navan, Co, Meath.



“The Strategic Plan for the Association mandates that an IT strategy should be developed, and this is currently being drafted. In the interim, a number of projects have been initiated to address the immediate needs of the Association and to mitigate risks linked to older technology.”

at all times, an upgrade on the internal Croke Park data centres was completed in 2015. This upgrade provides the resilience and business continuity necessary to guarantee that these key systems are always available and operational.

2. County Grounds Infrastructure

The GAA IT department is available to provide assistance and guidance to other venues outside of Croke Park so as to ensure that the basic IT infrastructure is in place at county grounds, covering services such as ticket scanning, CCTV, public address, media facilities and basic office functionality. A number of projects were undertaken in 2015 in consultation with the relevant personnel at County Committee level and with the Infrastructure Committee. IT infrastructure upgrades for media areas and ticket scanning was implemented in Thurles, Limerick and Killarney. Significant additional IT network upgrades were also implemented in Thurles to enable the use of Hawkeye in 2016. Assistance has also been provided to Cork County Committee relating to IT requirements for Páirc Uí Caoimh and Páirc Uí Rinn. In addition, every county IT Officer was invited to complete a survey of IT Infrastructure

at county grounds and this will be used to prioritise and schedule future work.

3. National Games Development Centre

The GAA IT department has been working with the architects and builders at the new complex in Abbottstown to ensure that all necessary IT services are in place when the centre opens in 2016.

APPLICATIONS

The Association continues to invest in and improve the key applications it uses, as in the following examples:

1. Office Productivity

Microsoft Office 365 is used to provide email, Word and Excel to staff, to Provincial Councils and County Committees, and to clubs and committee members. Every club has access to up to four email addresses, and work continues to ensure that these addresses are used to their full potential. Licences are also available centrally to County Committees and Provincial Councils, a number of which have benefited from this arrangement to reduce costs when investing in new computers and laptops. The IT department has

also provided assistance to both the LGFA and Camogie Association in 2015 relating to Office products.

2. Servasport Platform

There has been continuing development in 2015 of the Servasport platform (the key application used to manage our games) so as to ensure that the required functionality is in place to manage player and member registrations, fixtures, results, transfers, sanctions and general reporting requirements. Our LGFA and camogie colleagues also use the Servasport platform, and enhancements have been provided to facilitate their requirements also.

3. Membership Management

There is a need to provide clubs with better systems to manage day-to-day engagement with their members, including registrations, subscription payment and communications on club-related activities. To meet this need, it is intended to procure a system that will be made available to clubs in 2016.

20 September 2015; A general view of Croke Park overnight.
GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Final,
Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.

“There was a major investment in capital expenditure in the Croke Park stadium in 2015. Our two big stadium screens were replaced and upgraded to HD technology, while the installation of a new eighteen-metre ribbon board on the Davin Stand provides a more interactive scoreboard and time clock.”

4. Hawkeye

The Hawkeye Score Review System was commissioned and installed in Semple Stadium, Thurles in 2015. It is currently being tested and will be available for use in matches in 2016.

5. Digital Communications

A major redesign and upgrade of the GAA's online presence was undertaken in 2015, while a revamped GAA.ie website was launched in January 2016 (see above).

Significant work has also begun, in conjunction with the Broadcast Authority of Ireland and RTÉ, to digitise up to five hundred historical matches, including provincial and All-Ireland finals. This digitised footage will potentially be made available to view on the new website, as will footage of recent matches.

Many clubs already have excellent websites and provide great coverage of their club's activities on their sites. However, a significant number of clubs have neither the resources nor the expertise to develop a website. To support these clubs, a generic website template has been developed and is available for use by any club. This website template can be customised and modified by anyone with basic computer skills. Over 150 clubs have already signed up to use the template and it is intended to promote this Club Website Solution further in 2016.

IT Governance

Given the wide variety of users of GAA systems and their dispersed geographical locations, it is important that there exists strong governance and management of the Association's IT systems, applications and information. A new IT and Communications Committee was formed in March, and it has, in conjunction with the GAA IT department, been working to enhance IT governance structures throughout the organisation. Information-security guidance and data-protection requirements have been prepared, and it is intended to include these topics in officer-training workshops

in 2016. An IT audit and an external security review have also been conducted to ensure that the GAA's IT systems are secure. And it is intended to build stronger links between the GAA IT Department and IT Officers at county and club level.

Croke Park Stadium

Just over one million patrons (1,015,233) attended Croke Park in 2015, spread over twenty-eight event days on which over sixty games were played. Also staged were Go Games and Cumann na mBunscol finals, in which more than 20,000 children participated over fifteen days. In addition, Croke Park hosted The Script for their biggest live performance to date, as well as bringing Ed Sheeran's tour to a close with two sell-out shows. It is to the great credit of Pitch Manager, Stuart Wilson, and his team that the pitch withstood so well such a heavy programme.

Staff training continues to be a priority for Stadium Operations and for the event teams and other staff that we oversee. Nationally, more than 600 voluntary stewards, including over one hundred new Croke Park stewards, received official steward training, while a number of staff and contractors completed their Occupational First Aider training. A Stadium Customer charter ('Our Promise') was launched internally over the summer months, with particular focus on match days, and planning is underway to introduce this publicly for 2016.

There was a major investment in capital expenditure in the Croke Park Stadium in 2015. Our two big Stadium screens were replaced and upgraded to HD technology, while the installation of a new eighteen-metre ribbon board on the Davin Stand provides a more interactive scoreboard and time clock. Internally, additional GAA offices for the IT and Commercial departments were created on level 2 of the Hogan Stand, and impressive new Hogan Stand corporate upgrades were completed in September. The museum café also received a total refurbishment.

"Just over one million patrons (1,015,233) attended Croke Park in 2015, spread over twenty-eight event days on which over sixty games were played. Also staged were Go Games and Cumann na mBunscol finals, in which more than 20,000 children participated over fifteen days."

In other improvements, the Hogan Suite was renewed; the addition of new projectors, screens and furnishings adds greatly to the match-day experience. And a number of the Davin Stand 30-seater suites were split into smaller sizes to meet client needs. It was a record year for sales of both food and beverages, helped by the refurbishment of concession units on Levels 3 and 7, which allows more patrons to be served on event days and increases food options on all levels.

A strategic review of the Conference Centre business, conducted in association with SoolNua, led to a restructured sales and events team and to a significant refurbishment of event spaces on the Hogan side of stadium. The centre was rebranded as Croke Park Meetings and Events and achieved a 16% sales growth, reversing a decline of the previous year. A three-year strategic plan, focused on growth, yield and strong partnerships, has been devised, with an increased emphasis on attracting international business.

Industry peers have recognised Croke Park stadium staff, through a range of awards, for their excellent work in facilities, safety and environmental management: the 2015 Stadium Business Awards for Safety and Security; the Green Facilities Management Award for 'Greener on and off the pitch'; and overall winner for 'Excellence in Facilities Management' at the 2015 Facilities Management Awards. In addition, Ed Brennan won the award for BIFM Young Facilities Manager of the Year, while Croke Park's Environmental and Sustainability Management Group, which comprises staff and contractors, won the 'Sustainability Team of the Year' at the 2015 National Green Awards.

The major project of developing a new fully responsive website for Croke Park Stadium has recently been completed. The new site provides visitors with up-to-the-minute information and engaging content, with the aim of increasing page-views and bookings for all Stadium offerings.

GAA Museum

The GAA museum welcomed a record number of 137,000 visitors in 2105. It has maintained its full museum accreditation from the Heritage Council of Ireland and is consistently listed as a Top 5 visitor attraction in Dublin on TripAdvisor, the world's largest travel site. A new exhibition, 'GAA Dynasties', was launched, celebrating the unique sporting achievements of families that have excelled in Gaelic games. Another notable event was the induction of two legends of our games, Jimmy Barry Murphy and Jimmy Keaveney, into the GAA Museum Hall of Fame.

GAA Charities

Each year the Association makes a total of €100,000 available to charities to support their work in addressing societal needs. Each of five charities benefits to the sum of €20,000. As important as the funding, however, is the fact that the GAA works with all the groups to raise their profiles in order to raise awareness of their work and improve their long-term fundraising capacity. A significant number of applications are received annually, and every effort is made to provide a balance in funding to national and local charities. In 2015 the recipients were Diabetes Ireland, Special Olympics Ireland, The Cúisle Cancer Support Centre in Laois, The Maria Goretti Children's Respite Centre in Louth and White Ribbon Ireland, the latter a non-profit organisation and primary prevention campaign to end male violence against women.

An Ghaeilge

Tá Cumann Lúthchleas Gael lán-tiomaithe i gconaí maidir le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus an Chultúir Ghaelaigh. Bíonn an Ghaeilge le cloisteáil ag mórchuid na n-ócáidí a reachtáileann muid agus altanna sa teanga ar fáil sna hirisí agus sna cláir a fhoilsíonn muid.

Tá Plean Straitéiseach 3 Bliana i leith na teanga leagtha amach ag Coiste Náisiúnta na Gaeilge. Faoi bplean sin tá an tionscadal 'Turas Teanga' bunaithe. Cheana féin tá cuairt tugtha ar beagnach 100 club ar fud na tíre agus faoi dheireadh 2018 táthar ag súil go mbeidh plean gníomhaíochta Gaeilge á fheidhmiú ag a dhá oiread sin clubanna.

Tá CLG maraon le Glór na nGael agus Foras na Gaeilge ag soláthar maoinithe don tionscadal.

Chomh maith leis sin tá Coiste Náisiúnta na Gaeilge faoi láthair ag déanamh scrúdaithe ar ainmneacha Gaeilge ár gclubanna ar fad chun a chinntiú gur é an leagan ceart a bheas ar fáil.

Mar is eol díbh, seoladh leagan nua de shuíomh idirlín an Chumainn níos luaithe i mbliana agus tá sé i gceist go mbainfí lán-úsáid as seo agus as na meáin shóisialta nua eile chun an Ghaeilge agus an Gaelachas a chur chun cinn.

GAA Handball

The past year was one of progress for GAA Handball. Participation levels continued to rise, in particular through growth in the number of schools with One Wall facilities. The One Wall game is a simple, cost-effective way to introduce handball and is an excellent addition to any school or club facility. It offers an enjoyable recreational outlet and helps attract new members; it also complements the training facilities in any club.

On an international level, an official Team Ireland travelled to the World Handball Championships in Calgary, Canada in August, where Cavan's Paul

Brady won an unprecedented fifth World Open Singles title and Aisling Reilly (Antrim) won her second 'Women's Open Singles title. Team Ireland took home a total of twenty medals (twelve gold and eight silver) in what was the most successful performance at a World Championships by any Irish team.

Paul Brady proved himself to be a magnificent competitor and athlete in retaining his World title, producing a brilliant athletic performance in what was probably his final appearance at the World Championships. One regrets that his achievements have not always received the recognition they deserve.

GAA Handball also launched its newly revamped website in 2015, www.gaahandball.ie, which won the Best Website Award at the Realex Irish Website Awards in September. The award recognises the tremendous work being done at national level to increase the profile of the game and it has helped improve the media profile of the sport.

Comhbhrón

Déanaimncomhbhrón leis na clanna a chaill duine i rithana bliana. I measc na ndaoine a chailleamar do bhí: Gaillimh – Sylvie Donoghue, Billy O'Neill, Dan O'Neill, Eamon Meagher (formerly Longford), Frank Corcoran; Liatroim – Joseph (Josie) Murray, Garda Michael Galvin, Fergus O'Rourke; Ros Comáin – John Joe Nerne, Gerry O'Malley; Maigheo – Daragh Doherty; Corcaigh – Dan Hoare, Willie Horgan; Tiobraid Árann – Tommy Barrett, Jimmy Doyle, Rev. Fr. Ray Reidy, Bobby Mockler, Eddie Connolly; Port Láirge – Paul Foley; Ciarraí – Patrick Curtin; Ceatharlach – Fr Moling Lennon; Laois – Paddy Bracken, Tom O'Loughlin; Áth Cliath – Dave Billings, Paddy Delaney; Cill Chainnigh – Jim Bennett, Johnny Ryan, Monsignor Thomas (Tommy) Maher; An Lú – Stephen Melia; An Mhí – Michael O'Brien; Uíbh Fhailé – Tom Furlong, Mick Brady, Adam Mangan; Iar Mhí – Denis Coyne, Arty Pyke; Cill Mhantáin – Patrick (Pat) Murphy; Aontroim – Jim Nelson; Ard Mhacha – Malachy McGeeney;

5 September 2015; Mayo supporters celebrate after Cillian O'Connor scored his side's first goal. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Semi-Final Replay, Dublin v Mayo. Croke Park, Dublin.



An Cabhán – JJ Reilly; Doire – Stephen Deeney, Aaron Devlin; Fear Manach – Malachy Mahon, Shane Mulholland, Pat King; Muineachán – Peter Sherry, Aidan Quigley; Tír Eoghain – Mick McCaughey.

Buíochas

My office is totally dependent on the support and co-operation of administrators at all levels of the Association; it is a rare occasion when this vital assistance is not forthcoming. The relationship between Uachtarán and Ard Stiúrthóir is particularly important, and I wish to thank Uachtarán, Aogán Ó Fearghail, for his advice and friendship over the past year. We have worked very well together; the strength and ease of our relationship has allowed us to agree a common approach on a range of issues. Aogán has brought great energy to the role of Uachtarán and his exceptional communications and interpersonal skills make him an outstanding ambassador for the GAA at home and abroad.

I am also grateful for the support of the members of Ard Chomhairle and Coiste Bainistíochta. However difficult or challenging the decision to be made, both bodies can be relied upon to deliberate calmly and to reach the decision that is

best for the GAA. Because of the impact of the five-year rule, the turnover of members on both committees is greater than in the past, but the loyalty and dedication of members is as strong as ever, which makes my job so much easier. I enjoy, too, a good working relationship with county and provincial secretaries; whether volunteer or full-time officials, their courtesy and assistance is unfailing, a quality equally prevalent among County Chairpersons and other county officers with whom my office comes in contact.

On a daily basis I am totally dependent on the work of the Croke Park staff. Their work ethic and determination to make the Association stronger and better equipped to meet its goals is impressive and unwavering. In this respect, I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Lisa Clancy, who moved on from her role as Director of Communications in October after seven years of dedicated service to the GAA. Finally, I am indebted, in particular, to the staff of my office, to Treasa Ní Raghail, Operations Manager, Lorena Ní Chealligh and Áine Ní Mhainnín, for their admirable patience and support.

Conclusion

Much reflection – and much commentary – was devoted in 2015 to our senior championship structures, to fixture scheduling and to player overtraining and burnout. In this context, Congress 2016 is an important gathering as there are critical decisions to be taken on all these issues. Where the structure of the football championship is concerned, once we decided – after long debate – to retain the provincial system, options were limited. And it is unlikely that hurling structures will change. If we do decide to change structures at Congress, the task will be to explain and market the new structures and to do our best to have them fulfil their potential. But if we decide *not* to change the structures, then let us accept the current structures as the best that are available to us, accept what has been agreed, and accept, too, that it is time to stop talking about structures and to deal with what *is* and not with what ought to be or might have been. Our time and energies will be needed to face the many other issues we need to address.

An important issue that has been growing silently for years, but that has never been directly addressed, is that of our grounds infrastructure, and, more specifically, its funding. It is becoming a problem that we can no longer evade. In my report to

“There is great vibrancy and enthusiasm in our clubs, the fruit of tremendous and heartening dedication by members committed to the ideals of the GAA. These are the people we need to support through our decisions at Congress. Guided by their spirit, we will not go far wrong.”



25 October 2015; A young Rathnew fan celebrates a point for her team. AIB Leinster GAA Senior Club Football Championship, Edenderry v Rathnew. O'Connor Park, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

Congress last year, I dealt at length with the difficulties facing us in developing our main grounds. I highlighted the need to agree a long-term strategy dictated solely by our needs. Our National Facilities/Health and Safety Committee will shortly publish such a strategy, which, I am certain, will oblige us to face up to difficult choices, with major financial implications. It is imperative that the Association be ruthlessly realistic with itself when considering the development of grounds, as finance is set to become an even greater challenge to us than it is now. In the context of our competing with soccer and rugby for the Irish public's patronage, for commercial sponsorship and for Government financial support, we need to remind ourselves of the following financial facts of life:

- *we do not enjoy revenue from major international competitions such as European Championships and World Cups, as do the FAI and IRFU;*
- *we do not earn as much as these bodies for media rights;*
- *we do not receive any direct funding from international governing bodies.*

Such funding is vital for other sports for their promotion of and investment in their games. We have the same funding needs in terms of promotion and investment, and for the maintenance of our grounds to accepted, and expected, modern standards. But this is hugely expensive, as we know from the series of ambitious plans currently before us to develop grounds. Where is the money for this to come from? Either we increase our revenue sources, or we cut back in some areas. This is the brutal reality and choice that extensive grounds development inevitably sets before us. And it has to be clearly understood by all that it is unlikely that Croke Park will be able to continue to directly support counties financially as it has traditionally done while having to fund extensive grounds development from its own resources, and at the same time continue the vital investment in all the other areas that call for financial support, such as games development

and clubs. The decisions we make in the matter of grounds infrastructure must, therefore, be made in the financial and resources context I outline here.

In his report to his County Convention in December, Tyrone Secretary Dominic McCaughey wrote powerfully about the pressures on club volunteers, on the difficulties in recruiting club officers, and on the imbalance between training sessions and club games. These factors act as burdens on our club officers and are a source of huge frustration for our club players. He wrote of the need to attract more volunteers into leadership roles and to prevent 'officer burnout'. He lamented the fact, too, that the Association has become part of a 'training and coaching industry' (rather than a games association), a distortion of values and priorities in which senior club players can be expected to participate in five training sessions for every game played. He asks whether this is what the Association is supposed to be about. Tyrone is one of our strongest county units, so we would do well to sit up and listen when we hear such comments.

Dominic McCaughey is not the only one to have identified the issues that have created serious obstacles for clubs in their efforts to run their affairs and to offer their players a fair schedule of competitive matches. It seems to me that the choices we have made and the practices we have allowed to develop have led us to a point in the Association's development where we need to ask ourselves a fundamental question about our essential values, about what is the Association's most important work. For me, that work begins with the club. And the solution to the difficulties facing clubs is obvious: all of us, and especially our county officers, need to act *now* to rebalance our priorities in a way that our attentions are devoted more to our clubs and less to inter-county activities. The means to resolve the problems that we ourselves have created are available. We can be bold and decisive in overcoming the obstructions that are undermining our clubs. But do enough of us care about our club officers and club players to take

remedial action (and in so doing, where fixtures reform is concerned, help our young elite players). We in the GAA must never forget that, in our amateur games and volunteer association, the rewards and pleasures of playing our games and running our units must be available to all.

It is right that many of the comments I make here concern themselves with clubs, not just because of the difficulties and frustrations they face, but also because of what they represent. We are battered incessantly by news of global catastrophes and conflict, of powerful international forces overwhelming the smaller units of community. We are fortunate in Ireland that we still have a strong sense of community, although our communities in rural Ireland are struggling to survive the loss of the vital local presences of shops, post offices, banks and Garda stations. These communities are vital for the preservation of the Irish experience, of the much-loved daily pleasures of living in small Irish towns, villages and townlands. Small is beautiful, they say, and so it is with our clubs, because the beauty of the club is the beauty of community. I am always wary of being sentimental or complacent about the GAA's place in community life in Ireland, but, in the anxious times we live in, where the global and international seem to equate mostly with menace and distress, we can draw solace from the local, the small, the community, the club. This is where our Association began, where it lives and from where it draws its strength. There is great vibrancy and enthusiasm in our clubs, the fruit of tremendous and heartening dedication by members committed to the ideals of the GAA. These are the people we need to support through our decisions at Congress. Guided by their spirit, we will not go far wrong. Neglect them, and we lose touch with the heart and soul of the GAA.

Páirc Ó Duígh

Páirc Ó Duígh
Ard Stiúrthóir



4 January 2015; A general view of Pairc Esler during the game.
Dr McKenna Cup, Round 1, Down v Cavan. Pairc Esler, Newry,
Co. Down.





12 September 2015: A young Wexford supporter from Naomh Eanna GAA club reacts during the game. Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All-Ireland U21 Championship Final, Limerick v Wexford, Semple Stadium, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.



Iomáint

Senior Hurling Review 2015

21 June 2015; Niall O'Meara, Tipperary, fields a high ball ahead of Seamus Hickey, Limerick. Munster GAA Hurling Senior Championship, Semi-Final, Limerick v Tipperary, Gaelic Grounds, Limerick.

6 September 2015; Richie Power, Kilkenny, and his son Rory lift the Liam MacCarthy Cup. GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Kilkenny v Galway. Croke Park, Dublin.

A changing of the guard in Kilkenny – but no change in the Cats’ ability to have the last laugh.

The more things change, the more they stay the same.

As the 2014 season drew to a close and the Liam MacCarthy cup was making a familiar tour of Kilkenny, you’d have been forgiven for thinking that, in the end, Brian Cody’s greatest adversary might just be Father Time.

As one by one the icons slipped out the door... Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan, David Herity, even the great JJ Delaney and finally even the King himself, Henry Shefflin, it made us wonder how the great black and amber army would fare without so many inspirational generals to guide them.



Having been the dominant figure in hurling since 1999, Brian Cody's powers would have to find a new generation to mould.

Speculation about Henry was bordering on a national obsession.

Having collected an unprecedented tenth All-Ireland winners' medal on the field of play in 2014, but in a season when injury and form had pushed him to the limit, the debate raged as to whether or not the Ballyhale Shamrocks hero had a 2015 in him.

Fate played a part in putting Ballyhale confidently through Kilkenny and then over Kilcormac Killoughey in the Leinster club final and ultimately victory over Kilmallock in the 2015 AIB All-Ireland club hurling final on St Patrick's Day.

Against that glorious Croke Park exit, the King announced he was stepping away from his inter county throne soon after and there was now no denying the fact that a new era was happening in Kilkenny.

The sense that a changing of the guard was happening was helped by Kilkenny's struggles in Division 1A of the Allianz hurling league.

Aside from one bizarre misfire against Cork which led to a hammering at home in Croke Park, Dublin under their new manager Ger Cunningham were making the right noises.

Cork were showing glimpses of the form that had them in the 2013 All-Ireland final.

Winning a dogfight by the slimmest of margins against Clare in

"Having collected an unprecedented tenth All-Ireland winners' medal on the field of play in 2014, but in a season when injury and form had pushed him to the limit, the debate raged as to whether or not the Ballyhale Shamrocks hero had a 2015 in him."

Ennis meant there was plenty of optimism about Galway too.

Tipperary, in what they knew would be Eamon O'Shea's last term in charge, also had their moments.

But away from the headlines Derek McGrath's Waterford were methodically going about their business.

McGrath's poker face was impeccable. With each victory he continued to insist that his team wasn't ready for the big time.

But the blend of sensational young talent like Austin Gleeson and Tadhg DeBurca mixed with veterans Kevin Moran and Michael Walsh and allied to the red hot form of Maurice Shanahan – all packaged in a new style of crisp, possession-based hurling with the Deise defending in numbers, was gathering momentum.

Waterford bossed Division 1B and with it automatic promotion back into the top flight and a place in the knock out stages of the league.

Cork reached the league final when they produced a real Houdini comeback. Trailing by 2-15 to 0-12 at half time to a rampant Dublin in Nowlan Park, Cork countered and with Patrick Horgan scoring 0-17, the Rebels won by 1-27 to 2-23.

Waterford, who dismantled Galway in the quarter finals, then edged their own shoot out with Tipperary to set up a league final date with Cork.

The Deise and Rebels would also meet in a Munster Championship battle a few weeks later. But there was no shadow boxing from Waterford as Derek McGrath's side won a first league title since 2007 and were far more convincing than even the 1-24 to 0-17 score line suggests.

While all of this was going on Brian Cody's Kilkenny were following a different and unusual path as they found themselves in a relegation dogfight with Clare.

Davy Fitzgerald's magnificent 2013 All-Ireland champions had another strangely impotent season. But over successive Sunday's in spring against Kilkenny the Banner produced the fireworks that had made them famous and ultimately made the slump all the more unfathomable.

Five weeks after beating the Rebels in the league final, a late Tom Devlin goal was crucial for the Deise in recording a precious Thurles victory over Jimmy Barry Murphy's Cork by 3-19 to 1-21.

Clare's woes continued as they were edged out by a Limerick side who showed real character to shade a tense battle in a quarter final and book a semi-final date with Tipperary.

In Leinster the round robin preliminary round proved a real success with Michael Ryan's Westmeath beating rivals Carlow and then ousting a hugely disappointing Antrim by 17 points.

The Laois hurling revival under Seamus 'Cheddar' Plunkett continued and he landed a Championship win over Offaly – a first in more than 40 years.

At Croke Park Dublin's David Treacy spurned a late chance from a free to beat Galway and the Tribesmen were thrilled to claim a draw. The replay in Tullamore was very different as something stirred in Galway and they unleashed Cathal Mannion to score three goals in the first 11 minutes en route to a 5-19 to 1-18 victory.

Galway then devoured Laois by 3-28 to 1-14 to reach another Leinster final.

Kilkenny had served notice that they may yet have a role to play in the summer when they demolished Wexford 5-25 to 0-16 with Ger Aylward scoring a hat-trick of goals on his senior debut as the Models struggled to live with the expectancy about their ability to build on their 2014 progress.





7 June 2015; Tommy Fitzgerald, Laois, in action against David King, Offaly. Leinster GAA Hurling Senior Championship Quarter-Final, Laois v Offaly. O'Moore Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.



6 August 2015; Iarla Tannian, Galway, in action against Niall O'Meara, Tipperary. GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship, Semi-Final, Tipperary v Galway. Croke Park, Dublin.

Galway threw down the gauntlet to Kilkenny in the first half of the Leinster final – helped by a Joe Canning wonder goal that was part ballet footwork, part an assassin's precision.

But Cody's Cats never panicked and the longer the game wore on the harder Galway found to maintain momentum and Richie Hogan and TJ Reid surged Kilkenny back to the provincial summit.

Tipperary hadn't won a Munster championship match under Eamon O'Shea for two years prior to 2015. But they sorted that out when Seamus Callinan crashed 2-5 and they routed Limerick by 4-23 to 1-16 at the Gaelic Grounds.

The Premier then managed to halt Waterford in their tracks – winning the Munster final 0-21 to 0-16 and a first provincial crown since 2012.

In the qualifiers Clare, Dublin, Cork and Limerick did everything asked of them as they dispatched Offaly, Laois, Wexford and Westmeath respectively.

Paul Ryan hit 0-12 as Dublin beat Limerick 1-17 to 1-16 and Cork got back on track

when Pat Horgan fired them to a 0-20 to 0-17 win over a luckless Clare.

Waterford's young guns held their nerve and overcame a slow start to eventually break Dublin's resistance with Shane Bennett and Maurice Shanahan goals 2-21 to 1-19 in the quarter finals.

Galway re-emerged as a contender with a sparkling forward display that saw Johnny Glynn and newcomer Conor Whelan impress as they trounced Cork 2-28 to 0-22.

In the semi-finals Waterford's bad run of luck against Kilkenny in Championship continued and TJ Reid (1-9) and Richie Hogan (0-5) were growing into the role as the new leaders of the black and amber as they ended Waterford's season on a 1-21 to 0-18 score line.

The second semi-final between Galway and Tipperary was another entry into the glorious treasure trove of hurling highlights that we have been treated to in recent times. In years to come people will recall the day Tipp full forward Séamus Callinan smashed home 3-9 yet still ended up on the losing team.

A free flowing Galway managed to survive the haemorrhaging of goals to win an epic contest by a point 0-26 to 3-16 with Jason Flynn and Conor Whelan scoring 0-10 between them.

In the immediate aftermath of Galway's defeat by Kilkenny in the Leinster final on July 5, Tribe boss Anthony Cunningham had told Kilkenny's Brian Cody "we'll see ye in the All-Ireland final."

Cunningham and Galway were true to their word and this was billed as the redemption day for Galway trying to make up for their All-Ireland final replay defeat to Kilkenny in 2012.

At half time on the first Sunday in September it was all going to plan for the maroon.

TJ Reid had scored an early goal for Kilkenny, but there was real conviction about Galway who tore into Kilkenny and were well worth their 0-14 to 1-8 interval lead.

If anything it should have been more.

6 September 2015; TJ Reid, Kilkenny. GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Kilkenny v Galway, Croke Park, Dublin.



“In the immediate aftermath of Galway’s defeat by Kilkenny in the Leinster final on July 5, Tribe boss Anthony Cunningham had told Kilkenny’s Brian Cody “we’ll see ye in the All-Ireland final.”

Deep in the bowels of Croke Park, Brian Cody’s men regrouped. Legend now has it that veteran star defender Jackie Tyrrell, unable to start because of injury, had taken it upon himself to light the fuse in his team mates to throw off the shackles and explode into life.

The old dogs weren’t there anymore. It was a time for the new Kilkenny leaders to stand up.

A reinvigorated Kilkenny took the field and met a Galway side perhaps struggling with the heavy hand of history of being the first Galway team since 1988 to win the Liam MacCarthy Cup.

The stage was set for a titanic struggle in the second half but instead Kilkenny’s new era of leaders took centre stage.

From Captain Joey Holden at full back to Cillian Buckley, Conor Fogarty, and Pdraig Walsh through to main men Michael Fennelly, Reid and Hogan and the supporting cast led by Ger Aylward, Kilkenny were in a different class.

An 11th All-Ireland title for the Brian Cody era and a 36th Liam MacCarthy cup for Kilkenny. For all the inspirational talent that had left their ranks after 2014, the crown was still theirs and if anything they had announced themselves with a new line up to take on all challengers.

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Indeed.





19 April 2015; Mark Schutte, Dublin, is tackled by Aidan Walsh, Cork. Allianz Hurling League, Division 1 Semi-Final, Cork v Dublin. Nowlan Park, Kilkenny.



7 May 2015; Donegal supporter Christy Murray, from Raphoe, Co. Donegal, arrives at MacCumhaill Park ahead of the game, Ulster GAA Football Senior Championship, Preliminary Round, Donegal v Tyrone. MacCumhaill Park, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal.



Peil

Senior Football Review 2015

0 September 2015; James McCarthy, Dublin, in action against Paul Galvin, Kerry. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.



20 September 2015: Kerry's Paul Geaney in action against Dublin's Stephen Cluxton and Rory O'Carroll. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.

It ended in a blue hue with large rain droplets populating every frozen image. An unusually dark and dank September day providing the backdrop for a blue elevation, a third crowning in five years on the back of a win that sees this Dublin team with one or two changes – make an early claim for this decade, albeit with four years remaining.

The current gold run is made even more impressive by dint of the fact that the county had waited 16 years not only to record a Sam Maguire success, but even for the right to contest a final and compete for a title in the preceding years.

Whatever about the wait or drought, traction has been established and momentum generated.

The other notable achievement from the current burst of victories is how they have turned their long established rivalry with Kerry on its head.

If the 2011 win over their old nemesis stopped a championship rot that stretched back as far as 1977 from the perspective of camp blue, the 2013 semi-final and 2015 final consigned the hoodoo to history once and for all.

The tell tale signs were there from get go if the truth be told, and although the O'Byrne Cup and tea leaves might make for strange bed-fellows the early season triumph in this competition would set the tone for an all-conquering 2015 season.

Championship aspirations prop up even early season preparations. But with so much football to be played between the months of January and May it would be a risk to go gung-ho for the jugular ignoring a phased approach that returns injured players to the fold and nurtures fresh emerging talents.

The leagues threw up their usual quota of drama across all four divisions as the unique momentum of high frequency games fuelled the early season desire of spectators

to gauge where their teams were at.

Longford and Offaly topped division four before Offaly claimed league honours and in division three Armagh emerged on top against Fermanagh in an all-Ulster division three decider.

The following day at Croke Park Roscommon pipped Down to fuel their summer hopes by claiming division two league honours and the top flight final the honours went Dublin's way for the third consecutive season as they held off the challenge of Cork.

In the middle of the leagues it was the turn of the clubs to occupy the limelight and the centre stage of Croke Park.

The junior titles went to Brosna (football) and Bennettsbridge while intermediate honours were secured by Ardfert (football) and O'Donovan Rossa.

On St Patrick's Day there was no doubting the pedigree of Ballyhale Shamrocks and Corofin who impressed on the biggest club day of them all.

With a line drawn under league activity it was championship's turn to creep towards centre stage.

Many of the same queries applied. Could the dominance of Dublin, Kerry and Mayo be challenged and would Donegal and Monaghan once again rise to the top in Ulster?

The short answer was that the status quo would be left intact pretty much across the board.

Ulster retained its claim as being the most competitive of all four provinces and the competition opener involving Donegal and Tyrone in Ballybofey was a titanic clash.

Donegal came out on top of a gruelling preliminary round encounter before moving up through the gears with an impressive away quarter-final win over Armagh.

Derry, Monaghan and Fermanagh all booked last four dates but once again it would come down to a meeting of Donegal and Monaghan in the provincial final.

On another Clones day to remember Monaghan, powered by a talismanic performance from Conor McManus, squeaked home by the narrowest of margins in front of a jubilant home crowd.

Out west Mayo started as they intended to continue from the get go.

By the time they locked horns with their big Connacht rivals, Galway had held off the challenges of both New York and Leitrim.

Mayo had too much in reserve but it was Sligo they would face in the final after they surprised Roscommon at Markievicz Park.

The one sided nature of what transpired in the final clash offered little insight with the exception of the whirlwind performance of Aidan O'Shea at full forward who was simply un-markable in a riotous performance.

Munster activity swung into life with wins for Clare and Tipperary over Limerick and Waterford respectively.

Tipp's challenge never took off against Kerry and Cork had too much in reserve for Clare leading to a traditional final meeting of Munster's big two.

What unfolded did not disappoint in the drama stakes. Cork shone in the final against Kerry taking the initiative early on. Much of the post match analysis focussed on a hotly disputed penalty that helped drag an off-colour Kerry back into the mix.

"Ulster retained its claim as being the most competitive of all four provinces and the competition opener involving Donegal and Tyrone in Ballybofey was a titanic clash."



7 May 2015; Colm Cavanagh, Tyrone, hits the crossbar with a punched effort as he is challenged by Michael Murphy, Donegal, deep into added time. Ulster GAA Football Senior Championship, Preliminary Round, Donegal v Tyrone. MacCumhail Park, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal.



“Kerry and Tyrone renewed a rivalry that captivated football followers for much of the previous decade and the 2015 offering did not disappoint.”

And for all of this it still took a dramatic late Fionn Fitzgerald point to earn them a second outing after another second half Cork surge.

Almost catching Kerry on the first day is one thing, but trying to repeat the dose in their back yard is another entirely.

And so it transpired on a wet night for the replay in Killarney.

In Leinster there was less drama as Dublin powered their way to yet another provincial title.

Their power, athleticism and firepower blazed a trail through the early round assignments against Longford and Kildare.

The game of the championship belonged to Meath and most notably Westmeath who produced a semi-final thriller which saw Westmeath record a remarkable comeback to secure what was incredibly a first ever success over their rivals and neighbours.

Despite West Meath's best efforts at limiting Dublin in the final Jim Gavin's men were rewarded for their patience.

Tyrone were the success story of the qualifiers as Mickey Harte showed his guile in assembling yet another team capable of challenging at football's top table.

In last eight action Kerry accounted for Kildare in some style and Mayo underlined their potential with an eye catching win over Donegal.

Dublin navigated a late wobble against Fermanagh to emerge with something to spare while Tyrone once again denied Monaghan a long sought after semi-final ticket.

If the form guide proved an accurate barometer to much of what took place, the semi-finals produced top quality fare in what were contrasting encounters.

Kerry and Tyrone renewed a rivalry that captivated football followers for much of the previous decade and the 2015 offering did not disappoint.

It turned out to be another Kerry outing played in a downpour and despite a late Tyrone push and a number of spurned goal chances, Eamonn Fitzmaurice's charges held out to book a final date.

The other half of the semi-final pairings proved no less intriguing. Dublin and Mayo have forged something of a seismic rivalry with the Connacht men more than holding their own.

The relationship continued in that vein.

Despite Dublin surging into a comfortable lead in a tense affair Mayo roared back into the contest with an impressive second half fight back.

It all made for a nail-biting finish and it appeared to be advantage Mayo in the closing stages.

A replay would be required before Kerry would find out who their final opposition would be.

The late drama added further to what was an eagerly anticipated game and up until half-time the game remained close and tense.

Mayo edged ahead by four points before Dublin exploded into life with a late finish that yielded goals from Bernard Brogan, Philly McMahon and Kevin McManamon to ensure a final day out against Kerry.

A constant and heavy downpour accompanied the final day action making free flowing football and ball handling extremely challenging.

For all that the commitment of the players and their ability to adapt made for a fascinating spectacle.

Not surprisingly a low scoring contest that produced no goals remained in the balance throughout but it was Dublin who gained the upper hand.

A tour de force from newcomer Brian Fenton allowed Dublin to win the middle third and when the same player struck the butt of a Hill 16 post in the second half the Dubs signalled their intent.

The introduction of Kieran Donaghy and Darren O'Sullivan invigorated the Kerry challenge but the performances of Cian O'Sullivan, Rory O'Carroll and Philly McMahon amongst others, held the Kingdom at bay as Dublin secured a third title in five years and a clean sweep.

The etching was only carved on the plinth of the Sam Maguire when the question arose whether this great Dublin team can pull off the rare feat of back to back All-Ireland wins under the same manager.

There will be plenty of others who will have a say before we know the answer to that one.

“A constant and heavy downpour accompanied the final day action making free flowing football and ball handling extremely challenging.”

20 September 2015; Dublin's Darren Daly celebrates with his son Caolán, age 4, after the game. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.





18 July 2015; Supporters await the start of the game. Munster
GAA Football Senior Championship Final Replay, Kerry v Cork.
Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney, Co. Kerry.





25 January 2015; Dublin supporters Carl, aged 6, and his brother Alex Downey, aged 8, at the game. Bord na Mona O'Byrne Cup Final, Kildare v Dublin, St Conleth's Park, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.



Results 2015 & Financial Highlights

18 October 2015; James Turley, Scotstown, in action against Neill McAdam, Monaghan Harps. Monaghan County Senior Football Championship Final, Scotstown v Monaghan Harps. St Tiernach's Park Clones Co. Monaghan.

Time to celebrate

1. AIB GAA Hurling All Ireland Intermediate Club Championship; **2.** AIB GAA Hurling All Ireland Junior Club Championship; **3.** AIB GAA Hurling All Ireland Senior Club Championship; **4.** Allianz Hurling League Roinn 1; **5.** Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A; **6.** Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2B; **7.** Allianz Hurling League Roinn 3A; **8.** Allianz Hurling League Roinn 3B; **9.** Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 B Championship; **10.** Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 Championship; **11.** Christy Ring 2015; **12.** Electric Ireland GAA Hurling All Ireland Minor B Championship; **13.** Electric Ireland GAA Hurling All Ireland Minor Championship; **14.** GAA Hurling All Ireland Intermediate Championship 2015; **15.** GAA Hurling All Ireland Senior Championship.



16. GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 C Championship 2015 GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 C Championship 2015; **17.** Lory Meagher 2015; **18.** Nicky Rackard 2015; **19.** AIB GAA Football All Ireland Intermediate Club Championship; **20.** AIB GAA Football All Ireland Junior Club Championship; **21.** AIB GAA Football All Ireland Senior Club Championship; **22.** Allianz Football League Roinn 1; **23.** Allianz Football League Roinn 2; **24.** Allianz Football League Roinn 3; **25.** Allianz Football League Roinn 4; **26.** Eirgrid GAA Football All Ireland U21 Championship; **27.** Electric Ireland GAA Football All Ireland Minor Championship; **28.** GAA Football All Ireland Junior Championship; **29.** GAA Football All Ireland Senior Championship; **30.** GAA Hurling All Ireland Minor C Championship



Results



Peil

AIB GAA Football All Ireland Senior Club Championship 14/15	Corofin	1-14	v	0-7	Slaughtneil
AIB GAA Football All Ireland Intermediate Club Championship 14/15	Ardfert	1-14	v	0-9	St. Croans
AIB GAA Football All Ireland Junior Club Championship 14/15	Brosna	0-8	v	0-5	John Mitchel's
Allianz Football League Roinn 1 2015	Dublin	1-21	v	2-7	Cork
Allianz Football League Roinn 2 2015	Roscommon	1-17	v	0-15	Down
Allianz Football League Roinn 3 2015	Armagh	0-16	v	0-11	Fermanagh
Allianz Football League Roinn 4 2015	Offaly	4-16	v	1-12	Longford
GAA Football All Ireland Junior Championship 2015	Kerry	2-18	v	0-10	Mayo
Eirgrid GAA Football All Ireland U21 Championship 2015	Tyrone	1-11	v	0-13	Tipperary
Electric Ireland GAA Football All Ireland Minor Championship 2015	Kerry	4-14	v	0-6	Tipperary
GAA Football All Ireland Senior Championship 2015	Dublin	0-12	v	0-9	Kerry



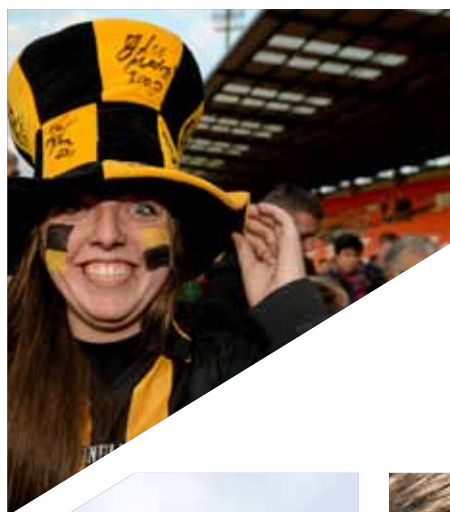
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AIB GAA Hurling All Ireland Intermediate Club Championship 14/15	O'Donovan Rossa	1-9	v	2-3	Kilburn Gaels
AIB GAA Hurling All Ireland Junior Club Championship 14/15	Bennettsbridge	3-19	v	1-8	Fullen Gaels
AIB GAA Hurling All Ireland Senior Club Championship 14/15	Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-18	v	1-6	Kilmallock
Allianz Hurling League Roinn 1 2015	Waterford	1-24	v	0-17	Cork
Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A 2015	Kerry	5-17	v	3-17	Westmeath
Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2B 2015	Kildare	0-22	v	0-17	Meath
Allianz Hurling League Roinn 3A 2015	Tyrone	0-18	v	1-11	Monaghan
Allianz Hurling League Roinn 3B 2015	Warwickshire	1-15	v	2-10	Longford
Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 B Championship 2015	Wicklow	2-17	v	2-15	Meath
Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 Championship 2015	Limerick	0-26	v	1-7	Wexford
Christy Ring 2015	Kerry	1-20	v	0-12	Derry
Electric Ireland GAA Hurling All Ireland Minor B Championship 2015	Kerry	6-17	v	1-7	Roscommon
Electric Ireland GAA Hurling All Ireland Minor Championship 2015	Galway	4-13	v	1-16	Tipperary
GAA Hurling All Ireland Intermediate Championship 2015	Galway	0-23	v	0-14	Cork
GAA Hurling All Ireland U21 C Championship 2015	Donegal	1-11		0-11	Tyrone
GAA Hurling All Ireland Minor C Championship 2015	Tyrone	2-12	v	1-10	Mayo
GAA Hurling All Ireland Senior Championship 2015	Kilkenny	1-22	v	1-18	Galway
GAA Hurling Interprovincial Championship 2014	Connacht	0-16	v	1-23	Leinster
Lory Meagher 2015	Fermanagh	3-16	v	1-17	Sligo
Nicky Rackard 2015	Roscommon	2-12	v	1-14	Armagh

Club, at the heart of it all.

“Clubs form an important part of the communities in which they operate, and the GAA seeks to be of service to our communities.”





“‘Be there. All the way’ was an expression of the dedication and passion that motivates volunteers, who are bound to the GAA by a commitment to games played solely for the love of those games and by a dedication to club and county.”

“The sense of pride, community and celebration that pervades the Féile tournaments should not be underestimated. With clubs from all over the country represented, as well as teams from New York and Britain, they provide a genuine sense of occasion.”





“And in the ferociously contested club championships, where Gaelic games, and indeed the Association itself, are visible in their most vibrant and relevant condition, we applaud the All-Ireland championship winners of Corofin (senior football), Ballyhale Shamrocks (senior hurling), Ardfert (intermediate football), O’Donovan Rossa (intermediate hurling), Brosna (junior football) and Bennettsbridge (junior hurling).”



12 September 2015; Jamie Byrne, Wicklow, in action against Colm McGrath, Meath. Bord Gais Energy GAA Hurling All-Ireland U21 B Championship Final, Meath v Wicklow, Semple Stadium, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.


Hurling County Champions

2015

	ANTRIM Cushendall		KERRY Kilmoley		ROSCOMMON Four Roads
	ARMAGH Middletown Na Fianna		KILDARE Coill Dubh		SLIGO Calry/St Joseph's
	CARLOW St MULLIN'S		KILKENNY Clara		TIPPERARY Thurles Sarsfields
	CAVAN Cootehill		LAOIS Clough Ballacolla		TYRONE Eire Og Carrickmore
	CLARE Sixrnilbridge		LEITRIM Ballinamore Seán O'Heslin's		WATERFORD Ballygunner
	CORK Glen Rovers		LIMERICK Na Piersaigh		WESTMEATH Clonkill
	DERRY Slaughtneil		LONGFORD Wolfe Tones Mostrim		WEXFORD Oulart-The Ballagh
	DONEGAL Burt		LOUTH St Fechin's		WICKLOW Bray Emmets
	DOWN Ballycran		MAYO Ballyhaunis		
	DUBLIN Cuala		MEATH Kiltale		
	FERMANAGH Lisbellaw St Patrick's		MONAGHAN Castleblayney Faughs		
	GALWAY Sarsfields		OFFALY Coolderry		

Football County Champions

2015

	ANTRIM Erin's Own Cargin		KERRY South Kerry		ROSCOMMON Clann na nGael
	ARMAGH Crossmaglen Rangers		KILDARE Sarsfields		SLIGO St Mary's
	CARLOW Palatine		KILKENNY Railyard		TIPPERARY Clonmel Commercials
	CAVAN Kingscourt Stars		LAOIS Portlaoise		TYRONE Trillick
	CLARE St Joseph's Miltown		LEITRIM Mohill		WATERFORD Stradbally
	CORK Nemo Rangers		LIMERICK Newcastlewest		WESTMEATH St Lomans
	DERRY Slaughtneil		LONGFORD Kilroe Young Emmets		WEXFORD St James
	DONEGAL Naomh Conaill		LOUTH St Patricks Lordship		WICKLOW Rathnew
	DOWN Kilcoo		MAYO Castlebar Mitchels		
	DUBLIN Ballyboden St Endas		MEATH Navan O'Mahonys		
	FERMANAGH Derrygonnelly Harps		MONAGHAN Scotstown		
	GALWAY Corofin		OFFALY Edenderry		



2015 Championship attendances

Date	Competition	Teams	Venue	Attendance
03/05/2015	Connacht Senior Football Preliminary Rd	Nua Eabhrac v Gaillimh	Gaelic Park, New York	2,125
03/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Qualifier Group	Aontroim v Laois	Ballycastle	400
03/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Qualifier Group	An Iarmhí v Ceatharlach	Cusack Park, Mullingar	450
10/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Qualifier Group	An Iarmhí v Aontroim	Cusack Park, Mullingar	450
10/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Qualifier Group	Ceatharlach v Laois	Netwatch Cullen Park	650
16/05/2015	Leinster Senior Football	Ceatharlach v Laois	Netwatch Cullen Park	3,845
16/05/2015	Leinster Senior Football	Uíbh Fhailí v Longfort	O'Connor Park, Tullamore	4,959
17/05/2015	Connacht Senior Football	Liatroim v Gaillimh	Páirc Seán Mac Diarmada	5,458
17/05/2015	Leinster Senior Football	An Lú v An Iarmhí	Gaelic Grounds, Drogheda	3,570
17/05/2015	Ulster Senior Football Preliminary Rd	Dún na nGall v Tír Eoghain	Ballybofey	17,435
23/05/2015	Munster Senior Football	An Clár v Luimneach	Cusack Park, Ennis	4,886
24/05/2015	Connacht Senior Football	Londain v Ros Comáin	Ruislip	4,500
24/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Qualifier Group	Ceatharlach v Aontroim	Netwatch Cullen Park	1,108
24/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Qualifier Group	Laois v An Iarmhí	Portlaoise	2,205
24/05/2015	Munster Senior Hurling	An Clár v Luimneach	Semple Stadium, Thurles	21,493
24/05/2015	Ulster Senior Football	An Cabhán v Muineachán	Kingspan Breffni Park	18,540
31/05/2015	Leinster Senior Football	Áth Cliath v Longfort	Páirc an Chrócaigh	
31/05/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling	Áth Cliath v Gaillimh	Páirc an Chrócaigh	33,514
31/05/2015	Munster Senior Football	Tiobraid Árann v Port Láirge	Semple Stadium, Thurles	1,641
31/05/2015	Ulster Senior Football	Fear Manach v Aontroim	Brewster Park	7,726
06/06/2015	Leinster Senior Football	Cill Dara v Laois	O'Connor Park, Tullamore	
06/06/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Replay	Áth Cliath v Gaillimh	O'Connor Park, Tullamore	14,258
07/06/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling	An Iarmhí v Loch Garman	Cusack Park, Mullingar	2,908
07/06/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling	Laois v Uíbh Fhailí	Portlaoise	6,529
07/06/2015	Munster Senior Hurling	Port Láirge v Corcaigh	Semple Stadium, Thurles	21,047
07/06/2015	Ulster Senior Football	Doire v An Dún	Celtic Park	10,541
13/06/2015	Leinster Senior Football Replay	Cill Dara v Laois	O'Connor Park, Tullamore	6,077
14/06/2015	Connacht Senior Football	Gaillimh v Muigheo	Pearse Stadium	20,254
14/06/2015	Leinster Senior Football	An Iarmhí v Loch Garman	Cusack Park, Mullingar	3,639
14/06/2015	Leinster Senior Football	An Mhí v Cill Mhantáin	Páirc Tailteann	8,895
14/06/2015	Munster Senior Football	Tiobraid Árann v Ciarraí	Semple Stadium, Thurles	11,248
14/06/2015	Munster Senior Football	Corcaigh v An Clár	Páirc Uí Rinn	4,513
14/06/2015	Ulster Senior Football	Ard Mhacha v Dún na nGall	Athletic Grounds	18,186
20/06/2015	Connacht Senior Football	Sligeach v Ros Comáin	Markievicz Park	9,480
20/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1A	Londain v An Cabhán	Ruislip	1,241
20/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1A	Port Láirge v Uíbh Fhailí	Fraher Field	421
20/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1A	Laois v Aontroim	Portlaoise	777
20/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1A	Longfort v Ceatharlach	Glennon Brothers Pearse Park	889
20/06/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling	Gailimh v Laois	O'Connor Park, Tullamore	8,802
21/06/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling	Cill Chainnigh v Loch Garman	Nowlan Park	19,298
21/06/2015	Munster Senior Hurling	Luimneach v Tiobraid v Árann	Gaelic Grounds, Limerick	33,639
21/06/2015	Ulster Senior Football	Muineachán v Fear Manach	Kingspan Breffni Park	16,572
21/06/2015	Ulster Senior Hurling	Ard Mhacha v An Dún	Athletic Grounds	252
21/06/2015	Ulster Senior Hurling	Doire v Dún na nGall	Celtic Park	212
27/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1B	Ard Mhacha v Cill Mhantáin	Athletic Grounds	6,093
27/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1B	Loch Garman v An Dún	Innovate Wexford Park	2,383
27/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1B	An Lú v Liatroim	Gaelic Grounds, Drogheda	2,719
27/06/2015	Ulster Senior Football	Doire v Dún na nGall	Clones	19,237
28/06/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 1B	Tír Eoghain v Luimneach	Healy Park, Omagh	5,225

Ulaidh 142,691 | Mumha 209,448 | Laighin 252,725

Connachta 65,013 | Provincial Total 669,877

Total 1,475,949

Date	Competition	Teams	Venue	Attendance
28/06/2015	Leinster Senior Football	An Mhí v An Iarmhí	Páirc an Chrócaigh	
28/06/2015	Leinster Senior Football	Áth Cliath v Cill Dara	Páirc an Chrócaigh	50,324
28/06/2015	Ulster Senior Hurling	Doire v An Dún	Owenbeg	850
04/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2A	Uíbh Fhailí v Cill Dara	O'Connor Park	5,202
04/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2A	An Cabhán v Ros Comáin	Kingspan Breffni Park	5,381
04/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2A	An Clár v Longfort	Cusack Park, Ennis	
04/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Qualifier Rd 1	An Clár v Uíbh Fhailí	Cusack Park, Ennis	14,268
04/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Qualifier Rd 1	Loch Garman v Corcaigh	Innovate Wexford Park	11,800
04/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Qualifier Rd 1	Laois v Áth Cliath	Portlaoise	4,300
05/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2A	Fear Manach v Aontroim	Brewster Park	3,312
05/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Qualifier Rd 1	An Iarmhí v Luimneach	Cusack Park, Mullingar	2,700
05/07/2015	Leinster Senior Hurling Final	Cill Chainnigh v Gaillimh	Páirc an Chrócaigh	32,954
05/07/2015	Munster Senior Football Final	Ciarraí v Corcaigh	Fitzgerald Stadium	35,651
11/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2B	Doire v Loch Garman	Owenbeg	3,797
11/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2B	Tír Eoghain v An Mhí	Omagh	6,895
11/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 3A	Longfort v Cill Dara	Cusack Park, Mullingar	3,800
11/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2B	Tiobraid Árann v An Lú	Semple Stadium, Thurles	
11/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Qualifier Rd 2	Áth Cliath v Luimneach	Semple Stadium, Thurles	
11/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Qualifier Rd 2	An Clár v Corcaigh	Semple Stadium, Thurles	25,169
12/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 2B	Ard Mhacha v Gaillimh	Athletic Grounds	9,673
12/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 3A	Fear Manach v Ros Comáin	Brewster Park	6,853
12/07/2015	Leinster Senior Football Final	Áth Cliath v An Iarmhí	Páirc an Chrócaigh	47,890
12/07/2015	Munster Senior Hurling Final	Tiobraid Árann v Port Láirge	Semple Stadium, Thurles	43,096
12/07/2015	Ulster Senior Hurling Final	Aontroim v An Dún	Owenbeg	1,143
18/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 3B	Tiobraid Árann v Tír Eoghain	Semple Stadium, Thurles	4,620
18/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 3B	Gaillimh v Doire	Pearse Stadium	4,600
18/07/2015	Munster Senior Football Final – Replay	Ciarraí v Corcaigh	Fitzgerald Stadium	32,234
19/07/2015	Connacht Senior Football Final	Muigheo v Sligeach	Dr Hyde Park	23,196
19/07/2015	Ulster Senior Football Final	Muineachán v Dún na nGall	Clones	31,997
25/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 4A	An Iarmhí v Fear Manach	Kingspan Breffni Pk	10,738
25/07/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 4A	Corcaigh v Cill Dara	Semple Stadium, Thurles	3,710
26/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Quarter Final	Port Láirge v Áth Cliath	Semple Stadium, Thurles	
26/07/2015	All Ireland Hurling Quarter Final	Gaillimh v Corcaigh	Semple Stadium, Thurles	33,150
01/08/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 4B	Sligeach v Tír Eoghain	Páirc an Chrócaigh	
01/08/2015	All Ireland Football Qualifier Rd 4B	Dún na nGall v Gaillimh	Páirc an Chrócaigh	25,665
02/08/2015	All Ireland Football Quarter Final	Ciarraí v Cill Dara	Páirc an Chrócaigh	
02/08/2015	All Ireland Football Quarter Final	Áth Cliath v Fear Manach	Páirc an Chrócaigh	58,691
08/08/2015	All Ireland Football Quarter Final	Muineachán v Tír Eoghain	Páirc an Chrócaigh	
08/08/2015	All Ireland Football Quarter Final	Muigheo v Dún na nGall	Páirc an Chrócaigh	61,790
09/08/2015	All Ireland Hurling Semi Final	Cill Chainnigh v Port Láirge	Páirc an Chrócaigh	41,122
16/08/2015	All Ireland Hurling Semi Final	Tiobraid Árann v Gaillimh	Páirc an Chrócaigh	58,498
23/08/2015	All Ireland Football Semi Final	Ciarraí v Tír Eoghain	Páirc an Chrócaigh	53,048
30/08/2015	All Ireland Football Semi Final	Áth Cliath v Muigheo	Páirc an Chrócaigh	81,356
05/09/2015	All Ireland Football Semi Final Replay	Áth Cliath v Muigheo	Páirc an Chrócaigh	81,897
06/09/2015	All Ireland Hurling Final	Cill Chainnigh v Gaillimh	Páirc an Chrócaigh	81,989
20/09/2015	All Ireland Football Final	Áth Cliath v Ciarraí	Páirc an Chrócaigh	82,300

Total Attendance

1,475,949

All-Ireland Senior Championship results



Peil

Round 1A	Antrim 2-15 v 1-16 Laois
Round 1A	Cavan 2-22 v 0-11 London
Round 1A	Longford 2-15 v 1-8 Carlow
Round 1A	Offaly 1-20 v 1-7 Waterford
Round 1B	Armagh 2-17 v 2-7 Wicklow
Round 1B	Louth 1-16 v 0-11 Leitrim
Round 1B	Wexford 2-16 v 2-11 Down
Round 1B	Tyrone 1-14 v 0-8 Limerick
Round 2A	Kildare 1-15 v 1-13 Offaly
Round 2A	Longford 2-12 v 1-12 Clare
Round 2A	Roscommon 3-17 v 1-16 Cavan
Round 2A	Fermanagh 1-21 v 0-11 Antrim
Round 2B	Tipperary 3-21 v 0-7 Louth
Round 2B	Tyrone 1-10 v 0-11 Meath
Round 2B	Galway 1-12 v 0-12 Armagh
Round 3A	Kildare 2-24 v 0-11 Longford

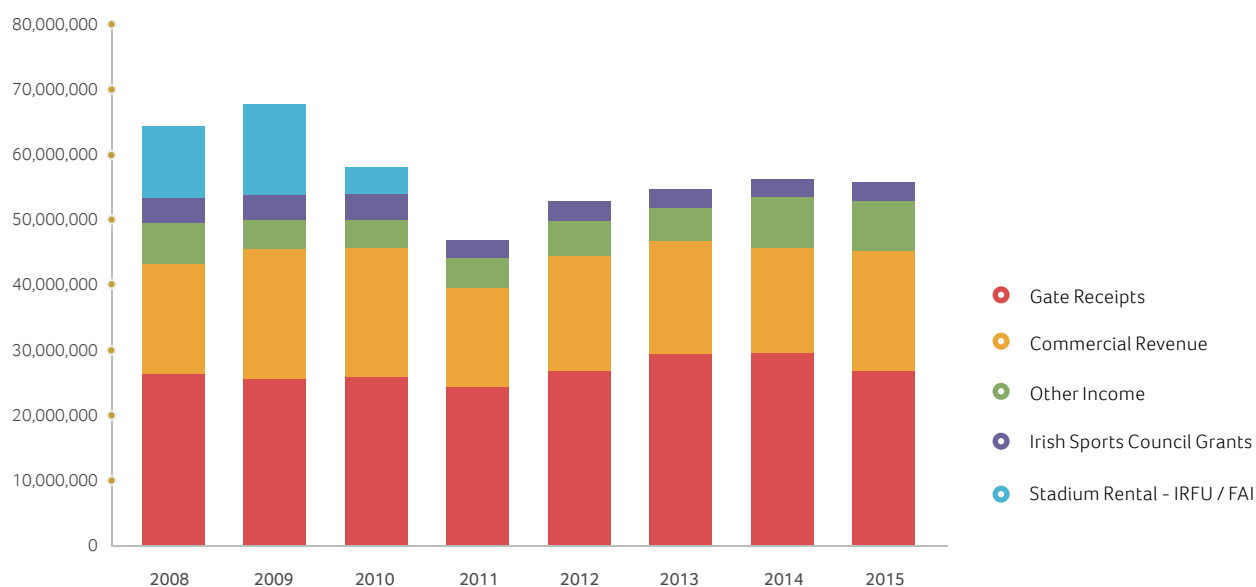
Round 3A	Fermanagh 1-14 v 0-16 Roscommon
Round 3B	Galway 1-11 v 0-8 Derry
Round 3B	Tyrone 0-19 v 0-7 Tipperary
Round 4A	Fermanagh 1-13 v 0-7 Westmeath
Round 4A	Kildare 1-21 v 1-13 Cork
Round 4B	Donegal 3-12 v 0-11 Galway
Round 4B	Tyrone 0-21 v 0-14 Sligo
Quarter Final A	Dublin 2-23 v 2-15 Fermanagh
Quarter Final A	Kerry 7-16 v 0-10 Kildare
Quarter Final B	Mayo 2-13 v 0-11 Donegal
Quarter Final B	Tyrone 0-18 v 0-14 Monaghan
Semi Final	Kerry 0-18 v 1-11 Tyrone
Semi Final	Dublin 2-12 v 1-15 Mayo
Semi Final-Replay	Dublin 3-15 v 1-14 Mayo
Final	Dublin 0-12 v 0-9 Kerry



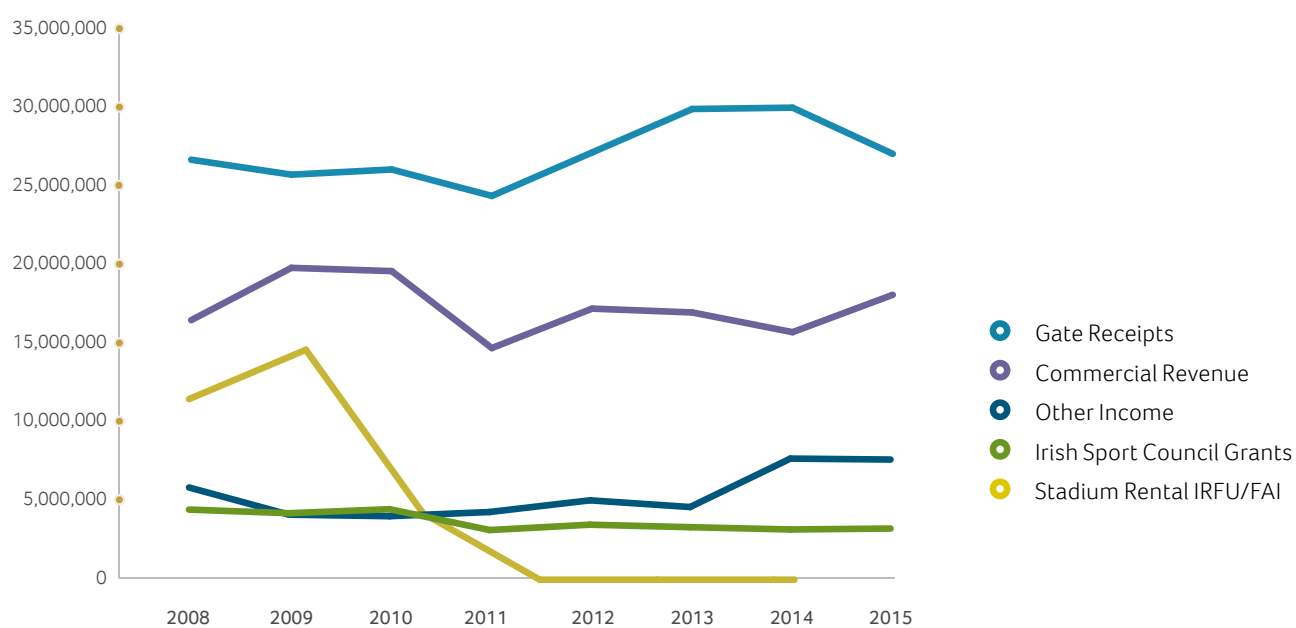
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Round 1	Clare	3-26	v	0-15	Offaly
Round 1	Cork	2-22	v	0-20	Wexford
Round 1	Dublin	4-17	v	0-19	Laois
Round 1	Limerick	4-15	v	1-12	Westmeath
Round 2	Cork	0-20	v	0-17	Clare
Round 2	Dublin	1-17	v	1-16	Limerick
Quarter Final	Galway	2-28	v	0-22	Cork
Quarter Final	Waterford	2-21	v	1-18	Dublin
Semi Final	Kilkenny	1-21	v	0-18	Waterford
Semi Final	Galway	0-26	v	3-16	Tipperary
Final	Kilkenny	1-22	v	1-18	Galway

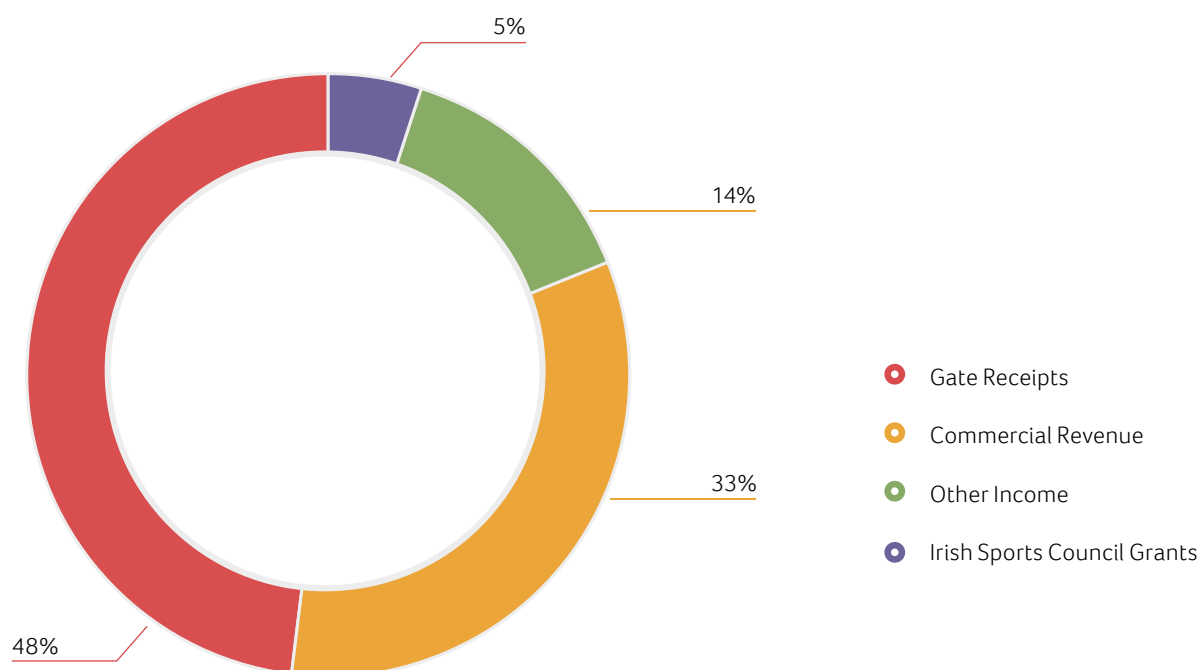
Sources of revenue 2008-2015



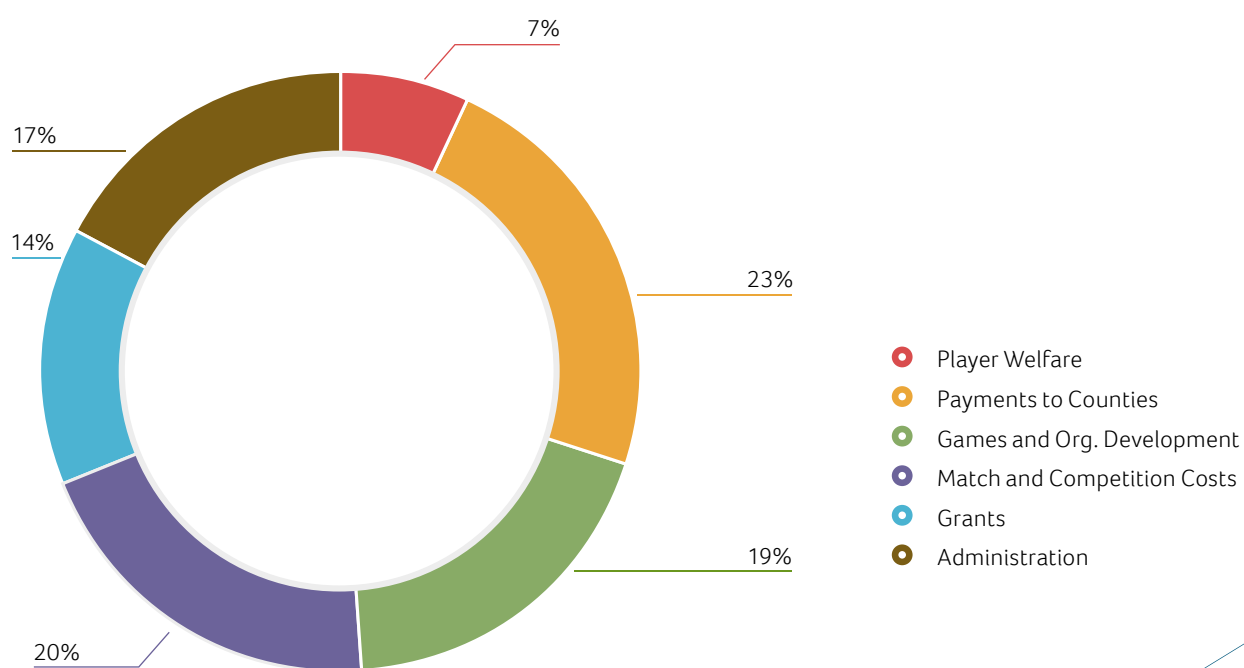
Sources of revenue 2008-2015



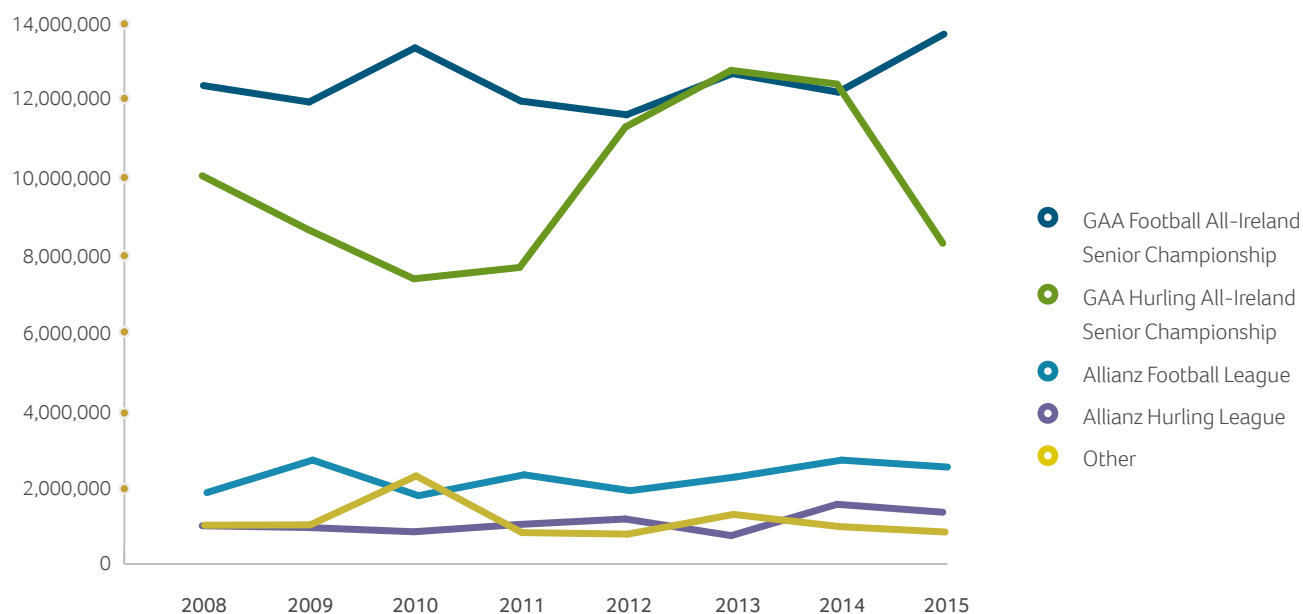
Sources of revenue 2015



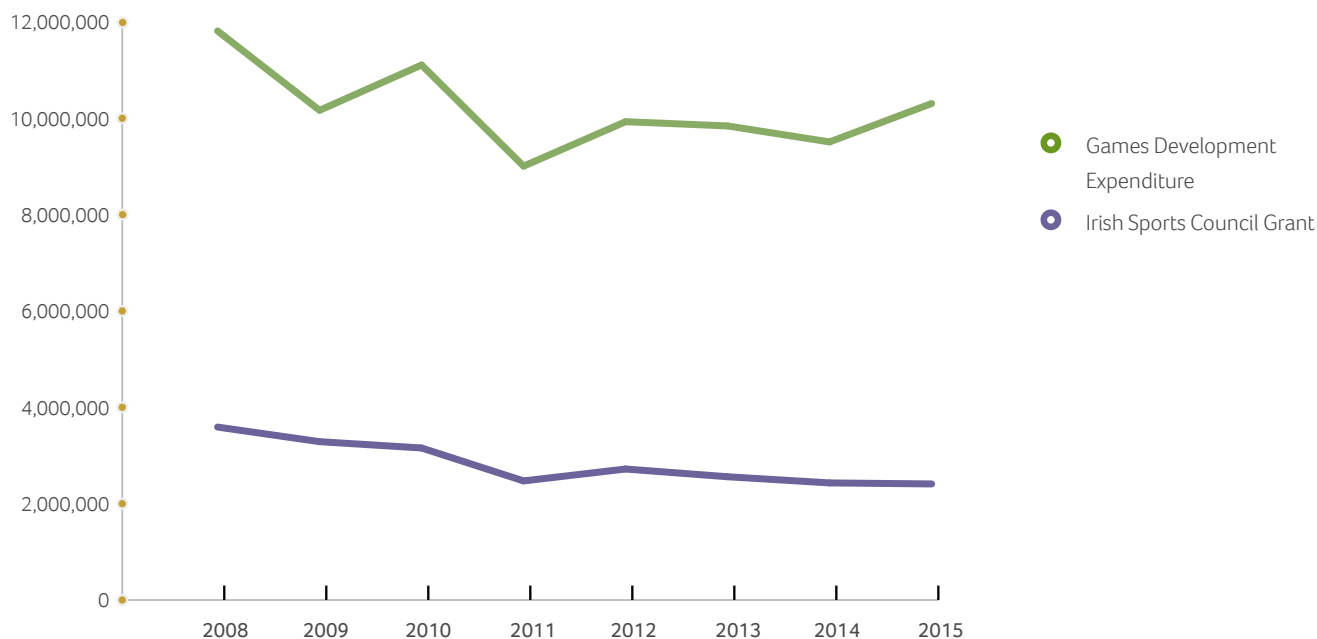
Utilisation of revenue 2015



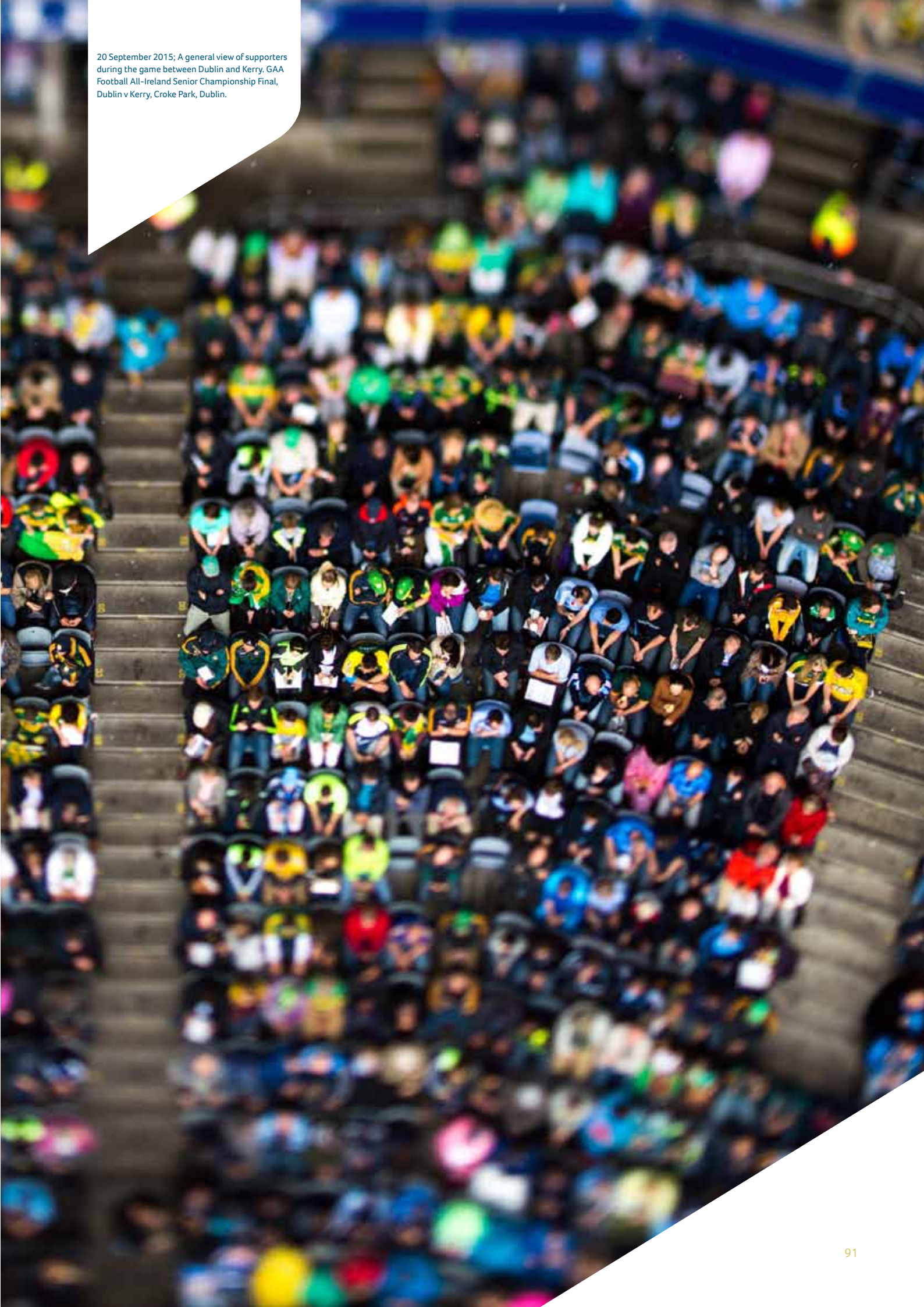
Gate receipts by competition 2008-2015



Games Development Expenditure / Irish Sports Council Grant



20 September 2015; A general view of supporters during the game between Dublin and Kerry. GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.



GAA Clubs around the world

IRELAND

ABBEYKNOCKMOY
AHASCRAH/ FOHENAGH
CASTLEGAR
ANNAGHDOWN
ARAN ISLANDS
ARDRAHAN, ST. MARY'S
ATHENRY, ST MARY'S
BALLINASLOE
BALLINDERREN
BALLYGAR
BARNA
BARNA - FURBO
BEAGH
CAHERLISTRANE
CALTRA
CAPPATAGGLE
CARNA CASHEL
CARNMORE
CARRAROE
CLAREGALWAY
CLARINBRIDGE
CLIFDEN
CLONBUR ST PATRICKS
COROFIN
CORTOON SHAMROCKS
CRAUGHWELL SÉAN
MACDERMOTTS
DUNMORE MAC HALES
FR. GRIFFIN'S / EIRE ÓG
GLENAMADDY
GLINSK
GORT
HEADFORD
KILBEACANTY
KILCONIERON
KILCONLY
KILERRIN CLONBERNE
KILLANIN
KILLERERIN
KILLIMORDALY
KILLMOR
KILNADEEMA - LEITRIM
KILTORMER
KINVARA
NAOMH ANNA,
LEITERMORE
LIAM MELLOWS
MEELICK EYRECOURT
MENLO EMMETTS
MENLOUGH
MICHAEL BREATHNACH
MILLTOWN
MONIVEA ABBEY
MOUNTBELLOW-
MOYLOUGH
MOYCULLEN (FOOTBALL)
MOYCULLEN (HURLING)
MULLAGH
NA PIARSAIGH, ROSMUC
ORANMORE-MAREE
OUGHTERARD
PÁDRAIG PEARSES
PORTUMA
RAHOON NEWCASTLE
REVVLE
SALTHILL KNOCKNACARRA
SARSFIELD'S
SKEHANA
SPIDDAL
ST BRENDAN'S, LOUGHREA
ST COLUMBA'S
(MERVUE RENMORE)
ST THOMAS
ST. BRENDAN'S,
NEWBRIDGE-BALLYGAR
ST. GABRIEL'S, KILCONNELL
ST. JAMES (MERVUE
RENMORE)
ST. MICHAEL'S
SYLAUN
TOMMY LARKIN'S
TUAM STARS
TUAM HURLING

TURLOUGHMORE
TYNAGH ABBEY DUNLRY
WILLIAMSTOWN
SOUTHERN GAELS
ATHLEAGUE
BALLINAMEAN
BOYLE
CASTLEREA ST KEVINS
CLAN NA NGÉAL
CREGGS
EIRE ÓG
ELPHIN
FOUR ROADS
FUERTY
KILBRIDE
KILGLASS GAELS
KILMORE
MICHAEL GLAVEYS
ORAN FOOTBALL/HURLING
PADRAIG PEARSES
ROSCOMMON GAELS
SHANNON GAELS
ST AIDANS
ST BARRYS
ST BRIGID'S
ST CIARANS
ST CROANS
ST DOMINIC
ST FAITHLEACHS
ST JOSEPHS KILTEEVEAN
ST MICHAELS
ST RONANS
STROKESTOEN
TREMANE
TULSK LORD EDWARDS
WESTERN GAELS
FRENCHPARK
ALLEN GAELS
ANNADUFF
AUGHUAAS
AUGHAWILLAN
AUGHNASHEELIN
BALLINAGLERA
BALLNAMORE - SEAN
O HESLIN'S
BORNOCoola
CARRIGALLAN
CLOONE
DROMAHAIR ST PATRICK'S
DRUMKEEN
DRUMREILLY
ESLIN
FENAGH ST. CAILLIN'S
FENARNE
KILTYCLOGHER
GORTLETTERRAIGH
KILTUBRID
LEITRIM GAE
GLENCAR
MANORHAMILTON
MELVIN GAELS
MOHILL
ST MARY'S - KILTOGHERT
ST OSNAT'S GLENCAR
ACHILL
AGHAMORE
ARDAGH
ARDNAREE SARSFIELDS
BALLA
BALLINA STEPHENITES
BALLINROBE MAYO
BALLINTUBBER
BALLAGHADERREEN
BALLYCASTLE
BALLYCROY
BALLYHAUNIS
BALLYVARY HURLING CLUB
BELMULLET
BOHOLLA MOY DAVITT'S
BONNICULLEN
BREAFFY
BURRSHOOLE
CARRACASTLE
CASTLEBAR MITCHELS

CHARLESTOWN
SARSFIELDS
CLAREMORRIS
CROSSMOLINA
DEEL ROVERS
PARKE
DAVITTS
EASTERN GAELS
GARRYMORE
HOLLYMOUNT-
CARRAMORE
ISLAND EADY
KILFIAN
KILLALA
KILMAINE
KILMEENA
KILMOVEE SHAMROCKS
KILTIMAGH
KILTANE
KNOCKMORE
LACKEN
LAHARDANE MCHALES
LOUISBOURG
MAYO GAELS
MOGGOUNAGH
MOYTURA
NEALE
SHRILE GLENCURRIB
SWINFORD
TOOREEN
TOURMAKEADY
WESTPORT ST PATRICKS
CILL CHOMAIN
BALLYMOT
BALLYADARA
BUNNINADDEN
CALRY ST JOSEPHS
CASTLECONNOR
CLOONACOL
COOLANEY
MULLINABREENA
COOLERA STRANDHILL
CURRY
DRUMCLIFFE ROSSES PT.
EASKEY
EASTERN HARPS
ENNISCRONE KILGLASS
GEEVAGH
NAOMH EOIN
OWENMORE GAELS
SHAMROCKS GAELS
ST FARNANS
ST JOHNS
ST MARYS
ST MICHAEL
ST MOLAISE GAELS
ST PATRICKS/DROMARD
TOUR LESTRANE
TUBBERCURRY
WESTERN GAELS
ADAMSTOWN
AIB
BALLINTER ST JOHNS
BALLYBODEN ST ENDAS
BALLYBOUGHAL RANGERS
BALLYFERMOT DE LA SALLE
BALLYMUN KICKHAMS
BANK OF IRELAND
BEANN ÉADAIR
BRIAIN BORU
CASTLEKNOCK
CIVIL SERVICE HC
CIVIL SERVICE GFC
CLANN MHUIRE
CLANNA GAE FONTENAY
CLONTARF
COMMERCIALS
CRAOBH CHIARAIN
CRÓÍ RÓ NAOFA
CRUMLIN
CUALA
DCU
ERIN GO BRAGH
ERINS HOPE

ERINS ISLE
FAUGHS
FINGAL RAVENS
FINGALLIANS
GARDA
GARRISTOWN
GERLDINES MORANS
GOOD COUNCIL
INNISFÁILS
KEVINS
KILMACUD CROKES
LIFFEY GAELS
LUCAN SÁRSFIELD
MAN-O-WAR
NA DUBH GHÁLL
NA FIANNA
NAOMH BARRÓIG
NAOMH CAOIMHÍN CILLIAN
NAOMH MEARNÓG
NAOMH OLAF
O'DWYERS
O'TOOLE
PARK RANGERS
PARNELLS
POTOBELLO
RAHENY
RANELAGH GAELS
ROBERT EMMETTS
ROSMINI GAELS
ROUND TOWERS
CLONDALKIN
ROUND TOWERS LUSK
SCOIL UÍ CHONAILL
SETANTA
SHANKILL
SKERRIES HARPS
ST ANNES
ST BRENDANS
ST BRIGIDS
ST COLMCILLE
ST FINBARS
ST FINIANS NEWCASTLE
ST FINIANS SWORDS
ST FRANCIS GAELS
CABINTEELY
ST JAMES GAELS
ST JOSEPH'S
O'CONNELL BOYS
ST JUDES
ST MARGARETS
ST MARKS
ST MARYS
ST MAURS
ST MONICAS
ST OLIVER PLUNKETTS
EOGHAN RUADH
ST PATRICK'S DONABATE
ST PATRICK'S
PALMERSTOWN
ST PEREGRINES
ST SILVESTERS
ST VINCENTS
STAR LIGHTS
STARS OF ERIN
TEMPELOQUE
SYNGE STREET
THOMAS DAVIS
TRINITY GAELS
TYRELLSTOWN
U.C.D
WANDERERS
WHITEHALL COLMCILLE
WILD GEESE
NA GAELI ÓGA
PAVEE
REALT DEARG
ASKEA
BALLINABRANNA
BALLINKILLEN
BALLOON
CARLOW HC
CLONMORE
EIRE OG
ERINS OWN

FENAGH
FIGHTING COCKS
GRANGE
KILLBRIDE
KILLDAVIN CLONEGAL
LEIGHLIN BRIDGE
MICHAEL DAVITTS
MILFORD
MT LEINSTER RANGERS
NAOMH BRID
NAOMH EOIN
NAOMH MOLING
O'HANRAHANS
OLD LEIGHLIN
PALATINE
RATHVILLY
SLANEY RANGERS
ST ANDREWS
ST PATRICK
TINRYLAND
SETANTA
BURREN RANGERS
ALLENWOOD
ARDCLOUGH
ARDCLOUGH HURLING
ATHGARVAN
ATHY
BALLYKELLY
BALLYMORE EUSTACE
BALLYTEAGUE
BROADSFORD
CAPPAGH
CARAGH
CARBURY
CASTLEDERMOT
CASTLEMITCHELL
CELBRIDGE
CLANE
CLOGHERINKOE
COILL DUBH
CONFY
EADSTOWN
ÉIRE ÓG CORRA CHOILL
ELLISTOWN
GRANGENOLVAN
JOHNSTOWNBRIDGE
KILCOCK
KILCULLEN
KILDANGAN
KILL
LEIXLIP
MAYNOOTH
MILTOWN
MONASTEREVAN
MOOREFIELD
NAAS
NASS HURLING
NURNEY
RAHEENS
RATHANGAN
RATHCOFFEY
RHEBAN
ROBERTSTOWN
ROS GLAS
SALLINS
SARSFIELD
ST. KEVINS
ST. LAURANCES
STRAFFAN
SUNCROFT
TWO MILE HOUSE
ROUND TOWERS
BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS
BARROW RANGERS
BENNETTS BRIDGE
BLACKS AND WHITE
CARRICKSHOCK
CARRIGEEN
CLARA HURLING CLUB
CLONEEN
CONAHY SHAMROCK'S
JENKINSTOWN
DANESFORT
DICKSBORO

DUNAMAGGIN
EMERALDS URLINGFORD
ERINS OWN
CASTLECORNER
FENIANS
GALMOY
GLENMORE
GRAIGNAMANACH
GRAIGUE-BALLYCALLAN
JAMES STEPHENS
JOHN LOCKES CALLAN
KILMACOW
KILMOGANNY
LISDOWNNEY
MOONCOIN
MUCKALEE
MULLINAVAT
O'LOUGHLIN GAELS
PILTOWN
RAILYARD
ROWER INISIOGE
SLIEVERUA
ST LACHAIN'S
ST MARTINS HURLING CLUB
ST PATRICK'S
BALLYRAGGET
THOMASTOWN
THREECASTLES
TULLAROEAN
TULLOGHER ROSBERCON
WINDGAP
YOUNG IRELANDS
AN TÓCHAR
ANNACURRA
ARKLOW GERALDINES
BALLYMONEY
ARKLOW ROCK PARNELL
ASHFORD
AUGHRIM
AVOCA
AVONDALE
BALLINACOR
BALLYMANUS
BALTINGLASS
BARNDARRIG
BLESSINGTON
BRAY EMMETTS
CARNEW EMMETTS
COOLKENNO
COOLBOY
DONARD THE GLEN
DUNLAVIN
ÉIRE ÓG GREYSTONES
ENNISKERRY
FERGAL ÓG
GLENAILY
HOLLYWOOD
KILBRIDE
KILMACANOGUE
KILTEGAN
KNOCKANANNA
LACKEN
LARAGH
NEWCASTLE
NEWTOWN
RATHNEW
SHILLELAGH
ST PATRICK'S WICKLOW
ST PATRICK'S KILCOOLE
STRATFORD GRANGECON
TINAHELY
VALLEYMOUNT
ATHLONE
BALLINACARGY
BALLINAGORE
BALLYCOMOYLE
BALLYMORE/FR. DALTONS
BROWNSTOWN
BUNBROSNA
CASTLEDALY
CASTLEPOLLARD
CASTLETOWN FINEA
COOLE WHITEHALL
CASTLETOWN

GEOGHEGAN CAULRY CLONKILL CORALSTOWN KINNEGAD CROOKEDWOOD CULLION DELVIN DELVIN HURLING FR. DALTONS GARRYCASTLE KILBEGGAN SHAMROCKS KILLUCAN LOUGH LENA GAELS LOUGHNAVALLEY MARYLAND MILLTOWN MILLTOWNPASS MOATE ALL WHITES MULLINGAR SHAMROCKS RAHARNEY RINGTOWN ROSEMOUNT SHANDONAGH SOUTHERN GAELS ST BRIGIDS ST FINTAN'S MULTYFARNHAM ST JOSEPHS ST LOMANS MULLINGAR ST MALACHY'S ST MARYS ROCHFORD BRIDGE ST OLIVER PLUNKETTS ST PAULS TANG THE DOWNS TUBBERCLAIR TURIN TYRELLSPASS ABBEYLEIX ST LAZANIANS ANNANOUGH ARLES KILCRUISE ARLES KILLEEN BALLINAKILL BALLYFIN BALLYLINAN BALLYPICKAS BALLYROAN ABBEY BARROWHOUSE BORNS IN OSSORY BORNS IN OSSORY / KILCOTTON HURLING CLUB CAMROSS CASTLETOWN CLONAD CLONASLEE CLOUGH-BALLACOLLA COLT COURTWOOD CRETTYARD EMO ERRILL GRAIGUECULLEN KILCAVAN KILCOTTEN KILLSHIN KYLE MOUNTMELICK O'DEMPSEY'S PARK RATHENISKA PORTALINGTON PORTLAOISE RATHDOWNEY RATHDOWNEY ERRILL ROSENALLIS SHANAHOE SLIEVE BLOOM SLIEVE MARGY HURLING CLUB SPINK ST FINTAN'S MOUNTRATH ST FINTAN'S FOOTBALL MOUNTRATH ST JOSEPHS STRADBALLY THE HARPS THE HEATH THE ROCK TIMANOE TRUMERA ASKAMORE-KILRUSH BALLYGARRETT-	RÉALT NA MARA BALLYHOGUE BANNOW-BALLYMITTY BUFFERS ALLEY CASTLETOWN- LIAM MELLOWS CLONARD CLONEE CLONGEEN CLOUGHBAWN CROSSABEG-BALLYMURN DAVIDSTOWN- COURTNACUDDY DUFFRY ROVERS FAYTHE HARRIERS FERNS-ST. AIDAN'S FR. O'REGAN'S CRAANFORD GERALDINE O'HANRAHAN'S GLYNN-BARNTOWN GUSSEANE-O'RAHILLY'S HORESWOOD HWH BUNCLODY KILANERIN-BALLYFAD KILMORE MARSHALSTOWN- CASTLEDOCKRELL MONAGEER-BOOLAVOGUE NAOMH ÉANNA OULART-THE-BALLAGH OUR LADY'S ISLAND OYLEGATE-GLENBRIEN RAPAREES-STARLIGHTS RATHGAROGUE- CUSHINSTOWN SARSFIELDS SHAMROCKS SHELMALIER ST MARYS MAUDLINTOWN ST. ABBAN'S ADAMSTOWN ST. ANNE'S RATHANGAN ST. ANNE'S RATHNURE ST. BRIGID'S BLACKWATER ST. FINTAN'S ST. JAMES' ST. JOHN'S-VOLUNTEERS ST. JOSEPH'S ST. MARTIN'S ST. MARY'S ROSSLARE ST. MUGUE'S FETHARD ST. PATRICK'S TAGHMUN-CAMROSS TARA ROCKS ABBEYLARA BALLYMAHON BALLYMORE SHAMROCKS CARRICKEDMOND CASHEL CLONGUIGH COLMCILLE DROMARD EMMET OG HARPERS FR MANNING GAELS GRATTAN OG KENAGH LEGAN SARSFIELDS LONGFORD SLASHERS MOSTRIM EDGWORTHSTOWN MOYDOW HARPERS RATHCLINE SEAN CONNOLLY SHROID SLASHERS ST BRIGIDS (KILASHEE) ST COLUMBAS ST MARYS ST MUINIS ST PATRICKS (ARDAGH) ANNAGHMINNION ROVERS CREGGAN KICKHAM'S CLAN NA GAEL COOLEY KICKHAMS DOWDALLSHILL DREADNOTS DUNDALK GAELS DUNDALK YOUNG IRELANDS GERALDINES GLEN EMMETS GLYDE RANGERS HUNTERSTOWN ROVERS	KILKERLEY EMMETS KNOCKBRIDGE HURLING LANNLEIRE MATTOCK RANGERS NA PIARSAIGH NAOMH MONINNE HURLING NEWTOWN BLUES O'CONNELLS OLIVER PLUNKETS O'RAGHALLAIGHS PEARSE ÓG HURLING ROCHE EMMETS SEAN MCDERMOTT'S JOHN MITCHELS SEAN O'MAHONYS ST BRIDES ST FECHINS ST FINBARRS ST JOSEPHS ST KEVINS ST MALACHYS ST MARTINS ST MARYS ARDEE ST MOCHTAS ST NICHOLAS ST PATRICKS STABANNON PARNELLS WESTERNS WOLFE TONES BALLINAGAR BALLINAMERE BALLYCOMMON BALLYCUMBER BALLYFORE BALLYSKENAGH/ KILLAVILLA BELMONT BIRR BRACKNAGH CAPPINCUR CARRAIG RIVERSTOWN CLARA CLONBULLOGUE CLONMORE HARPS COOLDERRY CRINKLE DAINGEAN DOON DRUMCULLEN DURROW EDENDERRY ERIN ROVERS FERBANE GRACEFIELD KILCLONFERT KILCORMAC/KILLOUGHEY KILLEIGH KILLURIN KINNITY LUSMAGH RAHEEN RHODE SEIR KIERANS SHAMROCKS (OFFALY) SHANNONBRIDGE SHINRONE ST BRIGIDS OFFALY ST. RYNAGHS (HURLING BANAGHER) ST. RYNAGHS (FOOTBALL CLOUGHAN) TUBBER TULLAMORE WALSH ISLAND ALL SAINTS, BALLYMENA ARDOYNE KICKHAMS CAREY FAUGH'S CLOONEY GAELS CON MAGEES CREGGAN KICKHAM'S CUCHULLAINS -DUNLOY EIRE OG ERINS OWN, CARGIN GLEN ROVERS, ARMOY GORT NA MONA JOHN MITCHEL'S LAMH DHEARG LARNE MCQUILLAN'S, BALLYCASTLE MICHAEL DAVITTS	MICHAEL DWYER'S O'DONNELL'S O'DONOVAN ROSSA OISIN GLENARIFFE PEARSE'S PATRICK SARSFIELDS ROBERT EMMETTS,CUSHENDUN ROGER CASEMENT'S PORTGLENONE RUAIRÍ ÓG, CUSHENDALL SEAN MCDERMOTT'S SEAN STINSONS - PORTGLENONE SHAMROCKS, LOUGHGIEL SHANE O'NEILL'S ST. AGNES ST. BRIGIDS - BELFAST ST. BRIGIDS - CLOUGHMILLS ST. COMGALL'S ST. ENDAS ST. ERGNATTS- MONEYGLASS ST. GALLS ST. JAMES, ALDERGROVE ST. JOHN'S ST. JOSEPH'S, GLENNAVY ST. MALACHY'S ST. MARY'S AGHAGALLON ST. MARY'S AHOGHILL ST. MARY'S RASHARKIN ST. PATRICK'S LISBURN ST. PAULS ST. TERESAS TIR NA NOG- RANDALSTOWN AGH ALOO AN PORT MÓR ANNAGHMORE PEARSES ARMAGH HARPS BALLYHEGAN DAVITTS BALLYMACNAB ROUND TOWERS BELLEEK LAURENCE O'TOOLE'S CAMLOCH CRAOBH RUA CAMLOCH SHANE O'NEILLS CARRICKCRUPPIN ST. PATRICK'S CLADY SEAN SOUTH CLANN NA GAEL CLANN EIREANN (LURGAN) CLONMORE ROBERT EMMETTS COLLEGELAND O'RAHILLY'S CORRINSHIGO THOMAS DAVIS CROSSMAGLEN RANGERS CUCHULLAINS CULLAVILLE BLUES DERRYNOOSE ST. MOCHUA'S DORSEY EMMETS DROMINTEE ST. PATRICK'S EIRE ÓG FORKHILL PEADAR O' DOIRNIN GRANEMORE ST. MARY'S GRANGE ST. COLMCILLE'S KEADY MICHAEL DWYERS KEADY RED HANDS KILLEAVEY ST. MONINNE'S LISSUMMON LURGAN SEAN TREACYS MAGHERY SEAN MCDERMOTT'S MIDDLETOWN OWEN ROES MULLABAWN CUCHULLAINS MULLABRACK O'DONOVAN ROSSA PEARSE OG ARMAGH PHELM BRADY'S REDMOND O'HANLONS SARSFIELDS/ DERRYTRASNA SILVERBRIDGE HARPS ST. MALACHY'S PORTADOWN ST. MICHAELS KILLEAN	ST. MICHAEL'S NEWTOWNHAMILTON ST. PATRICK'S CULLYHANNA ST. PAUL'S LURGAN ST. PETER'S LURGAN TIR NA NÓG -PORTADOWN TULLYSARAN O'CONNELL'S WHITECROSS ST. KILLIANS WOLFE TONES DERRYMACHASH MADDEN RAPAREES ARVA BAILIEBOROUGH BALLINAGH BALLYHAISE BALLYMACHUGH BELTURBET BUTLERSBRIDGE CASTLERAHAN CAVAN GAELS COOTEHILL CORLOUGH CORNAFEAN CROSSERLOUGH CUCHULAINNS DENN DRUMALEE DRUMGOON DRUMLANE DRUNG GOWNA KILDALLON KILL KILLESHANDRA KILLINKERE KILLYGARRY KINGSCOURT KNOCKBRIDE LACKEN LARAGH UTD. LAVEY MAGHERA MAC FINNS MOUNTNUGENT MULLAHORAN MULLAHORAN - ST JOSEPHS MUNTERCONNAUGHT RAMOR UNITED REDHILLS SHANNON GAELS SHERCOCK SWANLINBAR TEMPLEPORT ARDMORE BALLERIN BALLINASCREEEN BALLINDERRY BALLYMAGUIGAN ST.TREA'S BANAGHER BELLAGHY CASTLEDAWSON CLAUDY COLERAINE/OWEN ROE CRAIGBANE DESERTMARTIN DOIRE COLMCILLE DOIRE TRASNA DRUM DRUMSURN DUNGIVEN FAUGHANVALE FOREGLEN GLACK GLEN (MAGHERA) GLENULLIN GREENLOUGH KEVIN LYNCHS KILREA LAVEY HURLING LIMAVADY/WOLFHOUSES LISSAN LOUP (MAGHERAFELT) MAGHERAFELT/ O'DONOVAN ROSSA MAGILLIGAN MONEYMORE/MCCRACKEN NA MAGHA NEWBRIDGE OGRA COLMCILLE SEAN DOLANS	SLAUGHTMANUS SLAUGHTNEILL STEELSTOWN BRAIN ÓG SWATRAGH AODH RUADH BALLYSHANNON ARDARA BUNCRANA BUNDORAN (REALT NA MARA) BURT CARNDONAGH CLOUGHANEELY CONVOY DOWNING'S DUNGLOE FANAD GAELS FOUR MASTERS GLENFIN GLENSWILLY GWEEEDORE KILCAR KILLYBEGS LETTERKENNY GAELS MALIN MILFORD MOVILLE NA ROSSA NAOMH BRÍD NAOMH COLMCILLE NAOMH COLUMBA NAOMH CONAIL NAOMH MHUIRE, ANNAGRY NAOMH PÁDRAIG, LIFFORD NAOMH PÁDRAIG, MUFF NAOMH ULTAN PETTIGO RED HUGHES ROBERT EMMET'S SEAN MAC CUMHAILL SETANTA ST. EUNAN'S ST. MICHAELS ST. NAULS TERMON URRIS AGHADERG AN RÍOCHT ANNA CLONE ARDGLASS ATTICALL AUGHLISNAFIN BALLELA BALLYCRAN BALLYGALGET BALLYHOLLAND HARPS BALLYKINLAR BALLYMARTIN BREDAGH BRIGHT BRYANSFORD BURREN CARRYDUFF CASTLEWELLAN CLANN NA BANNA CLONDUFF DOWNPATRICK DROMARA DRUMGATH DUNDRUM GLASDRUMMAN GLENN KILCLIEF KILCOO (OWEN ROES) KILLYLEAGH LIATROIM LONGSTONE LOUGHINISLAND MAYOBRIDGE NEWRY MITCHELS PORTAFERRY ROSTREVR SAUL/ST.PATRICKS SAVAL SHAMROCKS ST JOHN BOSCO ST JOHN'S ST MICHAEL'S ST PAULS ST. COLMANS (DRUMANESS) ST. MOCHAS
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(DARRAGH CROSS)
ST. PETERS -WARRENPOINT
TECONNAUGHT
TULLYLISH
AGHABOG
AUGHNAMULLEN
BALLYBAY
BLACKHILL
CARRICK EMMETS
CARRICKMACROSS
CASTLEBLAYNEY
CASTLEBLAYNEY HURLING
CLONES
CLONTIBRET
CORDUFF
CREMARTIN
CURRIN
DONAGHMOYNE
DOOHAMLET
DRUMHOWAN
EIRE ÓG
EMYVALE
INNISKEEN
KILLANNY
KILLEEVAN
LATTON
MAGHERACLOONE
MONAGHAN HARPS
MONAGHAN HARPS
HURLING
ORAM
ROCKCORRY
SCOTSTOWN
SEAN MC DERMOTTS
TOOME
TRUAGH
TYHOLLAND
AGHALOO O'NEILL'S
AGHYARAN SAINT DAVOG'S
ARDBOE O'DONOVAN
ROSSA
AUGHER ST MACARTAN'S
BERAGH RED KNIGHTS
BRACKAVILLE OWEN ROES
BROCKAGH EMMETTS
CAPPAGH GAELS
CARRICKMORE ÉIRE ÓG
CARRICKMORE ST
COLMCILLE'S
CASTLEDERG ST EUGENE'S
CLANN NA GAEL
CLOGHER EIRE ÓG
CLONOE O'RAHILLY'S
COALISLAND FIANNA
COOKSTOWN FR. ROCKS
DERRYL AUGHAN
KEVIN BARRY'S
DERRY TRESK FIR A'CHNOIC
DONAGHMORE
ST PATRICK'S
DREGISH PEARSE ÓG
DROMORE ST DYMPNA'S
DRUMQUIN WOLFE TONE'S
DRUMRAGH SARSFIELD'S
DUNGANNON HURLING
DUNGANNON
THOMAS CLARKES
EDENDORK ST MALACHY'S
GLISH ST PATRICK'S
ERRIGAL CIARAN
ESKRA EMMETT'S
FINTONA NA PIARSAIGH
GALBALLY PEARSE'S
GLENELLY ST JOSEPH'S
GORTIN ST PATRICK'S
GREENCASTLE
ST PATRICK'S
KILDRESS WOLFE TONE'S
KILLEESHIL ST. MARY'S
KILLYCLOGHER ST MARY'S
KILLYMAN ST MARY'S
LOUGHMACROY
ST TERESA'S
MOORTOWN ST
MALACHY'S
MOY TÍR NA NÓG
NEWTOWNSTEWART
ST EUGENE'S
OMAGH ST ENDA'S
OWEN ROE O'NEILL'S
POMEROY PLUNKETTS
ROCK ST PATRICK'S]

ST COLMCILLE
STEWARTSTOWN HARPS
STRABANE SHAMROCK'S
HURLING
STRABANE SIGERSON'S
TATTYREAGH ST PATRICK'S
TRILICK ST MACARTAN'S
URNEY ST ST COLMCILLE'S
AUGHADRUMSEE
ST. MCCARTAN'S
BELCOO O'RAHILLYS
BELNALECK ART
MCMURROUGHS
BROOKEBORO HEBER
MCMAHONS
COA O'DWYERS
DERRYGONNELLY HARPS
DERRYLIN O'CONNELLS
DEVENISH ST. MARY'S
ENNSKILLEN GAELS
ERNE GAELS/BELLECK
IRVINESTOWN ST.
MOLAISES
KINAWLEY BRIAN BORUS
KNOCKS GRATRANS
HURLING CLUB
LISBELLAW ST. PATRICK'S
LISNASKEA EMMETTS
MAGUIRESBRIDGE
ST MARY'S
NEWTOWNBUTLER
FIRST FERMANAGHS
ROSLA SHAMROCKS
ST JOSEPHS EDERNEY
ST PATRICKS DONAGH
TEEMORE SHAMROCKS
TEMPO MAGUIRES
BALLYEA
BALLYVAUGHAN
BANNER
BODYKE
BROADFORD
CLARECASTLE
CLONLARA
CLONBONY
CLONDEGAD
CLOONEY - QUIN
COOLMEEN
COORACLARE
COROFIN
CRATLOE
CRUSHEEN
DOONBEG
ÉIRE ÓG INIS
ENNISTYMON
ENNISTYMON HURLING
FEAKLE
INAGH - KILNAMONA
KILLANENA
KILDYSART
KILFENORA
KILLIMER
KILMALEY
KILMIHIL
KILMURRY IBRICKANE
KILRUSH SHAMROCK'S
LISCANNOR
LISSYCASEY
MEELICK
MICHAEL CUSACKS
MOY
NAOMH EOIN
NEWMARKET -
ON - FERGUS
O'CALLAGHAN'S MILLS
O'CURRY'S CLARE
OGONNELLOE
PARTEEN
RUAN
SCARIFF
SHANNON GAELS
SIXMILEBRIDGE
SMITH O'BRIENS
ST BRECKAN'S
LISDOONVARNA
ST JOSEPHS DOORA
BAREFIELD
ST JOSEPHS MILTOWN
MALBAY
ST SENAN'S KILKEE
TUBBER
TULLA

WHITEGATE
WOLFE TONES SHANNON
ABBEYDORNEY
AN GHAELTACHT
ANNASCAUL
ARDFERT
ASDEE
AUSTIN STACKS (TRALEE)
BALLYDONOGHUE
BALLYDUFF
BALLYHEIGUE
BALLYLONGFORD
BALLYMACELLIGOTT
BEALE
BEAUFORT
BROSNA
CASTLEGREGORY
CASTLEISLAND DESMONDS
CAUSEWAY
CHURCHILL
CLOUNMACON
CORDAL
CROMANE
CROTTA O'NEILLS
CURROW
DERRYNANE
DINGLE
DR. CROKES
DROMID PEARSES
DUAGH
FINUGE
FIRIES
FOSSA
GLENBEIGH/GLENCAR
GLENFLESK
GNEEVGUILLA
JOHN MITCHELS
KEEL
KENMARE
KERRINS O'RAHILLYS
KILCUMMIN
KILGARVAN
KILLARNEY LEGION
KILMOYLEY
KNOCKANURE
KNOCKNAGASHEL
LADY'S WALK
LAUNE RANGERS
LISPOLE
LISTOWEL EMMETS
LISTRY
LIXNAW
MILLTOWN/CASTLEMAINE
MOYVANE
NA GAEL
RATHMORE
RENARD
SCARTAGLEN
SKELLIGS RANGERS
SNEEM
SPA KILLARNEY
ST BRENDANS
ST MARY'S
ST MICHAELS/FOILMORE
ST SENAN'S
ST. PATRICKS (EAST KERRY)
ST. PATRICKS
BLENNERVILLE
TARBERT
TEMPLENOE
TUOSIST
VALENTIA
WATERVILLE
FRANK CASEYS
ADRIGOLE
AGHABULLOGUE
AGHADA
AGHINAGH
ARAGLEN
ARGIDEEN RANGERS
BALLINACURRA
BALLINASCARTHY
BALLINCOLLIG
BALLINGEARY
BALLINHASSIG
BALLINORA
BALLINURE
BALLYCLOGH
BALLYDESMOND
BALLYGARVAN
BALLYGIBLIN
BALLYHEA

BALLYHOOLEY
BALLYMARTLE
BALLYPHEHANE
BANDON
BANTEE
BANTRY BLUES
BARRYROE
BELGOOLY
BERE ISLAND
BISHOPSTOWN
BLACKROCK
BLARNEY
BOHERBUE
BRIAN DILLONS
BRIDE ROVERS
BUTTEVANT /
AWBEG RANGERS
CANOVEE
CARBERY RANGERS
CARRIGALINE
CARRIGNAVAR
CARRIGTWOHILL
CASTLEHAVEN
CASTLELYONS
CASTLEMAGNER
CASTLEMARTYR
CASTLETOWNBERE
CASTLETOWNROCHE
CHARLEVILLE/
CHARLEVILLE ROVERS
CHURCHTOWN
CLANN NA GAEL
CLONAKILTY
CLONDROHID
CLOUGHDUV
CLOYNE
CLYDA ROVERS
COBH
COURCEY ROVERS
CROSSHAVEN
CULLEN
DELANEYS
DIARMUID Ó MATHÚNA
DOHENYS
DONERAILE
DONOUGHMORE
DOUGLAS
DRIPSEY
DROMINA
DROMTARRIFFE
DUNGOURNEY
ÉIRE ÓG
ERINS OWN
FERMOY
FR. O'NEILLS
FREEMOUNT
GABRIEL RANGERS
GARNISH
GLANMIRE
GLANWORTH/
HARBOR ROVERS
GLEANN NA LAOI
GLEN ROVERS
GLENARRIFF
GLENLARA
GLENVILLE
GOLEEN
GRANGE
GRENAGH
ILEN ROVERS
INNISCARRA
IVELEARY
KANTURK
KILAVULLEN
KILBREE / KILMEEN
KILBRIN
KILBRITT TAIN
KILDORRERY
KILLEAGH/GLENBOWER
ROVERS/
KILMACABEA
KILMICHAEL
KILMURRY
KILNAMARTYRA
KILSHANNIG
KILWORTH
KINSALE
KISKEAM
KNOCKNAGREE
LISCARROLL
LISGOOLD
LISMIRE

LOUGH ROVERS
LYRE
LAOCHA ÓG
MACROOM
MALLOW
MAYFIELD
MEELIN
MIDLETON
MILFORD/DEEL ROVERS
MILLSTREET
MUINTIR BHAIRE
NA PIARSAIGH
NAOMH ABAN
NEMO RANGERS
NEWCESTOWN
NEWMARKET
NEWTOWNSHANDRUM
O'DONOVAN ROSSA
PASSAGE WEST
RANDAL ÓG
RATHPEACON
REDMONDS
ROCHCHAPPEL
ROCHESTOWN
RUSSELL ROVERS
SARSFIELDS
SHAMROCKS
SHANBALLY/
SHANBALLYMORE
ST. CATHERINES
ST. COLMS
ST. FINBARRS
ST. ITAS
ST. JAMES
ST. MARYS
ST. MICHAELS
ST. NICHOLAS
ST. OLIVER PLUNKETTS
ST. VINCENTS
TADHG MAC CARTHAIGH
TRACTON
TULLYLEASE
URHAN
VALLEY ROVERS
WATERGRASSHILL
WHITECHURCH
WHITESCROSS
YOUGHAL
ST JOHNS GFC
MITCHELSTOWN
ABBEY SARSFIELDS
ADARE
AHANE
ASKEATON
ATHEA
BALLINACURRA GAELS
BALLYBRICKEN
BOHERMORE
BALLYBROWN
BALLYLANDERS
BALLYSTEEN
BANOGUE
BLACKROCK
BRUFE
BRUREE
CAHERCONLIS
CAHERLINE
CAMOGUE ROVERS
CAPPAGH
CAPPAMORE
CASTLETOWN
BALLYAGRAN
CLAUGHAUN
CRECORA MANISTER
CROAGH KILFINNY
CROOM
DOON
DROMCOLLOGHER
BROADFORD
DROMIN ATHLACCA
EFFIN
FEDAMORE
FEENAGH KILMEEDY
FEOHANAGH
CASTLEMAHON
FR. CASEYS
GALBALLY
GALTEE GAELS
GARRYSPELLANE
GERALD GRIFFINS
GLENROE
GLIN

GRANAGH/BALLINGARRY
HOSPITAL HERBERTSTOWN
KILCORNAN
KILDIMO
KILLEEDY
KILMALLOCK
KILTEELY/DROMKEEN
KNOCKADERRY
KNOCKAINEY
KNOCKANE
MILFORD
MONAGEA
MONALEEN
MOUNTCOLLINS
MUNGRET ST. PAULS
MURROE BOHER
NA PIARSAIGH
NEWCASTLE WEST
OLD CHRISTIANS
OOLA
PALLASGREEN
PALLASKENRY
PATRICKSWELL
SOUTH LIBERTIES
ST MARYS SEAN FINNS
ST SENANS
ST. KIERANS
ST. PATRICKS
STAKER WALLACE
TEMPLEGLANTINE
TOURNAFULLA
AHERLOW
ARDFINNAN
ARRAVAL ROVERS
BALLINA
BALLINAHINCH
BALLINGARRY
BALLYBACON/GRANGE
BALLYLOOBY/
CASTLEGRACE
BALLYNEALE/
GRANGEMOCKLER
BALLYPOREEN
BOHERLAHAN / DUALLA
BORRIS-ILEIGH
BORRISOKANE
BURGESS
CAHIR
CAPPWHITE
CARRICK DAVINS
CARRICK SWANS
CASHEL KING CORMACS
CLERIHAN
CLONAKENNY
CLONMEL COMMERCIALS
CLONMEL ÓG
CLONOLTY / ROSSMORE
DROM/INCH
DURLAS ÓG
ÉIRE ÓG ANACARTY/
DÓNOHILL
EMLY
FATHER SHEEHYS
FETHARD
GALTEE ROVERS /
SAINT PECAUN
GOLDEN / KILFEACLE
GORTNAHOE / GLENGOOLE
HOLYCROSS / BALLYCAHILL
INANE ROVERS
JK BRACKENS/
TEMPLEMORE
KILDANGAN
KILLÉA
KILLENAULE
KILRUANE MAC DONAGHS
KILSHEELAN-KILCASH
KNOCK
KNOCKAVILLA
DONASKEIGH KICKHAMS
KNOCKSHEGOWNA
LATTIN/CULLEN
LORRHA/DORRHA
LOUGHMORE/CASTLEINEY
MARFIELD
MONEYGALL
MOYCARKEY
MOYLE ROVERS
MOYNE/TEMPLEUOHY
MULLINAHONE
NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG
NEWCASTLE

NEWPORT
PORTROE
ROCKWELL ROVERS
ROSCREA
ROSEGREEN
SAINT MARY'S CLONMEL
SEAN TREACY'S
SHANNON ROVERS
SILVERMINES
SKEHEENARINKY
SOLOHEAD
TEMPLEDERRY KENYONS
THURLES GAELS
THURLES SARSFIELDS
TOOMEVARA
UPPERCHURCH/
DROMBANE
ST. PATRICKS GAA
ABBEYSIDE
BALLINACOURTY
AN RINN
ARDMORE
BALLINAMEELA
BALLYDUFF LOWER
BALLYDUFF UPPER
BALLYGUNNER
BALLYSAGGART
BRICKY RANGERS
BUNMAHON
BUTLERSTOWN
CAPPOQUIN AFFANE
CLASHMORE
CLONEA
COLLIGAN
DE LA SALLE
DUNGARVAN
DUNHILL
ERINS OWN
FENOR
FERRYBANK
FOURMILEWATER
GAULTIER
GERALDINES
JOHN MITCHELS
KILGOBNET
KILL
KILMACTHOMAS
KILROSANTY
LISMORE
MICHAEL MACCRAITH
TRAMORE
MODELIGO
MT. MELLERAY
MT. SION
NAOMH PÓL
NEWTOWN BALLYDURN
OLD PARISH
PASSAGE
PORTLAW
RATHGORMACK
ROANMORE
SHAMROCKS
SLIABH GCUA ST. MARYS
ST. MOLLERANS
ST. SAVIOURS
STRADBALLY
TALLOW
THE NIRE
TOURIN BALLINWILLIN
BRITAIN
BROTHER PEARSE
CLAN NA GAEIL
CUCHULAIN PURSEILL
DALWICH HARPS
FR MURPHYS
FULHAM IRISH
GARRYOWEN
GRANUAILE
HARLSDEN HARPS
HESTON GAELS
KILBURN GAELS
KINGDOM KERRY GAELS
MOINDERG
NEASDEN GAELS
NORTH LONDON
SHAMROCKS
PARNELLS
ROBERT EMMETS
ROUND TOWERS
SEAN TREACYS
ST ANTHONYS
ST BRENDANS

ST CLARETS
ST GABRIELS
ST JOSEPH'S A
ST KEIRNAN'S
TARA
THOMAS MHC CURTIN
TIR CONAILL GAELS
ÉIRE ÓG
SHALLOE PEARSES
ST COLMCILLES
ST NICHOLAS
WESTERN GAELS
PLYMOUTH PARNELLS
ST. PATRICK'S
ST. JUDES
HUGH O'NEILLS
JF KENNEDYS
ST ANTHONYS
ST BENEDICTS
YOUNG IRELANDS
EMERALDS
BROTHERS PEARSE
CÚ CHULÁINN'S GAC
CAMBRIDGE
ÉIRE OG
GLEN ROVERS
ST COLMCILLES
ST DYMPHNAS
ST JOSEPHS
ST VINCENTS
ST DECLAN'S
WOLFTONES LIVERPOOL
NAOMH PÁDRAIGS
ELLAN VANIN GAELS
FULLEN GAELS
JOHN MITCHELS
OISINS
ST ANNES
ST BRENDANS
ST LAURENCES
ST MARYS
ST PETERS
DUNDEE DAIRADS
DUNEDIN CONNOLLYS
GLASGOW GAELS
SANDS MAC SWINEY
TIR CHONAILL HARPS
ERIN GO BRACH
FOUR MASTERS
JAMES CONNOLLY
JOHN MITCHELS FOOTBALL
JOHN MITCHELS HURLING
NAOMH PADRAIG
O'RAHILLYS
ROGER CASEMENTS
SEAN MC DERMOTTS
SONS OF ERIN
ST BARNABAS
ST MARY'S
RUGBY GAELS
ST BRENDANS
ST. FINBAR
ST. JOSEPH
EUROPE
AMSTERDAM GAA
BELGIUM GAA
COLOGNE CELTICS
DARMSTADT
DEN HAAG
DUSSELDORF
EINDHOVEN SHAMROCKS
FRANKFURT SARSFIELDS
LUXEMBOURG
MAASTRICHT GAELS
ST STEPHENS BUDAPEST
BERLIN
RÓMHÁNAIGH
AUGSBURG ÓG
DRESDEN
MUNICH COLMCILLES
PRAGUE HIBERNIANS
SLOVAK SHAMROCKS
STUTTGART
WARSAW
VIENNA
BARCELONA GAELS
ÉIRE ÓG SEVILLIA
GIBRALTAR GAELS
LANZAROTE
MADRID HARPS
MARBELLA (COSTA GAELS)
VALENCIA (ST VICENT)

A CORUNA - SONS
OF BRIOGAN
AURIENSE GAELIC
FOOTBALL
COMPOSTELA
FÚTBOL GAÉLICO
ESTRELA VERMEHLA
IMRAMDINHOS
DA ESTRADA
MECOS DO GROBE
UVIGO FÚTBOL GAÉLICO
PONTEVEDRA GAA
BORDEAUX
CLERMONT GAELS
COUTANCES
GUERNSEY GAELS
INSA RENNES
JERSEY IRISH
LILLE FG
LYON (LUDUGNUM)
NAVA GAELIC FOOTBALL
NIORT GAELS
PARIS GAELS
TOULOUSE (TOLOSA
GAELS)
BREST (BRO LEON)
BRO DEGER
GWEN RANN (GUERANDE)
KERNE (QUIMPER)
LIVERIEG (LIFFRE)
LORIENT GAC
NANTES (NAONED)
RENNES (AR GWAZI GOUZE)
ST BRIEUC (BRO ST. BRIEG)
VANNES (GWENED
VANNES)
COPENHAGEN GAA
ESTONIA
GOTHENBURG
HELSINKI HARPS
JYVASKYLA GAA
MALMO GAA
MOSCOW
OSLO
OULU IRISH ELKS GAA
STOCKHOLM GAELS
GENEVA GAELS
PADOVA
ROGIVO
ROME
ST. GALLEN BEARS
ZURICH
USA
ARMAGH GFC
BRONX WARRIORS HC
BROKLYN SHAMROCKS
CAVAN GFC
CELTIC GFC
CORK GFC
DONEGAL GFC
GALWAY HURLING CLUB
HOBOKEN GUARDS HC
KERRY GFC
LEITRIM GFC
LONG ISLAND GAELS
LONGFORD GFC
MANHATTAN GAELS
MAYO GFC
MONAGHAN GFC
OFFALY GFC
RANGERS GFC
ROCKLAND GFC
ROSCOMMON GFC
SHANONON GAELS HC
SLIGO GFC
ST BARNABAS GFC
ST PATRICK'S GFC
ST RAYMONDS GFC
TIPPERARY HC
TYRONE GFC
ULSTER HC
WATERFORD HC
WESTMEATH GFC
CLARE HC
LIMERICK HC
LE CHEILE HC (JRB)
UCON GAELS HC (JRB)
JERSEY SHORE HC (JRB)
ST BRENDANS GFC (JRC)
SERRIN OG GFC (JRC)
ST JOE GFC (JRC)
ROCKAWAY ROVERS

GFC (JRC)
WEST PUTT GAELS
GFC (JRC)
NEW HAVEN GFC
DUBLIN GDC
CU CHULÁINN
HARRY BOLANDS
FOX RIVER
MADISON
INDIANAPOLIS
HURLING CLUB
INDIANAPOLIS MENS
FOOTBALL CLUB
JOHN MC BRIDES
KANSAS
LIMERICK
MICHAEL CUSACKS
MILWAUKEE
PADRAIG PEARSES
PARNELLS
PATRIOTS
QUINNS
ST LOUIS HURLING CLUB
ST LOUIS MEN'S
FOOTBALL CLUB
ROBERT EMMETS
WOLFE TONES
ST. BRENDANS
NAPERVILLE
TWIN CITIES FOOTBALL
COLUMBIA RED BRANCH
SEATTLE GAELS MEN'S
FOOTBALL CLUB
SEATTLE GAELS
HURLING CLUB
TACOMA RANGERS
ATLANTA CLAN NA GAEIL
MEN'S FOOTBALL
ATLANTA CLAN NA
GAEL HURLING CLUB
CHARLOTTE JAMES
CONNOLLY MEN'S
GREENVILLE GAELS
CHARLESTON GAA
ORLANDO HURLING
RALEIGH CUCHULLAINS
NASHVILLE TN MENS
BALTIMORE HURLING CLUB
BALTIMORE MEN'S
FOOTBALL CLUB
MASON DIXON
HAMPTON ROADS
WASHINGTON DC
HURLING CLUB
WASHINGTON DC MEN'S
FOOTBALL CLUB
AIDAN MCANESPIES
ARMAGH NOTRE DAME
CHRISTOPHERS
CONNEMARA GAELS
CORK
DONEGAL
GALWAY
HARTFORD
KERRY
SHANNON BLUES
WOLFETONES
BARLEY HOUSE WOLVES
FR. TOMS
GALWAY
PORTLAND MARAUDERS
TIPPERARY
WEXFORD
WORCHESTER
CELTIC COWBOYS AUSTIN
MENS FOOTBALL
COLORADO FENIANS
DENVER GAELS MENS
FOOTBALL CLUB
DENVER GAELS
HURLING CLUB
FIONN MAC CUMHAILL
DALLAS MENS FOOTBALL
FLAGSTAFF ARIZONA
HOUSTON GAELS
LA WILD GEESE
SAN ANTONIO
SETENTA SAN DIEGO
ST. PETER'S HURLING
SAN DIEGO
AKRON
BUFFALO

CLEVELAND ST. JARLATHS
CLEVELAND ST. PATS
COLUMBUS NAGHTEN
DETROIT WOLFE TONES
PITTSBURGH CELTICS
PITTSBURGH PUCAS
ALBANY REBELS
KALAMAZOO
ROCHESTER ERIN'S ISE
SYRACUSE
ALLEN TOWN
KEVIN BARRYS
NA TORADHE
ST. PATRICKS
YOUNG IRELANDS
TYRONE
ÉIRE OG
MICHAEL CUSACKS
NA FIANNA
NAOMH PADRAIG
ROVERS
SEAN TREACYS
SONS OF BORU/CELTIS
ST. JOSEPH'S
ULSTER
YOUNG IRELANDERS/
ST. BRENDANS
CANADA
TORONTO HURLING CLUB
BRAMPTON ROGER
CASEMENTS
DURHAM ROBERT
EMMET'S GFC
ST. MICHAEL'S HURLING
& FOOTBALL CLUB
ST. PAT'S CANADIANS GFC
ST. VINCENT'S GFC
TORONTO GAELS
FORT MCMURRAY
SHAMROCKS
VANCOUVER ISSC
EDMONTON WOLFE
TONES GFC
CALGARY CHIEFTAINS GFC
REGINA GAELS
RED DEER EIRE OGS GFC
SASKATOON CLAN
NA GAEIL
OTTOWA GAELS
OTTOWA ÉIRE OG
HURLING CLUB
MONTREAL
SHAMROCKS GAC
LES PATRIOTES DE QUEBEC
ST. JOHN'S AVALON
HARPS GAA
HALIFAX GAELS
AUSTRALIA
MORLEY GAELS
ST. FINBARS
WESTERN SHAMROCK
SOUTHERN DISTRICTS
GREENWOOD
COASTAL BREAKERS
IMOKILLY
ST. GABRIELS
MICHAEL CUSACKS
PERTH SHAMROCKS
SARSFIELDS
ONKAPARINGA
IRISH AUSTRALIANS
FLINDERS O'NEILL
ST. BRENDANS
NA FIANNA
WESTERN IRELAND
PORT DISTRICTS
DINGOES
ANGRY LEPRECHAUNS
ST. KEVINS
PADRAIG PEARSE
WOLFE TONES
GARRYOWEN
SHAMROCKS
DAN BREENS
SINN FEIN
BONDI GAELS
CENTRAL COAST
CL NA GAEIL
CORMAC MCANALLENS
CRAOBH PADRAIG
MICHAEL CUSACKS
PENRITH GAELS

SYDNEY SHAMROCKS
YOUNG IRELANDS
SOUTHS
HARPS
SHAMROCKS
NA FIANNA
JOHN MITCHELS
EASTS CELTS
CUCHULLAINS
EMERALDS
ST. GABRIELS
GOLD COAST GAELS
ÉIRE OG
TARA GAELS
NAOMH PADRAIG
BRISBANE HURLING
LINDISFARNE
HOBART CELTS
SHAMROCKS
LAUDERDALE BOMBERS
SOUTHERN FALCONS
DARWIN SHAMROCKS
ASIA
BEIJING GAA
LAOCHRA BUSAN
GAA (KOREA)
DAEGU FIANNA (KOREA)
DALIAN WOLFHOUSES
GUANGZHOU GAELS GAA
HONG KONG GAELIC
FOOTBALL CLUB - THE
GAELIC DRAGONS
INDIA WOLFHOUSES
JAKARTA DRAGONFLIES
JAPAN GAA
JOHOR MALAYSIA GAELIC
FOOTBALL CLUB
ORANG ÉIRE (MALAYSIA)
LANTAU GAELIC
FOOTBALL CLUB
MYANMAR CELTS
SAIGON GAELS
SEOUL GAELS
SHANGHAI GAA
SHENZHEN CELTS
SINGAPORE GAELIC LIONS
SUZHOU ÉIRE OG
TAIWAN CELTS
THAILAND GAA
VIET CELTS
MIDDLE EAST
ARABIAN CELTS
ABU DHABI NA FIANNA
AL AIN
CLAN NA HOMAN
DUBAI CELTS
NAOMH ALEE RIYADH
OMAN GAA
KUWAIT HARPS
ORYX NA HEIREANN,
QATAR
SHARJAH LGFA
OMAN GAA



20 September 2015; Dublin captain Stephen Cluxton lifts the Sam Maguire cup, GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Final, Dublin v Kerry, Croke Park, Dublin.

Tickets

	2014	2015
Overall Capacity	82006	82006
County Allocations	57553	59516
Provinces	355	355
Overseas	472	472
Ard Chomhairle & Iar Uachtaran	788	792
Camogie	140	140
Ladies Football	100	100
Rounders & Handball	212	212
Sponsors	947	994
Press	254	254
TV & Radio	74	74
Schools and Educational Bodies	2229	2229
3rd Level	240	240
Croke Park Residents	200	200
Match Officials and National Referees panel	128	148
Health Bodies & Irish Sports Council	60	60
Match Day/Vertigo/Minor Teams	148	148
Staff & Sub committees	698	708
Jubilee Teams	70	70
Mini Games	230	230
Term Tickets	4144	2703
Season Tickets	2436	1833
Number available for distribution	71478	71478
Premium & Corporate	10528	10528
Total	82006	82006

16 August 2015; Supporters during the National Anthem. GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship, Semi-Final, Tipperary v Galway, Croke Park, Dublin.







4 January 2015; Tyrone supporters Maeve Coney, from Gortin, and Pauline McAleer, from Beragh, are the first two fans through the turnstiles for the game. Bank of Ireland Dr McKenna Cup, Group C, Round 1, Armagh v Tyrone. Athletic Grounds, Armagh.